# **Englist.me**

### Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy: How film transforms the way we see the world | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/sharmeen\_obaid\_chinoy\_how\_film\_transforms\_the\_way\_we\_see\_the\_world



### **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**

#### storytelling

- n. the act or art of narrating or writing storiessynonym: narrating, relating, recounting
- (1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling** She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

#### troublemaker

 a person who intentionally causes difficulties or problems for others, often by disruptive or provocative behavior; a person who tends to create or attract trouble or controversy

synonym: troublemonger, instigator, agitator

(1) **troublemaker** kid, (2) accused **troublemaker**The teacher had to reprimand the **troublemaker** in class constantly.

#### undercover

- adj. carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognitosynonym: covert, hidden, stealthy
- (1) **undercover** operation, (2) **undercover** journalist The **undercover** police officer was able to gather crucial evidence without being detected.

#### sham

 something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym: bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham** The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

#### unspeakable

adj. too terrible, shocking, or distressing to speak about synonym: unspeakably horrible, indescribable, unutterable

(1) **unspeakable** crime, (2) **unspeakable** pain
The survivors of the plane crash could only describe the **unspeakable** horror of the experience.

### profanity

 a speech or behavior that expresses of lack of respect for God or holy things

synonym: cuss, expletive, crudeness

(1) give a profanity, (2) shout profanityWe do not tolerate any profanity or abusive language.

#### whitewash

 a substance made of lime and water used to cover walls or fences; a deliberate attempt to conceal or gloss over unpleasant or controversial facts or events

synonym: cover-up, mask, camouflage

(1) **whitewash** paint, (2) academic **whitewash**The politician was accused of attempting to **whitewash** his involvement in the controversial project.

jolt

 to move or cause to move with a sudden jerky motion; to disturb someone's composure); (noun) a sudden, sharp movement or shock

synonym: shock, jar, bump

(1) **jolt** entire social systems, (2) **jolt** of excitement The news of the unexpected announcement **jolted** the stock market.

#### filmmaker

n. a person who makes films, typically as a professionsynonym: director, producer, cinematographer

(1) non-fiction **filmmaker**, (2) a successful **filmmaker** The renowned **filmmaker** won several awards for his latest film.

#### elicit

to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty

synonym: bring out, obtain, evoke

(1) elicit a confession, (2) elicit a solution Have you **elicited** a response from them yet?

### empathy

the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients **Empathy** is also necessary to understand history.

#### barometer

an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure and is used to predict changes in weather; a measure of the prevailing conditions or trends within a particular situation or environment

synonym: indicator, gauge, measure

- (1) economic barometer, (2) air pressure barometer The number of patients in the hospital is a useful barometer of regional health trends.
- a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay

synonym: joke, quip, wordplay

(1) witty pun, (2) silly pun

The comedian's **pun** had the audience laughing out loud.

to break the law or moral code; to go beyond or exceed the limits or boundaries of something

*synonym*: trespass, violate, infringe

(1) transgress boundaries, (2) transgress against the rules The company was fined for transgressing environmental

pun

#### regulations.

#### illicit

adj. forbidden by law, rules, or custom; not approved of or socially acceptable

synonym: illegal, unlawful, prohibited

(1) illicit drugs, (2) illicit trade

He was arrested for his illicit activities in the black market.

#### miraculous

adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected synonym: amazing, astonishing, awesome

(1) a **miraculous** encounter, (2) go through a **miraculous** change

He made a **miraculous** recovery.

#### determinant

 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.

### loophole

 a gap or weakness in a legal or bureaucratic system that allows for the exploitation of unintended benefits or avoids penalties

synonym: loophole, escape clause, technicality

(1) legal **loophole**, (2) finding a **loophole** 

A **loophole** in the tax code allows some people to avoid paying taxes legally.

#### perpetrator

a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act,
 particularly one that involves violence or deception

synonym: culprit, wrongdoer, offender

(1) perpetrator identity, (2) culprit perpetrator

The police have not yet caught the **perpetrator** of the crime.

#### ostracize

v. to exclude someone from a group or society by general consent; to avoid speaking to or dealing with intentionally

synonym: exclude, shun, isolate

(1) **ostracize** individual, (2) **ostracize** group

His peers **ostracized** him for his controversial beliefs.

#### shun

 to avoid deliberately or keep away from someone or something

synonym: avoid, evade, steer clear of

(1) **shun** a person, (2) **shun** office politics

He **shunned** going to the party and decided to stay home instead.

