

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Sarah-Jayne Blakemore: The mysterious workings of the adolescent brain | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/sarah\\_jayne\\_blakemore\\_the\\_mysterious\\_workings\\_of\\_the\\_adolescent\\_brain](https://www.ted.com/talks/sarah_jayne_blakemore_the_mysterious_workings_of_the_adolescent_brain)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### lifespan

*n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

*synonym*: duration, lifetime, continuance

(1) **lifespan** extension, (2) **lifespan** retrieval curve

Generally speaking, men have a shorter **lifespan** than women.

### neuroscience

*n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

### MRI

*n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body

(1) **MRI** brain image, (2) cardiac **MRI**

The **MRI** machine uses powerful magnets to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

- rev** *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute  
*synonym* : revolution, RPM, speed  
(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd  
He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.
- puberty** *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction  
*synonym* : adolescence, young adulthood  
(1) at the height of **puberty** ., (2) the onset of **puberty**  
In this culture, men are initiated when they reach **puberty**.
- prefrontal** *adj.* in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain  
(1) **prefrontal** bone, (2) **prefrontal** region  
Research shows that damage to the **prefrontal** cortex leads to increased aggression.
- humming** *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee  
*synonym* : buzzing, droning, vibrating  
(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird  
The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
- synapse** *n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it  
(1) **synapse** circuit, (2) end at a **synapse**  
Animals transmit nerve impulses through **synapses**.
- prune** *n.* a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance; (verb) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant, especially to encourage growth

*synonym* : (verb) trim, (verb) cut back

(1) **prune** a branch, (2) wrinkle like a **prune**

You should remove the seeds from the **prunes** before cooking.

## instinctive

*adj.* relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency

*synonym* : spontaneous, intuitive, natural

(1) **instinctive** reaction, (2) **instinctive** behavior

It was **instinctive** for the mother to protect her child from harm.

## medial

*adj.* referencing or situated in the middle of something; pertaining to or located near the axis of the body

*synonym* : central, intermediate, midmost

(1) **medial** thigh, (2) **medial** approach

The **medial** side of the knee is prone to injury in certain sports like soccer and basketball.

## midline

*n.* an imaginary line that divides something, such as a shape, object, or body, into two equal or symmetrical halves

*synonym* : centerline, median, halfway point

(1) **midline** incision, (2) **midline** herniation

The **midline** of a rectangle divides it into two halves.

## meta

*adj.* pertaining to or involving a higher or more abstract level of analysis, interpretation, or self-reference, often used to describe aspects of gaming, social media, or other online communities that involve self-conscious or self-referential elements

*synonym* : self-referential, introspective, recursive

(1) **meta-analysis**, (2) **meta-language**

The **meta** description of a website is an important element for search engine optimization.

## 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.

## instinctively

*adv.* as a matter of nature or intuition rather than thought or training  
*synonym*: inherently, intuitively, naturally

(1) **instinctively** grabbed the knife, (2) **instinctively** bad with children

Some researchers claim that even humans can **instinctively** sense earthquakes.

## parody

*n.* a humorous imitation of a serious piece of literature or music designed to ridicule or criticize the original work  
*synonym*: spoof, satire, lampoon

(1) **parody** imitation, (2) comedic **parody**

The movie was a **parody** of classic horror films.

## moodiness

*n.* a tendency to experience mood swings or to be easily affected by changes in mood  
*synonym*: emotional instability, irritability, temperament

(1) control your **moodiness**, (2) **moodiness** during puberty  
His **moodiness** made it difficult for his coworkers to predict how he would react to things.

## anecdote

*n.* a short and amusing or interesting story about a real incident or person  
*synonym*: story, account, tale

(1) personal **anecdote**, (2) funny **anecdote**

She entertained the guests with **anecdotes** about her travels and experiences.

## embarrass

*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed  
*synonym*: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project  
He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

## aft

*adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

## singe

*v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

*synonym*: sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric

I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

## wench

*n.* (considered offensive and is generally not used in modern English) a young woman or girl, usually of low social status

*synonym*: girl, woman

(1) **wench** costume, (2) serving **wench**

The pirate ship had a **wench** who cooked meals for the crew and helped with the sails.

