

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Bradley Voytek and Tim Verstynen: Diagnosing a zombie: Brain and body (Part one) | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/bradley\\_voytek\\_and\\_tim\\_verstynen\\_diagnosing\\_a\\_zombie\\_brain\\_and\\_body\\_part\\_one](https://www.ted.com/talks/bradley_voytek_and_tim_verstynen_diagnosing_a_zombie_brain_and_body_part_one)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

## Session 1: Word List

### gape

*n.* an act of opening the mouth wide, often as a sign of surprise, wonder, or boredom; a wide opening or gap in something, especially in a physical object or landscape; (verb) to open one's mouth wide, often as a result of surprise, shock, or amazement

*synonym* : gaze, opening, mouth

(1) **gape** in amazement, (2) bird's **gape**

The **gape** of the Grand Canyon is an awe-inspiring sight.

### basal

*adj.* forming or belonging to a bottom layer or base of something

*synonym* : beginning, rudimentary, introductory

(1) **basal** activity, (2) **basal** cells in the skin

The patient has to keep a record of **basal** body temperature.

### ganglion

*n.* a group of nerve cells located outside the brain and spinal cord, often forming a swelling or knot; responsible for controlling certain bodily functions or movements

*synonym* : nerve center, nervous system

(1) **ganglion** cyst, (2) spinal **ganglion**

The patient's **ganglion** was causing severe pain in their wrist.

## neurochemical

*adj.* of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity

(1) **neurochemical** substances, (2) **neurochemical** mechanism

Our study focuses on **neurochemical** changes in the brain.

## dopamine

*n.* a chemical substance produced by nerve cells as a neurotransmitter; as a drug, it is used to treat shock and hypotension

(1) **dopamine-inhibiting** agent, (2) antagonism of **dopamine**

The drug controls the level of **dopamine** in the brain.

## neuron

*n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body  
*synonym*: nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

## cerebellum

*n.* the part of the brain at the back of the head that plays an important role in motor control, balance, and coordination

(1) **cerebellum** function, (2) development of **cerebellum**

An injury to the **cerebellum** can cause difficulty with walking, speaking, and maintaining posture.

## cauliflower

*n.* a vegetable that belongs to the same family as broccoli and cabbage, characterized by a compact head of central florets surrounded by green leaves, commonly used in cooking and preparation of various cuisines

(1) **cauliflower** cheese, (2) **cauliflower** curry

I love to roast **cauliflower** with garlic and olive oil for a healthy side dish.

## degenerate

*v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition

*synonym*: deteriorate, decline, decay

(1) **degenerate** into a disagreement, (2) **degenerate** into recession

The once-thriving city has **degenerated** into a crime-ridden slum.

## ataxia

*n.* a neurological condition characterized by a lack of muscle coordination, resulting in unsteady movements and difficulties with balance and speech

*synonym*: incoordination, unsteadiness, clumsiness

(1) cerebellar **ataxia**, (2) hereditary **ataxia**

The patient's **ataxia** symptoms worsened over time, prompting the need for a comprehensive treatment approach.

## groan

*v.* to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction

*synonym*: moan, grunt, sigh

(1) **groan** in pain, (2) **groan** for water

The sight of the huge pile of laundry made me **groan** with dread.

## expressive

*adj.* capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness

*synonym*: meaningful, communicative, eloquent

(1) **expressive** artwork, (2) **expressive** language

Her **expressive** dance moves captivated the audience during the performance.

## aphasia

*n.* a language disorder that affects a person's ability to use or understand words, often caused by brain damage, such as stroke, brain injury, or neurological condition, which can result in difficulty speaking, writing, reading, or comprehending language

*synonym*:

dysphasia, speech impairment, language disorder

(1) global **aphasia**, (2) amnesic **aphasia**

After her stroke, my grandmother suffered from expressive **aphasia**, making it difficult for her to articulate her thoughts.

