

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dan Katz: Can you solve the cheating royal riddle? |

TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/dan\\_katz\\_can\\_you\\_solve\\_t](https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_katz_can_you_solve_the_cheating_royal_riddle)

[he\\_cheating\\_royal\\_riddle](https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_katz_can_you_solve_the_cheating_royal_riddle)

### 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

### eccentric

*adj.* weird or unusual, sometimes in a funny way

*synonym*: bizarre, abnormal, curious

(1) display **eccentric** behavior, (2) **eccentric** characters

He was **eccentric**, but he was also a genius.

### heir

*n.* a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies

*synonym*: successor, inheritor, beneficiary

(1) an imperial **heir**, (2) **heir** at law

She recognized me as her lawful **heir**.

### devise

*v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

*synonym*: create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

### dishonest

*adj.* capable of being corrupted, not honest

*synonym*: fraudulent, deceitful, untrustworthy

(1) **dishonest** politicians, (2) promote **dishonest** behavior

Often in drama, **dishonest** personalities gain popularity.

## instruct

v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

*synonym*: train, coach, guide

(1) **instruct** a student, (2) **instruct** a computer

The facility manager **instructed** the security guards to be on high alert.

## disqualify

v. to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something

*synonym*: disbar, invalidate, exclude

(1) **disqualify** a candidate, (2) **disqualify** from the election

The athlete's lousy behavior was enough to **disqualify** him from the competition.

## proclaim

v. to announce or state something publicly and forcefully

*synonym*: announce, declare, trumpet

(1) **proclaim** victory, (2) **proclaim** law

The leader **proclaimed** a state of emergency in the country.

## nonillion

n. a cardinal number represented by 1 followed by 30 zeros

(1) **nonillion** atoms, (2) **nonillion** stars

The **nonillionth** digit of pi is easier to calculate with advanced computing.

## hail

v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

*synonym*: greet, salute, welcome

(1) **hail** the victorious team with cheers, (2) **hail** forecast

People in the area were forced to **hail** a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. ec\_\_\_\_\_ic characters *adj.* weird or unusual, sometimes in a funny way
2. h\_\_l forecast *v.* to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky
3. pr\_\_\_\_\_im victory *v.* to announce or state something publicly and forcefully
4. de\_\_\_e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
5. in\_\_\_\_\_ct a student *v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
6. pr\_\_\_\_\_im law *v.* to announce or state something publicly and forcefully
7. h\_\_r at law *n.* a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies
8. no\_\_\_\_\_on atoms *n.* a cardinal number represented by 1 followed by 30 zeros
9. display ec\_\_\_\_\_ic behavior *adj.* weird or unusual, sometimes in a funny way

ANSWERS: 1. eccentric, 2. hail, 3. proclaim, 4. devise, 5. instruct, 6. proclaim, 7. heir, 8. nonillion, 9. eccentric

10. dis\_\_\_\_\_fy from the election      *v.* to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something
11. promote di\_\_\_\_\_st behavior      *adj.* capable of being corrupted, not honest
12. an imperial h\_\_r      *n.* a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies
13. dis\_\_\_\_\_fy a candidate      *v.* to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something
14. di\_\_\_\_\_st politicians      *adj.* capable of being corrupted, not honest
15. no\_\_\_\_\_on stars      *n.* a cardinal number represented by 1 followed by 30 zeros
16. h\_\_l the victorious team with cheers      *v.* to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky
17. in\_\_\_\_\_ct a computer      *v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
18. de\_\_\_e a plan      *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

ANSWERS: 10. disqualify, 11. dishonest, 12. heir, 13. disqualify, 14. dishonest, 15. nonillion, 16. hail, 17. instruct, 18. devise

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The athlete's lousy behavior was enough to \_\_\_\_\_ him from the competition.
  - v. to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something
  
2. The facility manager \_\_\_\_\_ the security guards to be on high alert.
  - v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
  
3. They had to \_\_\_\_\_ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
  - v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
  
4. Often in drama, \_\_\_\_\_ personalities gain popularity.
  - adj. capable of being corrupted, not honest
  
5. She recognized me as her lawful \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n. a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies
  
6. People in the area were forced to \_\_\_\_\_ a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.
  - v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky
  
7. He was \_\_\_\_\_ but he was also a genius.
  - adj. weird or unusual, sometimes in a funny way

ANSWERS: 1. disqualify, 2. instructed, 3. devise, 4. dishonest, 5. heir, 6. hail, 7. eccentric,

8. The \_\_\_\_\_ digit of pi is easier to calculate with advanced computing.  
*n.* a cardinal number represented by 1 followed by 30 zeros
9. The leader \_\_\_\_\_ a state of emergency in the country.  
*v.* to announce or state something publicly and forcefully

ANSWERS: 8. nonillionth, 9. proclaimed