

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alex Gendler: Which voting system is the best? | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/alex\\_gendler\\_which\\_voting\\_system\\_is\\_the\\_best](https://www.ted.com/talks/alex_gendler_which_voting_system_is_the_best)

### 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

### Martian

*adj.* of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants

(1) **Martian** geography, (2) **Martian** surface

There is very little water in the **Martian** atmosphere.

### determinant

*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

*synonym*: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

### colonist

*n.* a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area

*synonym*: settler, pioneer, inhabitant

(1) space **colonist**, (2) American **colonist**

The first **colonists** arrived in the New World in the early 17th century.

### plurality

*n.* the state of being plural or multiple; a majority of votes or shares held by one group in a multi-candidate or

multi-party system

*synonym* : majority, plurality, abundance

(1) political **plurality**, (2) cultural **plurality**

The team's **plurality** of skills allowed them to tackle a wide range of tasks.

## skew

*v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.

*synonym* : slant, tilt, distort

(1) **skew** the message, (2) **skew** social values

The results of the poll are **skewed** because it only surveyed a small group of people.

## incentivize

*v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward

*synonym* : encourage, motivate

(1) **incentivize** carpooling, (2) **incentivize** the right behavior

Governments **incentivize** their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.

## victor

*n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.

*synonym* : winner, conqueror, champion

(1) **victor** country, (2) the outright **victor**

The **victor** of the race was the favorite to win.

## statistician

*n.* a person who studies or is an expert in statistics

*synonym* : actuary

(1) professional **statisticians**, (2) environmental **statistician**

The firm employs several **statisticians** to develop a recommendation engine.

## intricate

*adj.* having many different parts and small details that all work together

*synonym* : complicated, convoluted, complex

(1) **intricate** details, (2) **intricate** lacework

The politician managed to deal with that **intricate** issue.

**contradict**

v. to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite;  
to be in conflict with

*synonym*: conflict, oppose, belie

(1) **contradict** each other, (2) **contradict** the principle

The book contains numerous statements that **contradict** previous reports.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. Ma\_\_\_\_\_n geography *adj.* of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
2. s\_\_w social values *v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
3. con\_\_\_\_\_ct each other *v.* to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with
4. environmental det\_\_\_\_\_nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
5. the outright vi\_\_\_\_r *n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.
6. s\_\_w the message *v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
7. Ma\_\_\_\_\_n surface *adj.* of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
8. environmental sta\_\_\_\_\_ian *n.* a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
9. in\_\_\_\_\_te lacework *adj.* having many different parts and small details that all work together
10. cultural pl\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* the state of being plural or multiple; a majority of votes or shares held by one group in a multi-candidate or multi-party system

ANSWERS: 1. Martian, 2. skew, 3. contradict, 4. determinant, 5. victor, 6. skew, 7. Martian, 8. statistician, 9. intricate, 10. plurality

- |                                   |             |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 11. inc_____ze the right behavior | <i>v.</i>   | to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward   |
| 12. vi___r country                | <i>n.</i>   | one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.  |
| 13. con_____ct the principle      | <i>v.</i>   | to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with   |
| 14. professional sta_____ians     | <i>n.</i>   | a person who studies or is an expert in statistics   |
| 15. a det_____nt of crop yields   | <i>n.</i>   | a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result              |
| 16. American co_____st            | <i>n.</i>   | a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area |
| 17. inc_____ze carpooling         | <i>v.</i>   | to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward   |
| 18. in_____te details             | <i>adj.</i> | having many different parts and small details that all work together   |
| 19. space co_____st               | <i>n.</i>   | a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area |
| 20. political pl_____ty           | <i>n.</i>   | the state of being plural or multiple; a majority of votes or shares held by one group in a multi-candidate or multi-party system                |

ANSWERS: 11. incentivize, 12. victor, 13. contradict, 14. statistician, 15. determinant, 16. colonist, 17. incentivize, 18. intricate, 19. colonist, 20. plurality

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The book contains numerous statements that \_\_\_\_\_ previous reports.  
*v.* to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with
2. The politician managed to deal with that \_\_\_\_\_ issue.  
*adj.* having many different parts and small details that all work together
3. One \_\_\_\_\_ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.  
*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
4. The results of the poll are \_\_\_\_\_ because it only surveyed a small group of people.  
*v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
5. The first \_\_\_\_\_ arrived in the New World in the early 17th century.  
*n.* a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area
6. The team's \_\_\_\_\_ of skills allowed them to tackle a wide range of tasks.  
*n.* the state of being plural or multiple; a majority of votes or shares held by one group in a multi-candidate or multi-party system
7. There is very little water in the \_\_\_\_\_ atmosphere.  
*adj.* of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants

ANSWERS: 1. contradict, 2. intricate, 3. determinant, 4. skewed, 5. colonists, 6. plurality, 7. Martian

8. The firm employs several \_\_\_\_\_ to develop a recommendation engine.  
*n.* a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
9. Governments \_\_\_\_\_ their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.  
*v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the race was the favorite to win.  
*n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.

ANSWERS: 8. statisticians, 9. incentivize, 10. victor