

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Walé Oyéjídé: Fashion that celebrates African strength and spirit | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/wale\\_oyejide\\_fashion\\_that\\_celebrates\\_african\\_strength\\_and\\_spirit](https://www.ted.com/talks/wale_oyejide_fashion_that_celebrates_african_strength_and_spirit)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### victor

*n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.

*synonym*: winner, conqueror, champion

(1) **victor** country, (2) the outright **victor**

The **victor** of the race was the favorite to win.

### downtrodden

*adj.* oppressed or treated unfairly, often by those in power or authority; subjected to harsh or abusive treatment;  
(noun) individuals or groups that are oppressed, mistreated, or subjected to cruel or unjust treatment

*synonym*: oppressed, disadvantaged, abused

(1) defender of the **downtrodden**, (2) **downtrodden** communities

The nonprofit organization provides free legal services to **downtrodden** populations.

### aspire

*v.* to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great

*synonym*: aim, desire, strive

(1) **aspire** to greatness, (2) **aspire** after perfection

She **aspired** to become a successful businesswoman.

### ostensible

*adj.* appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared

to be one thing while being something different or hidden

*synonym*: apparent, seeming, supposed

(1) **ostensible** reason, (2) **ostensible** explanation

The **ostensible** purpose of the meeting was to discuss budgeting, but the real topic was employee layoffs.

## dismantle

v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

*synonym*: take apart, demolish, take down

(1) **dismantle** a machine, (2) **dismantle** a system

The old building had to be **dismantled** because it was structurally unsound.

## bolster

v. to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources

*synonym*: reinforce, support, strengthen

(1) **bolster** confidence, (2) **bolster** the economy

The company hired a new advertising agency to **bolster** its marketing efforts.

## underrepresented

*adj.* not adequately or proportionately represented, often in terms of a particular group, population, or perspective being excluded or marginalized

*synonym*: belittled, marginalized, disadvantaged

(1) feel **underrepresented**, (2) **underrepresented** data

**Underrepresented** communities need more support and resources to achieve equity.

## pejorative

*adj.* expressing contempt, disapproval, or criticism; derogatory; having a negative connotation or intended to belittle or demean

*synonym*: derogatory, insulting, disrespectful

(1) **pejorative** language, (2) **pejorative** term

The coach's **pejorative** comments about the team's effort were unhelpful and demotivating.

## undying

*adj.* (especially of feelings or beliefs) lasting forever  
*synonym* : endless, eternal, immortal

(1) his **undying** fame, (2) swear **undying** devotion to her  
He pledged his **undying** love for his wife.

## misguided

*adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action

*synonym* : mistaken, wrong, erring

(1) **misguided** policies, (2) a **misguided** sense of duty  
His **misguided** attempt to fix the problem only made it worse.

## perseverance

*n.* steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success

*synonym* : persistence, tenacity, determination

(1) unwavering **perseverance**, (2) dogged **perseverance**  
Despite facing numerous setbacks and obstacles, his **perseverance** and determination led him to success.

## diaspora

*n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland

*synonym* : scattering, dispersion, migration

(1) **diaspora** migration, (2) **diaspora** community

The **diaspora** of the Jewish people has led to a worldwide community.

## concerted

*adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.

*synonym* : coordinated, planned, united

(1) **concerted** effort, (2) apply **concerted** pressure

The NGO launched a **concerted** campaign to raise awareness about the issue.

## mold

*n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

*synonym* : cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

## recast

*v.* to change the form of something, such as a metal object, by melting it down and reshaping it; to change the actors or the role of a particular actor in a play or film

*synonym* : modify, remake, remodel

(1) **recast** the Republican party, (2) **recast** the story

He had to **recast** his image to convince the electorate in his home state.

## prominence

*n.* the state of being important, easily seen, or well known

*synonym* : notability, eminence, distinction

(1) earn **prominence**, (2) **prominence** in society

He achieved **prominence** in the field of medicine with his groundbreaking research.

## subvert

*v.* to undermine, overthrow, or weaken the established order, system, or authority; to bring about fundamental change or revolution from within

*synonym* : overthrow, undermine, sabotage

(1) **subvert** power, (2) **subvert** expectations

The rebels could **subvert** the government's plans by leaking classified information.

## inferiority

*n.* the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others

*synonym* : lower status, low self-esteem, inadequacy

(1) **inferiority** complex, (2) **inferiority** mindset

The professor's scathing comments left the student with a sense of **inferiority** about their work.

## wary

*adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience

*synonym* : cautious, suspicious, leery

(1) a **wary** statesman, (2) **wary** of marriage  
She was **wary** of meeting new people because of past experiences.

