

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Roger McNamee: 6 ways to save the internet | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/roger_mcnamee_6_ways_to_save_the_internet

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

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep
I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

commentator

n. a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics

synonym: announcer, analyst, presenter

(1) television **commentator**, (2) political **commentator**
The sports **commentator** provided detailed analysis throughout the game.

exposition

n. a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display

synonym: explanation, description, account

(1) an international **exposition**, (2) rational **exposition**
The **exposition** in the novel provides background information on the characters and setting.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

debunk

v. to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless

synonym : expose, discredit, demystify

(1) **debunk** an urban legend, (2) **debunk** theory

The myth was **debunked** by scientists, who provided evidence to the contrary.

disrespect

n. an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something

synonym : impoliteness, rudeness, insult

(1) mean no **disrespect**, (2) **disrespect** for a customer

His **disrespectful** behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict

Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

precipitously

adv. steeply or abruptly; quickly or suddenly, often referring to a dramatic change or decline

synonym : steeply, rapidly, abruptly

(1) fall **precipitously**, (2) the mountain face descends **precipitously**

The athlete's performance started to decline **precipitously** after an injury.

crank

n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person

synonym :

eccentric, oddball, kook

(1) **crank** handle, (2) **crank** caller

The fishing reel had a **crank** that made it easy to reel in the catch.

sap

v. to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's confidence or morale

synonym: weaken, exhaust, drain

(1) **sap** flow, (2) **sap** strength

The disease has **sapped** all his energy, and he can barely get out of bed.

Wikipedia

n. an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics

synonym: online encyclopedia, webpedia

(1) **Wikipedia** entry, (2) **Wikipedia** article

Not all teachers accept citing **Wikipedia** as a valid source for academic papers.

yelp

n. a sharp, high-pitched bark or cry, typically made by a dog or fox

synonym: bark, cry, howl

(1) **yelp** in pain, (2) **yelp** of excitement

The dog let out a sharp **yelp** when he stepped on its tail.

realtor

n. a professional in the real estate industry who is a member of the national association of realtors

synonym: real estate agent, broker

(1) **realtor** agency, (2) **realtor** services

The reliable **realtor** showed them several properties in the area.

steppe

n. a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

synonym: prairie, savannah, grassland

(1) **steppe** climate, (2) barren **steppe**

The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast **steppe**.

commoditize

v. to turn something into a commodity, typically by reducing its uniqueness or value and making it widely available

synonym: commercialize, standardize

(1) **commoditize** technology, (2) **commoditize** intellectual property

Amazon's strategy is to **commoditize** goods and services to win over customers with lower prices.

intolerant

adj. the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects

synonym: failure, impotence, shortcoming

(1) an **intolerant** person, (2) **intolerant** of criticism

His **intolerant** attitude towards other cultures made it difficult for him to get along with others.

pendulum

n. a weight hung from a fixed point used to regulate the movement of a clock or other mechanism

synonym: oscillator, balance, clock

(1) **pendulum** swings, (2) political **pendulum**

The **pendulum** clock was a familiar sight in the old house.

app

n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

synonym: application, software

(1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**

The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.

monetize

v. to earn money from something, such as an asset, business, etc.; to coin into money

synonym : mint, make profit

(1) **monetize** my skill, (2) **monetize** nickel

He explored ways to **monetize** his digital content.

ax

n. a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials

synonym : hatchet, chopper, tomahawk

(1) chop wood with an **ax**, (2) an **ax** in the toolbox

He used an **ax** to chop the firewood for the campfire.

android

n. a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system

synonym : droid, cyborg

(1) household **android**, (2) **Android** tablet

The lab is developing an **android** robot that assists in dangerous construction work.

mania

n. a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something

synonym : obsession, craze, frenzy

(1) start-up **mania**, (2) dance **mania**

The **mania** for collecting rare books led him to spend his savings on a first edition.

sideshow

n. a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment

synonym : side attraction

(1) **sideshow** performer, (2) carnival **sideshow**

The circus **sideshow** featured a bearded lady and a human cannonball.

subordinate

adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

synonym: inferior, secondary, subservient

(1) **subordinate** position, (2) **subordinate** role

The CEO's **subordinate** employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

embed

v. to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass

synonym: entrench, fix, set

(1) **embed** scripts in the message, (2) **embed** a sensor

The company **embedded** a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.

gamification

n. the use of game design elements and techniques in non-game contexts to engage and motivate people to achieve their goals