## portray

*v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

*synonym*: depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

## limbic

*adj.* of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction

(1) **limbic** cortex, (2) **limbic** epilepsy

The **limbic** brain region responded readily to negative or sad sounds.

### hypersensitive

*adj.* easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting

*synonym* : over-sensitive, touchy, fragile

(1) **hypersensitive** reaction, (2) **hypersensitive** nerve endings

She became **hypersensitive** to criticism after being bullied in school.

### rehabilitate

*v.* to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment

*synonym* : reform, restore, renovate

(1) **rehabilitate** prisoners, (2) **rehabilitate** wildlife

The organization works to **rehabilitate** drug addicts and help them rebuild their lives.

### grandparent

*n.* a parent of one's father or mother

(1) great- **grandparent**, (2) person of **grandparent** age

She was close to her paternal **grandparents** and often spent summers with them.

### adaptable

*adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

*synonym* : flexible, adjustable, elastic

(1) **adaptable** enough for the environment, (2) an **adaptable** person

We seek a candidate who possesses **adaptable** fighting potential.

### malleable

*adj.* able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations

*synonym*: flexible, adaptable, pliable

(1) **malleable** clay, (2) **malleable** attitude

Gold is a **malleable** metal that can be easily shaped into different forms.

## opportune

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

*synonym*: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

## heighten

*v.* to increase or enhance the intensity, degree, or extent of something; to make something more pronounced or noticeable; to intensify or amplify

*synonym*: intensify, enhance, amplify

(1) **heighten** anxiety, (2) **heighten** emotions

The use of bright colors in the painting **heightened** the overall sense of joy and vibrancy.

## stigmatize

*v.* to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect

*synonym*: brand, mark, denounce

(1) **stigmatize** the deviant as criminal, (2) **stigmatize** him as a swindler

She was **stigmatized** by society because she had a child out of wedlock.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. pa\_\_\_y imitation *n.* a humorous imitation of a serious piece of literature or music designed to ridicule or criticize the original work
2. ins\_\_\_\_\_ve behavior *adj.* relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency
3. ma\_\_\_\_\_le attitude *adj.* able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations
4. M\_I brain image *n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body
5. great-gra\_\_\_\_\_nt *n.* a parent of one's father or mother
6. em\_\_\_\_\_ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
7. sti\_\_\_\_\_ze him as a swindler *v.* to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect
8. pre\_\_\_\_\_al region *adj.* in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain
9. li\_\_\_\_\_an extension *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

ANSWERS: 1. parody, 2. instinctive, 3. malleable, 4. MRI, 5. grandparent, 6. embarrass, 7. stigmatize, 8. prefrontal, 9. lifespan



10. em\_\_\_\_\_ss my project      *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
11. comedic pa\_\_\_\_y      *n.* a humorous imitation of a serious piece of literature or music designed to ridicule or criticize the original work
12. si\_\_e off the hair over the flames      *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
13. hyp\_\_\_\_\_ive reaction      *adj.* easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting
14. he\_\_\_\_\_en emotions      *v.* to increase or enhance the intensity, degree, or extent of something; to make something more pronounced or noticeable; to intensify or amplify
15. li\_\_\_\_\_an retrieval curve      *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
16. accurately po\_\_\_\_\_y the condition      *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
17. he\_\_\_\_\_en anxiety      *v.* to increase or enhance the intensity, degree, or extent of something; to make something more pronounced or noticeable; to intensify or amplify
18. a\_t view      *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
19. mi\_\_\_\_\_e herniation      *n.* an imaginary line that divides something, such as a shape, object, or body, into two equal or symmetrical halves

ANSWERS: 10. embarrass, 11. parody, 12. singe, 13. hypersensitive, 14. heighten, 15. lifespan, 16. portray, 17. heighten, 18. aft, 19. midline

