

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Wanjira Mathai: 3 ways to uproot a culture of corruption | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/wanjira\\_mathai\\_3\\_ways\\_to\\_uproot\\_a\\_culture\\_of\\_corruption](https://www.ted.com/talks/wanjira_mathai_3_ways_to_uproot_a_culture_of_corruption)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### forcibly

*adv.* done by physical power or violence; against someone's will

*synonym* : violently, roughly, aggressively

(1) **forcibly** remove, (2) **forcibly** taken into a car

The police officer **forcibly** removed the protesters from the public park.

### viol

*n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba

*synonym* : viola, viola da gamba, string instrument

(1) **viol** instrument, (2) **viol** music

The **viol** player was rehearsing for an upcoming concert.

### fury

*n.* intense and often violent anger

*synonym* : rage, wrath, ire

(1) market **fury**, (2) **fury** of the storm

The crowd's **fury** was palpable as they shouted and protested against the government's decision.

### helpless

*adj.* unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help

*synonym* : defenseless, powerless, susceptible

(1) **helpless** baby, (2) **helpless** victims

I feel so **helpless** without you.

## corrosive

*adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive

*synonym* : destructive, erosive, caustic

(1) **corrosive** substance, (2) **corrosive** effect

The **corrosive** acid ate away at the metal pipes.

## predatory

*adj.* living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive

*synonym* : raptorial, hunting, greedy

(1) a **predatory** bird, (2) **predatory** warfare

The domesticated cat still has its **predatory** instincts.

## 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**.

## expansive

*adj.* large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk

*synonym* : large, extensive, vast

(1) with an **expansive** spirit, (2) **expansive** ocean views

The company has an **expansive** network of offices and locations around the world.

## envy

*v.* to experience a feeling of jealousy or resentment towards someone because of their possessions, qualities, or achievements; to desire to have something that someone else has; (noun) a feeling of resentment or jealousy towards someone else's perceived advantage or success

*synonym* : covet, resent, grudge

(1) **envy** his success, (2) feeling **envy** toward him

I can't help but **envy** my friend's ability to stay calm in stressful situations.

### **crony**

*n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities

*synonym*: buddy, pal, friend

(1) a **crony** of the governor, (2) business **crony**

The politician's close **crony** was given a high-ranking job in the administration.

### **goon**

*n.* a person who is hired or employed to engage in acts of violence or intimidation on behalf of someone else, often for criminal or illicit purposes

*synonym*: thug, henchman, enforcer

(1) movie **goon**, (2) hired **goon**

The **goon** squad was hired to intimidate the protesters and disperse the crowd.

### **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.

### **greedy**

*adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food

*synonym*: avaricious, covetous, grasping

(1) **greedy** person, (2) **greedy** for money

His **greedy** behavior led him to steal from the company.

### **subdue**

*v.* to conquer; to bring under control

*synonym*: conquer, overpower, vanquish

(1) **subdue** a confusion, (2) **subdue** his anger

The police used tear gas to **subdue** the violent crowd.

## **inextricable**

*adj.* unable to be separated or escaped from  
*synonym* : inescapable, inseparable, entangled

(1) an **inextricable** part of life, (2) form an **inextricable** bond

The knot was **inextricable**, and she had to use scissors to cut it.

## **loot**

*v.* steal goods from a place or person, typically during a war or riot; (noun) steal goods from a place or person, typically using force, especially in times of war or civil disorder

*synonym* : plunder, pillage, rob

(1) **loot** the ship, (2) war **loot**

The bandits **looted** the small town, leaving it in ruins.

## **coffer**

*n.* a strongbox or chest used for storing valuable objects or money; a fund or treasury, especially one used to hold or manage money, assets, or resources; a recessed panel used to decorate ceilings or other architectural features

*synonym* : treasury, strongbox, safe

(1) **coffer** lid, (2) bank **coffer**

The government is trying to replenish the **coffer** by increasing taxes.

## **worthless**

*adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering  
*synonym* : valueless, useless, pointless

(1) **worthless** stock, (2) **worthless** coin

The product was found to be **worthless** as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

## **perpetrator**

*n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception

*synonym* : culprit, wrongdoer, offender

(1) **perpetrator** identity, (2) culprit **perpetrator**

The police have not yet caught the **perpetrator** of the crime.

## bribe

v. to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements

*synonym* : graft, corrupt

(1) **bribe** a politician, (2) **bribe** him with food

He tries to **bribe** the ship's captain to export illegal products.

## corruptible

*adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

*synonym* : bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

## uproot

v. to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position

*synonym* : remove, eradicate

(1) **uproot** the tree, (2) **uproot** tradition

We decided to **uproot** our lives and move to a new city.

