

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Jose Antonio Vargas: 3 questions to ask yourself about US citizenship | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jose\\_antonio\\_vargas\\_3\\_questions\\_to\\_ask\\_yourself\\_about\\_us\\_citizenship](https://www.ted.com/talks/jose_antonio_vargas_3_questions_to_ask_yourself_about_us_citizenship)

### 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

### filmmaker

*n.* a person who makes films, typically as a profession  
*synonym*: director, producer, cinematographer

(1) non-fiction **filmmaker**, (2) a successful **filmmaker**

The renowned **filmmaker** won several awards for his latest film.

### grandparent

*n.* a parent of one's father or mother

(1) great- **grandparent**, (2) person of **grandparent** age

She was close to her paternal **grandparents** and often spent summers with them.

### emigrate

*v.* to leave one's country or region to settle in another  
*synonym*: migrate, relocate, move

(1) **emigrate** to a new country, (2) **emigrate** for better opportunities

Many people **emigrated** from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.

### naturalize

*v.* to grant citizenship to a foreign citizen; to become established as a native plant or animal in a particular region

*synonym*: accustom, acclimate, adapt

(1) **naturalize** a plant, (2) **naturalize** immigrants  
I need to **naturalize** my citizenship status in my new country.

## grandchild

*n.* a child of someone's son or daughter

*synonym*: offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

## smuggle

*v.* to import or export something or someone without paying appropriate customs duties, often illegally

(1) **smuggle** drugs, (2) **smuggle** herself out of a country

He was able to **smuggle** a gun inside the prison.

## ancestor

*n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

*synonym*: forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

## settler

*n.* a person who moved with a group of others to live in a different country or area

*synonym*: frontiersperson, immigrant, emigrant

(1) new **settlers**, (2) **settlers** on some foreign shore

A large proportion of railway workers in **settler** colonies were white.

## kidnapping

*n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

*synonym*: abduction, snatch, kidnap

(1) **kidnapping** attempt, (2) mass **kidnapping**

She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated **kidnapping**.

## enslave

*v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

*synonym*: coerce, deprive, imprison

(1) **enslave** poor peasants, (2) **enslave** indigenous people

Her beauty **enslaved** me completely.

## unreal

*adj.* imaginary; not existing in fact

*synonym*: false, fake, fictitious

(1) have an **unreal** feeling, (2) **unreal** situation

The idea of winning the lottery seemed so **unreal** that he didn't even bother buying a ticket.

## imperfectly

*adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way

*synonym*: amiss, insufficiently, clumsily

(1) **imperfectly** developed, (2) **imperfectly** known disease

He created an **imperfectly** shaped torso.

## shrug

*v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

(1) **shrug** off the importance, (2) **shrug** his shoulders sadly

I respect her ability to **shrug** off harsh criticism.

## lifeline

*n.* a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help

*synonym*: savior, support, safety net

(1) **lifeline** support, (2) emotional **lifeline**

My best friend has been my **lifeline** throughout all of my hardships.

## replenish

*v.* to fill something that had previously been emptied

*synonym*: refill, reload, restock

(1) **replenish** a reserve fund, (2) **replenish** my spirit

Please **replenish** my glass with some more wine.

## relentless

*adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks

*synonym* : unyielding, tireless, unremitting

(1) **relentless** attack, (2) face **relentless** pressure

The athlete's **relentless** training paid off in the end.

## exclusionary

*adj.* tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others

*synonym* : discriminatory, exclusive, selective

(1) **exclusionary** clause, (2) **exclusionary** practices

The new housing development faced criticism for its **exclusionary** policies towards lower-income residents.

## aghast

*adj.* filled with shock, horror, or amazement

*synonym* : shocked, horrified, amazed

(1) **aghast** at the sight, (2) **aghast** at the situation

She was **aghast** at the news of the accident.

## glaring

*adj.* extremely noticeable or obvious, often in a way that is unpleasant or unpleasantly bright

*synonym* : blatant, flagrant, obvious

(1) **glaring** example, (2) **glaring** omission

The **glaring** sun was making it difficult to see while driving.

