

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Bahia Shehab: A thousand times no | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/bahia\\_shehab\\_a\\_thousand\\_times\\_no](https://www.ted.com/talks/bahia_shehab_a_thousand_times_no)

### 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

### commemorate

*v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute

*synonym* : honor, remember, celebrate

(1) **commemorate** her long life, (2) **commemorate** a deed

The country **commemorated** the war heroes on Memorial Day.

### curator

*n.* a person whose job is to manage the objects or artworks in a museum, art gallery, etc.

*synonym* : conservator, custodian, administrator

(1) **curator** of a library, (2) interim **curator**

The museum **curator** conserved the ancient manuscripts.

### Arabic

*n.* the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language

(1) **Arabic** cuisine, (2) **Arabic** language

I'm studying **Arabic** calligraphy as part of my art class.

### patronage

*n.* the support or encouragement of a person or group, especially in the form of sponsorship or financial aid; the power or privilege of making appointments or bestowing favors, typically by a patron or patroness

*synonym* : sponsorship, backing, support

(1) political **patronage**, (2) corporate **patronage**

The politician relied on the **patronage** of wealthy donors to fund their campaigns.

## patron

*n.* a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.

*synonym*: contributor, sponsor, supporter

(1) the **patron** saint of a place, (2) political **patron**

They have been a **patron** of this restaurant for many years.

## Pharaoh

*n.* the title of the ancient Egyptian kings

(1) a young **Pharaoh**, (2) Egyptian **Pharaoh**

The **Pharaoh** Khufu had his people build the most famous pyramids in the world.

## dictator

*n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force

*synonym*: autocrat, tyrant, despot

(1) military **dictator**, (2) a **dictator** with enormous powers

A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the **dictator**.

## 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.

## 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**.

## snipe

*v.* to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism

*synonym* : criticize, disparage, sharpshoot

(1) **snipe** at the suspect, (2) **snipe** at each other

The politician **sniped** at his opponent during the debate.

## sheikh

*n.* a title given to the leader or ruler of an Arab tribe, village, or Islamic community, commonly used in the Arabian Peninsula and some other parts of the Middle East

*synonym* : emir, ruler, leader

(1) **sheikh** authority, (2) oil **sheikh**

The Arab **sheikh** welcomed the dignitaries to his palace for a grand feast.

## orphan

*n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them

*synonym* : waif, stray, fatherless child

(1) **orphan** care, (2) asylum for **orphan** children

The little girl was a war **orphan** and lived in a group home.

## sham

*n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

*synonym* : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

## veil

*n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure

*synonym* : cover, mask, (verb) conceal

(1) **veil** of mystery, (2) **veil** her face

He lifted her **veil** with both hands.

## footprint

*n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface  
*synonym*: footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

## retaliate

*v.* to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person

*synonym*: get back, strike back, revenge

(1) **retaliate** for the blow, (2) **retaliate** in a like fashion

After the other team scored, we **retaliated** by playing even harder and scoring two quick goals.

## roadblock

*n.* a physical barrier or obstacle that prevents progress or movement; a situation that impedes progress or creates difficulty in achieving a goal or objective

*synonym*: obstacle, barrier, blockade

(1) biological **roadblock**, (2) bypass **roadblock**

The accident caused a **roadblock** on the highway, causing traffic to come to a standstill.

## passerby

*n.* a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way

*synonym*: spectator, onlooker

(1) curious **passerby**, (2) **passerby** in the street

The police officer questioned the **passerby** for any information they had about the suspect

## 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.

## demonstrator

*n.* a person who publicly advocates for or protests against a particular cause, often in a group or a public space

*synonym* : protester, activist

(1) peaceful **demonstrator**, (2) violent **demonstrator**

The police gathered in large numbers to control the **demonstrators** protesting in the streets.

## martyr

*n.* a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs

*synonym* : sufferer, saint

(1) X-ray **martyrs**, (2) a Christian **martyr**

He died a **martyr** to science.

## stencil

*n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath

*synonym* : template, pattern

(1) **stencil** art, (2) letter **stencil**

I used a flower **stencil** to create a pattern for my art project.

