

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mara Mintzer: How kids can help design cities | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/mara\\_mintzer\\_how\\_kids\\_cannot\\_help\\_design\\_cities](https://www.ted.com/talks/mara_mintzer_how_kids_cannot_help_design_cities)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### inanimate

*adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate

*synonym*: lifeless, inert, passive

(1) **inanimate** nature, (2) **inanimate** matter

The **inanimate** object was not capable of movement or feeling.

### podium

*n.* a raised platform or stand that is used for delivering speeches, conducting meetings, or presenting awards

*synonym*: lectern, stand, dais

(1) win a **podium** position, (2) **podium** finisher

The speaker stood confidently on the **podium** while delivering their speech.

### boulder

*n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion

*synonym*: rock, stone, clump

(1) **boulder** field, (2) lava **boulder**

The hikers had to climb over a **boulder** that was blocking their path.

### hospitable

*adj.* friendly and generous to visitors or guests

*synonym*: benevolent, generous, gracious

(1) **hospitable** environment, (2) a **hospitable** welcome  
He is a good-natured and **hospitable** man.

## skeptical

*adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful

*synonym*: doubtful, distrustful, suspicious

(1) a **skeptical** attitude, (2) **skeptical** scientists

His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly **skeptical**.

## cannon

*n.* a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting

*synonym*: artillery, gun, ordnance

(1) **cannon** salute, (2) **cannon** ball

The heavy **cannon** fired a loud shot that echoed across the battlefield.

## unsuspecting

*adj.* unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious

*synonym*: unaware, unassuming, gullible

(1) **unsuspecting** boys and girls, (2) **unsuspecting** victim

The thief stole the wallet from the **unsuspecting** tourist.

## kayak

*n.* a small, narrow boat traditionally used by the Inuit people for hunting and fishing, which has a covered deck and is propelled using a double-bladed paddle

*synonym*: canoe, skiff, paddle boat

(1) **kayak** adventure, (2) **kayak** paddle

We're planning a **kayak** trip down the river next weekend.

## synthesize

*v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

*synonym*: incorporate, amalgamate

(1) **synthesize** molecules, (2) **synthesize** information

The spider can **synthesize** multiple different silk proteins.

## marvel

*n.* someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise

*synonym*: wonder, phenomenon, amazement

(1) a **marvel** of beauty, (2) technical **marvel**  
The space shuttle is a modern engineering **marvel**.

**rink** *n.* a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling

*synonym*: park, field

(1) outdoor **rink**, (2) roller **rink**

I love to skate on the ice **rink** during the winter.

**improvisation** *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

*synonym*: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

**underpass** *n.* a tunnel or passage that allows pedestrians, cyclists, or vehicles to pass below a road or other obstruction

*synonym*: subway, tunnel, passage

(1) **underpass** shelter, (2) railway **underpass**

The **underpass** construction project was started to alleviate the city's growing traffic problem.

**stroll** *v.* to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim

*synonym*: amble, roam, mope

(1) **stroll** across a street, (2) **stroll** through the countryside

We could **stroll** into town if you like.

**dampen** *v.* to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement

*synonym*: drench, moisten, saturate

(1) **dampen** the sound, (2) **dampen** the enthusiasm

The rain helped **dampen** the flames of the campfire.

## glide

*v.* to move smoothly and effortlessly

*synonym*: slide, skim, coast

(1) **glide** through the water, (2) **glide** down the mountain

The eagle gracefully **glided** on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.

## trampoline

*n.* a strong fabric sheet attached by springs to a frame, used for bouncing on

*synonym*: rebounder, bouncer, springboard

(1) **trampoline** park, (2) **trampoline** jump

I love jumping on the **trampoline** in my backyard.

## 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**.

## 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.

## prioritize

*v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

*synonym*: rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

## beanbag

*n.* a small bag filled with dried beans or similar materials, used in games and as a low seat

*synonym*: sack chair, seat cushion, floor pillow

(1) **beanbag** toss, (2) portable **beanbag** cushion  
We bought a new **beanbag** chair for our family room.

## beige

*n.* a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color

*synonym* : tan, khaki, sand

(1) **beige** walls, (2) **beige** fabric

The curtains in the bedroom were a beautiful shade of **beige**, which complemented the natural lighting.

## condominium

*n.* a type of real estate property in which individuals own their own living spaces, usually within a larger complex or building where common areas such as pools and hallways are shared; a type of joint ownership arrangement

*synonym* : apartment, flat, unit

(1) **condominium** complex, (2) luxury **condominium**

I'm considering buying a high-rise **condominium** instead of renting an apartment.

## tranquility

*n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment

*synonym* : calmness, serenity, peace

(1) the **tranquility** of the environment, (2) feeling of **tranquility**

She found **tranquility** by meditating in the garden.

## sparkle

*v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy

*synonym* : shine, glimmer, twinkle

(1) **sparkle** like a gem, (2) **sparkle** from receiving light

The diamond **sparkled** in the sunlight.

## mammal

*n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body

(1) a primitive **mammal**, (2) a sort of **mammal**

Marine **mammal** populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.

## grasshopper

*n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality

*synonym*: locust, katydid, cricket

(1) **grasshopper** mice, (2) **grasshopper** species

The **grasshopper** leaped from one blade of grass to another.

## empathy

*n.* 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.

## overlook

*v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

*synonym*: disregard, look down, supervise

(1) **overlook** a street, (2) **overlook** that fact

We cannot **overlook** an opportunity for great success.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. pri_____ze people over cars | <i>v.</i> to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things  |
| 2. feeling of tra_____ty       | <i>n.</i> a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment                                     |
| 3. full of em_____y            | <i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation  |
| 4. portable be_____g cushion   | <i>n.</i> a small bag filled with dried beans or similar materials, used in games and as a low seat   |
| 5. a primitive ma____l         | <i>n.</i> any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body   |
| 6. be__e walls                 | <i>n.</i> a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color   |
| 7. ka__k paddle                | <i>n.</i> a small, narrow boat traditionally used by the Inuit people for hunting and fishing, which has a covered deck and is propelled using a double-bladed paddle |
| 8. ov_____ok that fact         | <i>v.</i> to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above  |
| 9. ca____n salute              | <i>n.</i> a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting  |

ANSWERS: 1. prioritize, 2. tranquility, 3. empathy, 4. beanbag, 5. mammal, 6. beige, 7. kayak, 8. overlook, 9. cannon

- |                                    |             |  |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 10. st___l across a street         | <i>v.</i>   | to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim  |
| 11. pri_____ze tasks               | <i>v.</i>   | to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things   |
| 12. hos_____le environment         | <i>adj.</i> | friendly and generous to visitors or guests  |
| 13. st___l through the countryside | <i>v.</i>   | to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim  |
| 14. railway un_____ss              | <i>n.</i>   | a tunnel or passage that allows pedestrians, cyclists, or vehicles to pass below a road or other obstruction   |
| 15. tra_____ne park                | <i>n.</i>   | a strong fabric sheet attached by springs to a frame, used for bouncing on   |
| 16. syn_____ze molecules           | <i>v.</i>   | to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound  |
| 17. low-r_v engine                 | <i>n.</i>   | 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  |
| 18. r_v up the crowd               | <i>n.</i>   | 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  |
| 19. luxury con_____um              | <i>n.</i>   | a type of real estate property in which individuals own their own living spaces, usually within a larger complex or building where common areas such as pools and hallways are shared; a type of joint ownership arrangement |

ANSWERS: 10. stroll, 11. prioritize, 12. hospitable, 13. stroll, 14. underpass, 15. trampoline, 16. synthesize, 17. rev, 18. rev, 19. condominium



20. imp\_\_\_\_\_ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
21. in\_\_\_\_\_te nature *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
22. tra\_\_\_\_\_ne jump *n.* a strong fabric sheet attached by springs to a frame, used for bouncing on
23. uns\_\_\_\_\_ing boys and girls *adj.* unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious
24. gra\_\_\_\_\_er species *n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
25. technical ma\_\_\_l *n.* someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise
26. in\_\_\_\_\_te matter *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
27. sp\_\_\_\_\_e from receiving light *v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
28. a sk\_\_\_\_\_al attitude *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful
29. outdoor r\_\_k *n.* a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling
30. be\_\_e fabric *n.* a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color
31. syn\_\_\_\_\_ze information *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
32. sk\_\_\_\_\_al scientists *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful

ANSWERS: 20. improvisation, 21. inanimate, 22. trampoline, 23. unsuspecting, 24. grasshopper, 25. marvel, 26. inanimate, 27. sparkle, 28. skeptical, 29. rink, 30. beige, 31. synthesize, 32. skeptical

33. op\_\_\_\_\_ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
34. jazz imp\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
35. un\_\_\_\_\_ss shelter *n.* a tunnel or passage that allows pedestrians, cyclists, or vehicles to pass below a road or other obstruction
36. ca\_\_\_n ball *n.* a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting
37. ov\_\_\_\_\_ok a street *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
38. a sort of ma\_\_\_l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
39. ka\_\_k adventure *n.* a small, narrow boat traditionally used by the Inuit people for hunting and fishing, which has a covered deck and is propelled using a double-bladed paddle
40. the tra\_\_\_\_\_ty of the environment *n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment
41. da\_\_\_n the sound *v.* to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement

ANSWERS: 33. opportune, 34. improvisation, 35. underpass, 36. cannon, 37. overlook, 38. mammal, 39. kayak, 40. tranquility, 41. dampen

42. em\_\_\_\_y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
43. be\_\_\_\_g toss *n.* a small bag filled with dried beans or similar materials, used in games and as a low seat
44. po\_\_\_\_m finisher *n.* a raised platform or stand that is used for delivering speeches, conducting meetings, or presenting awards
45. bo\_\_\_\_r field *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
46. a ma\_\_\_\_l of beauty *n.* someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise
47. gl\_\_e down the mountain *v.* to move smoothly and effortlessly
48. da\_\_\_\_n the enthusiasm *v.* to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement
49. gra\_\_\_\_er mice *n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
50. con\_\_\_\_um complex *n.* a type of real estate property in which individuals own their own living spaces, usually within a larger complex or building where common areas such as pools and hallways are shared; a type of joint ownership arrangement
51. an op\_\_\_\_ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 42. empathy, 43. beanbag, 44. podium, 45. boulder, 46. marvel, 47. glide, 48. dampen, 49. grasshopper, 50. condominium, 51. opportune

52. gl\_\_e through the water *v.* to move smoothly and effortlessly
53. win a po\_\_\_m position *n.* a raised platform or stand that is used for delivering speeches, conducting meetings, or presenting awards
54. sp\_\_\_\_\_e like a gem *v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
55. roller r\_\_k *n.* a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling
56. a hos\_\_\_\_\_le welcome *adj.* friendly and generous to visitors or guests
57. uns\_\_\_\_\_ing victim *adj.* unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious
58. lava bo\_\_\_\_\_r *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion

ANSWERS: 52. glide, 53. podium, 54. sparkle, 55. rink, 56. hospitable, 57. unsuspecting, 58. boulder

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The thief stole the wallet from the \_\_\_\_\_ tourist.  
*adj.* unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious
2. The diamond \_\_\_\_\_ in the sunlight.  
*v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
3. The rain helped \_\_\_\_\_ the flames of the campfire.  
*v.* to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement
4. I love to skate on the ice \_\_\_\_\_ during the winter.  
*n.* a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ leaped from one blade of grass to another.  
*n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
6. The space shuttle is a modern engineering \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is also necessary to understand history.  
*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
8. 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

ANSWERS: 1. unsuspecting, 2. sparkled, 3. dampen, 4. rink, 5. grasshopper, 6. marvel, 7. Empathy, 8. rev

9. She found \_\_\_\_\_ by meditating in the garden.  
*n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment
10. The speaker stood confidently on the \_\_\_\_\_ while delivering their speech.  
*n.* a raised platform or stand that is used for delivering speeches, conducting meetings, or presenting awards
11. Marine \_\_\_\_\_ populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.  
*n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
12. The \_\_\_\_\_ object was not capable of movement or feeling.  
*adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
13. I'm considering buying a high-rise \_\_\_\_\_ instead of renting an apartment.  
*n.* a type of real estate property in which individuals own their own living spaces, usually within a larger complex or building where common areas such as pools and hallways are shared; a type of joint ownership arrangement
14. He is a good-natured and \_\_\_\_\_ man.  
*adj.* friendly and generous to visitors or guests
15. The spider can \_\_\_\_\_ multiple different silk proteins.  
*v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
16. The hikers had to climb over a \_\_\_\_\_ that was blocking their path.  
*n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion

ANSWERS: 9. tranquility, 10. podium, 11. mammal, 12. inanimate, 13. condominium, 14. hospitable, 15. synthesize, 16. boulder

17. The \_\_\_\_\_ construction project was started to alleviate the city's growing traffic problem.
- n.* a tunnel or passage that allows pedestrians, cyclists, or vehicles to pass below a road or other obstruction
18. The eagle gracefully \_\_\_\_\_ on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.
- v.* to move smoothly and effortlessly
19. We cannot \_\_\_\_\_ an opportunity for great success.
- v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
20. I love jumping on the \_\_\_\_\_ in my backyard.
- n.* a strong fabric sheet attached by springs to a frame, used for bouncing on
21. We could \_\_\_\_\_ into town if you like.
- v.* to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim
22. We bought a new \_\_\_\_\_ chair for our family room.
- n.* a small bag filled with dried beans or similar materials, used in games and as a low seat
23. The heavy \_\_\_\_\_ fired a loud shot that echoed across the battlefield.
- n.* a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting
24. He created a beautiful piece of music using only \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

ANSWERS: 17. underpass, 18. glided, 19. overlook, 20. trampoline, 21. stroll, 22. beanbag, 23. cannon, 24. improvisation

25. His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful

26. The curtains in the bedroom were a beautiful shade of \_\_\_\_\_ which complemented the natural lighting.

*n.* a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color

27. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

28. The organization \_\_\_\_\_ the needs of the community in its decision-making.

*v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

29. We're planning a \_\_\_\_\_ trip down the river next weekend.

*n.* a small, narrow boat traditionally used by the Inuit people for hunting and fishing, which has a covered deck and is propelled using a double-bladed paddle

ANSWERS: 25. skeptical, 26. beige, 27. opportune, 28. prioritized, 29. kayak