

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Simone Giertz: Why you should make useless things | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/simone\\_giertz\\_why\\_you\\_should\\_make\\_useless\\_things](https://www.ted.com/talks/simone_giertz_why_you_should_make_useless_things)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### onstage

*adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

(1) appeared **onstage**, (2) walk **onstage**

He performed his magic trick **onstage**, leaving the audience in awe.

### eyeball

*n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen

(1) **eyeball** motion, (2) redness of the **eyeball**

Increased **eyeball** pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.

### rattle

*v.* to make or cause to make short, successive, sharp, and loud sounds

*synonym*: jolt, shake, babble

(1) **rattle** along a road, (2) **rattle** and bang at the door

The vast earthquake caused the house to **rattle**.

### googly

*adj.* (of eyes) unfocused or rolling, often comically or exaggeratedly; (noun, of cricket) a type of delivery bowled by a spin bowler, which is a deceptive delivery that spins in the opposite direction to what a batsman expects

*synonym*: unfocused, rolling, puzzling

(1) **googly** shape, (2) deliver a **googly**

The children had a great time sticking **googly** eyes onto their handcrafted puppets.

## toothbrush

*n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth

*synonym*: brush, scrubber, cleaner

(1) **toothbrush** stand, (2) power **toothbrush**

My **toothbrush** with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.

## revolutionize

*v.* to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas

*synonym*: transform, innovate, modernize

(1) **revolutionize** the industry, (2) **revolutionize** the technology

The invention of the smartphone **revolutionized** the way we communicate with each other.

## dentistry

*n.* the branch of medicine that is concerned with the study, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions of the oral cavity and associated structures, including teeth, gums, and jaws; the profession or practice of a dentist

*synonym*: oral care, dental medicine, odontology

(1) cosmetic **dentistry**, (2) pediatric **dentistry**

I have an appointment at the **dentistry** clinic for a check-up and cleaning.

## sect

*n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

*synonym*: group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

## carve

*v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

*synonym* : sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

## drone

*n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

*synonym* : hum, whirr, idler

(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**

He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.

## chop

*v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife

*synonym* : cut, hack, slice

(1) **chop** wood, (2) **chop** a meet with a knife

The cook **chopped** the vegetables for the soup.

## embarrass

*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

*synonym* : disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

## puberty

*n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction

*synonym* : adolescence, young adulthood

(1) at the height of **puberty** ., (2) the onset of **puberty**

In this culture, men are initiated when they reach **puberty**.

## moreover

*adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before

*synonym* : furthermore, besides, in addition

(1) **moreover**, she decided to go, (2) but **moreover**, they

work well together

The company is environmentally conscious, and **moreover**, it uses sustainable materials in its products.

## quiver

*v.* to shake or tremble with a slight, rapid motion

*synonym*: shake, tremble, shiver

(1) **quiver** in the breeze, (2) **quiver** with excitement

The archer's hands **quivered** as he aimed the arrow at the target.

## thirst

*n.* a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something

*synonym*: craving, desire, appetite

(1) a burning **thirst**, (2) **thirst** for authority

He read books to quench his **thirst** for knowledge.

## clank

*v.* to produce a loud, echoing, metallic sound, often caused by the collision of metal objects or machinery; to move or operate with a heavy, clanging sound; (noun) a sharp, metallic sound that is typically produced when two hard objects strike or collide with each other

*synonym*: clang, clatter, jangle

(1) **clank** my spoon against the glass, (2) **clank** of metal

He dropped the empty can, and it **clanked** loudly as it hit the garage's concrete floor.

## rot

*v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

*synonym*: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

## popcorn

*n.* a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack

*synonym*: popped corn, puffed corn, corn kernels

(1) a **popcorn** vendor, (2) **popcorn** kernels

We popped some **popcorn** and settled in to watch a movie.

## shrug

*v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

(1) **shrug** off the importance, (2) **shrug** his shoulders sadly  
I respect her ability to **shrug** off harsh criticism.