## frontal

*adj.* relating to the front; situated at or directed towards the front; frontal can also refer to a meteorological term for a weather system that is moving from west to east

*synonym* : anterior, fore, forward

(1) **frontal** assault, (2) **frontal** attack

He suffered a severe **frontal** collision in the car accident.

## gyrus

*n.* a convolution of the surface of the brain

*synonym* : convolution, brain fold, cerebral sulcus

(1) **gyrus** function, (2) cerebral **gyrus**

The inferior temporal **gyrus** is involved in object recognition.

## insula

*n.* a small island, particularly one situated off the coast of a larger landmass; (of anatomy) a region of the brain that plays a role in processing emotions and integrating sensory information

*synonym* : island, islet, atoll

(1) **insula** region, (2) posterior **insula**

The brain's **insula** regulates emotions, empathy, and self-awareness.

## elderberry

*n.* a shrub or small tree that bears clusters of dark purple berries, used in jams, jellies, and pies, and also to make wine; believed by some to have medicinal properties

*synonym* : berry, fruit, drupe

(1) **elderberry** juice, (2) **elderberry** plant

I made some **elderberry** jelly from the berries in the backyard.

## fluent

*adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

*synonym* : eloquent, articulate, smooth-spoken

(1) **fluent** Chinese, (2) in a **fluent** tone

She learned five languages but is only **fluent** in two of them.

## lobe

*n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver

*synonym* : part, section, division

(1) **lobe** of the liver, (2) frontal **lobe**

The lungs are divided into five **lobes**.

## parietal

*adj.* relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure

*synonym* : cerebral, skull, cranial

(1) **parietal** cortex, (2) **parietal** bone

The **parietal** lobe of the brain is responsible for processing sensory information.

## culprit

*n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing

*synonym* : criminal, felon, fugitive

(1) the **culprit** of global warming, (2) the arrest of the **culprit**

They finally found the **culprit** of the bug after a long time.

## fascicle

*n.* a part or division of a book or manuscript, typically a section that is bound separately; a bundle or cluster of something, such as nerves, blood vessels, or plants

*synonym* : bundle, section, fasciculus

(1) **fascicle** bundle, (2) botanical **fascicle**

The publisher released the first **fascicle** of the new encyclopedic series.

## hypothesize

*v.* to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate

*synonym* : speculate, theorize, conjecture

(1) **hypothesize** as to outcomes, (2) **hypothesize** what could have happened

Scientists **hypothesize** that the new fish species evolved to

survive in deep-sea environments.

## superhighway

*n.* a large, wide road designed for high-speed traffic

*synonym*: expressway, motorway, artery

(1) six-lane **superhighway**, (2) a tollgate of a

### **superhighway**

The University provides a wireless Internet **superhighway** to its students.

## moot

*v.* to bring up or introduce a matter for discussion, debate, or consideration, especially when the issue may be hypothetical, irrelevant, or not yet determined; to suggest a point of view or argument without necessarily taking a position on it; (adjective) subject to debate, dispute, or uncertainty and therefore, having little practical significance or relevance

*synonym*: debate, discuss, dispute

(1) **moot** point, (2) **moot** a topic

Recent developments have **mooted** the argument over the issue.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. hyp_____ze what could have happened | <i>v.</i> to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate  |
| 2. pa_____al bone                      | <i>adj.</i> relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure                            |
| 3. gr__n in pain                       | <i>v.</i> to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction   |
| 4. l__e of the liver                   | <i>n.</i> a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver   |
| 5. spinal ga_____on                    | <i>n.</i> a group of nerve cells located outside the brain and spinal cord, often forming a swelling or knot; responsible for controlling certain bodily functions or movements   |
| 6. cerebral gy__s                      | <i>n.</i> a convolution of the surface of the brain   |
| 7. deg_____te into a disagreement      | <i>v.</i> (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition   |
| 8. eld_____ry plant                    | <i>n.</i> a shrub or small tree that bears clusters of dark purple berries, used in jams, jellies, and pies, and also to make wine; believed by some to have medicinal properties |

