

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Derek Abbott: Should you trust unanimous decisions?*

| TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/derek\\_abbott\\_should\\_you\\_trust\\_unanimous\\_decisions](https://www.ted.com/talks/derek_abbott_should_you_trust_unanimous_decisions)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### culprit

*n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing

*synonym*: criminal, felon, fugitive

(1) the **culprit** of global warming, (2) the arrest of the **culprit**

They finally found the **culprit** of the bug after a long time.

### paradox

*n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

*synonym*: incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap

There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

### unanimity

*n.* a complete agreement in opinion or resolution among a specific group of people

*synonym*: agreement, accord, consensus

(1) virtual **unanimity**, (2) the **unanimity** of the whole nation

The bill was passed by **unanimity**.

### unreliable

*adj.* not able to be trusted or depended on

*synonym*: inconsistent, erratic, undependable

(1) prove **unreliable**, (2) **unreliable** source of information

By incorrect assumption, statistics can be notoriously

**unreliable**.

## overestimate

v. to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is

*synonym*: overrate, overvalue, embellish

(1) **overestimate** the value, (2) **overestimate** the amount of time spent

He tends to **overestimate** his abilities.

## incriminate

v. to make someone seem guilty of a crime or wrongdoing

*synonym*: accuse, indict, prosecute

(1) **incriminate** the person, (2) **incriminate** many well-known politicians

He exercised his right not to **incriminate** himself

## elusive

*adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember

*synonym*: mysterious, ambiguous, inapproachable

(1) an **elusive** criminal, (2) track down an **elusive** fact

The physicist who found the **elusive** particle won the Nobel Prize.

## dub

v. to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language

*synonym*: name, designate, nickname

(1) **dub** the film in English, (2) **dub** data

We **dubbed** him Ironman because of his toughness.

## phantom

*n.* a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception

*synonym*: ghost, spirit, apparition

(1) a **phantom** company, (2) **phantom** limb pain

The police frantically searched for clues to the **phantom** killer.

## precis

v. to make a summary of something, such as a text or speech; (noun) a short form of the main points of an argument or theory

*synonym*: summarize, abstract, digest

(1) **precis** the contents of a book, (2) a **precis** of recent advances in AI

He **precis** this lengthy report in two pages.

## swab

*n.* a small piece of soft material used by a doctor, nurse, etc., for cleaning a cut or taking a sample from somebody's body for testing; (verb) apply, usually a liquid, to a surface

*synonym*: mop, scrub, daub

(1) alcohol **swab**, (2) cotton **swab**

He took a **swab** of his ear.

## contaminate

*v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

*synonym*: defile, pollute, adulterate

(1) **contaminate** with a disease, (2) **contaminate** his ego

We strive not to **contaminate** the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

## turnout

*n.* the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election

*synonym*: attendance, number, crowd

(1) the voter **turnout**, (2) an enormous **turnout** of people

The gig attracted a large **turnout**.

## paradoxical

*adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true

*synonym*: contradictory, conflicting, perplexing

(1) a **paradoxical** anecdote, (2) apparently **paradoxical** it is **paradoxical** that the French, who prefer animal foods, live longer than people in other countries.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. pr___s the contents of a book     | <i>v.</i> to make a summary of something, such as a text or speech; (noun) a short form of the main points of an argument or theory                            |
| 2. ph_____m limb pain                | <i>n.</i> a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception  |
| 3. French pa_____x                   | <i>n.</i> a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange; |
| 4. an enormous tu_____t of people    | <i>n.</i> the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election  |
| 5. ove_____ate the value             | <i>v.</i> to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is  |
| 6. an el_____e criminal              | <i>adj.</i> difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember  |
| 7. the arrest of the cu_____t        | <i>n.</i> someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing   |
| 8. a pr___s of recent advances in AI | <i>v.</i> to make a summary of something, such as a text or speech; (noun) a short form of the main points of an argument or theory                            |
| 9. unr_____le source of information  | <i>adj.</i> not able to be trusted or depended on  |
| 10. the pa_____x of the heap         | <i>n.</i> a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange; |

