

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Liu Thai Ker: The architectural mastermind behind modern Singapore | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/liu\\_thai\\_ker\\_the\\_architectural\\_mastermind\\_behind\\_modern\\_singapore](https://www.ted.com/talks/liu_thai_ker_the_architectural_mastermind_behind_modern_singapore)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### squatter

*n.* a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority

*synonym*: trespasser, occupant, interloper

(1) **squatter** settlement, (2) urban **squatter**

The city has many **squatters living** in abandoned buildings or streets.

### subsidize

*v.* to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially

*synonym*: finance, endow, sponsor

(1) **subsidize** the project, (2) **subsidize** the cost

Governments **subsidize** renewable energy generation in various ways.

### pastel

*n.* a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring

*synonym*: chalk, crayon, color stick

(1) **pastel** drawing, (2) **pastel** palette

Her artwork features soft **pastel** colors and dreamy

landscapes.

## disperse

*v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so

*synonym*: dissipate, spread, scatter

(1) **disperse** false information, (2) **disperse** the protesters  
Before authorities **dispersed** the protesters, they yelled slogans.

## oppressive

*adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way

*synonym*: stifling, overwhelming, depressing

(1) the atmosphere was **oppressive**, (2) **oppressive** governments

The political situation has become increasingly **oppressive**.

## grandparent

*n.* a parent of one's father or mother

(1) great- **grandparent**, (2) person of **grandparent** age

She was close to her paternal **grandparents** and often spent summers with them.

## precinct

*n.* a defined geographic or administrative area within a larger jurisdiction, typically used for purposes such as voting or law enforcement; an enclosed or circumscribed space, often surrounded by walls or other structures

*synonym*: district, zone, area

(1) shopping **precinct**, (2) **precinct** voting

The police officer patrolled the **precinct** and responded to calls for assistance.

## cascade

*n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units

*synonym*: waterfall, watercourse, step

(1) **cascade** connection, (2) transistor **cascade**

The **cascade** of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.

## polytechnic

*n.* a school or institution that offers instruction in a wide range of technical or professional subjects, often including both theoretical and practical components

*synonym*: technical college, trade school, vocational school

(1) **polytechnic** institute, (2) **polytechnic** education

My brother studies at a **polytechnic** university, which offers courses in various technical fields.

## tranquility

*n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment

*synonym*: calmness, serenity, peace

(1) the **tranquility** of the environment, (2) feeling of **tranquility**

She found **tranquility** by meditating in the garden.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym*: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## calibrate

*v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

*synonym*: adjust, fine-tune

(1) **calibrate** machinery, (2) **calibrate** measurements

It's important to **calibrate** the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.

## humanist

*n.* a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles

*synonym*: humanitarian, philanthropist, altruist

(1) **humanist** scholar, (2) **humanist** philosophy

The **humanist** counselor encouraged her clients to focus on

their growth and well-being.

## **livable**

*adj.* capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably;  
suitable for human habitation

*synonym*: habitable, comfortable, pleasant

(1) **livable** city, (2) **livable** housing

Finding a safe and **livable** neighborhood is important when looking for a new place to live.

## **resilient**

*adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

*synonym*: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. great-gra_____nt         | <i>n.</i> a parent of one's father or mother   |
| 2. pol_____ic institute     | <i>n.</i> a school or institution that offers instruction in a wide range of technical or professional subjects, often including both theoretical and practical components   |
| 3. su_____ze the project    | <i>v.</i> to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially  |
| 4. opp_____ve governments   | <i>adj.</i> treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way   |
| 5. pa___l drawing           | <i>n.</i> a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring  |
| 6. hu_____st scholar        | <i>n.</i> a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles |
| 7. person of gra_____nt age | <i>n.</i> a parent of one's father or mother   |
| 8. urban sq_____er          | <i>n.</i> a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority           |

ANSWERS: 1. grandparent, 2. polytechnic, 3. subsidize, 4. oppressive, 5. pastel, 6. humanist, 7. grandparent, 8. squatter

