

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Fang Ruan: Management lessons from Chinese business and philosophy | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/fang\\_ruan\\_management\\_lessons\\_from\\_chinese\\_business\\_and\\_philosophy](https://www.ted.com/talks/fang_ruan_management_lessons_from_chinese_business_and_philosophy)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

## Session 1: Word List

### dumpling

*n.* a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables

*synonym*: doughball, potsticker, pierogi

(1) **dumpling** soup, (2) homemade **dumpling**

I ordered some delicious **dumplings** for lunch.

### chew

*v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

*synonym*: masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

### soar

*v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease

*synonym*: fly, rise, ascend

(1) **soar** in popularity, (2) **soar** to new heights

The bird **soared** through the sky, and its wings spread wide.

### craving

*n.* a strong desire of wanting something

*synonym*: desire, appetite, longing

(1) **craving** for revenge, (2) curb our **cravings**

I have a **craving** for nicotine.

## offline

*adj.* not connected to the internet

*synonym* : disconnected, not connected, unplugged

(1) **offline** course, (2) **offline** mode

The computer is **offline** and cannot be accessed at the moment.

## dedicate

*v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

*synonym* : consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

## headquarter

*n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed

*synonym* : base, center, command

(1) administrative **headquarter**, (2) an emergency **headquarter**

The company decided to move its **headquarters** to New York City.

## frontline

*adj.* in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy

*synonym* : battlefield, cutting edge

(1) **frontline** health workers, (2) at the **frontline** of the war

Within days, the new aircraft was in **frontline** service.

## 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.

## puzzled

*adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something

*synonym* : confused, perplexed, bewildered

(1) **puzzled** expression, (2) **puzzled** by the question

She was **puzzled** by the strange behavior of her cat.

## fluctuate

*v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

*synonym* : vary, oscillate, sway

(1) **fluctuate** prices, (2) **fluctuate** rapidly

Stock prices **fluctuate** daily based on market demand and supply.

## 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.

## millennial

*adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y

*synonym* : thousand, (noun) Generation Y

(1) **millennial** record, (2) the **millennial** reign

Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by **millennial-scale** changes in climate.

## intern

*v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill

qualification criteria

*synonym* : apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

## discourage

v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

*synonym* : dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth

His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

## slam

v. to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily

*synonym* : bang, crash, shut

(1) **slam** the door, (2) **slam** the book against a wall

She **slammed** the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.

## dunk

v. to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten; to slam or force something down into a container of liquid

*synonym* : dip, plunge, soak

(1) **dunk** in water, (2) **dunk** a basketball

I like to **dunk** my cookies in milk before eating them.

## diversified

*adj.* characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types

*synonym* : varied, assorted, heterogeneous

(1) **diversified** portfolio, (2) **diversified** economy

The **diversified** menu offered options for everyone, from meat-eaters to vegetarians.

## pivotal

*adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something

*synonym* : crucial, essential, important

(1) **pivotal** moment, (2) **pivotal** role

The CEO's decision was **pivotal** in the success of the company's expansion plans.

## empower

*v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something  
*synonym*: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

## chaotic

*adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing

*synonym*: disorderly, cluttered, topsy-turvy

(1) the **chaotic** economic situation, (2) **chaotic** theory

Change is also occurring in Turkey as a result of **chaotic** reform.

## innovate

*v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

*synonym*: bring in, introduce, found

(1) **innovate** a new method, (2) **innovate** the quality of his life

Companies developing self-driving cars consistently **innovate** the emerging technologies.

## steer

*v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

*synonym*: guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

## 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.

## unconventional

*adj.* not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards

*synonym*: nontraditional, avant-garde, bizarre

(1) in an **unconventional** manner, (2) **unconventional** ideas

Her **unconventional** approach to teaching has been a hit with the students.

## ponder

*v.* to think deeply or carefully about something

*synonym*: think about, consider, reflect on

(1) **ponder** divine matters, (2) **ponder** life's meaning

She sat quietly, **pondering** the difficult decision.

## spontaneously

*adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden

*synonym*: impromptu, automatically, immediately

(1) recover **spontaneously** after five days, (2) this shift occurs **spontaneously**

The electrical cord **spontaneously** combusted.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. curb our cr____gs                | <i>n.</i> a strong desire of wanting something  |
| 2. the ch____c economic situation   | <i>adj.</i> without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing   |
| 3. div____ed portfolio              | <i>adj.</i> characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types  |
| 4. in____te the quality of his life | <i>v.</i> to introduce new methods, ideas, or products  |
| 5. flexible mi____t                 | <i>n.</i> the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone   |
| 6. dis____ge bacterial growth       | <i>v.</i> to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something  |
| 7. homemade du____ng                | <i>n.</i> a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables   |
| 8. di____t sleep                    | <i>v.</i> to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance |
| 9. pu____d by the question          | <i>adj.</i> confused or uncertain because you do not understand something   |
| 10. fr____ne health workers         | <i>adj.</i> in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy                                    |
| 11. c__w each word                  | <i>v.</i> to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it  |

ANSWERS: 1. craving, 2. chaotic, 3. diversified, 4. innovate, 5. mindset, 6. discourage, 7. dumpling, 8. disrupt, 9. puzzled, 10. frontline, 11. chew

- |   |      |  |
|---|------|--|
| 12. medical in___n                      | v.   | to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria |
| 13. ca_____e connection                 | n.   | a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units  |
| 14. st__r a steady course               | v.   | to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone  |
| 15. po___r divine matters               | v.   | to think deeply or carefully about something   |
| 16. recover spo_____sly after five days | adv. | in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden  |
| 17. em_____r my life                    | v.   | to give someone the power or authority to do something   |
| 18. fl_____te prices                    | v.   | to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably  |
| 19. this shift occurs spo_____sly       | adv. | in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden  |
| 20. mil_____al record                   | adj. | relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y   |
| 21. po___r life's meaning               | v.   | to think deeply or carefully about something   |

