

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Scott A. Mellor: How Thor got his hammer | TED Talk  
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### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### **mischief**

*n.* playful, minor actions or behavior intended to cause harm, trouble, or annoyance; mischievous behavior that is not intended to cause harm or damage

*synonym* : impishness, malice, prank

(1) playful **mischief**, (2) malicious **mischief**

The dog's **mischief** led to the destruction of the living room furniture.

### **writhe**

*v.* to twist and turn the body or a part of it, as from pain or struggle

*synonym* : contort, twist, convulse

(1) **writhe** in agony, (2) **writhe** with pleasure

The snake **writhe**d and twisted as it tried to escape the trap.

### **sneak**

*v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

*synonym* : creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

### **prank**

*n.* a playful or mischievous trick, practical joke, or act of mischief performed with the intention of amusing or surprising others

*synonym* :

hoax, trick, stunt

(1) **prank** caller, (2) harmless **prank**

The group of teenagers played an innocent **prank** on their teacher, but it backfired, and they got in trouble.

## matchless

*adj.* without equal; too good to be compared to anything else; unparalleled or unbeatable

*synonym*: unmatched, unparalleled, incomparable

(1) **matchless** quality, (2) a **matchless** experience

Her singing voice was **matchless** in its beauty and power.

## dwarf

*n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star

*synonym*: midget, lilliputian, pygmy

(1) a potted **dwarf** tree, (2) a wise old **dwarf**

The **dwarf** planet Pluto is much smaller than earth and orbits the sun.

## blacksmith

*n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil

(1) **blacksmith** welding, (2) **blacksmith** shop

The **blacksmith** shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.

## wily

*adj.* characterized by slyness, deviousness, or cunning; using trickery or stratagems to achieve one's goals

*synonym*: cunning, sly, crafty

(1) **wily** politician, (2) **wily** tactics

The **wily** fox was able to outsmart the hunters and escape unscathed.

## craftsman

*n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials

*synonym*: artisan, mechanic, workman

(1) **craftsman** skill, (2) a subtle **craftsman**

The adept **craftsman** carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.

## 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.

## forfeit

*v.* to lose or give up something as a penalty for wrongdoing; to renounce a right or privilege

*synonym*: surrender, relinquish, abandon

(1) **forfeit** your deposit, (2) **forfeit** a legal right

The defendant may have to **forfeit** his assets as part of his punishment.

## victorious

*adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.

*synonym*: triumphant, winning

(1) the **victorious** entry, (2) the **victorious** army

The **victorious** troops marched back to their homeland.

## bellows

*n.* a device consisting of a bag or chamber with flexible sides that is expanded and contracted to draw in air through a valve and then force it out through a tube; a device used to blow air into a fire to make it burn more intensely

*synonym*: blower, puffer, blaster

(1) **bellows** pump, (2) blow a **bellows**

The blacksmith's apprentice operated the **bellows** to maintain the forge's heat.

## sting

*v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical

action such as a bite or prick

*synonym* : bite, prick, poke

(1) **sting** me on the arm, (2) **sting** his face

Bees **sting** as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.

## flinch

*v.* to make a quick, nervous movement in response to pain, fear, or surprise; to draw back or wince involuntarily

*synonym* : shudder, recoil, wince

(1) **flinch** at the noise, (2) **flinch** from the truth

I couldn't help but **flinch** when the door slammed shut.

## eyelid

*n.* a thin fold of skin that covers and protects the human eye, which helps to keep the eye moist by spreading tears over the surface and prevents foreign objects from entering the eye

*synonym* : lid, palpebra, shield

(1) **eyelid** twitch, (2) drooping **eyelid**

Bright light can cause me to squint and strain my eyes, resulting in twitchy **eyelids**.

## reappear

*v.* to show up again or return after not being heard of or seen for a period of time

*synonym* : come again, repeat, re-emerge

(1) **reappear** on the surface, (2) **reappear** throughout this book

Cancer has **reappeared** at the same site.

## radiant

*adj.* emitting light or heat; shining brightly

*synonym* : shining, glowing, brilliant

(1) **radiant** smile, (2) **radiant** light

She looked **radiant** on her wedding day.

## spear

*n.* a weapon with a long shaft and a sharp metal point used for battle, hunting, and fishing in the past

*synonym* : javelin, pike, lance

(1) hunting **spear**, (2) sharp-pointed **spear**  
Ancient people made **spears** with wood entirely.

