

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Nora Brown: "East Virginia" "John Brown's Dream" |  
TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/nora\\_brown\\_east\\_virginia\\_john\\_brown\\_s\\_dream](https://www.ted.com/talks/nora_brown_east_virginia_john_brown_s_dream)

### All Words

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### banjo

*n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound

(1) famous **banjo** player, (2) **banjo** music

The musician played the five-string **banjo** as part of his folk ensemble.

### singe

*v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

*synonym*: sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric

I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

### maid

*n.* a girl or young woman employed to do domestic work

*synonym*: servant, housekeeper, domestic

(1) **maid** service, (2) a waiting **maid**

The live-in **maid** came in to clean the room every day.

### rough

*adj.* not quite exact or correct; having or caused by an irregular surface

*synonym*: inelegant, coarse, barbarian

(1) **rough** and tough, (2) **rough** estimation

The vehicle bounced along the **rough** mountain road.

## rocky

*adj.* full of or abounding in rocks; of, relating to, or made of rock

*synonym* : stony, boulder-strewn, rough

(1) **rocky** terrain, (2) **rocky** relationship

The **rocky** road made it difficult to drive on.

## darling

*n.* a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear

*synonym* : sweetheart, beloved, dear

(1) have a **darling** baby, (2) medium **darling**

My **darling** child, I love you so much.

## asleep

*adj.* in a state of sleep

*synonym* : sleeping, fallen, at rest

(1) **asleep** at the wheel, (2) dead **asleep**

He lay down and fell **asleep** immediately.

## curl

*v.* to form or make something form into a curved or spiral shape; (noun) a round shape formed by a series of concentric circles

*synonym* : coil, curve, spiral

(1) **curl** around street corners, (2) a **curl** of smoke

The cat **curled** into a ball and went to sleep.

## cheek

*n.* either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw

*synonym* : jaw, mandible, malar

(1) **cheek** bone, (2) hollowed-out **cheek**

He gently touched her apple-red **cheek** and whispered that he loved her.

## chestnut

*n.* a tree or its nut, with a smooth brown shell and a sweet edible kernel

*synonym* : tree, nut, seed

(1) **chestnut** hair, (2) **chestnut** shell

The **chestnut** tree is known for its edible nuts and beautiful fall foliage.

## breast

*n.* either of the two round soft parts of a woman's chest which secrete milk after childbirth

*synonym* : bosom, chest, bust

(1) **breast** cancer, (2) the mountain's **breast**

He grilled the **breast** meat of a chicken.

## captain

*n.* the leader of a group of people, especially who is in charge of a ship or aircraft

*synonym* : boss, director, leader

(1) the **captain** of an opposing team, (2) **captain** of industry

The **captain** ordered the troops to fire.

## tune

*n.* a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard

*synonym* : melody, harmony, (verb) adjust

(1) the **tune** of a song, (2) **tune** a piano

The band played a beautiful **tune** on their instruments.

## evolve

*v.* to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually

*synonym* : develop, mature, grow

(1) **evolve**, (2) **evolve** over the past decade

Eyeless fish **evolved** in dark caves.

## devil

*n.* a supernatural being typically represented in belief systems as an evil or mischievous spirit, often used metaphorically to describe a person or thing that is harmful, dangerous, or wicked

*synonym* : demon, fiend, satan

(1) **devil's** advocate, (2) **devil** horns

There are various ways to ward off the **devil**, including prayer and holy water.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. a c\_\_l of smoke *v.* to form or make something form into a curved or spiral shape; (noun) a round shape formed by a series of concentric circles
2. a waiting m\_\_d *n.* a girl or young woman employed to do domestic work
3. medium da\_\_\_\_g *n.* a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear
4. dead as\_\_\_\_p *adj.* in a state of sleep
5. the mountain's br\_\_\_\_t *n.* either of the two round soft parts of a woman's chest which secrete milk after childbirth
6. ro\_\_h estimation *adj.* not quite exact or correct; having or caused by an irregular surface
7. br\_\_\_\_t cancer *n.* either of the two round soft parts of a woman's chest which secrete milk after childbirth
8. ch\_\_k bone *n.* either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw
9. famous ba\_\_o player *n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound
10. si\_\_e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

ANSWERS: 1. curl, 2. maid, 3. darling, 4. asleep, 5. breast, 6. rough, 7. breast, 8. cheek, 9. banjo, 10. singe

11. t\_\_e a piano *n.* a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard
12. de\_\_l's advocate *n.* a supernatural being typically represented in belief systems as an evil or mischievous spirit, often used metaphorically to describe a person or thing that is harmful, dangerous, or wicked
13. as\_\_\_p at the wheel *adj.* in a state of sleep
14. the t\_\_e of a song *n.* a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard
15. si\_\_e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
16. ro\_\_y terrain *adj.* full of or abounding in rocks; of, relating to, or made of rock
17. ba\_\_o music *n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound
18. the ca\_\_\_\_\_n of an opposing team *n.* the leader of a group of people, especially who is in charge of a ship or aircraft
19. ro\_\_h and tough *adj.* not quite exact or correct; having or caused by an irregular surface

ANSWERS: 11. tune, 12. devil, 13. asleep, 14. tune, 15. singe, 16. rocky, 17. banjo, 18. captain, 19. rough

20. ev\_\_\_e over the past decade      *v.* to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually
21. ca\_\_\_\_\_n of industry      *n.* the leader of a group of people, especially who is in charge of a ship or aircraft
22. ev\_\_\_e      *v.* to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually
23. have a da\_\_\_\_\_g baby      *n.* a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear
24. ro\_\_y relationship      *adj.* full of or abounding in rocks; of, relating to, or made of rock
25. c\_\_l around street corners      *v.* to form or make something form into a curved or spiral shape; (noun) a round shape formed by a series of concentric circles
26. m\_\_d service      *n.* a girl or young woman employed to do domestic work
27. ch\_\_\_\_\_ut hair      *n.* a tree or its nut, with a smooth brown shell and a sweet edible kernel
28. ch\_\_\_\_\_ut shell      *n.* a tree or its nut, with a smooth brown shell and a sweet edible kernel
29. hollowed-out ch\_\_k      *n.* either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw
30. de\_\_l horns      *n.* a supernatural being typically represented in belief systems as an evil or mischievous spirit, often used metaphorically to describe a person or thing that is harmful, dangerous, or wicked

ANSWERS: 20. evolve, 21. captain, 22. evolve, 23. darling, 24. rocky, 25. curl, 26. maid, 27. chestnut, 28. chestnut, 29. cheek, 30. devil

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The musician played the five-string \_\_\_\_\_ as part of his folk ensemble.  
*n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ tree is known for its edible nuts and beautiful fall foliage.  
*n.* a tree or its nut, with a smooth brown shell and a sweet edible kernel
3. The cat \_\_\_\_\_ into a ball and went to sleep.  
*v.* to form or make something form into a curved or spiral shape; (noun) a round shape formed by a series of concentric circles
4. The live-in \_\_\_\_\_ came in to clean the room every day.  
*n.* a girl or young woman employed to do domestic work
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ ordered the troops to fire.  
*n.* the leader of a group of people, especially who is in charge of a ship or aircraft
6. The band played a beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ on their instruments.  
*n.* a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard
7. Eyeless fish \_\_\_\_\_ in dark caves.  
*v.* to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ road made it difficult to drive on.  
*adj.* full of or abounding in rocks; of, relating to, or made of rock

ANSWERS: 1. banjo, 2. chestnut, 3. curled, 4. maid, 5. captain, 6. tune, 7. evolved, 8. rocky



9. He grilled the \_\_\_\_\_ meat of a chicken.

*n.* either of the two round soft parts of a woman's chest which secrete milk after childbirth

10. The vehicle bounced along the \_\_\_\_\_ mountain road.

*adj.* not quite exact or correct; having or caused by an irregular surface

11. There are various ways to ward off the \_\_\_\_\_ including prayer and holy water.

*n.* a supernatural being typically represented in belief systems as an evil or mischievous spirit, often used metaphorically to describe a person or thing that is harmful, dangerous, or wicked

12. He gently touched her apple-red \_\_\_\_\_ and whispered that he loved her.

*n.* either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw

13. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and \_\_\_\_\_ my dress.

*v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

14. My \_\_\_\_\_ child, I love you so much.

*n.* a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear

15. He lay down and fell \_\_\_\_\_ immediately.

*adj.* in a state of sleep

ANSWERS: 9. breast, 10. rough, 11. devil, 12. cheek, 13. singed, 14. darling, 15. asleep