## irresponsible

*adj.* not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable

*synonym* : careless, reckless, thoughtless

(1) **irresponsible** actions, (2) **irresponsible** behavior

It was **irresponsible** of him to drive home after drinking so much alcohol.

## sect

*n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

*synonym* : group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

## dignify

v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

*synonym*: elevate, ennoble, honor

(1) **dignify** the role, (2) **dignify** the occasion

It's important to **dignify** other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.

## undocumented

*adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission

(1) **undocumented** worker, (2) **undocumented** command

The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking down on **undocumented** non-citizens.

## redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

*synonym*: reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                               |    |  |
|-------------------------------|----|--|
| 1. sh__g his shoulders sadly  | v. | to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested  |
| 2. sh__g off the importance   | v. | to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested  |
| 3. li_____ne support          | n. | a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help |
| 4. person of gra_____nt age   | n. | a parent of one's father or mother   |
| 5. en_____e poor peasants     | v. | to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action   |
| 6. a successful fi_____er     | n. | a person who makes films, typically as a profession  |
| 7. en_____e indigenous people | v. | to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action   |
| 8. emotional li_____ne        | n. | a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help |
| 9. di_____y the role          | v. | to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant    |

ANSWERS: 1. shrug, 2. shrug, 3. lifeline, 4. grandparent, 5. enslave, 6. filmmaker, 7. enslave, 8. lifeline, 9. dignify

- |   |             |  |
|---|-------------|--|
| 10. em_____te to a new country          | <i>v.</i>   | to leave one's country or region to settle in another  |
| 11. ag____t at the situation            | <i>adj.</i> | filled with shock, horror, or amazement  |
| 12. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship | <i>n.</i>   | a child of someone's son or daughter   |
| 13. kid_____ng attempt                  | <i>n.</i>   | the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive   |
| 14. em_____te for better opportunities  | <i>v.</i>   | to leave one's country or region to settle in another  |
| 15. imp_____ly known disease            | <i>adv.</i> | in a faulty or incomplete way  |
| 16. und_____ted command                 | <i>adj.</i> | not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission                                   |
| 17. new se_____rs                       | <i>n.</i>   | a person who moved with a group of others to live in a different country or area                               |
| 18. exc_____ary practices               | <i>adj.</i> | tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others |
| 19. gl_____g example                    | <i>adj.</i> | extremely noticeable or obvious, often in a way that is unpleasant or unpleasantly bright                      |
| 20. gl_____g omission                   | <i>adj.</i> | extremely noticeable or obvious, often in a way that is unpleasant or unpleasantly bright                      |
| 21. non-fiction fi_____er               | <i>n.</i>   | a person who makes films, typically as a profession  |
| 22. re_____sh a reserve fund            | <i>v.</i>   | to fill something that had previously been emptied   |

ANSWERS: 10. emigrate, 11. aghast, 12. grandchild, 13. kidnapping, 14. emigrate, 15. imperfectly, 16. undocumented, 17. settler, 18. exclusionary, 19. glaring, 20. glaring, 21. filmmaker, 22. replenish

23. un\_\_\_l situation *adj.* imaginary; not existing in fact
24. sm\_\_\_\_\_e herself out of a country *v.* to import or export something or someone without paying appropriate customs duties, often illegally
25. have an un\_\_\_l feeling *adj.* imaginary; not existing in fact
26. mass kid\_\_\_\_\_ng *n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
27. exc\_\_\_\_\_ary clause *adj.* tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others
28. an\_\_\_\_\_or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
29. sm\_\_\_\_\_e drugs *v.* to import or export something or someone without paying appropriate customs duties, often illegally
30. irr\_\_\_\_\_ble behavior *adj.* not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable
31. earliest human an\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
32. se\_\_\_\_\_rs on some foreign shore *n.* a person who moved with a group of others to live in a different country or area
33. gra\_\_\_\_\_ld development *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
34. irr\_\_\_\_\_ble actions *adj.* not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable
35. re\_\_\_\_\_ne our role *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 23. unreal, 24. smuggle, 25. unreal, 26. kidnapping, 27. exclusionary, 28. ancestor, 29. smuggle, 30. irresponsible, 31. ancestor, 32. settler, 33. grandchild, 34. irresponsible, 35. redefine