## retribution

n. punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act; just dessert or compensation for wrongdoing

*synonym* : punishment, revenge, recompense

(1) divine **retribution**, (2) seek **retribution**

He faced **retribution** for his crimes and was sentenced to many years.

## profoundly

*adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply

*synonym* : deeply, greatly, completely

(1) **profoundly** insightful, (2) sleep **profoundly**

The novel affected her **profoundly**, causing her to question her beliefs and values.

## mindset

n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

*synonym* : attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

## **opportune**

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

*synonym* : suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

## **conserve**

*v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

*synonym* : preserve, save, maintain

(1) means to **conserve** energy, (2) **conserve** coal resources

Children must be taught to **conserve** our natural environment.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. bank co\_\_\_r  
*n.* a strongbox or chest used for storing valuable objects or money; a fund or treasury, especially one used to hold or manage money, assets, or resources; a recessed panel used to decorate ceilings or other architectural features
2. business cr\_\_\_y  
*n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities
3. ex\_\_\_\_\_ve ocean views  
*adj.* large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk
4. hired g\_\_\_n  
*n.* a person who is hired or employed to engage in acts of violence or intimidation on behalf of someone else, often for criminal or illicit purposes
5. per\_\_\_\_\_or identity  
*n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
6. market f\_\_\_y  
*n.* intense and often violent anger
7. a cr\_\_\_y of the governor  
*n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities
8. v\_\_\_l music  
*n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba

ANSWERS: 1. coffer, 2. crony, 3. expansive, 4. goon, 5. perpetrator, 6. fury, 7. crony, 8. viol

9. co\_\_\_\_ve coal resources      *v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
10. French pa\_\_\_\_x      *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
11. pr\_\_\_\_ry warfare      *adj.* living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive
12. pro\_\_\_\_ly insightful      *adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply
13. war l\_\_t      *v.* steal goods from a place or person, typically during a war or riot; (noun) steal goods from a place or person, typically using force, especially in times of war or civil disorder
14. op\_\_\_\_ne occasion      *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
15. seek ret\_\_\_\_on      *n.* punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act; just dessert or compensation for wrongdoing
16. means to co\_\_\_\_ve energy      *v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
17. feeling e\_\_y toward him      *v.* to experience a feeling of jealousy or resentment towards someone because of their possessions, qualities, or achievements; to desire to have something that someone else has; (noun) a feeling of resentment or jealousy towards someone else's perceived advantage or success

ANSWERS: 9. conserve, 10. paradox, 11. predatory, 12. profoundly, 13. loot, 14. opportune, 15. retribution, 16. conserve, 17. envy



18. f\_\_y of the storm *n.* intense and often violent anger
19. wo\_\_\_\_\_ss stock *adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering
20. he\_\_\_\_\_ss victims *adj.* unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help
21. a pr\_\_\_\_\_ry bird *adj.* living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive
22. the mi\_\_\_\_\_t in an education system *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
23. stage an up\_\_\_\_\_ng *n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
24. co\_\_\_\_\_ve substance *adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive
25. v\_\_l instrument *n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba
26. l\_\_t the ship *v.* steal goods from a place or person, typically during a war or riot; (noun) steal goods from a place or person, typically using force, especially in times of war or civil disorder
27. cor\_\_\_\_\_le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
28. gr\_\_\_\_\_y person *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food

ANSWERS: 18. fury, 19. worthless, 20. helpless, 21. predatory, 22. mindset, 23. uprising, 24. corrosive, 25. viol, 26. loot, 27. corruptible, 28. greedy

29. form an ine\_\_\_\_\_ble bond      *adj.* unable to be separated or escaped from
30. fo\_\_\_\_\_ly taken into a car      *adv.* done by physical power or violence; against someone's will
31. cor\_\_\_\_\_le judges      *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
32. fo\_\_\_\_\_ly remove      *adv.* done by physical power or violence; against someone's will
33. e\_\_y his success      *v.* to experience a feeling of jealousy or resentment towards someone because of their possessions, qualities, or achievements; to desire to have something that someone else has; (noun) a feeling of resentment or jealousy towards someone else's perceived advantage or success
34. up\_\_\_\_t tradition      *v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
35. the pa\_\_\_\_\_x of the heap      *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
36. he\_\_\_\_\_ss baby      *adj.* unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help
37. br\_\_e a politician      *v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements

ANSWERS: 29. inextricable, 30. forcibly, 31. corruptible, 32. forcibly, 33. envy, 34. uproot, 35. paradox, 36. helpless, 37. bribe