ANSWERS: 1. hypothesize, 2. parietal, 3. groan, 4. lobe, 5. ganglion, 6. gyrus, 7. degenerate, 8. elderberry

9. cer\_\_\_\_\_um function *n.* the part of the brain at the back of the head that plays an important role in motor control, balance, and coordination
10. ba\_\_l cells in the skin *adj.* forming or belonging to a bottom layer or base of something
11. excite the ne\_\_\_\_ns *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
12. exp\_\_\_\_\_ve language *adj.* capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness
13. the cu\_\_\_\_\_t of global warming *n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing
14. frontal l\_\_e *n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver
15. in a fl\_\_\_\_t tone *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
16. hereditary at\_\_\_\_a *n.* a neurological condition characterized by a lack of muscle coordination, resulting in unsteady movements and difficulties with balance and speech
17. g\_\_e in amazement *n.* an act of opening the mouth wide, often as a sign of surprise, wonder, or boredom; a wide opening or gap in something, especially in a physical object or landscape; (verb) to open one's mouth wide, often as a result of surprise, shock, or amazement

ANSWERS: 9. cerebellum, 10. basal, 11. neuron, 12. expressive, 13. culprit, 14. lobe, 15. fluent, 16. ataxia, 17. gape



18. a tollgate of a sup\_\_\_\_\_way      *n.* a large, wide road designed for high-speed traffic
19. neu\_\_\_\_\_cal mechanism      *adj.* of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity
20. exp\_\_\_\_\_ve artwork      *adj.* capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness
21. hyp\_\_\_\_\_ze as to outcomes      *v.* to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate
22. deg\_\_\_\_\_te into recession      *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
23. pa\_\_\_\_\_al cortex      *adj.* relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure
24. m\_\_t a topic      *v.* to bring up or introduce a matter for discussion, debate, or consideration, especially when the issue may be hypothetical, irrelevant, or not yet determined; to suggest a point of view or argument without necessarily taking a position on it; (adjective) subject to debate, dispute, or uncertainty and therefore, having little practical significance or relevance

ANSWERS: 18. superhighway, 19. neurochemical, 20. expressive, 21. hypothesize, 22. degenerate, 23. parietal, 24. moot

25. amnesic ap\_\_\_\_a  
*n.* a language disorder that affects a person's ability to use or understand words, often caused by brain damage, such as stroke, brain injury, or neurological condition, which can result in difficulty speaking, writing, reading, or comprehending language
26. cau\_\_\_\_\_er cheese  
*n.* a vegetable that belongs to the same family as broccoli and cabbage, characterized by a compact head of central florets surrounded by green leaves, commonly used in cooking and preparation of various cuisines
27. ga\_\_\_\_\_on cyst  
*n.* a group of nerve cells located outside the brain and spinal cord, often forming a swelling or knot; responsible for controlling certain bodily functions or movements
28. fr\_\_\_\_\_l assault  
*adj.* relating to the front; situated at or directed towards the front; frontal can also refer to a meteorological term for a weather system that is moving from west to east
29. fa\_\_\_\_\_le bundle  
*n.* a part or division of a book or manuscript, typically a section that is bound separately; a bundle or cluster of something, such as nerves, blood vessels, or plants
30. gr\_\_n for water  
*v.* to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction

ANSWERS: 25. aphasia, 26. cauliflower, 27. ganglion, 28. frontal, 29. fascicle, 30. groan