36. nat\_\_\_\_\_ze immigrants      *v.* to grant citizenship to a foreign citizen; to become established as a native plant or animal in a particular region
37. secret s\_\_t      *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
38. und\_\_\_\_\_ted worker      *adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
39. di\_\_\_\_\_y the occasion      *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
40. rel\_\_\_\_\_ss attack      *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
41. re\_\_\_\_\_sh my spirit      *v.* to fill something that had previously been emptied
42. ag\_\_\_t at the sight      *adj.* filled with shock, horror, or amazement
43. s\_\_t beliefs      *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
44. great-gra\_\_\_\_\_nt      *n.* a parent of one's father or mother
45. nat\_\_\_\_\_ze a plant      *v.* to grant citizenship to a foreign citizen; to become established as a native plant or animal in a particular region

ANSWERS: 36. naturalize, 37. sect, 38. undocumented, 39. dignify, 40. relentless, 41. replenish, 42. aghast, 43. sect, 44. grandparent, 45. naturalize

46. re\_\_\_\_\_ne customer experience

*v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

47. imp\_\_\_\_\_ly developed

*adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way

48. face rel\_\_\_\_\_ss pressure

*adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks

ANSWERS: 46. redefine, 47. imperfectly, 48. relentless

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The athlete's \_\_\_\_\_ training paid off in the end.  
*adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
2. He was able to \_\_\_\_\_ a gun inside the prison.  
*v.* to import or export something or someone without paying appropriate customs duties, often illegally
3. My best friend has been my \_\_\_\_\_ throughout all of my hardships.  
*n.* a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help
4. He created an \_\_\_\_\_ shaped torso.  
*adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
5. She was close to her paternal \_\_\_\_\_ and often spent summers with them.  
*n.* a parent of one's father or mother
6. The minority \_\_\_\_\_ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.  
*n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
7. She was \_\_\_\_\_ at the news of the accident.  
*adj.* filled with shock, horror, or amazement
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ sun was making it difficult to see while driving.  
*adj.* extremely noticeable or obvious, often in a way that is unpleasant or unpleasantly bright

ANSWERS: 1. relentless, 2. smuggle, 3. lifeline, 4. imperfectly, 5. grandparents, 6. sect, 7. aghast, 8. glaring

9. Please \_\_\_\_\_ my glass with some more wine.  
*v.* to fill something that had previously been emptied
10. The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking down on \_\_\_\_\_ non-citizens.  
*adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
11. The renowned \_\_\_\_\_ won several awards for his latest film.  
*n.* a person who makes films, typically as a profession
12. The new housing development faced criticism for its \_\_\_\_\_ policies towards lower-income residents.  
*adj.* tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others
13. I need to \_\_\_\_\_ my citizenship status in my new country.  
*v.* to grant citizenship to a foreign citizen; to become established as a native plant or animal in a particular region
14. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.  
*v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
15. The grandparents take care of their \_\_\_\_\_ while the parents are at work.  
*n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
16. A large proportion of railway workers in \_\_\_\_\_ colonies were white.  
*n.* a person who moved with a group of others to live in a different country or area

ANSWERS: 9. replenish, 10. undocumented, 11. filmmaker, 12. exclusionary, 13. naturalize, 14. dignify, 15. grandchild, 16. settler

17. My remote \_\_\_\_\_ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

*n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

18. She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

19. Her beauty \_\_\_\_\_ me completely.

*v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

20. The idea of winning the lottery seemed so \_\_\_\_\_ that he didn't even bother buying a ticket.

*adj.* imaginary; not existing in fact

21. Many people \_\_\_\_\_ from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.

*v.* to leave one's country or region to settle in another

22. It was \_\_\_\_\_ of him to drive home after drinking so much alcohol.

*adj.* not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable

23. I respect her ability to \_\_\_\_\_ off harsh criticism.

*v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

24. The video telephony application has \_\_\_\_\_ the way we work.

*v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 17. ancestor, 18. kidnapping, 19. enslaved, 20. unreal, 21. emigrated, 22. irresponsible, 23. shrug, 24. redefined