38. co\_\_\_r lid *n.* a strongbox or chest used for storing valuable objects or money; a fund or treasury, especially one used to hold or manage money, assets, or resources; a recessed panel used to decorate ceilings or other architectural features
39. up\_\_\_t the tree *v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
40. su\_\_\_e his anger *v.* to conquer; to bring under control
41. with an ex\_\_\_\_\_ve spirit *adj.* large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk
42. flexible mi\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
43. an ine\_\_\_\_\_ble part of life *adj.* unable to be separated or escaped from
44. sleep pro\_\_\_\_\_ly *adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply
45. gr\_\_\_y for money *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
46. br\_\_e him with food *v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements
47. violent up\_\_\_\_\_ng *n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
48. su\_\_\_e a confusion *v.* to conquer; to bring under control

ANSWERS: 38. coffer, 39. uproot, 40. subdue, 41. expansive, 42. mindset, 43. inextricable, 44. profoundly, 45. greedy, 46. bribe, 47. uprising, 48. subdue

49. wo\_\_\_\_\_ss coin *adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering
50. movie g\_\_n *n.* a person who is hired or employed to engage in acts of violence or intimidation on behalf of someone else, often for criminal or illicit purposes
51. an op\_\_\_\_\_ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
52. culprit per\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
53. divine ret\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act; just dessert or compensation for wrongdoing
54. co\_\_\_\_\_ve effect *adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive

ANSWERS: 49. worthless, 50. goon, 51. opportune, 52. perpetrator, 53. retribution, 54. corrosive

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The police used tear gas to \_\_\_\_\_ the violent crowd.  
*v.* to conquer; to bring under control
2. He faced \_\_\_\_\_ for his crimes and was sentenced to many years.  
*n.* punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act; just dessert or compensation for wrongdoing
3. The police officer \_\_\_\_\_ removed the protesters from the public park.  
*adv.* done by physical power or violence; against someone's will
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ squad was hired to intimidate the protesters and disperse the crowd.  
*n.* a person who is hired or employed to engage in acts of violence or intimidation on behalf of someone else, often for criminal or illicit purposes
5. We decided to \_\_\_\_\_ our lives and move to a new city.  
*v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
6. I feel so \_\_\_\_\_ without you.  
*adj.* unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ acid ate away at the metal pipes.  
*adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive
8. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.  
*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 1. subdue, 2. retribution, 3. forcibly, 4. goon, 5. uproot, 6. helpless, 7. corrosive, 8. opportune

9. I can't help but \_\_\_\_\_ my friend's ability to stay calm in stressful situations.
- v.* to experience a feeling of jealousy or resentment towards someone because of their possessions, qualities, or achievements; to desire to have something that someone else has; (noun) a feeling of resentment or jealousy towards someone else's perceived advantage or success
10. The police have not yet caught the \_\_\_\_\_ of the crime.
- n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
11. The knot was \_\_\_\_\_ and she had to use scissors to cut it.
- adj.* unable to be separated or escaped from
12. Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial \_\_\_\_\_ in each individual.
- n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ player was rehearsing for an upcoming concert.
- n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba
14. The crowd's \_\_\_\_\_ was palpable as they shouted and protested against the government's decision.
- n.* intense and often violent anger
15. The politician's close \_\_\_\_\_ was given a high-ranking job in the administration.
- n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities
16. He tries to \_\_\_\_\_ the ship's captain to export illegal products.
- v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements

ANSWERS: 9. envy, 10. perpetrator, 11. inextricable, 12. mindset, 13. viol, 14. fury, 15. crony, 16. bribe

17. The bandits \_\_\_\_\_ the small town, leaving it in ruins.

- v.* steal goods from a place or person, typically during a war or riot; (noun) steal goods from a place or person, typically using force, especially in times of war or civil disorder

18. Children must be taught to \_\_\_\_\_ our natural environment.

- v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

19. The anti-government \_\_\_\_\_ was successful in overthrowing the regime.

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

20. The company has an \_\_\_\_\_ network of offices and locations around the world.

- adj.* large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk

21. The product was found to be \_\_\_\_\_ as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

- adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

22. His \_\_\_\_\_ behavior led him to steal from the company.

- adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food

23. Bureaucracies are more \_\_\_\_\_ than other systems or organizations.

- adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

24. The domesticated cat still has its \_\_\_\_\_ instincts.

- adj.* living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive

ANSWERS: 17. looted, 18. conserve, 19. uprising, 20. expansive, 21. worthless, 22. greedy, 23. corruptible, 24. predatory

25. The novel affected her \_\_\_\_\_ causing her to question her beliefs and values.

*adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply

26. 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;

27. The government is trying to replenish the \_\_\_\_\_ by increasing taxes.

*n.* a strongbox or chest used for storing valuable objects or money; a fund or treasury, especially one used to hold or manage money, assets, or resources; a recessed panel used to decorate ceilings or other architectural features

ANSWERS: 25. profoundly, 26. paradox, 27. coffer