

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Aparna Nancherla: The joy of taking out the trash |*

*TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/aparna\\_nancherla\\_the\\_joy\\_of\\_taking\\_out\\_the\\_trash](https://www.ted.com/talks/aparna_nancherla_the_joy_of_taking_out_the_trash)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### pare

- v. to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements

*synonym* : trim, shave, reduce

(1) **pare** an apple, (2) **pare** back wasteful spending

I must **pare** down my wardrobe and donate some of my clothes to charity.

### consumerism

- n. a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions

*synonym* : consumer culture, materialism

(1) anti- **consumerism** movement, (2) global **consumerism**

The rise of **consumerism** has led to an increase in wastefulness and environmental damage.

### endlessly

- adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

*synonym* : ceaselessly, interminably, unceasingly

(1) repeat **endlessly**, (2) worry **endlessly** about our future

The procession of demonstrators was **endlessly** continuing.

## 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.

## brag

*v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior

*synonym*: boast, swagger, vaunt

(1) **brag** to each other, (2) **brag** about my knowledge

Despite his impressive achievements, he refrained from **bragging** about his success.

## footprint

*n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

*synonym*: footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

## recycle

*v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

*synonym*: reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

## compost

*n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil

*synonym*: fertilizer, humus, manure

(1) organic **compost**, (2) **compost** pile

You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your **compost** to improve the pH balance.

## envelop

v. to surround and cover completely; to encase

*synonym*: wrap, cover, surround

(1) **envelop** the whole world, (2) **envelop** her in a bear hug  
The fog **enveloped** the city, making it difficult to see.

## aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

*synonym*: ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs  
He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

## hound

v. to persistently pursue, harass, or pressure someone or something, often in a negative or unwelcome way;

(noun) a type of dog, often bred for hunting that has a keen sense of smell and is known for its persistence and tenacity

*synonym*: chase, badger, annoy

(1) beagle **hound**, (2) **hound** him for payment

The paparazzi constantly **hound** celebrities for a photo or a story.

## salsa

n. a type of spicy sauce or condiment made from tomatoes, onions, chili peppers, and other ingredients, commonly used in Latin American and Mexican cuisine, as well as a lively social dance style with origins in those same regions

*synonym*: sauce, dip, condiment

(1) **salsa** music, (2) homemade **salsa** dip

We brought chips and **salsa** to the party as a tasty appetizer.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. 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
2. beagle ho\_\_d  
*v.* to persistently pursue, harass, or pressure someone or something, often in a negative or unwelcome way; (noun) a type of dog, often bred for hunting that has a keen sense of smell and is known for its persistence and tenacity
3. re\_\_\_\_e milk packaging into new paper  
*v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
4. anti-con\_\_\_\_\_sm movement  
*n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions
5. p\_\_e back wasteful spending  
*v.* to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements
6. ho\_\_d him for payment  
*v.* to persistently pursue, harass, or pressure someone or something, often in a negative or unwelcome way; (noun) a type of dog, often bred for hunting that has a keen sense of smell and is known for its persistence and tenacity

ANSWERS: 1. squatter, 2. hound, 3. recycle, 4. consumerism, 5. pare, 6. hound

7. p\_\_e an apple      *v.* to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements
8. global con\_\_\_\_\_sm      *n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions
9. en\_\_\_\_p her in a bear hug      *v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase
10. co\_\_\_\_t pile      *n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
11. asp\_\_\_\_\_on into the lungs      *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
12. urban sq\_\_\_\_\_er      *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
13. repeat en\_\_\_\_\_ly      *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
14. b\_\_g about my knowledge      *v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior

ANSWERS: 7. pare, 8. consumerism, 9. envelop, 10. compost, 11. aspiration, 12. squatter, 13. endlessly, 14. brag

15. organic co\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
16. b\_\_g to each other *v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior
17. en\_\_\_\_\_p the whole world *v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase
18. fo\_\_\_\_\_nts in the snow *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
19. no asp\_\_\_\_\_on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
20. re\_\_\_\_\_e the cardboard boxes *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
21. the fo\_\_\_\_\_nts of an earlier civilization *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
22. sa\_\_a music *n.* a type of spicy sauce or condiment made from tomatoes, onions, chili peppers, and other ingredients, commonly used in Latin American and Mexican cuisine, as well as a lively social dance style with origins in those same regions
23. worry en\_\_\_\_\_ly about our future *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
24. homemade sa\_\_a dip *n.* a type of spicy sauce or condiment made from tomatoes, onions, chili peppers, and other ingredients, commonly used in Latin American and Mexican cuisine, as well as a lively social dance style with origins in those same regions

ANSWERS: 15. compost, 16. brag, 17. envelop, 18. footprint, 19. aspiration, 20. recycle, 21. footprint, 22. salsa, 23. endlessly, 24. salsa

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The procession of demonstrators was \_\_\_\_\_ continuing.  
*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
2. The paparazzi constantly \_\_\_\_\_ celebrities for a photo or a story.  
*v.* to persistently pursue, harass, or pressure someone or something, often in a negative or unwelcome way; (noun) a type of dog, often bred for hunting that has a keen sense of smell and is known for its persistence and tenacity
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. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
5. We largely \_\_\_\_\_ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.  
*v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
6. We brought chips and \_\_\_\_\_ to the party as a tasty appetizer.  
*n.* a type of spicy sauce or condiment made from tomatoes, onions, chili peppers, and other ingredients, commonly used in Latin American and Mexican cuisine, as well as a lively social dance style with origins in those same regions
7. Despite his impressive achievements, he refrained from \_\_\_\_\_ about his success.  
*v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior

ANSWERS: 1. endlessly, 2. hound, 3. squatters living, 4. footprint, 5. recycle, 6. salsa, 7. bragging



8. The rise of \_\_\_\_\_ has led to an increase in wastefulness and environmental damage.
- n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions
9. The fog \_\_\_\_\_ the city, making it difficult to see.
- v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase
10. He has an \_\_\_\_\_ to become a doctor.
- n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
11. You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your \_\_\_\_\_ to improve the pH balance.
- n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
12. I must \_\_\_\_\_ down my wardrobe and donate some of my clothes to charity.
- v.* to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements

ANSWERS: 8. consumerism, 9. enveloped, 10. aspiration, 11. compost, 12. pare