## scribble

*v.* to write or draw carelessly and in a hurry

*synonym* : scrabble, scrawl, jot

(1) **scribble** on paper, (2) **scribble** notes

The words were **scribbled** in pencil.

## mausoleum

*n.* a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground

*synonym* : tomb, sepulcher, crypt

(1) visit a **mausoleum**, (2) marble **mausoleum**

The imperial **mausoleum** was built to honor the late king.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. marble ma\_\_\_\_\_um *n.* a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground
2. the pa\_\_\_n saint of a place *n.* a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.
3. a\_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
4. political pa\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* the support or encouragement of a person or group, especially in the form of sponsorship or financial aid; the power or privilege of making appointments or bestowing favors, typically by a patron or patroness
5. re\_\_\_\_\_te in a like fashion *v.* to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person
6. re\_\_\_\_\_te for the blow *v.* to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person
7. sn\_\_e at each other *v.* to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism

ANSWERS: 1. mausoleum, 2. patron, 3. aft, 4. patronage, 5. retaliate, 6. retaliate, 7. snipe

8. 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
9. com\_\_\_\_\_te a deed *v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
10. si\_\_e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
11. sn\_\_e at the suspect *v.* to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism
12. violent dem\_\_\_\_\_tor *n.* a person who publicly advocates for or protests against a particular cause, often in a group or a public space
13. sc\_\_\_\_\_le notes *v.* to write or draw carelessly and in a hurry
14. 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
15. political pa\_\_\_n *n.* a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.

ANSWERS: 8. steppe, 9. commemorate, 10. singe, 11. snipe, 12. demonstrator, 13. scribble, 14. steppe, 15. patron

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 16. Egyptian Ph_____h                         | <i>n.</i> the title of the ancient Egyptian kings   |
| 17. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization | <i>n.</i> a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface  |
| 18. or____n care                              | <i>n.</i> a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them   |
| 19. bypass ro_____ck                          | <i>n.</i> a physical barrier or obstacle that prevents progress or movement; a situation that impedes progress or creates difficulty in achieving a goal or objective |
| 20. Ar____c cuisine                           | <i>n.</i> the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language    |
| 21. com_____te her long life                  | <i>v.</i> to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute  |
| 22. a Christian ma____r                       | <i>n.</i> a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs  |
| 23. X-ray ma____rs                            | <i>n.</i> a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs  |
| 24. military di_____or                        | <i>n.</i> a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force  |
| 25. curious pa_____by                         | <i>n.</i> a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way       |

ANSWERS: 16. Pharaoh, 17. footprint, 18. orphan, 19. roadblock, 20. Arabic, 21. commemorate, 22. martyr, 23. martyr, 24. dictator, 25. passerby



26. biological ro\_\_\_\_\_ck *n.* a physical barrier or obstacle that prevents progress or movement; a situation that impedes progress or creates difficulty in achieving a goal or objective
27. asylum for or\_\_\_\_n children *n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
28. a di\_\_\_\_\_or with enormous powers *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
29. a young Ph\_\_\_\_\_h *n.* the title of the ancient Egyptian kings
30. si\_\_e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
31. a\_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
32. visit a ma\_\_\_\_\_um *n.* a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground
33. corporate pa\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* the support or encouragement of a person or group, especially in the form of sponsorship or financial aid; the power or privilege of making appointments or bestowing favors, typically by a patron or patroness
34. peaceful dem\_\_\_\_\_tor *n.* a person who publicly advocates for or protests against a particular cause, often in a group or a public space
35. letter st\_\_\_\_\_l *n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath

ANSWERS: 26. roadblock, 27. orphan, 28. dictator, 29. Pharaoh, 30. singe, 31. aft, 32. mausoleum, 33. patronage, 34. demonstrator, 35. stencil