31. cerebellar at\_\_\_a *n.* a neurological condition characterized by a lack of muscle coordination, resulting in unsteady movements and difficulties with balance and speech
32. global ap\_\_\_\_\_a *n.* a language disorder that affects a person's ability to use or understand words, often caused by brain damage, such as stroke, brain injury, or neurological condition, which can result in difficulty speaking, writing, reading, or comprehending language
33. bird's g\_\_e *n.* an act of opening the mouth wide, often as a sign of surprise, wonder, or boredom; a wide opening or gap in something, especially in a physical object or landscape; (verb) to open one's mouth wide, often as a result of surprise, shock, or amazement
34. gy\_\_s function *n.* a convolution of the surface of the brain
35. in\_\_\_a region *n.* a small island, particularly one situated off the coast of a larger landmass; (of anatomy) a region of the brain that plays a role in processing emotions and integrating sensory information
36. ne\_\_\_n cell body *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
37. development of cer\_\_\_\_\_um *n.* the part of the brain at the back of the head that plays an important role in motor control, balance, and coordination

ANSWERS: 31. ataxia, 32. aphasia, 33. gape, 34. gyrus, 35. insula, 36. neuron, 37. cerebellum

38. botanical fa\_\_\_\_\_le *n.* a part or division of a book or manuscript, typically a section that is bound separately; a bundle or cluster of something, such as nerves, blood vessels, or plants
39. the arrest of the cu\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing
40. antagonism of do\_\_\_\_\_ne *n.* a chemical substance produced by nerve cells as a neurotransmitter; as a drug, it is used to treat shock and hypotension
41. six-lane sup\_\_\_\_\_way *n.* a large, wide road designed for high-speed traffic
42. posterior in\_\_\_\_a *n.* a small island, particularly one situated off the coast of a larger landmass; (of anatomy) a region of the brain that plays a role in processing emotions and integrating sensory information
43. eld\_\_\_\_\_ry juice *n.* a shrub or small tree that bears clusters of dark purple berries, used in jams, jellies, and pies, and also to make wine; believed by some to have medicinal properties
44. m\_\_t point *v.* to bring up or introduce a matter for discussion, debate, or consideration, especially when the issue may be hypothetical, irrelevant, or not yet determined; to suggest a point of view or argument without necessarily taking a position on it; (adjective) subject to debate, dispute, or uncertainty and therefore, having little practical significance or relevance

ANSWERS: 38. fascicle, 39. culprit, 40. dopamine, 41. superhighway, 42. insula, 43. elderberry, 44. moot

45. fl\_\_\_t Chinese *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
46. neu\_\_\_\_\_cal substances *adj.* of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity
47. cau\_\_\_\_\_er curry *n.* a vegetable that belongs to the same family as broccoli and cabbage, characterized by a compact head of central florets surrounded by green leaves, commonly used in cooking and preparation of various cuisines
48. ba\_\_l activity *adj.* forming or belonging to a bottom layer or base of something
49. do\_\_\_\_\_ne-inhibiting agent *n.* a chemical substance produced by nerve cells as a neurotransmitter; as a drug, it is used to treat shock and hypotension
50. fr\_\_\_\_\_l attack *adj.* relating to the front; situated at or directed towards the front; frontal can also refer to a meteorological term for a weather system that is moving from west to east

ANSWERS: 45. fluent, 46. neurochemical, 47. cauliflower, 48. basal, 49. dopamine, 50. frontal

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I made some \_\_\_\_\_ jelly from the berries in the backyard.  
*n.* a shrub or small tree that bears clusters of dark purple berries, used in jams, jellies, and pies, and also to make wine; believed by some to have medicinal properties
2. The patient has to keep a record of \_\_\_\_\_ body temperature.  
*adj.* forming or belonging to a bottom layer or base of something
3. The lungs are divided into five \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver
4. An injury to the \_\_\_\_\_ can cause difficulty with walking, speaking, and maintaining posture.  
*n.* the part of the brain at the back of the head that plays an important role in motor control, balance, and coordination
5. Her \_\_\_\_\_ dance moves captivated the audience during the performance.  
*adj.* capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness
6. Our study focuses on \_\_\_\_\_ changes in the brain.  
*adj.* of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity
7. The publisher released the first \_\_\_\_\_ of the new encyclopedic series.  
*n.* a part or division of a book or manuscript, typically a section that is bound separately; a bundle or cluster of something, such as nerves, blood vessels, or plants

