

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Elise LeGrow: "You Never Can Tell" "Over the Mountain, Across the Sea" | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/elise_legrow_you_never_can_tell_over_the_mountain_across_the_sea

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

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.

mademoiselle

n. a French term used to address a young, unmarried woman, often abbreviated to "Mlle." in written form; a French women's magazine that was published from 1937-2001 and aimed at young women

synonym: miss, demoiselle, young lady

(1) **mademoiselle** magazine, (2) petite **mademoiselle**

Excuse me, **mademoiselle**, do you speak English?

monsieur

n. a French title of respect and formality used to address or refer to a man, typically accompanied by the person's last name

synonym: gentleman, mister, sir

(1) gentle **monsieur**, (2) distinguished **monsieur**

Despite his humble origins, **Monsieur** Petit became a respected figure in the art community.

madam

n. a term of polite address or title used to address a woman, particularly one in a position of authority or respect

synonym : lady, ma'am, madame

(1) **madam** speaker, (2) dear **madam**

Madam President, may I ask a question regarding the new policy?

vie

v. to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise

synonym : compete, contend, strive

(1) **vie** for a trophy, (2) **vie** for attention

They both **vied** for the top spot in the company.

cram

v. to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space

synonym : stuff, pack, jam

(1) **cram** more circuits into chips, (2) **cram** five people into a car

She had to **cram** for the final exam and stayed up all night studying.

jitney

n. a small bus or van used for transportation, often operating on a fixed route and charging a low fare

synonym : shuttle, minibus, van

(1) **jitney** service, (2) hail a **jitney**

I took a **jitney** to get across town since it was quicker than waiting for a bus.

wed

v. to marry someone

synonym : marry, get hitched with

(1) **wed** my intended, (2) **wed** the rich man

The couple will **wed** after the tenth anniversary.

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.

homage

n. a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute

synonym: respect, deference, reverence

(1) paying **homage** to tradition, (2) vassal **homage**

The crowd gave a standing ovation as a sign of **homage** to the retiring athlete.

innovate

v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

synonym: bring in, introduce, found

(1) **innovate** a new method, (2) **innovate** the quality of his life

Companies developing self-driving cars consistently **innovate** the emerging technologies.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|---|
| 1. in____te a new method | v. | to introduce new methods, ideas, or products |
| 2. dear ma__m | n. | a term of polite address or title used to address a woman, particularly one in a position of authority or respect |
| 3. c__m five people into a car | v. | to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space |
| 4. v_e for attention | v. | to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise |
| 5. gentle mo____ur | n. | a French title of respect and formality used to address or refer to a man, typically accompanied by the person's last name |
| 6. paying ho___e to tradition | n. | a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute |
| 7. op_____ne occasion | adj. | suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 8. v_e for a trophy | v. | to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise |

ANSWERS: 1. innovate, 2. madam, 3. cram, 4. vie, 5. monsieur, 6. homage, 7. opportune, 8. vie

9. distinguished mo____ur *n.* a French title of respect and formality used to address or refer to a man, typically accompanied by the person's last name
10. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
11. mad_____lle magazine *n.* a French term used to address a young, unmarried woman, often abbreviated to "Mlle." in written form; a French women's magazine that was published from 1937-2001 and aimed at young women
12. si__e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
13. si__e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
14. w_d my intended *v.* to marry someone
15. hail a ji____y *n.* a small bus or van used for transportation, often operating on a fixed route and charging a low fare
16. c__m more circuits into chips *v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
17. ji____y service *n.* a small bus or van used for transportation, often operating on a fixed route and charging a low fare

ANSWERS: 9. monsieur, 10. opportune, 11. mademoiselle, 12. singe, 13. singe, 14. wed, 15. jitney, 16. cram, 17. jitney

18. vassal ho___e *n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
19. petite mad_____lle *n.* a French term used to address a young, unmarried woman, often abbreviated to "Mlle." in written form; a French women's magazine that was published from 1937-2001 and aimed at young women
20. in_____te the quality of his life *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
21. w_d the rich man *v.* to marry someone
22. ma__m speaker *n.* a term of polite address or title used to address a woman, particularly one in a position of authority or respect

ANSWERS: 18. homage, 19. mademoiselle, 20. innovate, 21. wed, 22. madam

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and _____ my dress.
v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

2. Excuse me, _____ do you speak English?
n. a French term used to address a young, unmarried woman, often abbreviated to "Mlle." in written form; a French women's magazine that was published from 1937-2001 and aimed at young women

3. I took a _____ to get across town since it was quicker than waiting for a bus.
n. a small bus or van used for transportation, often operating on a fixed route and charging a low fare

4. Companies developing self-driving cars consistently _____ the emerging technologies.
v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

5. She had to _____ for the final exam and stayed up all night studying.
v. to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space

6. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

7. _____ President, may I ask a question regarding the new policy?
n. a term of polite address or title used to address a woman, particularly one in a position of authority or respect

ANSWERS: 1. singed, 2. mademoiselle, 3. jitney, 4. innovate, 5. cram, 6. opportune, 7. Madam

8. The crowd gave a standing ovation as a sign of _____ to the retiring athlete.
- n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
9. They both _____ for the top spot in the company.
- v.* to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise
10. Despite his humble origins, _____ Petit became a respected figure in the art community.
- n.* a French title of respect and formality used to address or refer to a man, typically accompanied by the person's last name
11. The couple will _____ after the tenth anniversary.
- v.* to marry someone

ANSWERS: 8. homage, 9. vied, 10. Monsieur, 11. wed