ANSWERS: 1. precis, 2. phantom, 3. paradox, 4. turnout, 5. overestimate, 6. elusive, 7. culprit, 8. precis, 9. unreliable, 10. paradox

11. d\_b data *v.* to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language
12. apparently par\_\_\_\_\_al *adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
13. d\_b the film in English *v.* to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language
14. cotton s\_\_b *n.* a small piece of soft material used by a doctor, nurse, etc., for cleaning a cut or taking a sample from somebody's body for testing; (verb) apply, usually a liquid, to a surface
15. inc\_\_\_\_\_te many well-known politicians *v.* to make someone seem guilty of a crime or wrongdoing
16. the un\_\_\_\_\_ty of the whole nation *n.* a complete agreement in opinion or resolution among a specific group of people
17. con\_\_\_\_\_te his ego *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
18. the voter tu\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election
19. a ph\_\_\_\_\_m company *n.* a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception

ANSWERS: 11. dub, 12. paradoxical, 13. dub, 14. swab, 15. incriminate, 16. unanimity, 17. contaminate, 18. turnout, 19. phantom

20. alcohol s\_\_b *n.* a small piece of soft material used by a doctor, nurse, etc., for cleaning a cut or taking a sample from somebody's body for testing; (verb) apply, usually a liquid, to a surface
21. con\_\_\_\_\_te with a disease *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
22. track down an el\_\_\_\_\_e fact *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
23. the cu\_\_\_\_\_t of global warming *n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing
24. a par\_\_\_\_\_al anecdote *adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
25. virtual un\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* a complete agreement in opinion or resolution among a specific group of people
26. ove\_\_\_\_\_ate the amount of time spent *v.* to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is
27. inc\_\_\_\_\_te the person *v.* to make someone seem guilty of a crime or wrongdoing
28. prove unr\_\_\_\_\_le *adj.* not able to be trusted or depended on

ANSWERS: 20. swab, 21. contaminate, 22. elusive, 23. culprit, 24. paradoxical, 25. unanimity, 26. overestimate, 27. incriminate, 28. unreliable

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. By incorrect assumption, statistics can be notoriously \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* not able to be trusted or depended on
2. The gig attracted a large \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election
3. The physicist who found the \_\_\_\_\_ particle won the Nobel Prize.  
*adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
4. We strive not to \_\_\_\_\_ the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.  
*v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
5. The bill was passed by \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a complete agreement in opinion or resolution among a specific group of people
6. He tends to \_\_\_\_\_ his abilities.  
*v.* to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is
7. it is \_\_\_\_\_ that the French, who prefer animal foods, live longer than people in other countries.  
*adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
8. The police frantically searched for clues to the \_\_\_\_\_ killer.  
*n.* a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception

ANSWERS: 1. unreliable, 2. turnout, 3. elusive, 4. contaminate, 5. unanimity, 6. overestimate, 7. paradoxical, 8. phantom

9. He \_\_\_\_\_ this lengthy report in two pages.

- v.* to make a summary of something, such as a text or speech; (noun) a short form of the main points of an argument or theory

10. We \_\_\_\_\_ him Ironman because of his toughness.

- v.* to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language

11. He exercised his right not to \_\_\_\_\_ himself

- v.* to make someone seem guilty of a crime or wrongdoing

12. He took a \_\_\_\_\_ of his ear.

- n.* a small piece of soft material used by a doctor, nurse, etc., for cleaning a cut or taking a sample from somebody's body for testing; (verb) apply, usually a liquid, to a surface

13. They finally found the \_\_\_\_\_ of the bug after a long time.

- n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing

14. There are many theories to explain this \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

ANSWERS: 9. precis, 10. dubbed, 11. incriminate, 12. swab, 13. culprit, 14. paradox