### transgression

- n. the violation of a law, duty, or moral principlesynonym: misdeed, crime, wrongdoing
- (1) inexcusable **transgression**, (2) commit a **transgression**Reporters questioned the politician about his past **transgression**.

#### devastate

- v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage synonym: demolish, destroy, crush
- (1) **devastate** an area, (2) **devastate** the economy Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which **devastate** coastal areas.

### hindsight

 understanding or knowledge that comes after an event has occurred; the ability to perceive or understand events with greater clarity or accuracy in retrospect

*synonym*: retrospect, afterthought

(1) **hindsight** bias, (2) 20/20 **hindsight**With **hindsight**, we can see that investing in that company was a mistake.

#### nominate

v. to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor

synonym: appoint, designate, elect

(1) **nominate** him for an award, (2) **nominate** government representatives

The organization **nominated** her to be the next president.

#### congratulation

n. the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another

synonym: praise, compliment, felicitation

(1) **congratulation** on a promotion, (2) a matter for **congratulation** 

The **congratulations** from her friends and family were overwhelming after she won the championship.

#### reverb

an audio effect that produces a sound that is reflected off surfaces in an enclosed space, creating a sense of space or ambiance; the natural echoing or reverberation of sound in a large or open space

synonym: echo, sound reflection

(1) reverb effect, (2) reverb chamber

The singer's voice had a natural **reverb** that sounded beautiful in the acoustically-designed church.

### pundit

 an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue

synonym: expert, commentator, punditry

(1) conservative **pundit**, (2) sports **pundit** 

The political **pundit** provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.

#### onstage

adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

(1) appeared **onstage**, (2) walk **onstage** 

He performed his magic trick **onstage**, leaving the audience in awe.

### fray

v. to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy

way; to fight or engage in conflict

synonym: tangle, brawl, skirmish

(1) fray tempers, (2) fray our relationship

The edges of the old blanket had started to **fray**, so I decided to sew them up.

#### heartland

n. a region or area that is considered central or vital to a particular country, culture, or social or economic system, often characterized by a sense of national identity or pride and a strong attachment to tradition or values associated with that region

synonym: central area

industrial heartland, (2) American heartland
 grew up surrounded by cornfields and farms in the country's heartland.

#### mold

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

synonym: cavity, cast, mildew

a casting mold,
 mold allergy
 mold are fungi.

### 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.

#### segregate

v. to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic

synonym: isolate, separate, divide

(1) **segregate** by race, (2) **segregate** boys and girls The school board decided to **segregate** students by the ability to meet their needs better.

#### embarrass

- v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate
- (1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

#### worldview

- a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
- *synonym*: perspective, position, viewpoint
- (1) mainstream **worldview**, (2) the **worldview** of the ancient civilization

The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing **worldviews**.

#### blowback

 an unintended negative consequence or repercussion that arises from a particular action, decision, or policy, often used in the context of politics, international relations, or military affairs

synonym: repercussion, consequence, backlash

(1) **blowback** effect, (2) **blowback** from policies

The decision to invade the country resulted in significant **blowback** from the international community.

### resigned

- adj. having accepted something unpleasant or difficult, particularly a job or situation, without complaint or resistance; accepting one's fate or circumstances
- synonym: submissive, acquiescent, passive
- (1) with a **resigned** voice, (2) **resigned** to their fate
  She had a **resigned** look on her face when she realized that she had lost the race.

### repercussion

- n. an effect or consequence of something, especially an unwelcome one, of an event or action
- synonym: impact, consequence, outcome
- (1) the **repercussion** of an action, (2) cultural **repercussion** The decision had far-reaching **repercussions** and affected many people.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

1.	trass against the rules	<i>v</i> .	to break the law or moral code; to go beyond or exceed the limits or boundaries of something
2.	20/20 hiht	n.	understanding or knowledge that comes after an event has occurred; the ability to perceive or understand events with greater clarity or accuracy in retrospect
3.	sn office politics	v.	to avoid deliberately or keep away from someone or something
4.	note government representatives	v.	to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
5.	a matter for conion	n.	the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another
6.	emy for patients	n.	the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
7.	shout prty	n.	a speech or behavior that expresses of lack of respect for God or holy things
8.	non-fiction fier	n.	a person who makes films, typically as a profession
9.	academic whsh	n.	a substance made of lime and water used to cover walls or fences; a deliberate attempt to conceal or gloss over unpleasant or controversial facts o events

ANSWERS: 1. transgress, 2. hindsight, 3. shun, 4. nominate, 5. congratulation, 6. empathy, 7. profanity, 8. filmmaker, 9. whitewash