## thwack

*n.* a sharp or resounding blow or hit, often accompanied by a loud sound; (noun) to hit or strike something or someone with a sharp, resounding blow

*synonym* : whack, smack, slap

(1) **thwack** sound, (2) a **thwack** on the back

The golfer hit the ball with a precise **thwack**, sending it soaring across the fairway.

## chew

*v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

*synonym* : masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

## clap

*v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise

*synonym* : applaud, spat, acclaim

(1) **clap** my hands, (2) **clap** a book shut

We **clapped** along with the singer's song.

## millennial

*adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y

*synonym* : thousand, (noun) Generation Y

(1) **millennial** record, (2) the **millennial** reign

Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by **millennial-scale** changes in climate.

## revolve

*v.* to rotate around a central point

*synonym* : rotate, spin, orbit

(1) **revolve** at high speed, (2) **revolve** around a central axis  
The Earth **revolves** around the Sun in an elliptical orbit.

## mesmerize

v. to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of

*synonym*: captivate, trance, enchant

(1) **mesmerize** a subject, (2) **mesmerize** with magic  
The magician's performance **mesmerized** the audience.

## 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.

## fright

n. a sudden intense fear or shock; a state of being afraid or anxious; a feeling of alarm or trepidation caused by a sudden, unexpected event or situation

*synonym*: terror, panic, fear

(1) **fright** response, (2) shiver in **fright**

The dog's barking gave the mailperson a terrible **fright**.

## slapstick

n. a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other mishaps

*synonym*: farce, comedy, humor

(1) **slapstick** comedy, (2) **slapstick** performance

The classic comedy routine was filled with **slapstick** humor.

## stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

*synonym*: bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

## humility

n. the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

*synonym* : humbleness, modesty, unpretentiousness

(1) develop an attitude of **humility**, (2) lack of **humility**

We were filled with **humility** at the sight of the Queen.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                |    |                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. c__p wood                   | v. | to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife                                                                                         |
| 2. the speaker's dr__e         | n. | a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control              |
| 3. si__e the edges of a fabric | v. | to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake                                                                                         |
| 4. fr___t response             | n. | a sudden intense fear or shock; a state of being afraid or anxious; a feeling of alarm or trepidation caused by a sudden, unexpected event or situation |
| 5. shiver in fr___t            | n. | a sudden intense fear or shock; a state of being afraid or anxious; a feeling of alarm or trepidation caused by a sudden, unexpected event or situation |
| 6. secret s__t                 | n. | a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream   |
| 7. r_t with age                | v. | to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually                                                                                          |
| 8. me_____ze with magic        | v. | to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of                                                                                            |
| 9. c__p a book shut            | v. | to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise                                                      |

ANSWERS: 1. chop, 2. drone, 3. singe, 4. fright, 5. fright, 6. sect, 7. rot, 8. mesmerize, 9. clap



10. the mil\_\_\_\_\_al reign *adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
11. redness of the ey\_\_\_\_\_l *n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
12. th\_\_\_\_t for authority *n.* a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something
13. lack of hu\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
14. th\_\_\_\_k sound *n.* a sharp or resounding blow or hit, often accompanied by a loud sound; (noun) to hit or strike something or someone with a sharp, resounding blow
15. c\_\_p my hands *v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
16. cosmetic de\_\_\_\_\_ry *n.* the branch of medicine that is concerned with the study, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions of the oral cavity and associated structures, including teeth, gums, and jaws; the profession or practice of a dentist
17. dr\_\_e flight *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
18. power too\_\_\_\_\_sh *n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth

ANSWERS: 10. millennial, 11. eyeball, 12. thirst, 13. humility, 14. thwack, 15. clap, 16. dentistry, 17. drone, 18. toothbrush

19. sh\_\_g his shoulders sadly      *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
20. too\_\_\_\_\_sh stand      *n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
21. rev\_\_\_\_\_ize the industry      *v.* to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas
22. ey\_\_\_\_\_l motion      *n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
23. em\_\_\_\_\_ss my project      *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
24. qu\_\_\_r in the breeze      *v.* to shake or tremble with a slight, rapid motion
25. a th\_\_\_k on the back      *n.* a sharp or resounding blow or hit, often accompanied by a loud sound; (noun) to hit or strike something or someone with a sharp, resounding blow
26. re\_\_\_\_\_e around a central axis      *v.* to rotate around a central point
27. qu\_\_\_r with excitement      *v.* to shake or tremble with a slight, rapid motion
28. re\_\_\_\_\_e at high speed      *v.* to rotate around a central point
29. a po\_\_\_\_\_n vendor      *n.* a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack
30. mo\_\_\_\_\_er, she decided to go      *adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before

ANSWERS: 19. shrug, 20. toothbrush, 21. revolutionize, 22. eyeball, 23. embarrass, 24. quiver, 25. thwack, 26. revolve, 27. quiver, 28. revolve, 29. popcorn, 30. moreover

31. me\_\_\_\_\_ze a subject                    *v.*    to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
32. sl\_\_\_\_\_ck performance                *n.*    a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other mishaps
33. c\_\_w each word                            *v.*    to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
34. mil\_\_\_\_\_al record                      *adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
35. begin to r\_t                                 *v.*    to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
36. at the height of pu\_\_\_\_\_y.              *n.*    the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
37. si\_\_e off the hair over the flames       *v.*    to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
38. c\_\_w a stick of gum                       *v.*    to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
39. rev\_\_\_\_\_ize the technology           *v.*    to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas
40. sl\_\_\_\_\_ck comedy                       *n.*    a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other mishaps

ANSWERS: 31. mesmerize, 32. slapstick, 33. chew, 34. millennial, 35. rot, 36. puberty, 37. singe, 38. chew, 39. revolutionize, 40. slapstick

41. em\_\_\_\_\_ss political enemy      *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
42. walk on\_\_\_\_\_e      *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
43. ca\_\_e a statue      *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
44. the onset of pu\_\_\_\_\_y      *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
45. st\_\_\_\_\_e financially      *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
46. pediatric de\_\_\_\_\_ry      *n.* the branch of medicine that is concerned with the study, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions of the oral cavity and associated structures, including teeth, gums, and jaws; the profession or practice of a dentist
47. st\_\_\_\_\_e through life      *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
48. cl\_\_k of metal      *v.* to produce a loud, echoing, metallic sound, often caused by the collision of metal objects or machinery; to move or operate with a heavy, clanging sound; (noun) a sharp, metallic sound that is typically produced when two hard objects strike or collide with each other
49. develop an attitude of hu\_\_\_\_\_ty      *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

ANSWERS: 41. embarrass, 42. onstage, 43. carve, 44. puberty, 45. stumble, 46. dentistry, 47. stumble, 48. clank, 49. humility

50. ca\_\_e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
51. a burning th\_\_\_t *n.* a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something
52. c\_\_p a meet with a knife *v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
53. appeared on\_\_\_\_e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
54. po\_\_\_\_\_n kernels *n.* a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack
55. cl\_\_k my spoon against the glass *v.* to produce a loud, echoing, metallic sound, often caused by the collision of metal objects or machinery; to move or operate with a heavy, clanging sound; (noun) a sharp, metallic sound that is typically produced when two hard objects strike or collide with each other
56. but mo\_\_\_\_\_er, they work well together *adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
57. ra\_\_\_e and bang at the door *v.* to make or cause to make short, successive, sharp, and loud sounds
58. ra\_\_\_e along a road *v.* to make or cause to make short, successive, sharp, and loud sounds
59. s\_\_t beliefs *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

ANSWERS: 50. carve, 51. thirst, 52. chop, 53. onstage, 54. popcorn, 55. clank, 56. moreover, 57. rattle, 58. rattle, 59. sect

60. sh\_\_g off the importance

*v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

61. deliver a go\_\_\_y

*adj.* (of eyes) unfocused or rolling, often comically or exaggeratedly; (noun, of cricket) a type of delivery bowled by a spin bowler, which is a deceptive delivery that spins in the opposite direction to what a batsman expects

62. go\_\_\_y shape

*adj.* (of eyes) unfocused or rolling, often comically or exaggeratedly; (noun, of cricket) a type of delivery bowled by a spin bowler, which is a deceptive delivery that spins in the opposite direction to what a batsman expects