## pierce

*v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument  
*synonym*: jab, penetrate, stab

(1) **pierce** the armored shells, (2) **pierce** a mystery  
The extreme cold **pierced** our bones.

## unfold

*v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown  
*synonym*: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller  
The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

## bristle

*n.* a stiff, short hair on a mammal's skin or a natural or artificial brush; a stiff, sharp point on a plant such as a thorn or a prickle; (verb) to react defensively to something; to stand up stiffly and be rigid  
*synonym*: spike, prickle, hair

(1) **bristle** brush, (2) **bristle** with anger  
The dog's **bristle** on its back stood up as it growled at the mailman.

## boar

*n.* a wild pig, especially a male with tusks  
*synonym*: wild pig, sow, hog

(1) wild **boar**, (2) **boar's** head  
The hunter tracked the **boar** through the forest for a good shot.

## chariot

*n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing

(1) **chariot** builder, (2) **chariot** race  
The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating **chariot** races.

## smirk

v. to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner

*synonym* : grin, sneer, simper

(1) **smirk** confidently, (2) **smirk** after playing a prank  
He couldn't help but **smirk** when he heard her absurd excuse.

## rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

*synonym* : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

## shatter

v. to break suddenly into many pieces

*synonym* : break, crash, destroy

(1) **shatter** the plate, (2) **shatter** a world record

Her husband's death **shattered** her life entirely.

## begrudge

v. to feel resentment or ill-will towards someone because of their success, possessions, or achievements; to envy or covet something that belongs to someone else; to hesitate or be reluctant to give or allow something to someone

*synonym* : resent, envy

(1) **begrudge** him the opportunity to study abroad,

(2) **begrudge** spending money

I don't **begrudge** you for your success.

## sew

v. to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle

*synonym* : stitch, darn, tailor

(1) **sew** with thread, (2) **sew** a button

My mother taught me how to **sew**.

## trickster

*n.* a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology

*synonym*: swindler, cheat, deceiver

(1) **trickster** character, (2) cunning **trickster**

The con artist was known as a notorious **trickster** who scammed people out of their money.

## deceit

*n.* the act of deceiving or misleading someone, often for personal or selfish gain; a practice or behavior intended to mislead or misrepresent the truth

*synonym*: deception, dishonesty, trickery

(1) person of **deceit**, (2) web of **deceit**

The politician's **deceit** was exposed when leaked emails revealed he had accepted lobbyists' bribes.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. person of de\_\_\_t *n.* the act of deceiving or misleading someone, often for personal or selfish gain; a practice or behavior intended to mislead or misrepresent the truth
  
2. ey\_\_\_d twitch *n.* a thin fold of skin that covers and protects the human eye, which helps to keep the eye moist by spreading tears over the surface and prevents foreign objects from entering the eye
  
3. pr\_\_k caller *n.* a playful or mischievous trick, practical joke, or act of mischief performed with the intention of amusing or surprising others
  
4. r\_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
  
5. br\_\_\_\_e brush *n.* a stiff, short hair on a mammal's skin or a natural or artificial brush; a stiff, sharp point on a plant such as a thorn or a prickle; (verb) to react defensively to something; to stand up stiffly and be rigid
  
6. tr\_\_\_\_er character *n.* a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology

ANSWERS: 1. deceit, 2. eyelid, 3. prank, 4. rev, 5. bristle, 6. trickster



7. low-r\_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
8. un\_\_\_d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
9. the vic\_\_\_\_\_us entry *adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
10. st\_\_g me on the arm *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
11. the vic\_\_\_\_\_us army *adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
12. a ma\_\_\_\_\_ss experience *adj.* without equal; too good to be compared to anything else; unparalleled or unbeatable
13. wr\_\_\_e in agony *v.* to twist and turn the body or a part of it, as from pain or struggle
14. un\_\_\_d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
15. s\_w a button *v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle

ANSWERS: 7. rev, 8. unfold, 9. victorious, 10. sting, 11. victorious, 12. matchless, 13. writhe, 14. unfold, 15. sew

16. pi\_\_\_e a mystery      *v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
17. sh\_\_\_\_r a world record      *v.* to break suddenly into many pieces
18. fo\_\_\_\_t your deposit      *v.* to lose or give up something as a penalty for wrongdoing; to renounce a right or privilege
19. fo\_\_\_\_t a legal right      *v.* to lose or give up something as a penalty for wrongdoing; to renounce a right or privilege
20. cunning tr\_\_\_\_er      *n.* a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology
21. a det\_\_\_\_nt of crop yields      *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
22. bla\_\_\_\_th welding      *n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
23. a subtle cr\_\_\_\_an      *n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
24. w\_\_y politician      *adj.* characterized by slyness, deviousness, or cunning; using trickery or stratagems to achieve one's goals
25. ra\_\_\_\_t light      *adj.* emitting light or heat; shining brightly
26. ma\_\_\_\_ss quality      *adj.* without equal; too good to be compared to anything else; unparalleled or unbeatable