20. oc\_\_\_\_\_e the ureteral orifice      *v.* to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access
21. personal an\_\_\_\_\_te      *n.* a short and amusing or interesting story about a real incident or person
22. end at a sy\_\_\_\_\_e      *n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it
23. a\_t cabin      *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
24. po\_\_\_\_\_y feelings in words      *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
25. ad\_\_\_\_\_le enough for the environment      *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
26. reh\_\_\_\_\_ate prisoners      *v.* to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment
27. ma\_\_\_\_\_le clay      *adj.* able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations
28. sy\_\_\_\_\_e circuit      *n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it
29. si\_\_e the edges of a fabric      *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

ANSWERS: 20. occlude, 21. anecdote, 22. synapse, 23. aft, 24. portray, 25. adaptable, 26. rehabilitate, 27. malleable, 28. synapse, 29. singe

30. low-r\_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
31. ins\_\_\_\_\_ely grabbed the knife *adv.* as a matter of nature or intuition rather than thought or training
32. li\_\_\_c cortex *adj.* of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction
33. the branch of neu\_\_\_\_\_nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
34. hu\_\_\_\_\_g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
35. the onset of pu\_\_\_\_\_y *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
36. m\_\_a-analysis *adj.* pertaining to or involving a higher or more abstract level of analysis, interpretation, or self-reference, often used to describe aspects of gaming, social media, or other online communities that involve self-conscious or self-referential elements
37. mi\_\_\_\_\_e incision *n.* an imaginary line that divides something, such as a shape, object, or body, into two equal or symmetrical halves

ANSWERS: 30. rev, 31. instinctively, 32. limbic, 33. neuroscience, 34. humming, 35. puberty, 36. meta, 37. midline

38. person of gra\_\_\_\_\_nt age                    *n.* a parent of one's father or mother
39. an op\_\_\_\_\_ne remark                    *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
40. m\_\_a-language                    *adj.* pertaining to or involving a higher or more abstract level of analysis, interpretation, or self-reference, often used to describe aspects of gaming, social media, or other online communities that involve self-conscious or self-referential elements
41. hyp\_\_\_\_\_ive nerve endings                    *adj.* easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting
42. funny an\_\_\_\_\_te                    *n.* a short and amusing or interesting story about a real incident or person
43. r\_v up the crowd                    *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
44. serving we\_\_h                    *n.* (considered offensive and is generally not used in modern English) a young woman or girl, usually of low social status
45. mo\_\_\_\_\_ss during puberty                    *n.* a tendency to experience mood swings or to be easily affected by changes in mood

ANSWERS: 38. grandparent, 39. opportune, 40. meta, 41. hypersensitive, 42. anecdote, 43. rev, 44. wench, 45. moodiness

46. at the height of pu\_\_\_\_y. *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
47. a theoretical concept in neu\_\_\_\_\_nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
48. pr\_\_e a branch *n.* a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance; (verb) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant, especially to encourage growth
49. me\_\_\_l approach *adj.* referencing or situated in the middle of something; pertaining to or located near the axis of the body
50. ins\_\_\_\_\_ve reaction *adj.* relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency
51. me\_\_\_l thigh *adj.* referencing or situated in the middle of something; pertaining to or located near the axis of the body
52. pre\_\_\_\_\_al bone *adj.* in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain
53. cardiac M\_l *n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body
54. control your mo\_\_\_\_\_ss *n.* a tendency to experience mood swings or to be easily affected by changes in mood

ANSWERS: 46. puberty, 47. neuroscience, 48. prune, 49. medial, 50. instinctive, 51. medial, 52. prefrontal, 53. MRI, 54. moodiness

55. li\_\_\_c epilepsy *adj.* of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction
56. ins\_\_\_\_\_ely bad with children *adv.* as a matter of nature or intuition rather than thought or training
57. op\_\_\_\_\_ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
58. 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
59. an ad\_\_\_\_\_le person *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
60. hu\_\_\_\_\_g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
61. wrinkle like a pr\_\_\_e *n.* a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance; (verb) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant, especially to encourage growth
62. sti\_\_\_\_\_ze the deviant as criminal *v.* to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect
63. we\_\_h costume *n.* (considered offensive and is generally not used in modern English) a young woman or girl, usually of low social status
64. reh\_\_\_\_\_ate wildlife *v.* to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment

ANSWERS: 55. limbic, 56. instinctively, 57. opportune, 58. occlude, 59. adaptable, 60. humming, 61. prune, 62. stigmatize, 63. wench, 64. rehabilitate

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Gold is a \_\_\_\_\_ metal that can be easily shaped into different forms.  
*adj.* able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations
2. Some researchers claim that even humans can \_\_\_\_\_ sense earthquakes.  
*adv.* as a matter of nature or intuition rather than thought or training
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ brain region responded readily to negative or sad sounds.  
*adj.* of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction
4. She was close to her paternal \_\_\_\_\_ and often spent summers with them.  
*n.* a parent of one's father or mother
5. She was \_\_\_\_\_ by society because she had a child out of wedlock.  
*v.* to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect
6. The use of bright colors in the painting \_\_\_\_\_ the overall sense of joy and vibrancy.  
*v.* to increase or enhance the intensity, degree, or extent of something; to make something more pronounced or noticeable; to intensify or amplify
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ description of a website is an important element for search engine optimization.  
*adj.* pertaining to or involving a higher or more abstract level of analysis, interpretation, or self-reference, often used to describe aspects of gaming, social media, or other online communities that involve self-conscious or self-referential elements

ANSWERS: 1. malleable, 2. instinctively, 3. limbic, 4. grandparents, 5. stigmatized, 6.



heightened, 7. meta

8. 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
9. Generally speaking, men have a shorter \_\_\_\_\_ than women.  
*n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ side of the knee is prone to injury in certain sports like soccer and basketball.  
*adj.* referencing or situated in the middle of something; pertaining to or located near the axis of the body
11. He looked for an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ that actor in public.  
*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
12. She became \_\_\_\_\_ to criticism after being bullied in school.  
*adj.* easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting
13. The movie was a \_\_\_\_\_ of classic horror films.  
*n.* a humorous imitation of a serious piece of literature or music designed to ridicule or criticize the original work
14. It was \_\_\_\_\_ for the mother to protect her child from harm.  
*adj.* relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency
15. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.  
*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 8. occluded, 9. lifespan, 10. medial, 11. embarrass, 12. hypersensitive, 13. parody, 14. instinctive, 15. opportune

16. She entertained the guests with \_\_\_\_\_ about her travels and experiences.  
*n.* a short and amusing or interesting story about a real incident or person
17. The \_\_\_ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.  
*adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
18. The \_\_\_ machine uses powerful magnets to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.  
*n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.  
*adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
20. Animals transmit nerve impulses through \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it
21. We seek a candidate who possesses \_\_\_\_\_ fighting potential.  
*adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
22. In this culture, men are initiated when they reach \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
23. Research shows that damage to the \_\_\_\_\_ cortex leads to increased aggression.  
*adj.* in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain

ANSWERS: 16. anecdotes, 17. aft, 18. MRI, 19. humming, 20. synapses, 21. adaptable, 22. puberty, 23. prefrontal

24. You should remove the seeds from the \_\_\_\_\_ before cooking.
- n.* a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance; (verb) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant, especially to encourage growth
25. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud \_\_\_\_.
- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
26. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and \_\_\_\_\_ my dress.
- v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
27. His \_\_\_\_\_ made it difficult for his coworkers to predict how he would react to things.
- n.* a tendency to experience mood swings or to be easily affected by changes in mood
28. The pirate ship had a \_\_\_\_\_ who cooked meals for the crew and helped with the sails.
- n.* (considered offensive and is generally not used in modern English) a young woman or girl, usually of low social status
29. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a rectangle divides it into two halves.
- n.* an imaginary line that divides something, such as a shape, object, or body, into two equal or symmetrical halves
30. We often \_\_\_\_\_ political problems as religious issues.
- v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

ANSWERS: 24. prunes, 25. rev, 26. singed, 27. moodiness, 28. wench, 29. midline, 30. portray

31. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
32. The organization works to \_\_\_\_\_ drug addicts and help them rebuild their lives.
- v.* to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment

ANSWERS: 31. neuroscience, 32. rehabilitate