ANSWERS: 12. intern, 13. cascade, 14. steer, 15. ponder, 16. spontaneously, 17. empower, 18. fluctuate, 19. spontaneously, 20. millennial, 21. ponder



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. em\_\_\_\_\_r the secretary to do the same      *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
24. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker      *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
25. pi\_\_\_\_\_l role      *adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something
26. pi\_\_\_\_\_l moment      *adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something
27. de\_\_\_\_\_te a chapter to the subject      *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
28. at the fr\_\_\_\_\_ne of the war      *adj.* in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy
29. in an unc\_\_\_\_\_nal manner      *adj.* not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards
30. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student      *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
31. dis\_\_\_\_\_ge customers      *v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

ANSWERS: 22. disrupt, 23. empower, 24. industrious, 25. pivotal, 26. pivotal, 27. dedicate, 28. frontline, 29. unconventional, 30. industrious, 31. discourage

32. an emergency hea\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
33. de\_\_\_\_\_te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
34. cr\_\_\_\_\_g for revenge *n.* a strong desire of wanting something
35. du\_\_\_\_\_ng soup *n.* a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables
36. ch\_\_\_\_\_c theory *adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
37. d\_\_k a basketball *v.* to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten; to slam or force something down into a container of liquid
38. in\_\_\_\_\_te a new method *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
39. of\_\_\_\_\_e course *adj.* not connected to the internet
40. s\_\_m the book against a wall *v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
41. div\_\_\_\_\_ed economy *adj.* characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types
42. the mi\_\_\_\_\_t in an education system *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
43. st\_\_r a conversation *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

ANSWERS: 32. headquarter, 33. dedicate, 34. craving, 35. dumpling, 36. chaotic, 37. dunk, 38. innovate, 39. offline, 40. slam, 41. diversified, 42. mindset, 43. steer

44. in\_\_\_n civilians      *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
45. transistor ca\_\_\_\_\_e      *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
46. administrative hea\_\_\_\_\_er      *n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
47. unc\_\_\_\_\_nal ideas      *adj.* not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards
48. fl\_\_\_\_\_te rapidly      *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
49. s\_\_m the door      *v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
50. d\_\_k in water      *v.* to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten; to slam or force something down into a container of liquid
51. c\_\_w a stick of gum      *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
52. of\_\_\_\_\_e mode      *adj.* not connected to the internet
53. the mil\_\_\_\_\_al reign      *adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y

ANSWERS: 44. intern, 45. cascade, 46. headquarter, 47. unconventional, 48. fluctuate, 49. slam, 50. dunk, 51. chew, 52. offline, 53. millennial

54. pu\_\_\_\_d expression

*adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something

55. s\_\_r in popularity

*v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease

56. s\_\_r to new heights

*v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease

ANSWERS: 54. puzzled, 55. soar, 56. soar

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. 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
  
2. The captain told him to \_\_\_\_\_ the ship north.
  - v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
  
3. The navy \_\_\_\_\_ ships of defeated nations.
  - v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
  
4. Her \_\_\_\_\_ approach to teaching has been a hit with the students.
  - adj.* not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards
  
5. She sat quietly, \_\_\_\_\_ the difficult decision.
  - v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
  
6. The company decided to move its \_\_\_\_\_ to New York City.
  - n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
  
7. I have a \_\_\_\_\_ for nicotine.
  - n.* a strong desire of wanting something
  
8. She was \_\_\_\_\_ by the strange behavior of her cat.
  - adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something

ANSWERS: 1. mindset, 2. steer, 3. interned, 4. unconventional, 5. pondering, 6. headquarters, 7. craving, 8. puzzled

9. His parents tried to \_\_\_\_\_ him from becoming an artist.  
*v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
10. My dog loves to \_\_\_\_\_ on bones.  
*v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
11. 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
12. The bird \_\_\_\_\_ through the sky, and its wings spread wide.  
*v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease
13. Change is also occurring in Turkey as a result of \_\_\_\_\_ reform.  
*adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
14. Companies developing self-driving cars consistently \_\_\_\_\_ the emerging technologies.  
*v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ menu offered options for everyone, from meat-eaters to vegetarians.  
*adj.* characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types
16. Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by \_\_\_\_\_ changes in climate.  
*adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y

ANSWERS: 9. discourage, 10. chew, 11. disrupt, 12. soared, 13. chaotic, 14. innovate, 15. diversified, 16. millennial-scale

17. The CEO's decision was \_\_\_\_\_ in the success of the company's expansion plans.

*adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something

18. The computer is \_\_\_\_\_ and cannot be accessed at the moment.

*adj.* not connected to the internet

19. He \_\_\_\_\_ his life to helping others.

*v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

20. Stock prices \_\_\_\_\_ daily based on market demand and supply.

*v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

21. I like to \_\_\_\_\_ my cookies in milk before eating them.

*v.* to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten; to slam or force something down into a container of liquid

22. She \_\_\_\_\_ the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.

*v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily

23. The company \_\_\_\_\_ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

*v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something

24. The electrical cord \_\_\_\_\_ combusted.

*adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden

ANSWERS: 17. pivotal, 18. offline, 19. dedicated, 20. fluctuate, 21. dunk, 22. slammed, 23. empowered, 24. spontaneously

25. Within days, the new aircraft was in \_\_\_\_\_ service.

*adj.* in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy

26. 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

27. I ordered some delicious \_\_\_\_\_ for lunch.

*n.* a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables

28. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.

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

ANSWERS: 25. frontline, 26. cascade, 27. dumplings, 28. industrious