

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Trevor Maber: Rethinking thinking | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/trevor\\_maber\\_rethinking\\_thinking](https://www.ted.com/talks/trevor_maber_rethinking_thinking)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### microscopic

*adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

*synonym* : infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis

Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

### subconscious

*adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

*synonym* : unconscious, latent, hidden

(1) **subconscious** influence, (2) **subconscious** behavior

The **subconscious** mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.

### blur

*n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

*synonym* : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

## steer

v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

*synonym* : guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

## covet

v. to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for

*synonym* : desire, yearn, crave

(1) **covet** wealth, (2) **covet** fame

She couldn't help but **covet** her friend's designer handbag.

## slam

v. to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily

*synonym* : bang, crash, shut

(1) **slam** the door, (2) **slam** the book against a wall

She **slammed** the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.

## chirp

n. a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

*synonym* : tweet, chirrup, peep

(1) the **chirp** of a bird, (2) the **chirp** of a cricket

The sound of the **chirp** woke me up early in the morning.

## meaningless

*adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose

*synonym* : pointless, absurd, senseless

(1) a **meaningless** endeavor, (2) do a **meaningless** task

This experiment's results are **meaningless** because the other conditions are not identical.

## squeal

v. to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure

*synonym* : scream, shriek, yelp

(1) **squeal** with delight, (2) **squeal** in agony

The children were playing and **squealing** with excitement in the park.

## inconsiderate

*adj.* not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others

*synonym* : thoughtless, selfish, rude

(1) **inconsiderate** remarks, (2) **inconsiderate** actions

It was incredibly **inconsiderate** of him to cancel plans at the last minute without giving any notice.

## vindictive

*adj.* showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment

*synonym* : vengeful, retaliatory, spiteful

(1) **vindictive** disposition, (2) **vindictive** comments

Her **vindictive** attitude towards her ex is causing unnecessary drama.

## pave

*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

*synonym* : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

## honk

*n.* a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention

*synonym* : beep, toot, blare

(1) **honk** sound, (2) **honk** for attention

The incessant **honk** of the car's horn woke me from sleep.

## profuse

*adj.* abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something

*synonym* : abundant, plentiful, excessive

(1) **profuse** growth, (2) **profuse** apologies

The flu caused a **profuse** amount of sweating and fever.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. inc\_\_\_\_\_ate remarks  
*adj.* not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others
2. mic\_\_\_\_\_ic analysis  
*adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
3. sub\_\_\_\_\_ous behavior  
*adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
4. p\_\_e a smoother road  
*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
5. inc\_\_\_\_\_ate actions  
*adj.* not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others
6. sq\_\_\_l in agony  
*v.* to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure
7. st\_\_r a conversation  
*v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
8. p\_\_e a new path  
*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

ANSWERS: 1. inconsiderate, 2. microscopic, 3. subconscious, 4. pave, 5. inconsiderate, 6. squeal, 7. steer, 8. pave

9. h\_\_k sound *n.* a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention
10. do a mea\_\_\_\_\_ss task *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
11. vin\_\_\_\_\_ve comments *adj.* showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment
12. sq\_\_\_l with delight *v.* to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure
13. pr\_\_\_\_\_e apologies *adj.* abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
14. a mea\_\_\_\_\_ss endeavor *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
15. co\_\_t wealth *v.* to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
16. b\_\_r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
17. s\_\_m the door *v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
18. the ch\_\_p of a bird *n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

ANSWERS: 9. honk, 10. meaningless, 11. vindictive, 12. squeal, 13. profuse, 14. meaningless, 15. covet, 16. blur, 17. slam, 18. chirp

19. the ch\_\_p of a cricket  
*n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers
20. pr\_\_\_\_e growth  
*adj.* abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
21. st\_\_r a steady course  
*v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
22. mic\_\_\_\_ic inquiry  
*adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
23. co\_\_t fame  
*v.* to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
24. s\_\_m the book against a wall  
*v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
25. vin\_\_\_\_ve disposition  
*adj.* showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment
26. motion b\_\_r  
*n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
27. sub\_\_\_\_ous influence  
*adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

ANSWERS: 19. chirp, 20. profuse, 21. steer, 22. microscopic, 23. covet, 24. slam, 25. vindictive, 26. blur, 27. subconscious

28. h\_\_k for attention

*n.* a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention

ANSWERS: 28. honk

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.  
*adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
2. She \_\_\_\_\_ the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.  
*v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
3. This experiment's results are \_\_\_\_\_ because the other conditions are not identical.  
*adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
4. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a \_\_\_\_\_ of colors and shapes.  
*n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
5. The flu caused a \_\_\_\_\_ amount of sweating and fever.  
*adj.* abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
6. The incessant \_\_\_\_\_ of the car's horn woke me from sleep.  
*n.* a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention
7. The children were playing and \_\_\_\_\_ with excitement in the park.  
*v.* to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure

ANSWERS: 1. subconscious, 2. slammed, 3. meaningless, 4. blur, 5. profuse, 6. honk, 7. squealing

8. Inspectors noticed \_\_\_\_\_ cracks in the submarine's hull.  
*adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
9. She couldn't help but \_\_\_\_\_ her friend's designer handbag.  
*v.* to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
10. Her \_\_\_\_\_ attitude towards her ex is causing unnecessary drama.  
*adj.* showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment
11. It was incredibly \_\_\_\_\_ of him to cancel plans at the last minute without giving any notice.  
*adj.* not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others
12. The captain told him to \_\_\_\_\_ the ship north.  
*v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
13. They \_\_\_\_\_ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.  
*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
14. The sound of the \_\_\_\_\_ woke me up early in the morning.  
*n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

ANSWERS: 8. microscopic, 9. covet, 10. vindictive, 11. inconsiderate, 12. steer, 13. paved, 14. chirp