ANSWERS: 1. elderberry, 2. basal, 3. lobes, 4. cerebellum, 5. expressive, 6. neurochemical, 7. fascicle

8. Scientists \_\_\_\_\_ that the new fish species evolved to survive in deep-sea environments.
- v.* to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate
9. The inferior temporal \_\_\_\_\_ is involved in object recognition.
- n.* a convolution of the surface of the brain
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Grand Canyon is an awe-inspiring sight.
- n.* an act of opening the mouth wide, often as a sign of surprise, wonder, or boredom; a wide opening or gap in something, especially in a physical object or landscape; (verb) to open one's mouth wide, often as a result of surprise, shock, or amazement
11. The patient's \_\_\_\_\_ symptoms worsened over time, prompting the need for a comprehensive treatment approach.
- n.* a neurological condition characterized by a lack of muscle coordination, resulting in unsteady movements and difficulties with balance and speech
12. The once-thriving city has \_\_\_\_\_ into a crime-ridden slum.
- v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
13. The brain's \_\_\_\_\_ regulates emotions, empathy, and self-awareness.
- n.* a small island, particularly one situated off the coast of a larger landmass; (of anatomy) a region of the brain that plays a role in processing emotions and integrating sensory information
14. Recent developments have \_\_\_\_\_ the argument over the issue.
- v.* to bring up or introduce a matter for discussion, debate, or consideration, especially when the issue may be hypothetical, irrelevant, or not yet determined; to suggest a point of view or argument without necessarily taking a position on it; (adjective) subject to debate, dispute, or uncertainty and therefore, having little practical significance or relevance

ANSWERS: 8. hypothesize, 9. gyrus, 10. gape, 11. ataxia, 12. degenerated, 13. insula, 14. mooted

15. The drug controls the level of \_\_\_\_\_ in the brain.

*n.* a chemical substance produced by nerve cells as a neurotransmitter; as a drug, it is used to treat shock and hypotension

16. She learned five languages but is only \_\_\_\_\_ in two of them.

*adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

17. I love to roast \_\_\_\_\_ with garlic and olive oil for a healthy side dish.

*n.* a vegetable that belongs to the same family as broccoli and cabbage, characterized by a compact head of central florets surrounded by green leaves, commonly used in cooking and preparation of various cuisines

18. The sight of the huge pile of laundry made me \_\_\_\_\_ with dread.

*v.* to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction

19. The \_\_\_\_\_ lobe of the brain is responsible for processing sensory information.

*adj.* relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure

20. The University provides a wireless Internet \_\_\_\_\_ to its students.

*n.* a large, wide road designed for high-speed traffic

21. He suffered a severe \_\_\_\_\_ collision in the car accident.

*adj.* relating to the front; situated at or directed towards the front; frontal can also refer to a meteorological term for a weather system that is moving from west to east

22. After her stroke, my grandmother suffered from expressive \_\_\_\_\_ making it difficult for her to articulate her thoughts.

*n.* a language disorder that affects a person's ability to use or understand words, often caused by brain damage, such as stroke, brain injury, or neurological condition, which can result in difficulty speaking, writing, reading, or comprehending language



ANSWERS: 15. dopamine, 16. fluent, 17. cauliflower, 18. groan, 19. parietal, 20. superhighway, 21. frontal, 22. aphasia,

23. Our body transfers information along each \_\_\_\_\_ using an electrical impulse.
- n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
24. The patient's \_\_\_\_\_ was causing severe pain in their wrist.
- n.* a group of nerve cells located outside the brain and spinal cord, often forming a swelling or knot; responsible for controlling certain bodily functions or movements
25. They finally found the \_\_\_\_\_ of the bug after a long time.
- n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing

ANSWERS: 23. neuron, 24. ganglion, 25. culprit