

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Channing Gerard Joseph: How Black queer culture shaped history | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/channing\\_gerard\\_joseph\\_how\\_black\\_queer\\_culture\\_shaped\\_history](https://www.ted.com/talks/channing_gerard_joseph_how_black_queer_culture_shaped_history)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### 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.

### cakewalk

*n.* an easy task or achievement

*synonym*: easy task, simple task, straightforward task

(1) **cakewalk** task, (2) **cakewalk** for him

The exam was a **cakewalk** compared to his final exams in college.

### queer

*adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way

*synonym*: strange, odd, unusual

(1) **queer** money, (2) **queer** fashion

The behavior of the clown at the party was quite **queer**.

### emancipation

*n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence

*synonym*: liberation, freedom, release

(1) self- **emancipation**, (2) history of **emancipation**

His **emancipation** from his parents was a defining moment and gave him newfound freedom.

## heterosexual

*adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex

*synonym*: straight, conventional

(1) **heterosexual** relationship, (2) **heterosexual** marriage

He identified as **heterosexual** and had never considered being with someone of the same gender.

## immoral

*adj.* not conforming to accepted society's standards of honesty or morality

*synonym*: unethical, wicked, corrupt

(1) **immoral** behavior, (2) politically **immoral**

It is **immoral** to cheat on a test.

## deviant

*adj.* markedly different or departing from what is normal or expected

*synonym*: abnormal, unconventional, irregular

(1) **deviant** ideas, (2) **deviant** art

His **deviant** behavior made others uncomfortable, and they avoided him at all costs.

## distasteful

*adj.* unpleasant or offensive to the sense of taste

*synonym*: unpleasant, unsatisfying, disagreeable

(1) **distasteful** to her, (2) **distasteful** remark

The food served at the dinner party could have been more appealing and **distasteful**.

## enslave

*v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

*synonym*: coerce, deprive, imprison

(1) **enslave** poor peasants, (2) **enslave** indigenous people

Her beauty **enslaved** me completely.

## harrowing

*adj.* causing distress or suffering; extremely distressing

*synonym*: traumatic, torturous, distressing

(1) **harrowing** battle, (2) **harrowing** journey

Her **harrowing** experience in the war had left her with deep emotional scars.

## riot

*n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

*synonym*: disturbance, unrest, upheaval

(1) **riot** police, (2) **riot** control gas

The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

## galvanize

*v.* to stimulate or shock someone into taking action; to cover metal containing zinc to protect it from rust

*synonym*: energize, invigorate, motivate

(1) **galvanize** steel, (2) **galvanize** the country

The motivational speech **galvanized** the team and gave them the drive to succeed.

## effeminate

*adj.* having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness

*synonym*: unmanly, delicate, soft

(1) **effeminate** gestures, (2) **effeminate** voice

His **effeminate** mannerisms made others question his masculinity.

## bully

*n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

*synonym*: tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak

The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

## liberate

*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

*synonym* : emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential  
The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

## stonewall

*v.* to refuse to answer questions or provide information; to delay discussion or decision

*synonym* : obstruct, block, impede

(1) **stonewall** the investigation, (2) **stonewall** their attempts  
The government **stonewalled** the opposition party's efforts to access information about the project.

## uprising

*n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority

*synonym* : revolt, rebellion, insurgency

(1) stage an **uprising**, (2) violent **uprising**

The anti-government **uprising** was successful in overthrowing the regime.

## courageous

*adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

*synonym* : brave, valiant, fearless

(1) make a **courageous** decision, (2) **courageous** rescue attempt

He was a **courageous** soldier who had served his country with honor.

## sibling

*n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

*synonym* : brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**

Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

## 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.

## capitol

*n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress

*synonym*: government building, legislative center

(1) the nation's **capitol**, (2) **Capitol** Hill hearing

The **capitol** building was a stunning example of classical architecture, with its marble columns and grand dome.

## newfound

*adj.* newly discovered or acquired

*synonym*: afresh, new, recently discovered

(1) a **newfound** mine, (2) **newfound** freedom

With his **newfound** wealth, he could travel the world and indulge in his passions.

## contraction

*n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount

*synonym*: shrinking, compression, reduction

(1) **contraction** of a disease, (2) **contraction** in the industry

The **contraction** of the economy has led to job losses.

## rag

*n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning

*synonym*: cloth, fragment

(1) a **rag** of cloud, (2) **rag** doll

He used an old **rag** to clean the grease off the car's engine.

## masquerade

*n.* a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show

*synonym*: disguise, pretense, facade

(1) show up in a **masquerade**, (2) absurd **masquerade**

The **masquerade** party was lavish, with guests in elaborate costumes and masks.

## transgender

*adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth

*synonym* : non-binary

(1) **transgender** person, (2) **transgender** rights

Many **transgender** individuals face discrimination and marginalization in society.