9. shopping pr\_\_\_\_\_ct *n.* a defined geographic or administrative area within a larger jurisdiction, typically used for purposes such as voting or law enforcement; an enclosed or circumscribed space, often surrounded by walls or other structures
10. ca\_\_\_\_\_e connection *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
11. ca\_\_\_\_\_te measurements *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
12. su\_\_\_\_\_ze the cost *v.* to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially
13. di\_\_\_\_\_se false information *v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so
14. pa\_\_\_\_l palette *n.* a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring
15. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
16. li\_\_\_\_\_e housing *adj.* capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation
17. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 9. precinct, 10. cascade, 11. calibrate, 12. subsidize, 13. disperse, 14. pastel, 15. industrious, 16. livable, 17. industrious

18. re\_\_\_\_\_nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
19. di\_\_\_\_\_se the protesters *v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so
20. the atmosphere was opp\_\_\_\_\_ve *adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way
21. transistor ca\_\_\_\_\_e *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
22. sq\_\_\_\_\_er settlement *n.* a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority
23. the tra\_\_\_\_\_ty of the environment *n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment
24. feeling of tra\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment
25. pr\_\_\_\_\_ct voting *n.* a defined geographic or administrative area within a larger jurisdiction, typically used for purposes such as voting or law enforcement; an enclosed or circumscribed space, often surrounded by walls or other structures
26. li\_\_\_\_\_e city *adj.* capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation

ANSWERS: 18. resilient, 19. disperse, 20. oppressive, 21. cascade, 22. squatter, 23. tranquility, 24. tranquility, 25. precinct, 26. livable

27. hu\_\_\_\_st philosophy
- n.* a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles
28. ca\_\_\_\_\_te machinery
- v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
29. a hard and re\_\_\_\_\_nt steel
- adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
30. pol\_\_\_\_\_ic education
- n.* a school or institution that offers instruction in a wide range of technical or professional subjects, often including both theoretical and practical components

ANSWERS: 27. humanist, 28. calibrate, 29. resilient, 30. polytechnic



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She found \_\_\_\_\_ by meditating in the garden.  
*n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment
  
2. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
  
3. The city has many \_\_\_\_\_ in abandoned buildings or streets.  
*n.* a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority
  
4. Governments \_\_\_\_\_ renewable energy generation in various ways.  
*v.* to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially
  
5. Before authorities \_\_\_\_\_ the protesters, they yelled slogans.  
*v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so
  
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.  
*n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
  
7. Finding a safe and \_\_\_\_\_ neighborhood is important when looking for a new place to live.  
*adj.* capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation

ANSWERS: 1. tranquility, 2. industrious, 3. squatters living, 4. subsidize, 5. dispersed, 6. cascade, 7. livable

8. The \_\_\_\_\_ counselor encouraged her clients to focus on their growth and well-being.
- n.* a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles
9. The political situation has become increasingly \_\_\_\_\_.
- adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way
10. My brother studies at a \_\_\_\_\_ university, which offers courses in various technical fields.
- n.* a school or institution that offers instruction in a wide range of technical or professional subjects, often including both theoretical and practical components
11. She is a \_\_\_\_\_ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
- adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
12. She was close to her paternal \_\_\_\_\_ and often spent summers with them.
- n.* a parent of one's father or mother
13. Her artwork features soft \_\_\_\_\_ colors and dreamy landscapes.
- n.* a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring
14. The police officer patrolled the \_\_\_\_\_ and responded to calls for assistance.
- n.* a defined geographic or administrative area within a larger jurisdiction, typically used for purposes such as voting or law enforcement; an enclosed or circumscribed space, often surrounded by walls or other structures

ANSWERS: 8. humanist, 9. oppressive, 10. polytechnic, 11. resilient, 12. grandparents, 13. pastel, 14. precinct

15. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.
- v. to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

ANSWERS: 15. calibrate