ANSWERS: 16. pierce, 17. shatter, 18. forfeit, 19. forfeit, 20. trickster, 21. determinant, 22. blacksmith, 23. craftsman, 24. wily, 25. radiant, 26. matchless

27. pi\_\_\_e the armored shells      *v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
28. ch\_\_\_\_\_t builder      *n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
29. sh\_\_\_\_\_r the plate      *v.* to break suddenly into many pieces
30. sharp-pointed sp\_\_r      *n.* a weapon with a long shaft and a sharp metal point used for battle, hunting, and fishing in the past
31. re\_\_\_\_\_ar throughout this book      *v.* to show up again or return after not being heard of or seen for a period of time
32. sn\_\_k a cigarette      *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
33. wild b\_\_r      *n.* a wild pig, especially a male with tusks
34. playful mi\_\_\_\_\_ef      *n.* playful, minor actions or behavior intended to cause harm, trouble, or annoyance; mischievous behavior that is not intended to cause harm or damage
35. harmless pr\_\_k      *n.* a playful or mischievous trick, practical joke, or act of mischief performed with the intention of amusing or surprising others
36. bla\_\_\_\_\_th shop      *n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil

ANSWERS: 27. pierce, 28. chariot, 29. shatter, 30. spear, 31. reappear, 32. sneak, 33. boar, 34. mischief, 35. prank, 36. blacksmith



43. malicious mi\_\_\_\_ef *n.* playful, minor actions or behavior intended to cause harm, trouble, or annoyance; mischievous behavior that is not intended to cause harm or damage
44. ra\_\_\_\_t smile *adj.* emitting light or heat; shining brightly
45. re\_\_\_\_ar on the surface *v.* to show up again or return after not being heard of or seen for a period of time
46. hunting sp\_\_r *n.* a weapon with a long shaft and a sharp metal point used for battle, hunting, and fishing in the past
47. environmental det\_\_\_\_nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
48. b\_\_r's head *n.* a wild pig, especially a male with tusks
49. sn\_\_k out of danger *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
50. a potted dw\_\_f tree *n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star
51. fl\_\_\_\_h at the noise *v.* to make a quick, nervous movement in response to pain, fear, or surprise; to draw back or wince involuntarily
52. be\_\_\_\_ge spending money *v.* to feel resentment or ill-will towards someone because of their success, possessions, or achievements; to envy or covet something that belongs to someone else; to hesitate or be reluctant to give or allow something to someone

ANSWERS: 43. mischief, 44. radiant, 45. reappear, 46. spear, 47. determinant, 48.

boar, 49. sneak, 50. dwarf, 51. flinch, 52. begrudge

53. sm\_\_k after playing a prank      *v.* to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner
54. s\_w with thread      *v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle
55. w\_\_y tactics      *adj.* characterized by slyness, deviousness, or cunning; using trickery or stratagems to achieve one's goals
56. drooping ey\_\_\_d      *n.* a thin fold of skin that covers and protects the human eye, which helps to keep the eye moist by spreading tears over the surface and prevents foreign objects from entering the eye
57. fl\_\_\_h from the truth      *v.* to make a quick, nervous movement in response to pain, fear, or surprise; to draw back or wince involuntarily
58. br\_\_\_\_\_e with anger      *n.* a stiff, short hair on a mammal's skin or a natural or artificial brush; a stiff, sharp point on a plant such as a thorn or a prickle; (*v.*) to react defensively to something; to stand up stiffly and be rigid
59. st\_\_g his face      *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
60. sm\_\_k confidently      *v.* to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner

ANSWERS: 53. smirk, 54. sew, 55. wily, 56. eyelid, 57. flinch, 58. bristle, 59. sting, 60. smirk