## nonbinary

*adj.* someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things

*synonym* : pluralistic, polyphyletic

(1) **nonbinary** gender, (2) **nonbinary** identities

More and more people in various countries believe that the policymaker should change the marriage rules for **nonbinary** people.

## germ

*n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

*synonym* : bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

## tempting

*adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

*synonym* : alluring, attractive, inviting

(1) **tempting** offer, (2) sound very **tempting**

The chocolate cake was too **tempting** for me to resist.

## ancestor

*n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

*synonym* : forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

## **pardon**

*v.* to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense

*synonym*: forgive, excuse, absolve

(1) **pardon** me, (2) supplicate for **pardon**

The governor decided to **pardon** the prisoner after reviewing the evidence of his innocence.

## **ballroom**

*n.* a large room for dancing

*synonym*: dance hall, assembly hall

(1) **ballroom** dance, (2) **ballroom** floor

The grand **ballroom** was filled with twirling couples and the sound of music.

## **preside**

*v.* to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization

*synonym*: chair, lead, control

(1) **preside** at the piano, (2) **preside** over ceremony

The **president** will preside over the meeting tomorrow.

## **homage**

*n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute

*synonym*: respect, deference, reverence

(1) paying **homage** to tradition, (2) vassal **homage**

The crowd gave a standing ovation as a sign of **homage** to the retiring athlete.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. eff\_\_\_\_\_te gestures *adj.* having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness
2. tra\_\_\_\_\_er rights *adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth
3. no\_\_\_\_\_ry gender *adj.* someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things
4. bu\_\_y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
5. het\_\_\_\_\_ual marriage *adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
6. Ca\_\_\_\_\_l Hill hearing *n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress
7. pr\_\_\_\_\_e at the piano *v.* to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization
8. vassal ho\_\_\_\_e *n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
9. ca\_\_\_\_\_lk task *n.* an easy task or achievement

ANSWERS: 1. effeminate, 2. transgender, 3. nonbinary, 4. bully, 5. heterosexual, 6. capitol, 7. preside, 8. homage, 9. cakewalk





20. ne\_\_\_\_nd freedom *adj.* newly discovered or acquired
21. paying ho\_\_\_e to tradition *n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
22. self-ema\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence
23. dis\_\_\_\_\_ul to her *adj.* unpleasant or offensive to the sense of taste
24. ha\_\_\_\_\_ng journey *adj.* causing distress or suffering; extremely distressing
25. r\_g doll *n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
26. qu\_\_r fashion *adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
27. con\_\_\_\_\_on in the industry *n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount
28. antibiotic-resistant g\_\_m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
29. im\_\_\_\_l behavior *adj.* not conforming to accepted society's standards of honesty or morality
30. eff\_\_\_\_\_te voice *adj.* having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness
31. con\_\_\_\_\_on of a disease *n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount

ANSWERS: 20. newfound, 21. homage, 22. emancipation, 23. distasteful, 24. harrowing, 25. rag, 26. queer, 27. contraction, 28. germ, 29. immoral, 30. effeminate, 31. contraction

32. play with my si\_\_\_\_gs *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
33. com\_\_\_\_\_te a deed *v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
34. show up in a mas\_\_\_\_\_de *n.* a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show
35. de\_\_\_\_\_t art *adj.* markedly different or departing from what is normal or expected
36. earliest human an\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
37. si\_\_e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
38. the nation's ca\_\_\_\_\_l *n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress
39. de\_\_\_\_\_t ideas *adj.* markedly different or departing from what is normal or expected
40. en\_\_\_\_\_e poor peasants *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
41. ba\_\_\_\_\_om dance *n.* a large room for dancing
42. het\_\_\_\_\_ual relationship *adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
43. r\_\_t control gas *n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

ANSWERS: 32. sibling, 33. commemorate, 34. masquerade, 35. deviant, 36. ancestor, 37. singe, 38. capitol, 39. deviant, 40. enslave, 41. ballroom, 42. heterosexual, 43. riot

44. qu\_\_r money *adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
45. ba\_\_\_\_om floor *n.* a large room for dancing
46. an\_\_\_\_or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
47. cou\_\_\_\_\_us rescue attempt *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
48. com\_\_\_\_\_te her long life *v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
49. absurd mas\_\_\_\_\_de *n.* a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show
50. tra\_\_\_\_\_er person *adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth
51. ca\_\_\_\_\_lk for him *n.* an easy task or achievement
52. st\_\_\_\_\_ll the investigation *v.* to refuse to answer questions or provide information; to delay discussion or decision
53. make a cou\_\_\_\_\_us decision *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
54. ga\_\_\_\_\_ze the country *v.* to stimulate or shock someone into taking action; to cover metal containing zinc to protect it from rust
55. a g\_\_m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

ANSWERS: 44. queer, 45. ballroom, 46. ancestor, 47. courageous, 48. commemorate, 49. masquerade, 50. transgender, 51. cakewalk, 52. stonewall, 53. courageous, 54. galvanize, 55. germ

56. have a si\_\_\_\_g quarrel *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
57. a ne\_\_\_\_nd mine *adj.* newly discovered or acquired
58. sound very te\_\_\_\_ng *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
59. politically im\_\_\_\_l *adj.* not conforming to accepted society's standards of honesty or morality
60. en\_\_\_\_e indigenous people *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
61. a r\_g of cloud *n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
62. bu\_\_y the weak *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
63. violent up\_\_\_\_ng *n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
64. history of ema\_\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence
65. li\_\_\_\_te potential *v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
66. no\_\_\_\_ry identities *adj.* someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things

ANSWERS: 56. sibling, 57. newfound, 58. tempting, 59. immoral, 60. enslave, 61. rag, 62. bully, 63. uprising, 64. emancipation, 65. liberate, 66. nonbinary

67. pr\_\_\_\_e over ceremony

v. to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization

68. li\_\_\_\_te people from oppression

v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

ANSWERS: 67. preside, 68. liberate

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The crowd gave a standing ovation as a sign of \_\_\_\_\_ to the retiring athlete.  
*n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
2. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and \_\_\_\_\_ my dress.  
*v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
3. Her beauty \_\_\_\_\_ me completely.  
*v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
4. He identified as \_\_\_\_\_ and had never considered being with someone of the same gender.  
*adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
5. Many \_\_\_\_\_ individuals face discrimination and marginalization in society.  
*adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth
6. More and more people in various countries believe that the policymaker should change the marriage rules for \_\_\_\_\_ people.  
*adj.* someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things
7. The chocolate cake was too \_\_\_\_\_ for me to resist.  
*adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

ANSWERS: 1. homage, 2. singed, 3. enslaved, 4. heterosexual, 5. transgender, 6. nonbinary, 7. tempting

8. Her \_\_\_\_\_ experience in the war had left her with deep emotional scars.  
*adj.* causing distress or suffering; extremely distressing
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.  
*n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
10. The grand \_\_\_\_\_ was filled with twirling couples and the sound of music.  
*n.* a large room for dancing
11. His \_\_\_\_\_ behavior made others uncomfortable, and they avoided him at all costs.  
*adj.* markedly different or departing from what is normal or expected
12. The exam was a \_\_\_\_\_ compared to his final exams in college.  
*n.* an easy task or achievement
13. The anti-government \_\_\_\_\_ was successful in overthrowing the regime.  
*n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
14. His \_\_\_\_\_ from his parents was a defining moment and gave him newfound freedom.  
*n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence
15. The behavior of the clown at the party was quite \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
16. The food served at the dinner party could have been more appealing and \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* unpleasant or offensive to the sense of taste

ANSWERS: 8. harrowing, 9. riots, 10. ballroom, 11. deviant, 12. cakewalk, 13. uprising, 14. emancipation, 15. queer, 16. distasteful



17. The prisoners were \_\_\_\_\_ after the war ended.  
*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
18. My remote \_\_\_\_\_ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.  
*n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the economy has led to job losses.  
*n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount
20. The government \_\_\_\_\_ the opposition party's efforts to access information about the project.  
*v.* to refuse to answer questions or provide information; to delay discussion or decision
21. The \_\_\_\_\_ party was lavish, with guests in elaborate costumes and masks.  
*n.* a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show
22. The \_\_\_\_\_ will preside over the meeting tomorrow.  
*v.* to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization
23. He used an old \_\_\_\_ to clean the grease off the car's engine.  
*n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
24. Children often copy their parents or elder \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

ANSWERS: 17. liberated, 18. ancestor, 19. contraction, 20. stonewalled, 21. masquerade, 22. president, 23. rag, 24. siblings

25. With his \_\_\_\_\_ wealth, he could travel the world and indulge in his passions.  
*adj.* newly discovered or acquired
26. It is \_\_\_\_\_ to cheat on a test.  
*adj.* not conforming to accepted society's standards of honesty or morality
27. His \_\_\_\_\_ mannerisms made others question his masculinity.  
*adj.* having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness
28. The governor decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the prisoner after reviewing the evidence of his innocence.  
*v.* to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime;  
(noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense
29. He was a \_\_\_\_\_ soldier who had served his country with honor.  
*adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
30. The country \_\_\_\_\_ the war heroes on Memorial Day.  
*v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
31. The schoolyard \_\_\_\_\_ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.  
*n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
32. The motivational speech \_\_\_\_\_ the team and gave them the drive to succeed.  
*v.* to stimulate or shock someone into taking action; to cover metal containing zinc to protect it from rust

ANSWERS: 25. newfound, 26. immoral, 27. effeminate, 28. pardon, 29. courageous, 30. commemorated, 31. bully, 32. galvanized

33. The \_\_\_\_\_ building was a stunning example of classical architecture, with its marble columns and grand dome.

*n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress

34. The \_\_\_\_\_ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

*n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

ANSWERS: 33. capitol, 34. germ