

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Fabian Hemmert: The shape-shifting future of the mobile phone | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/fabian\\_hemmert\\_the\\_shape\\_shifting\\_future\\_of\\_the\\_mobile\\_phone](https://www.ted.com/talks/fabian_hemmert_the_shape_shifting_future_of_the_mobile_phone)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### 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.

### 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**.

### gravitational

*adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)

*synonym*: weighty, heavy, earthbound

(1) **gravitational** energy, (2) **gravitational** waves

The **gravitational** force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.

### augment

*v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it

*synonym*: boost, increase, expand

(1) **augment** the reality, (2) **augment** immunity  
Economic factors and monetary policy **augmented** inflation.

## taper

*v.* to become or cause something to become gradually narrower at one end

*synonym* : decrease, dwindle, diminish

(1) **taper** the medication slowly, (2) **taper** the dose down

Most of the tree trunks **taper** toward the top.

## downside

*n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure

*synonym* : drawback, negative, disadvantage

(1) major **downside**, (2) **downside** of globalization

The **downside** of the new policy was that it would be more expensive for customers.

## 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.

## empathy

*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

*synonym* : compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

**Empathy** is also necessary to understand history.

## hamster

*n.* a small, furry rodent commonly kept as a pet; often used in research laboratories due to their small size and ease of handling

*synonym* : gerbil, guinea pig, mouse

(1) **hamster** wheel, (2) pet **hamster**

It's important to clean your **hamster's** cage frequently to

ensure their health and comfort.

## heartbeat

*n.* the regular movement or sound of the heart as it sends blood around the body; an animating or vital unifying force

*synonym* : beat, pulse, force

(1) **heartbeat** abnormality, (2) a pounding **heartbeat**

New York is the commercial **heartbeat** of America.

## postulate

*v.* to suggest or assume the existence, truth, or necessity of something, typically as a basis for reasoning or further investigation

*synonym* : posit, hypothesize, assume

(1) **postulate** a theory, (2) **postulate** an argument

Scientists **postulate** that gravity plays a major role in the universe's formation.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. pet ha\_\_\_\_r *n.* a small, furry rodent commonly kept as a pet; often used in research laboratories due to their small size and ease of handling
2. au\_\_\_\_t immunity *v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
3. do\_\_\_\_de of globalization *n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
4. gra\_\_\_\_nal waves *adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
5. em\_\_\_\_y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
6. au\_\_\_\_t the reality *v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
7. 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
8. a pounding he\_\_\_\_at *n.* the regular movement or sound of the heart as it sends blood around the body; an animating or vital unifying force

ANSWERS: 1. hamster, 2. augment, 3. downside, 4. gravitational, 5. empathy, 6. augment, 7. app, 8. heartbeat

9. gra\_\_\_\_\_nal energy *adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
10. 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
11. ta\_\_r the medication slowly *v.* to become or cause something to become gradually narrower at one end
12. full of em\_\_\_\_\_y *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
13. hu\_\_\_\_\_g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
14. sma\_\_\_\_\_ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
15. major do\_\_\_\_\_de *n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
16. he\_\_\_\_\_at abnormality *n.* the regular movement or sound of the heart as it sends blood around the body; an animating or vital unifying force
17. po\_\_\_\_\_te an argument *v.* to suggest or assume the existence, truth, or necessity of something, typically as a basis for reasoning or further investigation
18. hu\_\_\_\_\_g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

ANSWERS: 9. gravitational, 10. app, 11. taper, 12. empathy, 13. humming, 14. smartphone, 15. downside, 16. heartbeat, 17. postulate, 18. humming

19. po\_\_\_\_\_te a theory      *v.* to suggest or assume the existence, truth, or necessity of something, typically as a basis for reasoning or further investigation
20. sma\_\_\_\_\_ne addict      *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
21. ha\_\_\_\_\_r wheel      *n.* a small, furry rodent commonly kept as a pet; often used in research laboratories due to their small size and ease of handling
22. ta\_\_r the dose down      *v.* to become or cause something to become gradually narrower at one end

ANSWERS: 19. postulate, 20. smartphone, 21. hamster, 22. taper

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Most of the tree trunks \_\_\_\_\_ toward the top.  
*v.* to become or cause something to become gradually narrower at one end
2. It's important to clean your \_\_\_\_\_ cage frequently to ensure their health and comfort.  
*n.* a small, furry rodent commonly kept as a pet; often used in research laboratories due to their small size and ease of handling
3. Scientists \_\_\_\_\_ that gravity plays a major role in the universe's formation.  
*v.* to suggest or assume the existence, truth, or necessity of something, typically as a basis for reasoning or further investigation
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is also necessary to understand history.  
*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
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. 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
7. Economic factors and monetary policy \_\_\_\_\_ inflation.  
*v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it

ANSWERS: 1. taper, 2. hamster's, 3. postulate, 4. Empathy, 5. app's, 6. humming, 7. augmented

8. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the new policy was that it would be more expensive for customers.
- n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.
- adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
11. New York is the commercial \_\_\_\_\_ of America.
- n.* the regular movement or sound of the heart as it sends blood around the body; an animating or vital unifying force

ANSWERS: 8. smartphones, 9. downside, 10. gravitational, 11. heartbeat