ANSWERS: 60. shrug, 61. googly, 62. googly

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The cook \_\_\_\_\_ the vegetables for the soup.
  - v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
  
2. He dropped the empty can, and it \_\_\_\_\_ loudly as it hit the garage's concrete floor.
  - v. to produce a loud, echoing, metallic sound, often caused by the collision of metal objects or machinery; to move or operate with a heavy, clanging sound; (noun) a sharp, metallic sound that is typically produced when two hard objects strike or collide with each other
  
3. In this culture, men are initiated when they reach \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n. the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
  
4. The company is environmentally conscious, and \_\_\_\_\_ it uses sustainable materials in its products.
  - adv. indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
  
5. The dog's barking gave the mailperson a terrible \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n. a sudden intense fear or shock; a state of being afraid or anxious; a feeling of alarm or trepidation caused by a sudden, unexpected event or situation
  
6. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will \_\_\_\_\_.
  - v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
  
7. The invention of the smartphone \_\_\_\_\_ the way we communicate with each other.
  - v. to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas

ANSWERS: 1. chopped, 2. clanked, 3. puberty, 4. moreover, 5. fright, 6. rot, 7. revolutionized

8. The Earth \_\_\_\_\_ around the Sun in an elliptical orbit.  
*v.* to rotate around a central point
9. The magician's performance \_\_\_\_\_ the audience.  
*v.* to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
10. We were filled with \_\_\_\_\_ at the sight of the Queen.  
*n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
11. We \_\_\_\_\_ along with the singer's song.  
*v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
12. The minority \_\_\_\_\_ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.  
*n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
13. He read books to quench his \_\_\_\_\_ for knowledge.  
*n.* a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something
14. She \_\_\_\_\_ over the tree root.  
*v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
15. Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by \_\_\_\_\_ changes in climate.  
*adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
16. I respect her ability to \_\_\_\_\_ off harsh criticism.  
*v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

ANSWERS: 8. revolves, 9. mesmerized, 10. humility, 11. clapped, 12. sect, 13. thirst, 14. stumbled, 15. millennial-scale, 16. shrug



17. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and \_\_\_\_\_ my dress.  
*v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
18. He heard a \_\_\_\_\_ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.  
*n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
19. The children had a great time sticking \_\_\_\_\_ eyes onto their handcrafted puppets.  
*adj.* (of eyes) unfocused or rolling, often comically or exaggeratedly; (noun, of cricket) a type of delivery bowled by a spin bowler, which is a deceptive delivery that spins in the opposite direction to what a batsman expects
20. He performed his magic trick \_\_\_\_\_ leaving the audience in awe.  
*adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
21. The archer's hands \_\_\_\_\_ as he aimed the arrow at the target.  
*v.* to shake or tremble with a slight, rapid motion
22. The classic comedy routine was filled with \_\_\_\_\_ humor.  
*n.* a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other mishaps
23. We popped some \_\_\_\_\_ and settled in to watch a movie.  
*n.* a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack
24. He looked for an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ that actor in public.  
*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

ANSWERS: 17. singed, 18. drone, 19. googly, 20. onstage, 21. quivered, 22. slapstick, 23. popcorn, 24. embarrass

25. My \_\_\_\_\_ with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.
- n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
26. This statue is \_\_\_\_\_ from a single tree trunk.
- v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
27. The vast earthquake caused the house to \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to make or cause to make short, successive, sharp, and loud sounds
28. The golfer hit the ball with a precise \_\_\_\_\_ sending it soaring across the fairway.
- n.* a sharp or resounding blow or hit, often accompanied by a loud sound; (noun) to hit or strike something or someone with a sharp, resounding blow
29. I have an appointment at the \_\_\_\_\_ clinic for a check-up and cleaning.
- n.* the branch of medicine that is concerned with the study, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions of the oral cavity and associated structures, including teeth, gums, and jaws; the profession or practice of a dentist
30. My dog loves to \_\_\_\_\_ on bones.
- v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
31. Increased \_\_\_\_\_ pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.
- n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen

ANSWERS: 25. toothbrush, 26. carved, 27. rattle, 28. thwack, 29. dentistry, 30. chew, 31. eyeball