## depict

*v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph  
*synonym*: illustrate, describe, express

(1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation  
His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

## sophistication

*n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined

*synonym*: refinement, culture, elegance

(1) cultural **sophistication**, (2) linguistic **sophistication**  
The new technology added a level of **sophistication** to the manufacturing process.

## tapestry

*n.* a piece of fabric or cloth that is woven with intricate designs or scenes, often depicting historical or mythological events; a complex or intricate story, idea, or situation

*synonym*: embroidery, hanging, cloth

(1) colorful **tapestry**, (2) intricate **tapestry** design  
The **tapestry** on the wall depicted a medieval battle scene.

## coincident

*adj.* happening or operating in the same place or at the same time

*synonym*: concurrent, accompanying, coextensive

(1) **coincident** indicators, (2) a series of **coincident** events  
**Coincident** with the negotiation, the bank was permitted to open a Beijing branch.

## extol

*v.* to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes

*synonym*: praise, admire, acclaim

(1) **extol** the beauty, (2) **extol** the benefits

The teacher **extolled** the virtues of hard work and dedication to her students.

## empower

*v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something  
*synonym*: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

## subservient

*adj.* willing to obey or serve someone else without question or complaint; excessively obedient or submissive

*synonym*: submissive, compliant, obedient

(1) **subservient** relationship, (2) **subservient** role

Her **subservient** attitude made it easy for her boss to take advantage of her.

## diplomat

*n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

*synonym*: envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**

The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

## disparate

*adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way

*synonym*: different, distinct, separate

(1) **disparate** impact, (2) physically **disparate** location

The organization worked to bring together **disparate** groups in the community.

## nuanced

*adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.

*synonym*: fine, subtle, slight

(1) **nuanced** view, (2) the common but **nuanced** opinion  
The sommelier can distinguish **nuanced** variance in the flavor of the wine.

### sub-Saharan

*adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

(1) **sub-Saharan** Africa, (2) **sub-Saharan** countries  
The coffee producers in **sub-Saharan** countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.

### traverse

*v.* to cross or move through a land or water area

*synonym*: cross, pass through, travel over

(1) **traverse** the region, (2) **traverse** a vast extent of sea  
Approximately 1000 automobiles **traverse** the bridge every day.

### dictate

*v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

*synonym*: read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate  
The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. ex\_\_l the beauty  
v. to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes
2. as\_\_\_e after perfection  
v. to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great
3. re\_\_\_t the story  
v. to change the form of something, such as a metal object, by melting it down and reshaping it; to change the actors or the role of a particular actor in a play or film
4. bo\_\_\_\_r the economy  
v. to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources
5. expel a di\_\_\_\_at  
n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
6. inf\_\_\_\_ty mindset  
n. the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others
7. co\_\_\_\_ed effort  
adj. involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
8. de\_\_\_t a feeling of isolation  
v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

ANSWERS: 1. extol, 2. aspire, 3. recast, 4. bolster, 5. diplomat, 6. inferiority, 7. concerted, 8. depict



9. dogged per\_\_\_\_\_nce *n.* steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success
10. mi\_\_\_\_\_ed policies *adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action
11. sub\_\_\_\_\_an countries *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
12. em\_\_\_\_\_r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
13. sub\_\_\_\_\_nt relationship *adj.* willing to obey or serve someone else without question or complaint; excessively obedient or submissive
14. a w\_\_y statesman *adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
15. di\_\_\_\_\_ra migration *n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland
16. intricate ta\_\_\_\_\_ry design *n.* a piece of fabric or cloth that is woven with intricate designs or scenes, often depicting historical or mythological events; a complex or intricate story, idea, or situation
17. swear un\_\_\_\_\_g devotion to her *adj.* (especially of feelings or beliefs) lasting forever
18. cultural sop\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
19. tr\_\_\_\_\_se the region *v.* to cross or move through a land or water area

ANSWERS: 9. perseverance, 10. misguided, 11. sub-Saharan, 12. empower, 13. subservient, 14. wary, 15. diaspora, 16. tapestry, 17. undying, 18. sophistication, 19. traverse

20. re\_\_\_t the Republican party      *v.* to change the form of something, such as a metal object, by melting it down and reshaping it; to change the actors or the role of a particular actor in a play or film
21. colorful ta\_\_\_\_\_ry      *n.* a piece of fabric or cloth that is woven with intricate designs or scenes, often depicting historical or mythological events; a complex or intricate story, idea, or situation
22. inf\_\_\_\_\_ty complex      *n.* the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others
23. vi\_\_\_r country      *n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.
24. di\_\_\_\_\_ra community      *n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland
25. de\_\_\_t a scene      *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
26. earn pro\_\_\_\_\_ce      *n.* the state of being important, easily seen, or well known
27. allied di\_\_\_\_\_at      *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
28. coi\_\_\_\_\_nt indicators      *adj.* happening or operating in the same place or at the same time

ANSWERS: 20. recast, 21. tapestry, 22. inferiority, 23. victor, 24. diaspora, 25. depict, 26. prominence, 27. diplomat, 28. coincident

29. tr\_\_\_\_se a vast extent of sea      *v.* to cross or move through a land or water area
30. di\_\_\_\_\_le a machine      *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
31. dow\_\_\_\_\_en communities      *adj.* oppressed or treated unfairly, often by those in power or authority; subjected to harsh or abusive treatment; (noun) individuals or groups that are oppressed, mistreated, or subjected to cruel or unjust treatment
32. su\_\_\_\_\_t power      *v.* to undermine, overthrow, or weaken the established order, system, or authority; to bring about fundamental change or revolution from within
33. m\_\_d allergy      *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
34. the common but nu\_\_\_\_d opinion      *adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.
35. sub\_\_\_\_\_nt role      *adj.* willing to obey or serve someone else without question or complaint; excessively obedient or submissive
36. a mi\_\_\_\_\_ed sense of duty      *adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action

ANSWERS: 29. traverse, 30. dismantle, 31. downtrodden, 32. subvert, 33. mold, 34. nuanced, 35. subservient, 36. misguided

37. di\_\_\_\_\_e to the associate      *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
38. ost\_\_\_\_\_le reason      *adj.* appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared to be one thing while being something different or hidden
39. pej\_\_\_\_\_ve term      *adj.* expressing contempt, disapproval, or criticism; derogatory; having a negative connotation or intended to belittle or demean
40. pej\_\_\_\_\_ve language      *adj.* expressing contempt, disapproval, or criticism; derogatory; having a negative connotation or intended to belittle or demean
41. und\_\_\_\_\_ted data      *adj.* not adequately or proportionately represented, often in terms of a particular group, population, or perspective being excluded or marginalized
42. sub\_\_\_\_\_an Africa      *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
43. physically di\_\_\_\_\_te location      *adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
44. a series of coi\_\_\_\_\_nt events      *adj.* happening or operating in the same place or at the same time
45. the outright vi\_\_\_\_r      *n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.

ANSWERS: 37. dictate, 38. ostensible, 39. pejorative, 40. pejorative, 41. underrepresented, 42. sub-Saharan, 43. disparate, 44. coincident, 45. victor

46. defender of the dow\_\_\_\_\_en      *adj.* oppressed or treated unfairly, often by those in power or authority; subjected to harsh or abusive treatment; (noun) individuals or groups that are oppressed, mistreated, or subjected to cruel or unjust treatment
47. di\_\_\_\_\_te impact      *adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
48. bo\_\_\_\_\_r confidence      *v.* to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources
49. w\_\_y of marriage      *adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
50. su\_\_\_\_\_t expectations      *v.* to undermine, overthrow, or weaken the established order, system, or authority; to bring about fundamental change or revolution from within
51. feel und\_\_\_\_\_ted      *adj.* not adequately or proportionately represented, often in terms of a particular group, population, or perspective being excluded or marginalized
52. unwavering per\_\_\_\_\_nce      *n.* steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success
53. linguistic sop\_\_\_\_\_ion      *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
54. di\_\_\_\_\_e a letter to secretary      *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

ANSWERS: 46. downtrodden, 47. disparate, 48. bolster, 49. wary, 50. subvert, 51. underrepresented, 52. perseverance, 53. sophistication, 54. dictate

55. apply co\_\_\_\_\_ed pressure      *adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
56. his un\_\_\_\_\_g fame      *adj.* (especially of feelings or beliefs) lasting forever
57. nu\_\_\_\_\_d view      *adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.
58. ost\_\_\_\_\_le explanation      *adj.* appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared to be one thing while being something different or hidden
59. a casting m\_\_d      *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
60. di\_\_\_\_\_le a system      *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
61. em\_\_\_\_\_r my life      *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
62. pro\_\_\_\_\_ce in society      *n.* the state of being important, easily seen, or well known
63. ex\_\_l the benefits      *v.* to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes

ANSWERS: 55. concerted, 56. undying, 57. nuanced, 58. ostensible, 59. mold, 60. dismantle, 61. empower, 62. prominence, 63. extol

64. as\_\_\_e to greatness

v. to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great

ANSWERS: 64. aspire

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The professor's scathing comments left the student with a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ about their work.
  - n.* the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others
  
2. The new technology added a level of \_\_\_\_\_ to the manufacturing process.
  - n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
  
3. The senior \_\_\_\_\_ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.
  - n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
  
4. The NGO launched a \_\_\_\_\_ campaign to raise awareness about the issue.
  - adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
  
5. Her \_\_\_\_\_ attitude made it easy for her boss to take advantage of her.
  - adj.* willing to obey or serve someone else without question or complaint; excessively obedient or submissive
  
6. He had to \_\_\_\_\_ his image to convince the electorate in his home state.
  - v.* to change the form of something, such as a metal object, by melting it down and reshaping it; to change the actors or the role of a particular actor in a play or film

ANSWERS: 1. inferiority, 2. sophistication, 3. diplomat, 4. concerted, 5. subservient, 6. recast



7. The company \_\_\_\_\_ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.  
*v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
8. The organization worked to bring together \_\_\_\_\_ groups in the community.  
*adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
9. \_\_\_\_\_ with the negotiation, the bank was permitted to open a Beijing branch.  
*adj.* happening or operating in the same place or at the same time
10. She was \_\_\_\_\_ of meeting new people because of past experiences.  
*adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
11. He pledged his \_\_\_\_\_ love for his wife.  
*adj.* (especially of feelings or beliefs) lasting forever
12. Approximately 1000 automobiles \_\_\_\_\_ the bridge every day.  
*v.* to cross or move through a land or water area
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ on the wall depicted a medieval battle scene.  
*n.* a piece of fabric or cloth that is woven with intricate designs or scenes, often depicting historical or mythological events; a complex or intricate story, idea, or situation
14. The old building had to be \_\_\_\_\_ because it was structurally unsound.  
*v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

ANSWERS: 7. empowered, 8. disparate, 9. Coincident, 10. wary, 11. undying, 12. traverse, 13. tapestry, 14. dismantled

15. \_\_\_\_\_ communities need more support and resources to achieve equity.  
*adj.* not adequately or proportionately represented, often in terms of a particular group, population, or perspective being excluded or marginalized
16. She \_\_\_\_\_ to become a successful businesswoman.  
*v.* to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great
17. Mushrooms and \_\_\_\_\_ are fungi.  
*n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
18. The allies \_\_\_\_\_ the terms of surrender to the country.  
*v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
19. He achieved \_\_\_\_\_ in the field of medicine with his groundbreaking research.  
*n.* the state of being important, easily seen, or well known
20. The sommelier can distinguish \_\_\_\_\_ variance in the flavor of the wine.  
*adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.
21. The company hired a new advertising agency to \_\_\_\_\_ its marketing efforts.  
*v.* to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources
22. The teacher \_\_\_\_\_ the virtues of hard work and dedication to her students.  
*v.* to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes

ANSWERS: 15. Underrepresented, 16. aspired, 17. mold, 18. dictated, 19. prominence, 20. nuanced, 21. bolster, 22. extolled

23. His son had accurately \_\_\_\_\_ the bloom.

*v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

24. The rebels could \_\_\_\_\_ the government's plans by leaking classified information.

*v.* to undermine, overthrow, or weaken the established order, system, or authority; to bring about fundamental change or revolution from within

25. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the race was the favorite to win.

*n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.

26. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Jewish people has led to a worldwide community.

*n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland

27. The \_\_\_\_\_ purpose of the meeting was to discuss budgeting, but the real topic was employee layoffs.

*adj.* appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared to be one thing while being something different or hidden

28. The nonprofit organization provides free legal services to \_\_\_\_\_ populations.

*adj.* oppressed or treated unfairly, often by those in power or authority; subjected to harsh or abusive treatment; (noun) individuals or groups that are oppressed, mistreated, or subjected to cruel or unjust treatment

29. His \_\_\_\_\_ attempt to fix the problem only made it worse.

*adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action

ANSWERS: 23. depicted, 24. subvert, 25. victor, 26. diaspora, 27. ostensible, 28. downtrodden, 29. misguided

30. The coach's \_\_\_\_\_ comments about the team's effort were unhelpful and demotivating.

*adj.* expressing contempt, disapproval, or criticism; derogatory; having a negative connotation or intended to belittle or demean

31. The coffee producers in \_\_\_\_\_ countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.

*adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

32. Despite facing numerous setbacks and obstacles, his \_\_\_\_\_ and determination led him to success.

*n.* steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success

ANSWERS: 30. pejorative, 31. sub-Saharan, 32. perseverance