(1) **gamification** of education, (2) use **gamification** to learning

The company implemented a **gamification** program to encourage employees to meet their sales targets.

hippie

n. a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values

synonym: bohemian, beatnik, free spirit

(1) **hippie** lifestyle, (2) **hippie** music

The fashion of the **hippie** movement included unconventional clothing such as tie-dye shirts and bell-bottom jeans.

teeny

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym : tiny, mini, minuscule

(1) **teeny** bit, (2) so **teeny** tiny

The ring was so **teeny** that it almost looked like a toy.

stifle

v. to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation

synonym : smother, suppress, suffocate

(1) **stifle** a laugh, (2) **stifle** creativity

The oppressive regime tried to **stifle** free speech and dissent.

deteriorate

v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate

synonym : decline, degenerate, regress

(1) **deteriorate** at a slow pace, (2) **deteriorate** condition

The patient's health **deteriorated** rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.

glimmer

n. a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something

synonym : gleam, dazzle, gleam

(1) without a **glimmer** of truth, (2) give a **glimmer** of light

There is however a **glimmer** of hope.

tweet

n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym : peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**

We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

Session 2: Spelling

1. chop wood with an ax *n.* a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
2. carnival si_____ow *n.* a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
3. int_____nt of criticism *adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects
4. re_____r agency *n.* a professional in the real estate industry who is a member of the national association of realtors
5. start-up ma__a *n.* a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something
6. st___e climate *n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America
7. give a gl_____r of light *n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something

ANSWERS: 1. ax, 2. sideshow, 3. intolerant, 4. realtor, 5. mania, 6. steppe, 7. glimmer

8. household an____d *n.* a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
9. s_p strength *v.* to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's confidence or morale
10. political pe____um *n.* a weight hung from a fixed point used to regulate the movement of a clock or other mechanism
11. Wi_____ia entry *n.* an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
12. pe____um swings *n.* a weight hung from a fixed point used to regulate the movement of a clock or other mechanism
13. without a gl____r of truth *n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something
14. the mountain face descends pre_____sly *adv.* steeply or abruptly; quickly or suddenly, often referring to a dramatic change or decline
15. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
16. use gam_____ion to learning *n.* the use of game design elements and techniques in non-game contexts to engage and motivate people to achieve their goals
17. di____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

ANSWERS: 8. android, 9. sap, 10. pendulum, 11. Wikipedia, 12. pendulum, 13. glimmer, 14. precipitously, 15. industrious, 16. gamification, 17. disrupt

18. det _____te condition *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
19. di _____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
20. te __y bit *adj.* extremely small; tiny
21. com _____ze intellectual property *v.* to turn something into a commodity, typically by reducing its uniqueness or value and making it widely available
22. an ax in the toolbox *n.* a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
23. em __d a sensor *v.* to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
24. hi ___e music *n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
25. cr __k handle *n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
26. ind _____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
27. mean no dis _____ct *n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something

ANSWERS: 18. deteriorate, 19. disrupt, 20. teeny, 21. commoditize, 22. ax, 23. embed, 24. hippie, 25. crank, 26. industrious, 27. disrespect

28. sub_____te role *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
29. det_____te at a slow pace *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
30. em__d scripts in the message *v.* to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
31. his latest tw__ts *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
32. st___e a laugh *v.* to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation
33. st___e creativity *v.* to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation
34. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
35. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
36. sub_____te position *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
37. dance ma__a *n.* a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something

ANSWERS: 28. subordinate, 29. deteriorate, 30. embed, 31. tweet, 32. stifle, 33. stifle, 34. smartphone, 35. smartphone, 36. subordinate, 37. mania

38. cannot log in to the a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
39. Wi_____ia article *n.* an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
40. rational exp_____on *n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
41. cr__k caller *n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
42. fall pre_____sly *adv.* steeply or abruptly; quickly or suddenly, often referring to a dramatic change or decline
43. y__p of excitement *n.* a sharp, high-pitched bark or cry, typically made by a dog or fox
44. s_p flow *v.* to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's confidence or morale
45. An_____d tablet *n.* a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
46. de__k an urban legend *v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless

ANSWERS: 38. app, 39. Wikipedia, 40. exposition, 41. crank, 42. precipitously, 43. yelp, 44. sap, 45. android, 46. debunk

47. de___k theory *v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless
48. a chick's tw__t *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
49. television com_____or *n.* a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics
50. dis_____ct for a customer *n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
51. gam_____ion of education *n.* the use of game design elements and techniques in non-game contexts to engage and motivate people to achieve their goals
52. mo_____ze nickel *v.* to earn money from something, such as an asset, business, etc.; to coin into money
53. mo_____ze my skill *v.* to earn money from something, such as an asset, business, etc.; to coin into money
54. re_____r services *n.* a professional in the real estate industry who is a member of the national association of realtors
55. political com_____or *n.* a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics
56. killer a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

ANSWERS: 47. debunk, 48. tweet, 49. commentator, 50. disrespect, 51. gamification, 52. monetize, 53. monetize, 54. realtor, 55. commentator, 56. app

57. an int_____nt person *adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects
58. si_____ow performer *n.* a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
59. com_____ze technology *v.* to turn something into a commodity, typically by reducing its uniqueness or value and making it widely available
60. y__p in pain *n.* a sharp, high-pitched bark or cry, typically made by a dog or fox
61. so te__y tiny *adj.* extremely small; tiny
62. hi___e lifestyle *n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
63. an international exp_____on *n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
64. barren st___e *n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

ANSWERS: 57. intolerant, 58. sideshow, 59. commoditize, 60. yelp, 61. teeny, 62. hippie, 63. exposition, 64. steppe

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.
n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
2. The CEO's _____ employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.
adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
3. The fashion of the _____ movement included unconventional clothing such as tie-dye shirts and bell-bottom jeans.
n. a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
4. The dog let out a sharp _____ when he stepped on its tail.
n. a sharp, high-pitched bark or cry, typically made by a dog or fox
5. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the _____ release.
n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
6. He used an _____ to chop the firewood for the campfire.
n. a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
7. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 1. tweet, 2. subordinate, 3. hippie, 4. yelp, 5. app's, 6. ax, 7. industrious

8. The reliable _____ showed them several properties in the area.
n. a professional in the real estate industry who is a member of the national association of realtors
9. The lab is developing an _____ robot that assists in dangerous construction work.
n. a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
10. Not all teachers accept citing _____ as a valid source for academic papers.
n. an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
11. There is however a _____ of hope.
n. a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something
12. The ring was so _____ that it almost looked like a toy.
adj. extremely small; tiny
13. The company _____ a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.
v. to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
14. The sports _____ provided detailed analysis throughout the game.
n. a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics
15. The athlete's performance started to decline _____ after an injury.
adv. steeply or abruptly; quickly or suddenly, often referring to a dramatic change or decline

ANSWERS: 8. realtor, 9. android, 10. Wikipedia, 11. glimmer, 12. teeny, 13. embedded, 14. commentator, 15. precipitously

16. His _____ behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.
- n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
17. His _____ attitude towards other cultures made it difficult for him to get along with others.
- adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects
18. The disease has _____ all his energy, and he can barely get out of bed.
- v.* to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's confidence or morale
19. Amazon's strategy is to _____ goods and services to win over customers with lower prices.
- v.* to turn something into a commodity, typically by reducing its uniqueness or value and making it widely available
20. The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast _____.
- n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America
21. The _____ clock was a familiar sight in the old house.
- n.* a weight hung from a fixed point used to regulate the movement of a clock or other mechanism
22. The _____ for collecting rare books led him to spend his savings on a first edition.
- n.* a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something

ANSWERS: 16. disrespectful, 17. intolerant, 18. sapped, 19. commoditize, 20. steppe, 21. pendulum, 22. mania

23. The circus _____ featured a bearded lady and a human cannonball.
- n.* a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
24. The _____ in the novel provides background information on the characters and setting.
- n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
25. The company implemented a _____ program to encourage employees to meet their sales targets.
- n.* the use of game design elements and techniques in non-game contexts to engage and motivate people to achieve their goals
26. He explored ways to _____ his digital content.
- v.* to earn money from something, such as an asset, business, etc.; to coin into money
27. The oppressive regime tried to _____ free speech and dissent.
- v.* to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation
28. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
- n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
29. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

ANSWERS: 23. sideshow, 24. exposition, 25. gamification, 26. monetize, 27. stifle, 28. smartphones, 29. disrupt

30. The fishing reel had a _____ that made it easy to reel in the catch.
- n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
31. The myth was _____ by scientists, who provided evidence to the contrary.
- v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless
32. The patient's health _____ rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.
- v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate

ANSWERS: 30. crank, 31. debunked, 32. deteriorated