61. wr\_\_\_e with pleasure

*v.* to twist and turn the body or a part of it, as from pain or struggle

62. ch\_\_\_\_t race

*n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing

ANSWERS: 61. writhe, 62. chariot



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Her singing voice was \_\_\_\_\_ in its beauty and power.  
*adj.* without equal; too good to be compared to anything else; unparalleled or unbeatable
2. She looked \_\_\_\_\_ on her wedding day.  
*adj.* emitting light or heat; shining brightly
3. The group of teenagers played an innocent \_\_\_\_\_ on their teacher, but it backfired, and they got in trouble.  
*n.* a playful or mischievous trick, practical joke, or act of mischief performed with the intention of amusing or surprising others
4. Bright light can cause me to squint and strain my eyes, resulting in twitchy \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a thin fold of skin that covers and protects the human eye, which helps to keep the eye moist by spreading tears over the surface and prevents foreign objects from entering the eye
5. The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating \_\_\_\_\_ races.  
*n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
6. The dog's \_\_\_\_\_ on its back stood up as it growled at the mailman.  
*n.* a stiff, short hair on a mammal's skin or a natural or artificial brush; a stiff, sharp point on a plant such as a thorn or a prickle; (verb) to react defensively to something; to stand up stiffly and be rigid
7. The politician's \_\_\_\_\_ was exposed when leaked emails revealed he had accepted lobbyists' bribes.  
*n.* the act of deceiving or misleading someone, often for personal or selfish gain; a practice or behavior intended to mislead or misrepresent the truth

ANSWERS: 1. matchless, 2. radiant, 3. prank, 4. eyelids, 5. chariot, 6. bristle, 7. deceit

8. 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
9. The defendant may have to \_\_\_\_\_ his assets as part of his punishment.
- v.* to lose or give up something as a penalty for wrongdoing; to renounce a right or privilege
10. I couldn't help but \_\_\_\_\_ when the door slammed shut.
- v.* to make a quick, nervous movement in response to pain, fear, or surprise; to draw back or wince involuntarily
11. Cancer has \_\_\_\_\_ at the same site.
- v.* to show up again or return after not being heard of or seen for a period of time
12. The blacksmith's apprentice operated the \_\_\_\_\_ to maintain the forge's heat.
- n.* a device consisting of a bag or chamber with flexible sides that is expanded and contracted to draw in air through a valve and then force it out through a tube; a device used to blow air into a fire to make it burn more intensely
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ planet Pluto is much smaller than earth and orbits the sun.
- n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ fox was able to outsmart the hunters and escape unscathed.
- adj.* characterized by slyness, deviousness, or cunning; using trickery or stratagems to achieve one's goals
15. Her husband's death \_\_\_\_\_ her life entirely.
- v.* to break suddenly into many pieces

ANSWERS: 8. determinant, 9. forfeit, 10. flinch, 11. reappeared, 12. bellows, 13. dwarf, 14. wily, 15. shattered

16. The snake \_\_\_\_\_ and twisted as it tried to escape the trap.
- v. to twist and turn the body or a part of it, as from pain or struggle
17. Bees \_\_\_\_\_ as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.
- v. to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
18. The children tried to \_\_\_\_\_ out and eat the candy.
- v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ troops marched back to their homeland.
- adj. being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
20. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud \_\_\_\_.
- n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
21. The dog's \_\_\_\_\_ led to the destruction of the living room furniture.
- n. playful, minor actions or behavior intended to cause harm, trouble, or annoyance; mischievous behavior that is not intended to cause harm or damage
22. Ancient people made \_\_\_\_\_ with wood entirely.
- n. a weapon with a long shaft and a sharp metal point used for battle, hunting, and fishing in the past
23. I don't \_\_\_\_\_ you for your success.
- v. to feel resentment or ill-will towards someone because of their success, possessions, or achievements; to envy or covet something that belongs to someone else; to hesitate or be reluctant to give or allow something to someone

ANSWERS: 16. writhed, 17. sting, 18. sneak, 19. victorious, 20. rev, 21. mischief, 22. spears, 23. begrudge

24. The con artist was known as a notorious \_\_\_\_\_ who scammed people out of their money.
- n.* a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology
25. The extreme cold \_\_\_\_\_ our bones.
- v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
26. He couldn't help but \_\_\_\_\_ when he heard her absurd excuse.
- v.* to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner
27. The \_\_\_\_\_ shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.
- n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
28. The mystery \_\_\_\_\_ as the detectives gathered more clues.
- v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
29. My mother taught me how to \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle
30. The adept \_\_\_\_\_ carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.
- n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
31. The hunter tracked the \_\_\_\_\_ through the forest for a good shot.
- n.* a wild pig, especially a male with tusks

ANSWERS: 24. trickster, 25. pierced, 26. smirk, 27. blacksmith, 28. unfolded, 29. sew, 30. craftsman, 31. boar

ANSWERS: