

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Adam Savage: How simple ideas lead to scientific discoveries | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/adam\\_savage\\_how\\_simple\\_ideas\\_lead\\_to\\_scientific\\_discoveries](https://www.ted.com/talks/adam_savage_how_simple_ideas_lead_to_scientific_discoveries)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### inertia

*n.* the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act

*synonym*: sluggishness, lethargy, idleness

(1) **inertia** resistance, (2) Newton's law of **inertia**

The object's **inertia** kept it moving in a straight line until acted upon by an outside force.

### challenger

*n.* a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge

*synonym*: contender, rival, contestant

(1) **challenger** brand, (2) political **challenger**

The **challenger** in the boxing match put up a good fight.

### creditor

*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

### solstice

*n.* either of the two moments in a year when the sun is at its greatest distance from the celestial equator, resulting in the shortest or longest day of the year; the time of year associated with these events

(1) celebrate **solstice**, (2) summer **solstice**

The winter **solstice** marks the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.

## spherical

*adj.* having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance

*synonym*: round, orbicular, spherical

(1) **spherical** shape, (2) **spherical** object

The Earth is a nearly **spherical** planet.

## zenith

*n.* the highest point or peak; the point in the sky directly above the observer; the culmination or apex of something

*synonym*: pinnacle, peak, summit

(1) **zenith** of success, (2) **zenith** of popularity

Reaching the **zenith** of his career was a long and difficult climb, but it was worth it.

## circumference

*n.* the distance around the outside of a circular or curved object or area

*synonym*: perimeter, edge, outer boundary

(1) angle of **circumference**, (2) chest **circumference**

The **circumference** of the earth is approximately 24,901 miles.

## extrapolate

*v.* to guess or think about what might happen or estimate something using the facts that you have now

*synonym*: deduce, reason, infer

(1) **extrapolate** the results, (2) **extrapolate** animal dose

This predictive model mechanically **extrapolates** past trends into the future.

## boson

*n.* a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave

*synonym*: photon, gluon, particle

(1) weak **boson**, (2) Higgs **boson**

The search for new **boson** particles is one of the most exciting areas of modern physics.

## physicist

*n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

## corroborate

*v.* to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony

*synonym*: confirm, substantiate, authenticate

(1) **corroborate** evidence, (2) **corroborate** story

The eyewitness testimony **corroborated** the suspect's alibi.

## determinant

*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

*synonym*: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

## hilltop

*n.* the top of a hill, rather than its sloping sides

*synonym*: peak, apex

(1) a windy **hilltop**, (2) **hilltop** residence

We looked down on the large wetland from the **hilltop**.

## discernible

*adj.* able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable

*synonym*: apparent, noticeable, distinguishable

(1) **discernible** pattern, (2) lack of **discernible** progress

There was a **discernible** change in the atmosphere when the boss walked into the room.

## occlude

v. to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access

*synonym*: block, obstruct, close

(1) **occlude** a blood vessel, (2) **occlude** the ureteral orifice

The traffic jam **occluded** the road and caused a significant delay in the journey.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                |                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. the cr____or's claims       | <i>n.</i> a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money                                                                                   |
| 2. cor_____te story            | <i>v.</i> to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony              |
| 3. Newton's law of in_____a    | <i>n.</i> the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act                                                              |
| 4. political cha_____er        | <i>n.</i> a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge              |
| 5. weak bo__n                  | <i>n.</i> a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave |
| 6. bankrupt cr____or           | <i>n.</i> a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money                                                                                   |
| 7. a det_____nt of crop yields | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result   |
| 8. cha_____er brand            | <i>n.</i> a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge              |
| 9. Higgs bo__n                 | <i>n.</i> a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave |

ANSWERS: 1. creditor, 2. corroborate, 3. inertia, 4. challenger, 5. boson, 6. creditor, 7. determinant, 8. challenger, 9. boson

