EPISODE 187

Beautiful English Words

Full transcript · point of view · vocabulary review

Hi, everyone! I am Georgiana, your English teacher and founder of SpeakEnglishPodcast.com. My mission is to help you speak English fluently.

Today I will share with you 9 of the most **beautiful words** in English. And with the point of view story, you will learn grammar only by listening.

Ok. Let's start!

In 2010, during a project to search for **words** in digitized books, researchers estimated a total of 1,000,000 **words**.

Yeah, I was a bit surprized by this, too, but there's an explanation for all this.

First of all, you need to take into account that they have included different forms of the same word. Also, many words are archaic since they are not used in modern English.

Speaking of archaic words, in the second edition of the Oxford English Dictionary, there are approximately 600,000 defined word forms. But that's because it includes many old-fashioned words. And also, the dictionary expands every year to keep up with new words being invented.

However, according to the BBC, the good news is that we only use about 170.000 words in English.

Yeah. I know. It's still a considerable number of words, but you don't need to know all these words to be able to have a conversation in English.

I actually believe it's a mistake to keep track of the number of words you know. If you want to learn English effectively, remember how you learned your mother tongue.

And let's face it, you don't know all the words that are included in the dictionary of your mother tongue. But that doesn't stop you from speaking fluently and eloquently.

Let's not forget that words are a powerful form of communication. I have selected the ones that I consider to be the most **beautiful** out of all the words in English.

1. Cherish

The word **cherish** means having a deep appreciation for something or someone.

Example:

"We all cherish our family, our home, our possessions, and I'm sure someone in your life cherishes you and the relationship they have with you."

2. Demure

We use the word **demure** when we refer to a person who is shy and polite.

A demure outfit is a modest one.

Examples:

"The girl was dressed very demurely for the occasion."

"Her clothes were too demure for the occasion."

"The girl was demure."

3. Ebullience

Have you ever seen some puppies playing? The word that comes to mind is **ebullience**. Ebullience means excitement and enthusiasm.

Just think of someone who is too noisy, almost euphoric.

Example:

"I remember that when you were a kid, you would always burst into the room with your usual ebullience, and talk to everyone."

4. Elegance

I'm sure you're smiling right now because this is a word you knew. However, it is still one of the most **beautiful** words in the English language.

Examples:

"When she entered the room, everyone was amazed at her **elegance**."

"We'll deal with this matter with the utmost diplomacy and elegance."

5. Effervescent

Instead of calling someone funny, you could say they have an **effervescent** personality. That simply means that they have an attractive and lively quality.

We could say that someone who has a happy, light, and cheerful nature has an effervescent personality.

In this lesson, you can learn new words to enrich your vocabulary and even impress others.

Instead of always using words like funny, here's another, nicer, different word. So don't be afraid to use it.

Example:

"Ever since she was a child, Rachel was effervescent, impulsive, and optimistic."

6. Elixir

Maybe when you hear the word **elixir**, you think of magic, perhaps Harry Potter and the elixir of life.

Today, we use this word to identify a substance that is capable of transforming base metals into gold.

Although you could also use the word elixir to describe a cocktail you just made at your home bar.

Example:

"Your mom seems to have taken the elixir of life because I see her getting younger and younger."

7. Euphoria

The word **euphoria** comes from the Greek word for healthy. However, it's now used to describe an intense feeling of happiness or joy. The feeling of euphoria can be the result of a fortunate turn.

Examples:

"After winning the award, they were in a state of euphoria for days."

"After winning the award, they were euphoric for days."

8. Eternity

How can we describe this word? Well, I've found some synonyms. Forever; always; an unlimited time. These are just a few ways to describe eternity.

Example:

"We know that we are not going to be in this situation for an eternity, and that idea is a comfort to us.

9. Epiphany

What a beautiful word! But what does it mean?

That's right! **Epiphany** is such a cool word. In Greek, the word means "manifestation."

Epiphany is an "Aha!" moment. You have an epiphany the moment you understand something, or you become aware of something very important to you.

Example:

"The legend goes that Isaac Newton had an epiphany about gravity and a falling apple."

Let's listen to these beautiful words one more time. Now you can pause and try to remember the meaning of each word.

Cherish

Demure

Ebullience

Elegance

Effervescent

Elixir

Euphoria

Eternity

Did you like these words? Please share with me which word you liked the most.

Now, let's practice.

Point of View

Grammar in Context

First version

Tom's Point of View

Tom was a well-educated and refined man who knew how to make a good impression on women.

But despite his talent, he could not impress his beautiful neighbor.

Every day he left her a note using the most beautiful words in English, saying how he admired her elegance, but she never answered him.

Until one day, Tom had an epiphany. He realized she didn't understand English well because she came from another country.

So Tom had to learn his neighbor's language if he wanted to become friends with her.

But Tom had a secret. He had a magical potion.

Every time Tom took a sip of the magical drink, he could speak all the languages in the world.

So Tom finally talked to his beautiful neighbor. Although, to his surprise, she had also taken a potion so she could speak English perfectly.

It turns out that Tom and his neighbor had a lot in common because they both loved magical potions. After they got married, they went on a honeymoon trip around the world to find the elixir of life that would help them live happily for eternity.

Second version

Neighbor's Point of View

My neighbor Tom seems like a well-educated and refined man who knows how to make a good impression on women.

But despite his talent, he can't impress me.

Every day he leaves me a note using the most beautiful words in English, saying how he admires my elegance, but I never answered him.

Until he had an epiphany, he finally realized I didn't understand English well because I come from another country.

So I guess Tom will need to learn my own language if he wants us to become friends.

Unless he has a secret, maybe he has a magical potion, for example.

Every time Tom takes a sip of the magical drink, he can speak all the languages in the world.

I can't wait to see his face when he finds out that I also took a potion to speak English perfectly.

It turns out that Tom and I have a lot in common. We both love magical potions. After we get married, we will go on a trip around the world to find the elixir of life that will help us live happily for eternity.

Thanks for listening, and I'll see you in the next episode.

Review

Vocabulary from This Episode

Review the most useful words and expressions before listening again.

01 **cherish** value and care for someone or something deeply.	05 **effervescent** lively, cheerful, and enthusiastic.
02 **demure** quiet, modest, and reserved.	06 **elixir** a magical or medicinal liquid.
03 **ebullience** lively excitement and enthusiasm.	07 **euphoria** an intense feeling of happiness.
04 **elegance** graceful and stylish beauty.	08 **epiphany** a sudden important realization.

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