

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Sophia Kianni: Language shouldn't be a barrier to climate action | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/sophia\\_kianni\\_language\\_shouldn\\_t\\_be\\_a\\_barrier\\_to\\_climate\\_action](https://www.ted.com/talks/sophia_kianni_language_shouldn_t_be_a_barrier_to_climate_action)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### smog

*n.* a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas

*synonym* : smog, haze, pollution

(1) **smog** alert, (2) toxic **smog**

The heavy **smog** in the city was causing health issues for the residents.

### scour

*v.* to clean thoroughly and vigorously by scrubbing or rubbing; to search or examine something thoroughly and systematically

*synonym* : cleanse, scrub, clean

(1) **scour** a pot, (2) **scour** the Internet

She had to **scour** the kitchen to find a clean dish to use for dinner.

### determinant

*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

*synonym* : cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

## plastered

*adj.* made smooth by applying a sticky or glossy substance;  
very drunk

*synonym*: coated, smeared, drunk

(1) **plastered** walls, (2) get absolutely **plastered**

The wall was **plastered** with posters and graffiti.

## anecdotal

*adj.* based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population; characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence

*synonym*: hearsay, informal, unreliable

(1) **anecdotal** evidence, (2) **anecdotal** example

My friend shared an **anecdotal** story about her experience in customer service.

## misinformation

*n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately

*synonym*: falsity, misreport, misstatement

(1) **misinformation** about a vaccine, (2) combat **misinformation** on social media

The government called for caution against pseudoscientific **misinformation** about vaccines.

## worsen

*v.* to become or make something worse

*synonym*: languish, degenerate, degrade

(1) **worsen** a relation, (2) **worsen** the food problem

Unilateral import bans have **worsened** that country's terms of trade.

## typhoon

*n.* a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean

*synonym*: cyclone, hurricane, storm

(1) super **typhoon**, (2) **typhoon** season

Many families were forced to evacuate their homes due to the **typhoon's** severity.

## disrupt

*v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

*synonym* : interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep  
I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

## 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.

## cardinal

*n.* a high-ranking official in the Roman Catholic Church, appointed by the Pope; a deep or bright red color; a bird of the finch family with a distinctive crest on its head; (adjective) of or relating to the highest or most important things

*synonym* : bishop, archbishop, carmine

(1) **cardinal** rule, (2) **cardinal** red

The **cardinal's** robes were made of rich red silk.

## ragtag

*adj.* consisting of a disorganized or mismatched group of people or things, often of low social status or questionable quality

*synonym* : disheveled, fragmented, motley

(1) **ragtag** clothing, (2) **ragtag** team

The army's **ragtag** troop was no match for the well-equipped enemy.

## congregate

*v.* to come together or gather in a group or assembly; to collect or accumulate in a particular place or area

*synonym* : assemble, converge, gather

(1) **congregate** at the park, (2) **congregate** in a mosque

The protesters plan to **congregate** in front of the city hall to raise awareness for their cause.

## **policy**maker

*n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

*synonym* : lawmaker, legislator

(1) education **policy**maker, (2) regional **policy**maker

**Policy**makers struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.

## **disproportionately**

*adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

*synonym* : excessively, unequally

(1) **disproportionately** affected, (2) **disproportionately** high

The rich can often **disproportionately** benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. pl\_\_\_\_\_ed walls *adj.* made smooth by applying a sticky or glossy substance; very drunk
2. wo\_\_\_\_n a relation *v.* to become or make something worse
3. an\_\_\_\_\_al example *adj.* based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population; characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence
4. sc\_\_r a pot *v.* to clean thoroughly and vigorously by scrubbing or rubbing; to search or examine something thoroughly and systematically
5. sc\_\_r the Internet *v.* to clean thoroughly and vigorously by scrubbing or rubbing; to search or examine something thoroughly and systematically
6. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
7. get absolutely pl\_\_\_\_\_ed *adj.* made smooth by applying a sticky or glossy substance; very drunk
8. di\_\_\_\_\_t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
9. dis\_\_\_\_\_ely affected *adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

ANSWERS: 1. plastered, 2. worsen, 3. anecdotal, 4. scour, 5. scour, 6. industrious, 7. plastered, 8. disrupt, 9. disproportionately