- |                                   |                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10. lack of dis_____le progress   | <i>adj.</i> able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable                                                                      |
| 11. dis_____le pattern            | <i>adj.</i> able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable                                                                      |
| 12. ext_____te animal dose        | <i>v.</i> to guess or think about what might happen or estimate something using the facts that you have now                                   |
| 13. ze___h of success             | <i>n.</i> the highest point or peak; the point in the sky directly above the observer; the culmination or apex of something                   |
| 14. a windy hi_____p              | <i>n.</i> the top of a hill, rather than its sloping sides                                                                                    |
| 15. ext_____te the results        | <i>v.</i> to guess or think about what might happen or estimate something using the facts that you have now                                   |
| 16. hi_____p residence            | <i>n.</i> the top of a hill, rather than its sloping sides                                                                                    |
| 17. oc_____e the ureteral orifice | <i>v.</i> to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access                          |
| 18. ze___h of popularity          | <i>n.</i> the highest point or peak; the point in the sky directly above the observer; the culmination or apex of something                   |
| 19. angle of cir_____nce          | <i>n.</i> the distance around the outside of a circular or curved object or area                                                              |
| 20. environmental det_____nt      | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |

ANSWERS: 10. discernible, 11. discernible, 12. extrapolate, 13. zenith, 14. hilltop, 15. extrapolate, 16. hilltop, 17. occlude, 18. zenith, 19. circumference, 20. determinant

21. sp\_\_\_\_\_al object *adj.* having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance
22. in\_\_\_\_\_a resistance *n.* the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act
23. sp\_\_\_\_\_al shape *adj.* having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance
24. chest cir\_\_\_\_\_nce *n.* the distance around the outside of a circular or curved object or area
25. theoretical ph\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
26. oc\_\_\_\_\_e a blood vessel *v.* to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access
27. talented ph\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
28. celebrate so\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* either of the two moments in a year when the sun is at its greatest distance from the celestial equator, resulting in the shortest or longest day of the year; the time of year associated with these events
29. cor\_\_\_\_\_te evidence *v.* to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony
30. summer so\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* either of the two moments in a year when the sun is at its greatest distance from the celestial equator, resulting in the shortest or longest day of the year; the time of year associated with these events

ANSWERS: 21. spherical, 22. inertia, 23. spherical, 24. circumference, 25. physicist, 26. occlude, 27. physicist, 28. solstice, 29. corroborate, 30. solstice

ANSWERS:



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ in the boxing match put up a good fight.  
*n.* a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge
  
2. This predictive model mechanically \_\_\_\_\_ past trends into the future.  
*v.* to guess or think about what might happen or estimate something using the facts that you have now
  
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth is approximately 24,901 miles.  
*n.* the distance around the outside of a circular or curved object or area
  
4. I asked the lawyer to initiate \_\_\_\_\_ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.  
*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
  
5. The eyewitness testimony \_\_\_\_\_ the suspect's alibi.  
*v.* to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony
  
6. The Earth is a nearly \_\_\_\_\_ planet.  
*adj.* having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance
  
7. The traffic jam \_\_\_\_\_ the road and caused a significant delay in the journey.  
*v.* to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access
  
8. Reaching the \_\_\_\_\_ of his career was a long and difficult climb, but it was worth it.  
*n.* the highest point or peak; the point in the sky directly above the observer; the culmination or apex of something

ANSWERS: 1. challenger, 2. extrapolates, 3. circumference, 4. creditor, 5. corroborated, 6. spherical, 7. occluded, 8. zenith

9. The winter \_\_\_\_\_ marks the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.
- n.* either of the two moments in a year when the sun is at its greatest distance from the celestial equator, resulting in the shortest or longest day of the year; the time of year associated with these events
10. The object's \_\_\_\_\_ kept it moving in a straight line until acted upon by an outside force.
- n.* the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act
11. The search for new \_\_\_\_\_ particles is one of the most exciting areas of modern physics.
- n.* a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave
12. Einstein was an outstanding and famous \_\_\_\_\_ of the 20th century.
- n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
13. One \_\_\_\_\_ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
14. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ change in the atmosphere when the boss walked into the room.
- adj.* able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable
15. We looked down on the large wetland from the \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the top of a hill, rather than its sloping sides

ANSWERS: 9. solstice, 10. inertia, 11. boson, 12. physicist, 13. determinant, 14. discernible, 15. hilltop

ANSWERS: