

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Monica Araya: How cities are detoxing transportation

| TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/monica\\_araya\\_how\\_cities\\_are\\_detoxing\\_transportation](https://www.ted.com/talks/monica_araya_how_cities_are_detoxing_transportation)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### detoxification

*n.* (also detox) the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something

*synonym*: cleansing, purification, detox

(1) **detoxification** process, (2) natural **detoxification**

**Detoxification** programs can help eliminate harmful substances and improve overall health.

### lockdown

*n.* an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19

(1) go on **lockdown**, (2) **lockdown** area

The country's prime minister has decided to implement a nationwide **lockdown** measure.

### congest

*v.* to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid

*synonym*: clog, choke, crowd

(1) **congest** in a vein, (2) **congest** a highway

The roads to the airport were heavily **congested**.

### fume

*v.* to emit gas, smoke, vapor, or a strong, unpleasant odor; to show anger, irritation, or annoyance in a visible way;

(noun) gas or vapor that is emitted from a substance, usually as a result of heating or combustion

*synonym* : smoke, vaporize, emit

(1) **fume** with anger, (2) acrid **fumes**

The angry customer began to **fume** when their order was delayed.

## choke

v. to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something

*synonym* : strangle, suffocate, clog

(1) **choke** with anger, (2) **choke** off the blood supply

The baby started to **choke** on a piece of apple.

## overheat

v. to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot

*synonym* : become too hot, heat up too much

(1) **overheat** while charging, (2) starts to **overheat**

The car engine **overheated** and had to be repaired.

## 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.

## overhaul

*n.* a thorough examination, evaluation, or inspection of something, often with the intent of making necessary improvements; a major reorganization or restructuring of a system or process; (verb) to thoroughly examine, repair, and improve something to ensure that it is functioning properly and up to standard

*synonym* : renovation, revamp, modernization

(1) **overhaul** process, (2) vehicle **overhaul**

The mechanic suggested an **overhaul** of the engine to

improve performance.

## prioritize

*v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

*synonym*: rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

## pandemic

*n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

*synonym*: outbreak

(1) flu **pandemic**, (2) global **pandemic**

They fear a **pandemic** of a new type of virus.

## commuter

*n.* a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car

*synonym*: traveler, passenger

(1) **commuter** shuttle, (2) daily **commuter**

The **commuter** train was delayed due to a signal failure on the line.

## circulate

*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

*synonym*: flow, disperse, rotate

(1) **circulate** a rumor, (2) **circulate** an agenda before the meeting

The fan **circulates** the air in the room quickly.

## firsthand

*adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source

*synonym*: direct

(1) hear customer's voices **firsthand**, (2) conduct **firsthand** research

The manager tried to hear customers' voices **firsthand**.

## societal

*adj.* relating to society or social relationships

*synonym* : social, communal, cultural

(1) **societal** norms, (2) **societal** expectations

The **societal** pressure to conform is strong in this community.

## halve

*v.* to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size

*synonym* : reduce by half, cut in half, split

(1) **halve** the price, (2) **halve** the workload

I need to **halve** the recipe to make just enough for two people.

## nudge

*v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior

*synonym* : bump, elbow, (noun) prod

(1) **nudge** price levels up, (2) give a person a **nudge**

The teacher **nudged** the student to get his attention and asked him a question.

## electrify

*v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

*synonym* : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

## 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.

## unthinkable

*adj.* too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept

*synonym* : impossible, inconceivable, outlandish

(1) an **unthinkable** coincidence, (2) in **unthinkable** trouble

That accident was something **unthinkable** with my long experience.

## halting

*adj.* hesitant or wavering in speech or action; faltering; stopping or pausing repeatedly and intermittently

*synonym* : stuttering, hesitant, faltering

(1) **halting** speech, (2) **halting** progress

The negotiations between the two countries were proceeding in a **halting** manner.

## 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.

## repurpose

*v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended

*synonym* : reutilize, recycle, reuse

(1) **repurpose** an old building, (2) **repurpose** a used car

The old barn was **repurposed** into a modern event space.

## 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.

## ingenious

*adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill

*synonym* : creative, innovative, inventive

(1) **ingenious** device, (2) **ingenious** idea

I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so **ingenious**.

## **turmoil**

*n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions

*synonym*: chaos, confusion, disorder

(1) political **turmoil**, (2) the **turmoil** of the war

The company experienced financial **turmoil** after the CEO was arrested.

## **dislocate**

*v.* to move out of a position of the bone in a joint; to put out of its usual place, position, or relationship

*synonym*: displace

(1) **dislocate** my shoulder, (2) **dislocate** residents

X-rays revealed that several of his joints were **dislocated**.

## **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.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. daily co_____er             | <i>n.</i> a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car                     |
| 2. dis_____ely affected        | <i>adv.</i> in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else |
| 3. flu pa_____ic               | <i>n.</i> an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area   |
| 4. el_____fy the audience      | <i>v.</i> to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something                    |
| 5. political tu_____l          | <i>n.</i> a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions                                      |
| 6. pri_____ze people over cars | <i>v.</i> to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things  |
| 7. the tu_____l of the war     | <i>n.</i> a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions                                      |
| 8. in unt_____le trouble       | <i>adj.</i> too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept   |
| 9. co_____er shuttle           | <i>n.</i> a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car                     |

ANSWERS: 1. commuter, 2. disproportionately, 3. pandemic, 4. electrify, 5. turmoil, 6. prioritize, 7. turmoil, 8. unthinkable, 9. commuter

10. re\_\_\_\_\_se an old building      *v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
11. 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
12. 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
13. op\_\_\_\_\_ne occasion      *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
14. so\_\_\_\_\_al norms      *adj.* relating to society or social relationships
15. di\_\_\_\_\_te residents      *v.* to move out of a position of the bone in a joint; to put out of its usual place, position, or relationship
16. re\_\_\_\_\_e the cardboard boxes      *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
17. starts to ov\_\_\_\_\_at      *v.* to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot
18. ov\_\_\_\_\_ul process      *n.* a thorough examination, evaluation, or inspection of something, often with the intent of making necessary improvements; a major reorganization or restructuring of a system or process; (verb) to thoroughly examine, repair, and improve something to ensure that it is functioning properly and up to standard

ANSWERS: 10. repurpose, 11. disrupt, 12. disproportionately, 13. opportune, 14. societal, 15. dislocate, 16. recycle, 17. overheat, 18. overhaul



19. acrid f\_\_es
- v. to emit gas, smoke, vapor, or a strong, unpleasant odor; to show anger, irritation, or annoyance in a visible way; (noun) gas or vapor that is emitted from a substance, usually as a result of heating or combustion
20. give a person a nu\_\_e
- v. to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior
21. ha\_\_e the price
- v. to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size
22. pri\_\_\_\_\_ze tasks
- v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
23. det\_\_\_\_\_ion process
- n. (also detox) the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something
24. an unt\_\_\_\_\_le coincidence
- adj.* too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept
25. lo\_\_\_\_\_wn area
- n. an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19
26. go on lo\_\_\_\_\_wn
- n. an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19

ANSWERS: 19. fume, 20. nudge, 21. halve, 22. prioritize, 23. detoxification, 24. unthinkable, 25. lockdown, 26. lockdown

27. in\_\_\_\_\_us device *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
28. conduct fi\_\_\_\_\_nd research *adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
29. 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
30. ci\_\_\_\_\_te a rumor *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
31. el\_\_\_\_\_fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
32. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
33. ha\_\_\_\_\_g speech *adj.* hesitant or wavering in speech or action; faltering; stopping or pausing repeatedly and intermittently
34. f\_\_e with anger *v.* to emit gas, smoke, vapor, or a strong, unpleasant odor; to show anger, irritation, or annoyance in a visible way; (noun) gas or vapor that is emitted from a substance, usually as a result of heating or combustion
35. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
36. 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

ANSWERS: 27. ingenious, 28. firsthand, 29. disrupt, 30. circulate, 31. electrify, 32. industrious, 33. halting, 34. fume, 35. industrious, 36. recycle

37. in\_\_\_\_\_us idea *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
38. natural det\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* (also detox) the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something
39. ov\_\_\_\_\_at while charging *v.* to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot
40. global pa\_\_\_\_\_ic *n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
41. so\_\_\_\_\_al expectations *adj.* relating to society or social relationships
42. ha\_\_e the workload *v.* to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size
43. nu\_\_e price levels up *v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior
44. ch\_\_e off the blood supply *v.* to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something
45. ha\_\_\_\_\_g progress *adj.* hesitant or wavering in speech or action; faltering; stopping or pausing repeatedly and intermittently
46. an op\_\_\_\_\_ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 37. ingenious, 38. detoxification, 39. overheat, 40. pandemic, 41. societal, 42. halve, 43. nudge, 44. choke, 45. halting, 46. opportune

