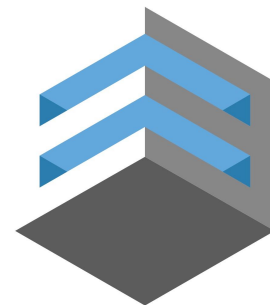


# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Amy Nicole Baker: 7 common questions about workplace romance | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/amy\\_nicole\\_baker\\_7\\_common\\_questions\\_about\\_workplace\\_romance](https://www.ted.com/talks/amy_nicole_baker_7_common_questions_about_workplace_romance)

### 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

### imbalance

*n.* a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated

*synonym*: inequality, asymmetry, instability

(1) trade **imbalance**, (2) symptoms of hormonal **imbalance**

An **imbalance** in certain substances causes problems with brain function.

### coworker

*n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization

*synonym*: colleague, peer, associate

(1) **coworker** relationship, (2) argue with a **coworker**

My ex- **coworker** and I had different working styles but managed to get along.

### disrupt

*v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

*synonym*: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

### subordinate

*adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status;

serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

*synonym*: inferior, secondary, subservient

(1) **subordinate** position, (2) **subordinate** role

The CEO's **subordinate** employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

## totem

*n.* a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice

*synonym*: emblem, symbol, mascot

(1) tribal **totem**, (2) animal **totem**

The **totem** pole symbolized the tribe's culture and history, depicting important figures and events.

## favoritism

*n.* the act of giving one person or group unfair support by someone in authority

*synonym*: bias, partiality, discrimination

(1) national **favoritism**, (2) act of **favoritism**

Their company survives due to political **favoritism**.

## resentment

*n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly

*synonym*: bitterness, enmity, animosity

(1) abiding **resentment**, (2) bitter **resentment**

She felt **resentment** towards her boss for not giving her a promotion.

## credential

*v.* to provide someone with certification or verification of their qualifications, usually in a particular field or profession; (noun) a document attesting to the truth of certain stated facts

*synonym*: certify, verify, (noun) certificate

(1) **credential** themselves by showing their registration,

(2) teaching **credential**

To get the job, I need to **credential** my experience and education.

## peck

*v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble

*synonym* : beak, nibble, pick

(1) **peck** on the cheek, (2) **peck** at feed

The wood **pecker** would peck at the tree high up in the branches.

## secrecy

*n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others

*synonym* : confidentiality, clandestineness, closeness

(1) government **secrecy**, (2) maintain **secrecy**

The company's **secrecy** surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.

## corrosive

*adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive

*synonym* : destructive, erosive, caustic

(1) **corrosive** substance, (2) **corrosive** effect

The **corrosive** acid ate away at the metal pipes.

## brainstorming

*n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas

(1) **brainstorming** session, (2) do a **brainstorming** about a new product

Many companies employ **brainstorming** as a good way of generating innovative ideas.

## interdependence

*n.* the fact or state of depending on each other

*synonym* : relation, interconnection, linkage

(1) **interdependence** of mind and body, (2) global **interdependence**

The diplomatic rivalry between the two countries has strengthened the **interdependence** of their intra-regional

supply chains for their manufacturing industries.

## flirt

- v. to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men

*synonym*: tease

(1) **flirt** with him, (2) **flirt** like a schoolgirl

My husband never **flirts** with other women.

## annoy

- v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

*synonym*: aggravate, irritate, unsettle

(1) **annoy** at the time, (2) **annoy** everyone else

Her constant chatter was starting to **annoy** the neighbors.

## wand

- n. a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority

*synonym*: rod, stick, staff

(1) magic **wand**, (2) security **wand**

The magician waved his **wand**, and a rabbit appeared from the hat.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. co\_\_\_\_er relationship *n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization
2. tribal to\_\_m *n.* a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice
3. p\_\_k on the cheek *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
4. magic w\_\_d *n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
5. bra\_\_\_\_\_ing session *n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
6. p\_\_k at feed *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
7. national fav\_\_\_\_\_sm *n.* the act of giving one person or group unfair support by someone in authority
8. sub\_\_\_\_\_te position *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

ANSWERS: 1. coworker, 2. totem, 3. peck, 4. wand, 5. brainstorming, 6. peck, 7. favoritism, 8. subordinate