ANSWERS: 10. opportune, 11. undercover, 12. whitewash, 13. barometer, 14. determinant, 15. troublemaker, 16. unspeakable, 17. onstage

ANSWERS: 18. repercussion, 19. sham, 20. undercover, 21. storytelling, 22. jolt, 23. pundit, 24. heartland, 25. heartland

26. a casting md	n.	a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
27. finding a lole	n.	a gap or weakness in a legal or bureaucratic system that allows for the exploitation of unintended benefits or avoids penalties
28. fy our relationship	v.	to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage in conflict
29. culprit peror	n.	a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
30. mainstream woew	n.	a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
31. a sm battle	n.	something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
32. dete the economy	ν.	to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
33. osze group	v.	to exclude someone from a group or society by general consent; to avoid speaking to or dealing with intentionally

ANSWERS: 26. mold, 27. loophole, 28. fray, 29. perpetrator, 30. worldview, 31. sham, 32. devastate, 33. ostracize

ANSWERS: 34. unspeakable, 35. worldview, 36. empathy, 37. storytelling, 38. pun, 39. hindsight, 40. loophole, 41. illicit, 42. transgression, 43. segregate

often based on race, gender, or some

other characteristic

ANSWERS: 44. transgression, 45. reverb, 46. transgress, 47. profanity, 48. shun, 49. devastate, 50. opportune, 51. elicit, 52. jolt, 53. miraculous, 54. barometer

environment

adj. forbidden by law, rules, or custom; not 55. il t trade approved of or socially acceptable 56. silly p n a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay an expert, authority, or knowledgeable 57. conservative pu t n. commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue 58. per\_\_\_\_or identity a person who carries out a harmful or n. illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception 59. con ion on a promotion the act of expressing that someone has n. an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another 60. em ss political enemy to cause someone to feel awkward, ν. worried, or ashamed 61. no te him for an award to propose someone for a position, ν. especially in politics or an organization, or some honor 62. os\_\_\_\_ze individual to exclude someone from a group or ν. society by general consent; to avoid speaking to or dealing with intentionally a hollow container used to give shape 63. m d allergy n. to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

ANSWERS: 55. illicit, 56. pun, 57. pundit, 58. perpetrator, 59. congratulation, 60. embarrass, 61. nominate, 62. ostracize, 63. mold

ANSWERS: 64. onstage, 65. reverb, 66. filmmaker, 67. determinant, 68. repercussion, 69. blowback, 70. embarrass, 71. troublemaker, 72. resigned

adj. having accepted something unpleasant 73. re ed to their fate or difficult, particularly a job or situation, without complaint or resistance; accepting one's fate or circumstances 74. se\_\_\_\_te by race to separate or set apart from others, ν. often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic 75. bl\_\_\_\_ck from policies an unintended negative consequence or repercussion that arises from a particular action, decision, or policy, often used in the context of politics, international relations, or military affairs adj. very effective or lucky, or completely 76. go through a mir us change unexpected 77. el\_\_\_t a confession to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty 78. f\_\_y tempers to become worn or damaged at the ν. edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy

ANSWERS: 73. resigned, 74. segregate, 75. blowback, 76. miraculous, 77. elicit, 78. fray

way; to fight or engage in conflict

## **Session 3: Fill in the Blanks**

1.	He was arrested for his activities in the black market.
adj	forbidden by law, rules, or custom; not approved of or socially acceptable
2.	Mushrooms and are fungi.
n.	a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
3.	The police have not yet caught the of the crime.
n.	a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
4.	The police officer was able to gather crucial evidence without being detected.
adj	carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito
5.	The company was fined for environmental regulations.
<i>v</i> .	to break the law or moral code; to go beyond or exceed the limits or boundaries of something
6.	The decision had far-reaching and affected many people.
n.	an effect or consequence of something, especially an unwelcome one, of an event or action
7.	The number of patients in the hospital is a useful of regional health trends.
n.	an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure and is used to predict changes in weather; a measure of the prevailing conditions or trends within a particular situation or environment

Page 18 / 23

ANSWERS: 1. illicit, 2. mold, 3. perpetrator, 4. undercover, 5. transgressing, 6.

repercussions, 7. barometer

|--|

39.	She had a	look or	n her	face	when	she	realized	that she	e had	lost t	he
	race.										

adj. having accepted something unpleasant or difficult, particularly a job or situation, without complaint or resistance; accepting one's fate or circumstances

ANSWERS: 39. resigned