47. ch\_\_e with anger *v.* to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something
48. hear customer's voices fi\_\_\_\_\_nd *adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
49. vehicle ov\_\_\_\_\_ul *n.* a thorough examination, evaluation, or inspection of something, often with the intent of making necessary improvements; a major reorganization or restructuring of a system or process; (verb) to thoroughly examine, repair, and improve something to ensure that it is functioning properly and up to standard
50. co\_\_\_\_\_t a highway *v.* to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid
51. ci\_\_\_\_\_te an agenda before the meeting *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
52. di\_\_\_\_\_te my shoulder *v.* to move out of a position of the bone in a joint; to put out of its usual place, position, or relationship
53. co\_\_\_\_\_t in a vein *v.* to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid
54. re\_\_\_\_\_se a used car *v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended

ANSWERS: 47. choke, 48. firsthand, 49. overhaul, 50. congest, 51. circulate, 52. dislocate, 53. congest, 54. repurpose

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. They fear a \_\_\_\_\_ of a new type of virus.  
*n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
2. 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
3. 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
4. I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
5. The roads to the airport were heavily \_\_\_\_\_.  
*v.* to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ train was delayed due to a signal failure on the line.  
*n.* a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ pressure to conform is strong in this community.  
*adj.* relating to society or social relationships
8. The manager tried to hear customers' voices \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source

ANSWERS: 1. pandemic, 2. disrupt, 3. recycle, 4. ingenious, 5. congested, 6. commuter, 7. societal, 8. firsthand

9. The company experienced financial \_\_\_\_\_ after the CEO was arrested.
- n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
10. The product developed through years of research continues to \_\_\_\_\_ the market.
- v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
11. The angry customer began to \_\_\_\_\_ when their order was delayed.
- v.* to emit gas, smoke, vapor, or a strong, unpleasant odor; to show anger, irritation, or annoyance in a visible way; (noun) gas or vapor that is emitted from a substance, usually as a result of heating or combustion
12. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
13. The car engine \_\_\_\_\_ and had to be repaired.
- v.* to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot
14. The teacher \_\_\_\_\_ the student to get his attention and asked him a question.
- v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior
15. I need to \_\_\_\_\_ the recipe to make just enough for two people.
- v.* to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size
16. The mechanic suggested an \_\_\_\_\_ of the engine to improve performance.
- n.* a thorough examination, evaluation, or inspection of something, often with the intent of making necessary improvements; a major reorganization or restructuring of a system or process; (verb) to thoroughly examine, repair, and improve something to ensure that it is functioning properly and up to standard

ANSWERS: 9. turmoil, 10. electrify, 11. fume, 12. industrious, 13. overheated, 14.

nudged, 15. halve, 16. overhaul

17. The organization \_\_\_\_\_ the needs of the community in its decision-making.
- v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
18. The baby started to \_\_\_\_\_ on a piece of apple.
- v.* to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something
19. \_\_\_\_\_ programs can help eliminate harmful substances and improve overall health.
- n.* (also detox) the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something
20. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
21. 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
22. The country's prime minister has decided to implement a nationwide \_\_\_\_\_ measure.
- n.* an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19
23. That accident was something \_\_\_\_\_ with my long experience.
- adj.* too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept

ANSWERS: 17. prioritized, 18. choke, 19. Detoxification, 20. opportune, 21. disproportionately, 22. lockdown, 23. unthinkable



24. The negotiations between the two countries were proceeding in a \_\_\_\_\_ manner.

*adj.* hesitant or wavering in speech or action; faltering; stopping or pausing repeatedly and intermittently

25. The fan \_\_\_\_\_ the air in the room quickly.

*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

26. X-rays revealed that several of his joints were \_\_\_\_\_.

*v.* to move out of a position of the bone in a joint; to put out of its usual place, position, or relationship

27. The old barn was \_\_\_\_\_ into a modern event space.

*v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended

ANSWERS: 24. halting, 25. circulates, 26. dislocated, 27. repurposed