36. a s\_\_m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
37. st\_\_\_\_\_l art *n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath
38. sc\_\_\_\_\_le on paper *v.* to write or draw carelessly and in a hurry
39. Ar\_\_\_c language *n.* the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language
40. pa\_\_\_\_\_by in the street *n.* a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way
41. fo\_\_\_\_\_nts in the snow *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
42. v\_\_l of mystery *n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
43. oil sh\_\_\_h *n.* a title given to the leader or ruler of an Arab tribe, village, or Islamic community, commonly used in the Arabian Peninsula and some other parts of the Middle East
44. v\_\_l her face *n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure

ANSWERS: 36. sham, 37. stencil, 38. scribble, 39. Arabic, 40. passerby, 41. footprint, 42. veil, 43. sheikh, 44. veil

45. sh\_\_\_h authority *n.* a title given to the leader or ruler of an Arab tribe, village, or Islamic community, commonly used in the Arabian Peninsula and some other parts of the Middle East
46. interim cu\_\_\_\_r *n.* a person whose job is to manage the objects or artworks in a museum, art gallery, etc.
47. cu\_\_\_\_r of a library *n.* a person whose job is to manage the objects or artworks in a museum, art gallery, etc.
48. turn out to be all s\_\_m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

ANSWERS: 45. sheikh, 46. curator, 47. curator, 48. sham

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The country \_\_\_\_\_ the war heroes on Memorial Day.  
*v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
  
2. A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
  
3. He died a \_\_\_\_\_ to science.  
*n.* a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs
  
4. He lifted her \_\_\_\_\_ with both hands.  
*n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
  
5. The politician \_\_\_\_\_ at his opponent during the debate.  
*v.* to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism
  
6. The data he prepared was completely \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
  
7. The police officer questioned the \_\_\_\_\_ for any information they had about the suspect  
*n.* a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way

ANSWERS: 1. commemorated, 2. dictator, 3. martyr, 4. veil, 5. sniped, 6. sham, 7. passerby

8. 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
9. I'm studying \_\_\_\_\_ calligraphy as part of my art class.
- n.* the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language
10. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
11. I used a flower \_\_\_\_\_ to create a pattern for my art project.
- n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath
12. 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
13. The Arab \_\_\_\_\_ welcomed the dignitaries to his palace for a grand feast.
- n.* a title given to the leader or ruler of an Arab tribe, village, or Islamic community, commonly used in the Arabian Peninsula and some other parts of the Middle East
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ Khufu had his people build the most famous pyramids in the world.
- n.* the title of the ancient Egyptian kings

ANSWERS: 8. steppe, 9. Arabic, 10. footprint, 11. stencil, 12. aft, 13. sheikh, 14. Pharaoh

15. The police gathered in large numbers to control the \_\_\_\_\_ protesting in the streets.
- n.* a person who publicly advocates for or protests against a particular cause, often in a group or a public space
16. They have been a \_\_\_\_\_ of this restaurant for many years.
- n.* a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.
17. The museum \_\_\_\_\_ conserved the ancient manuscripts.
- n.* a person whose job is to manage the objects or artworks in a museum, art gallery, etc.
18. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and \_\_\_\_\_ my dress.
- v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
19. The words were \_\_\_\_\_ in pencil.
- v.* to write or draw carelessly and in a hurry
20. The imperial \_\_\_\_\_ was built to honor the late king.
- n.* a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground
21. The politician relied on the \_\_\_\_\_ of wealthy donors to fund their campaigns.
- n.* the support or encouragement of a person or group, especially in the form of sponsorship or financial aid; the power or privilege of making appointments or bestowing favors, typically by a patron or patroness
22. The accident caused a \_\_\_\_\_ on the highway, causing traffic to come to a standstill.
- n.* a physical barrier or obstacle that prevents progress or movement; a situation that impedes progress or creates difficulty in achieving a goal or objective

ANSWERS: 15. demonstrators, 16. patron, 17. curator, 18. singed, 19. scribbled, 20. mausoleum, 21. patronage, 22. roadblock

23. The little girl was a war \_\_\_\_\_ and lived in a group home.

*n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them

24. After the other team scored, we \_\_\_\_\_ by playing even harder and scoring two quick goals.

*v.* to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person

ANSWERS: 23. orphan, 24. retaliated