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|--|---|
| 10. combat mis_____ion on social media | <i>n.</i> information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately                            |
| 11. con_____te at the park             | <i>v.</i> to come together or gather in a group or assembly; to collect or accumulate in a particular place or area                           |
| 12. wo____n the food problem           | <i>v.</i> to become or make something worse   |
| 13. con_____te in a mosque             | <i>v.</i> to come together or gather in a group or assembly; to collect or accumulate in a particular place or area                           |
| 14. environmental det_____nt           | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 15. ty_____n season                    | <i>n.</i> a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean                                 |
| 16. mis_____ion about a vaccine        | <i>n.</i> information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately                            |
| 17. education pol_____er               | <i>n.</i> a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.                                  |
| 18. ind_____us worker                  | <i>adj.</i> hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort   |
| 19. super ty_____n                     | <i>n.</i> a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean                                 |
| 20. ra____g team                       | <i>adj.</i> consisting of a disorganized or mismatched group of people or things, often of low social status or questionable quality          |

ANSWERS: 10. misinformation, 11. congregate, 12. worsen, 13. congregate, 14. determinant, 15. typhoon, 16. misinformation, 17. policymaker, 18. industrious, 19. typhoon, 20. ragtag

21. toxic s\_\_g *n.* a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas
22. di\_\_\_\_t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
23. ca\_\_\_\_al red *n.* a high-ranking official in the Roman Catholic Church, appointed by the Pope; a deep or bright red color; a bird of the finch family with a distinctive crest on its head; (adjective) of or relating to the highest or most important things
24. ra\_\_\_g clothing *adj.* consisting of a disorganized or mismatched group of people or things, often of low social status or questionable quality
25. regional pol\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
26. a det\_\_\_\_nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
27. dis\_\_\_\_\_ely high *adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

ANSWERS: 21. smog, 22. disrupt, 23. cardinal, 24. ragtag, 25. policymaker, 26. determinant, 27. disproportionately

28. s\_\_g alert *n.* a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas
29. ca\_\_\_\_al rule *n.* a high-ranking official in the Roman Catholic Church, appointed by the Pope; a deep or bright red color; a bird of the finch family with a distinctive crest on its head; (adjective) of or relating to the highest or most important things
30. an\_\_\_\_al evidence *adj.* based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population; characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence

ANSWERS: 28. smog, 29. cardinal, 30. anecdotal



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The protesters plan to \_\_\_\_\_ in front of the city hall to raise awareness for their cause.
  - v. to come together or gather in a group or assembly; to collect or accumulate in a particular place or area
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.
  - n. a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
  
3. Unilateral import bans have \_\_\_\_\_ that country's terms of trade.
  - v. to become or make something worse
  
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ robes were made of rich red silk.
  - n. a high-ranking official in the Roman Catholic Church, appointed by the Pope; a deep or bright red color; a bird of the finch family with a distinctive crest on its head; (adjective) of or relating to the highest or most important things
  
5. The heavy \_\_\_\_\_ in the city was causing health issues for the residents.
  - n. a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas
  
6. Many families were forced to evacuate their homes due to the \_\_\_\_\_ severity.
  - n. a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean

ANSWERS: 1. congregate, 2. Policymakers, 3. worsened, 4. cardinal's, 5. smog, 6. typhoon's

7. The wall was \_\_\_\_\_ with posters and graffiti.  
*adj.* made smooth by applying a sticky or glossy substance; very drunk
8. My friend shared an \_\_\_\_\_ story about her experience in customer service.  
*adj.* based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population; characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence
9. The army's \_\_\_\_\_ troop was no match for the well-equipped enemy.  
*adj.* consisting of a disorganized or mismatched group of people or things, often of low social status or questionable quality
10. The rich can often \_\_\_\_\_ benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.  
*adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else
11. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
12. The government called for caution against pseudoscientific \_\_\_\_\_ about vaccines.  
*n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
13. I'm so sorry to \_\_\_\_\_ you when you're pretty busy.  
*v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
14. She had to \_\_\_\_\_ the kitchen to find a clean dish to use for dinner.  
*v.* to clean thoroughly and vigorously by scrubbing or rubbing; to search or examine something thoroughly and systematically

ANSWERS: 7. plastered, 8. anecdotal, 9. ragtag, 10. disproportionately, 11. industrious, 12. misinformation, 13. disrupt, 14. scour

15. One \_\_\_\_\_ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

ANSWERS: 15. determinant