

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Keith Lowe: Why we need to stop obsessing over World War II | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/keith\\_lowe\\_why\\_we\\_need\\_to\\_stop\\_obsessing\\_over\\_world\\_war\\_ii](https://www.ted.com/talks/keith_lowe_why_we_need_to_stop_obsessing_over_world_war_ii)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### obsess

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

*synonym*: torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

### devote

v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

*synonym*: commit, dedicate, apply

(1) **devote** all of my energies, (2) **devote** my own life

He **devoted** himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.

### commemorate

v. to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute

*synonym*: honor, remember, celebrate

(1) **commemorate** her long life, (2) **commemorate** a deed

The country **commemorated** the war heroes on Memorial Day.

### chancellor

n. a senior official or administrator, particularly in a university or government; the person who is the head of

the government in some European countries, such as Germany

*synonym* : official, administrator, head

(1) **Chancellor** of the Exchequer, (2) associate **chancellor**  
The **chancellor** of the university made an important announcement regarding the budget.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym* : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## disturb

*v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.

*synonym* : agitate, bother, intrude

(1) **disturb** the peace, (2) **disturb** his sleep

Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.

## distrust

*n.* a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something

*synonym* : suspicion, doubt, misgiving

(1) **distrust** in politics, (2) growing **distrust**

The employee's consistent tardiness and lack of accountability made her coworkers develop **distrust** in her abilities.

## diplomat

*n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

*synonym* : envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**

The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

## blitz

*n.* a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action

*synonym*: onslaught, assault, attack

(1) marketing **blitz**, (2) snowstorm **blitz**

The football team used the **blitz** strategy to overwhelm their opponents quickly.

## liberate

*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

*synonym*: emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential

The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

## retiring

*adj.* withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved

*synonym*: shy, leaving, quitting

(1) near **retiring** age, (2) a **retiring** pension

The **retiring** CEO passed on the reins to his successor.

## inscription

*n.* a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal

*synonym*: engraving, writing, script

(1) **inscription** on a plaque, (2) funerary **inscriptions**

The ancient coin had an **inscription** in Latin and a picture of the emperor on the other side.

## dedicate

*v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

*synonym*: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

## carve

*v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

*synonym*: sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

## germ

*n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

*synonym*: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

## lynch

*v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance

*synonym*: hang, execute, mob

(1) **lynch** law, (2) **lynch** him to death

The mob wanted to **lynch** the suspect before he could be tried in court.

## pretension

*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

*synonym*: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

## heroism

*n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause

*synonym*: bravery, valor, courage

(1) acts of **heroism**, (2) military **heroism**

The firefighter showed true **heroism** when he rescued the family from the burning building.

## dramatize

v. to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play

*synonym*: exaggerate, sensationalize, theatricalize

(1) **dramatize** the dialogue, (2) **dramatize** the event

The media tends to **dramatize** news stories to attract more viewers.

## selfless

adj. concerned more with the needs and desires of others than with one's own; unselfish; altruistic

*synonym*: unselfish, altruistic, generous

(1) **selfless** act, (2) **selfless** devotion

Her **selfless** dedication to the community earned her a prestigious award.

## atrocious

n. brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act

*synonym*: evil, horror, iniquity

(1) commit **atrocious**, (2) cold-blooded **atrocious**

The **atrocious** of the war left many children orphaned.

## accuse

v. to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing

*synonym*: charge, blame, criticize

(1) **accuse** his rudeness, (2) **accuse** each other

The witness **accused** the defendant of committing the robbery.

## austerity

n. the state or condition of being stern, rigid, or uncompromising, or being simple or plain; an economic policy or measure that seeks to reduce government spending and debt

*synonym*: frugality, nonindulgence, rigor

(1) impose **austerity**, (2) economic **austerity**

The government's **austerity** measures have resulted in widespread protests and discontent.

## portray

v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

*synonym*: depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

## salute

v. to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way

*synonym*: greet, acknowledge, acclaim

(1) **salute** to the flag, (2) **salute** him in military fashion

The soldiers stood at attention to **salute** their commanding officer.

## photoshop

v. to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools

*synonym*: edit, retouch, manipulate

(1) **photoshop** a picture, (2) **photoshop** the background of the image

The photographer **photoshopped** the image to enhance the lighting and contrast.

## motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

*synonym*: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

## provoke

v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect

*synonym*: stimulate, incite, encourage

(1) **provoke** a disease, (2) **provoke** a reaction  
Her behavior **provoked** a quarrel between the couple.

**resurrect**

v. to bring back to life or bring into existence again  
*synonym*: revive, bring back, bring to life

(1) **resurrect** the dead, (2) **resurrect** an argument  
They tried to **resurrect** the ancient tradition.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. impose au_____ty               | <i>n.</i> the state or condition of being stern, rigid, or uncompromising, or being simple or plain; an economic policy or measure that seeks to reduce government spending and debt |
| 2. ca__e my name on the plate     | <i>v.</i> to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply  |
| 3. acts of he_____m               | <i>n.</i> great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause  |
| 4. sa___e to the flag             | <i>v.</i> to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way |
| 5. se_____ss devotion             | <i>adj.</i> concerned more with the needs and desires of others than with one's own; unselfish; altruistic   |
| 6. de_____te a few hours          | <i>v.</i> to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use                                    |
| 7. sa___e him in military fashion | <i>v.</i> to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way |

ANSWERS: 1. austerity, 2. carve, 3. heroism, 4. salute, 5. selfless, 6. dedicate, 7. salute



8. military he\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause
9. ac\_\_\_e each other *v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
10. commit at\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
11. dr\_\_\_\_\_ze the dialogue *v.* to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play
12. se\_\_\_\_\_ss act *adj.* concerned more with the needs and desires of others than with one's own; unselfish; altruistic
13. baseless pre\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
14. allied di\_\_\_\_\_at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
15. company mo\_\_\_o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
16. funerary ins\_\_\_\_\_ons *n.* a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal

ANSWERS: 8. heroism, 9. accuse, 10. atrocity, 11. dramatize, 12. selfless, 13. pretension, 14. diplomat, 15. motto, 16. inscription

17. growing di\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something
18. Cha\_\_\_\_\_or of the Exchequer *n.* a senior official or administrator, particularly in a university or government; the person who is the head of the government in some European countries, such as Germany
19. ly\_\_h him to death *v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
20. di\_\_\_\_\_st in politics *n.* a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something
21. associate cha\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* a senior official or administrator, particularly in a university or government; the person who is the head of the government in some European countries, such as Germany
22. a g\_\_m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
23. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
24. pr\_\_\_\_\_e a reaction *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect

ANSWERS: 17. distrust, 18. chancellor, 19. lynch, 20. distrust, 21. chancellor, 22. germ, 23. industrious, 24. provoke

25. he is ob\_\_\_sed with the fear v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
26. po\_\_\_\_y feelings in words v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
27. re\_\_\_\_\_ct an argument v. to bring back to life or bring into existence again
28. li\_\_\_\_\_te potential v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
29. com\_\_\_\_\_te her long life v. to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
30. snowstorm bl\_\_z n. a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action
31. de\_\_\_\_\_te a chapter to the subject v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
32. di\_\_\_\_\_b the peace v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
33. accurately po\_\_\_\_y the condition v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
34. near re\_\_\_\_\_ng age *adj.* withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
35. li\_\_\_\_\_te people from oppression v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

ANSWERS: 25. obsess, 26. portray, 27. resurrect, 28. liberate, 29. commemorate, 30. blitz, 31. dedicate, 32. disturb, 33. portray, 34. retiring, 35. liberate

36. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
37. ly\_\_h law *v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
38. ins\_\_\_\_\_on on a plaque *n.* a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal
39. di\_\_\_\_\_b his sleep *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
40. ob\_\_\_s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
41. expel a di\_\_\_\_\_at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
42. com\_\_\_\_\_te a deed *v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
43. de\_\_\_e all of my energies *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
44. marketing bl\_\_\_z *n.* a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action

ANSWERS: 36. industrious, 37. lynch, 38. inscription, 39. disturb, 40. obsess, 41. diplomat, 42. commemorate, 43. devote, 44. blitz

45. re\_\_\_\_\_ct the dead      *v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
46. antibiotic-resistant g\_\_m      *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
47. economic au\_\_\_\_\_ty      *n.* the state or condition of being stern, rigid, or uncompromising, or being simple or plain; an economic policy or measure that seeks to reduce government spending and debt
48. cold-blooded at\_\_\_\_\_ty      *n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
49. a re\_\_\_\_\_ng pension      *adj.* withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
50. pr\_\_\_\_\_e a disease      *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
51. ca\_\_e a statue      *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
52. ph\_\_\_\_\_op a picture      *v.* to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools
53. dr\_\_\_\_\_ze the event      *v.* to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play
54. pre\_\_\_\_\_on to authority      *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 45. resurrect, 46. germ, 47. austerity, 48. atrocity, 49. retiring, 50. provoke, 51. carve, 52. photoshop, 53. dramatize, 54. pretension

55. de\_\_\_e my own life                      *v.*    to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
56. the mo\_\_o for safe traffic              *n.*    a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
57. ac\_\_\_e his rudeness                    *v.*    to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
58. ph\_\_\_\_\_op the background of the image                      *v.*    to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools

ANSWERS: 55. devote, 56. motto, 57. accuse, 58. photoshop

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The employee's consistent tardiness and lack of accountability made her coworkers develop \_\_\_\_\_ in her abilities.
  - n.* a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something
2. They tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the ancient tradition.
  - v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
3. The mob wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ the suspect before he could be tried in court.
  - v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
4. The company's \_\_\_\_\_ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
  - n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ his life to helping others.
  - v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
6. Her behavior \_\_\_\_\_ a quarrel between the couple.
  - v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the war left many children orphaned.
  - n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act

ANSWERS: 1. distrust, 2. resurrect, 3. lynch, 4. motto, 5. dedicated, 6. provoked, 7. atrocity

8. The country \_\_\_\_\_ the war heroes on Memorial Day.  
*v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
9. Her \_\_\_\_\_ dedication to the community earned her a prestigious award.  
*adj.* concerned more with the needs and desires of others than with one's own; unselfish; altruistic
10. The football team used the \_\_\_\_\_ strategy to overwhelm their opponents quickly.  
*n.* a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ CEO passed on the reins to his successor.  
*adj.* withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
12. He \_\_\_\_\_ himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.  
*v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
13. The witness \_\_\_\_\_ the defendant of committing the robbery.  
*v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
14. The firefighter showed true \_\_\_\_\_ when he rescued the family from the burning building.  
*n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause
15. The government's \_\_\_\_\_ measures have resulted in widespread protests and discontent.  
*n.* the state or condition of being stern, rigid, or uncompromising, or being simple or plain; an economic policy or measure that seeks to reduce government spending and debt

ANSWERS: 8. commemorated, 9. selfless, 10. blitz, 11. retiring, 12. devoted, 13. accused, 14. heroism, 15. austerity



16. The media tends to \_\_\_\_\_ news stories to attract more viewers.  
*v.* to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play
17. This statue is \_\_\_\_\_ from a single tree trunk.  
*v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
18. The prisoners were \_\_\_\_\_ after the war ended.  
*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the university made an important announcement regarding the budget.  
*n.* a senior official or administrator, particularly in a university or government; the person who is the head of the government in some European countries, such as Germany
20. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
21. His \_\_\_\_\_ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.  
*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
22. Tourists frequently \_\_\_\_\_ the island's delicate natural balance.  
*v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
23. He's utterly \_\_\_\_\_ with his promotion.  
*v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

ANSWERS: 16. dramatize, 17. carved, 18. liberated, 19. chancellor, 20. industrious, 21. pretensions, 22. disturb, 23. obsessed

24. The soldiers stood at attention to \_\_\_\_\_ their commanding officer.
- v. to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way
25. The ancient coin had an \_\_\_\_\_ in Latin and a picture of the emperor on the other side.
- n. a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal
26. The senior \_\_\_\_\_ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.
- n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
27. The \_\_\_\_\_ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
- n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
28. We often \_\_\_\_\_ political problems as religious issues.
- v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
29. The photographer \_\_\_\_\_ the image to enhance the lighting and contrast.
- v. to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools

ANSWERS: 24. salute, 25. inscription, 26. diplomat, 27. germ, 28. portray, 29. photoshopped