9. abiding res\_\_\_\_\_nt *n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
10. co\_\_\_\_\_ve effect *adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive
11. fl\_\_t like a schoolgirl *v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
12. sub\_\_\_\_\_te role *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
13. bitter res\_\_\_\_\_nt *n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
14. do a bra\_\_\_\_\_ing about a new product *n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
15. co\_\_\_\_\_ve substance *adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive
16. int\_\_\_\_\_nce of mind and body *n.* the fact or state of depending on each other
17. di\_\_\_\_\_t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

ANSWERS: 9. resentment, 10. corrosive, 11. flirt, 12. subordinate, 13. resentment, 14. brainstorming, 15. corrosive, 16. interdependence, 17. disrupt

18. teaching cre\_\_\_\_\_al                      *v.* to provide someone with certification or verification of their qualifications, usually in a particular field or profession; (noun) a document attesting to the truth of certain stated facts
19. an\_\_y at the time                              *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
20. security w\_\_d                                      *n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
21. government se\_\_\_\_\_y                        *n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others
22. animal to\_\_m                                      *n.* a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice
23. argue with a co\_\_\_\_\_er                        *n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization
24. symptoms of hormonal im\_\_\_\_\_ce              *n.* a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated
25. act of fav\_\_\_\_\_sm                                *n.* the act of giving one person or group unfair support by someone in authority
26. an\_\_y everyone else                              *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
27. trade im\_\_\_\_\_ce                                *n.* a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated

ANSWERS: 18. credential, 19. annoy, 20. wand, 21. secrecy, 22. totem, 23. coworker, 24. imbalance, 25. favoritism, 26. annoy, 27. imbalance

28. maintain se\_\_\_\_\_y *n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others
29. di\_\_\_\_\_t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
30. cre\_\_\_\_\_al themselves by showing their registration *v.* to provide someone with certification or verification of their qualifications, usually in a particular field or profession; (noun) a document attesting to the truth of certain stated facts
31. fl\_\_t with him *v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
32. global int\_\_\_\_\_nce *n.* the fact or state of depending on each other

ANSWERS: 28. secrecy, 29. disrupt, 30. credential, 31. flirt, 32. interdependence



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Her constant chatter was starting to \_\_\_\_\_ the neighbors.  
*v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
  
2. The magician waved his \_\_\_\_\_ and a rabbit appeared from the hat.  
*n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
  
3. An \_\_\_\_\_ in certain substances causes problems with brain function.  
*n.* a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated
  
4. Many companies employ \_\_\_\_\_ as a good way of generating innovative ideas.  
*n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
  
5. Their company survives due to political \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the act of giving one person or group unfair support by someone in authority
  
6. The diplomatic rivalry between the two countries has strengthened the \_\_\_\_\_ of their intra-regional supply chains for their manufacturing industries.  
*n.* the fact or state of depending on each other
  
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ acid ate away at the metal pipes.  
*adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive

ANSWERS: 1. annoy, 2. wand, 3. imbalance, 4. brainstorming, 5. favoritism, 6. interdependence, 7. corrosive

8. The CEO's \_\_\_\_\_ employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.  
*adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
9. She felt \_\_\_\_\_ towards her boss for not giving her a promotion.  
*n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
10. The wood\_\_\_\_\_ would peck at the tree high up in the branches.  
*v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
11. My ex-\_\_\_\_\_ and I had different working styles but managed to get along.  
*n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization
12. To get the job, I need to \_\_\_\_\_ my experience and education.  
*v.* to provide someone with certification or verification of their qualifications, usually in a particular field or profession; (noun) a document attesting to the truth of certain stated facts
13. I'm so sorry to \_\_\_\_\_ you when you're pretty busy.  
*v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ pole symbolized the tribe's culture and history, depicting important figures and events.  
*n.* a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice

ANSWERS: 8. subordinate, 9. resentment, 10. pecker, 11. coworker, 12. credential, 13. disrupt, 14. totem

15. The company's \_\_\_\_\_ surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.

- n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others

16. My husband never \_\_\_\_\_ with other women.

- v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions;  
(noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men

ANSWERS: 15. secrecy, 16. flirts