

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Stuart Duncan: How I use Minecraft to help kids with autism | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/stuart\\_duncan\\_how\\_i\\_use\\_minecraft\\_to\\_help\\_kids\\_with\\_autism](https://www.ted.com/talks/stuart_duncan_how_i_use_minecraft_to_help_kids_with_autism)

### 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

### resemblance

*n.* similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details

*synonym*: closeness, likeness, similarity

(1) striking **resemblance**, (2) faint **resemblance**

The **resemblance** between Anna and her mother was astonishing.

### uncanny

*adj.* strange or mysterious, often in a way that is unsettling

*synonym*: arcane, astonishing, eerie

(1) in an **uncanny** manner, (2) **uncanny** resemblance

She has an **uncanny** sense of who is telling a lie.

### bully

*n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

*synonym*: tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak

The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

### troll

*n.* a person who makes inflammatory or off-topic posts on the internet; a supernatural creature often portrayed as a giant or dwarf that lives in isolated areas; (verb) to fish by dragging a baited line through the water behind a

## boat

*synonym* : provocateur, antagonist, troublemaker

(1) feed a **troll**, (2) copyright **troll**

He was banned from the online forum for being a **troll** and causing trouble.

## retard

*v.* to hinder, delay, or slow down the progress or development of something; to cause someone or something to be delayed or held back

*synonym* : delay, hinder, impede

(1) **retard** progress, (2) **retard** the growth

Excessive alcohol consumption may confuse time, blur vision, dim alertness, and **retard** response.

## powerless

*adj.* lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change

*synonym* : helpless, impotent, feeble

(1) **powerless** position, (2) **powerless** in the organization

During the hurricane, we felt **powerless** against the winds and rain.

## underestimate

*v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

*synonym* : underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

## nonverbal

*adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language

*synonym* : silent, mute, unspoken

(1) **nonverbal** communication, (2) **nonverbal** signal

Many communication skills rely on **nonverbal** cues such as body language and facial expressions.

**pun** *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay

*synonym* : joke, quip, wordplay

(1) witty **pun**, (2) silly **pun**

The comedian's **pun** had the audience laughing out loud.

**knack** *n.* a special talent or ability that comes naturally or with practice, particularly in a specific area or field; a clever or shrewd way of doing something

*synonym* : skill, talent, ability

(1) acquire a **knack** for painting, (2) artistic **knack**

She has a **knack** for solving difficult puzzles quickly.

**mute** *adj.* silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated

*synonym* : silent, unspoken, voiceless

(1) **mute** button, (2) **mute** sound

The actor played a **mute** character and had to rely on facial expressions to portray his emotions.

**outcast** *adj.* excluded or rejected from a society or a particular group; (noun) a person who is excluded or rejected from a society or a home

*synonym* : fugitive, friendless, vagabond

(1) discrimination against **outcast** people, (2) social **outcast**

He was an **outcast** from the neighboring village.

**antisocial** *adj.* not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted social norms or standards

*synonym* : unsociable, withdrawn, reclusive

(1) **antisocial** tendencies, (2) **antisocial** personality disorder

The suspect's **antisocial** behavior and lack of remorse made the judge question their sanity.

## empathy

*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

*synonym*: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

**Empathy** is also necessary to understand history.

## compassionate

*adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others

*synonym*: empathetic, sympathetic, merciful

(1) a **compassionate** heart, (2) **compassionate** leave

My father has a serious and **compassionate** personality.

## self-doubt

*n.* lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself

*synonym*: insecurity, uncertainty, diffident

(1) overcome **self-doubt**, (2) spiral of **self-doubt**

I was filled with **self-doubt**.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. feed a tr\_\_l *n.* a person who makes inflammatory or off-topic posts on the internet; a supernatural creature often portrayed as a giant or dwarf that lives in isolated areas; (verb) to fish by dragging a baited line through the water behind a boat
2. und\_\_\_\_\_ate an enemy *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
3. striking res\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
4. un\_\_\_\_\_y resemblance *adj.* strange or mysterious, often in a way that is unsettling
5. a com\_\_\_\_\_ate heart *adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
6. ant\_\_\_\_\_al personality disorder *adj.* not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted social norms or standards
7. no\_\_\_\_\_al signal *adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language
8. spiral of sel\_\_\_\_\_bt *n.* lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself
9. no\_\_\_\_\_al communication *adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language

ANSWERS: 1. troll, 2. underestimate, 3. resemblance, 4. uncanny, 5. compassionate, 6. antisocial, 7. nonverbal, 8. self-doubt, 9. nonverbal

10. re\_\_\_d the growth  
*v.* to hinder, delay, or slow down the progress or development of something; to cause someone or something to be delayed or held back
11. social ou\_\_\_\_t  
*adj.* excluded or rejected from a society or a particular group; (noun) a person who is excluded or rejected from a society or a home
12. po\_\_\_\_\_ss position  
*adj.* lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change
13. m\_\_e sound  
*adj.* silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated
14. overcome sel\_\_\_\_\_bt  
*n.* lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself
15. faint res\_\_\_\_\_ce  
*n.* similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
16. und\_\_\_\_\_ate the probability  
*v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
17. full of em\_\_\_\_\_y  
*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
18. copyright tr\_\_l  
*n.* a person who makes inflammatory or off-topic posts on the internet; a supernatural creature often portrayed as a giant or dwarf that lives in isolated areas; (verb) to fish by dragging a baited line through the water behind a boat
19. re\_\_\_d progress  
*v.* to hinder, delay, or slow down the progress or development of something; to cause someone or something to be delayed or held back

ANSWERS: 10. retard, 11. outcast, 12. powerless, 13. mute, 14. self-doubt, 15. resemblance, 16. underestimate, 17. empathy, 18. troll, 19. retard

20. silly p\_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
21. in an un\_\_\_\_\_y manner *adj.* strange or mysterious, often in a way that is unsettling
22. com\_\_\_\_\_ate leave *adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
23. em\_\_\_\_\_y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
24. artistic kn\_\_k *n.* a special talent or ability that comes naturally or with practice, particularly in a specific area or field; a clever or shrewd way of doing something
25. bu\_\_y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
26. po\_\_\_\_\_ss in the organization *adj.* lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change
27. acquire a kn\_\_k for painting *n.* a special talent or ability that comes naturally or with practice, particularly in a specific area or field; a clever or shrewd way of doing something
28. ant\_\_\_\_\_al tendencies *adj.* not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted social norms or standards

ANSWERS: 20. pun, 21. uncanny, 22. compassionate, 23. empathy, 24. knack, 25. bully, 26. powerless, 27. knack, 28. antisocial

29. witty p\_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
30. discrimination against ou\_\_\_\_t people *adj.* excluded or rejected from a society or a particular group; (noun) a person who is excluded or rejected from a society or a home
31. m\_\_e button *adj.* silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated
32. bu\_\_y the weak *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

ANSWERS: 29. pun, 30. outcast, 31. mute, 32. bully



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Many communication skills rely on \_\_\_\_\_ cues such as body language and facial expressions.  
*adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language
2. The schoolyard \_\_\_\_\_ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.  
*n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
3. They frequently \_\_\_\_\_ their abilities and felt inferior.  
*v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
4. He was banned from the online forum for being a \_\_\_\_\_ and causing trouble.  
*n.* a person who makes inflammatory or off-topic posts on the internet; a supernatural creature often portrayed as a giant or dwarf that lives in isolated areas; (verb) to fish by dragging a baited line through the water behind a boat
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ between Anna and her mother was astonishing.  
*n.* similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
6. I was filled with \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself
7. She has an \_\_\_\_\_ sense of who is telling a lie.  
*adj.* strange or mysterious, often in a way that is unsettling

ANSWERS: 1. nonverbal, 2. bully, 3. underestimated, 4. troll, 5. resemblance, 6. self-doubt, 7. uncanny

8. She has a \_\_\_\_\_ for solving difficult puzzles quickly.
- n.* a special talent or ability that comes naturally or with practice, particularly in a specific area or field; a clever or shrewd way of doing something
9. The comedian's \_\_\_\_ had the audience laughing out loud.
- n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
10. \_\_\_\_\_ is also necessary to understand history.
- n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
11. My father has a serious and \_\_\_\_\_ personality.
- adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
12. He was an \_\_\_\_\_ from the neighboring village.
- adj.* excluded or rejected from a society or a particular group; (noun) a person who is excluded or rejected from a society or a home
13. Excessive alcohol consumption may confuse time, blur vision, dim alertness, and \_\_\_\_\_ response.
- v.* to hinder, delay, or slow down the progress or development of something; to cause someone or something to be delayed or held back
14. The suspect's \_\_\_\_\_ behavior and lack of remorse made the judge question their sanity.
- adj.* not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted social norms or standards
15. During the hurricane, we felt \_\_\_\_\_ against the winds and rain.
- adj.* lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change

ANSWERS: 8. knack, 9. pun, 10. Empathy, 11. compassionate, 12. outcast, 13. retard, 14. antisocial, 15. powerless

16. The actor played a \_\_\_\_\_ character and had to rely on facial expressions to portray his emotions.

*adj.* silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated

ANSWERS: 16. mute