

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Peter Paccone: How do US Supreme Court justices get appointed? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/peter\\_paccone\\_how\\_do\\_us\\_supreme\\_court\\_justices\\_get\\_appointed](https://www.ted.com/talks/peter_paccone_how_do_us_supreme_court_justices_get_appointed)

### 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

### prestige

*n.* respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality

*synonym*: honor, distinction, reputation

(1) national **prestige**, (2) **prestige** company

The university has great **prestige** in the academic community.

### nominate

*v.* to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor

*synonym*: appoint, designate, elect

(1) **nominate** him for an award, (2) **nominate** government representatives

The organization **nominated** her to be the next president.

### Senate

*n.* a legislative body, especially the upper house of a parliament

*synonym*: upper house, council, assembly

(1) **Senate** hearing, (2) **Senate** Finance Committee

The **Senate** majority leader announced plans to bring the bill to the floor for a vote.

## judiciary

*n.* persons who administer or enforce justice

*synonym* : tribunal, bench, court

(1) independence of the **judiciary**, (2) member of the **judiciary**

The **judiciary** of the case was inexperienced and lacked locally educated attorneys.

## contentious

*adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

*synonym* : antagonistic, combative, confrontational

(1) **contentious** subject, (2) **contentious** debate

There are many **contentious** issues in claiming a patent.

## discern

*v.* to see, perceive, or understand something that is not obvious

*synonym* : determine, distinguish, sense

(1) **discern** the big picture, (2) **discern** friend from foe

Parents need to help their children **discern** right and wrong.

## unearth

*v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

*synonym* : discover, uncover, expose

(1) **unearth** burial mound, (2) **unearth** a mystery

The detective **unearthed** a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.

## indiscretion

*n.* an act or remark that shows a lack of good judgment, tact, or prudence; a behavior or disclosure that is considered inappropriate or unwise

*synonym* : mistake, error, blunder

(1) a moment of **indiscretion**, (2) **indiscretion** of youth

The tabloids exposed the celebrity's **indiscretion** in cheating on their partner.

## solemn

*adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave

in tone or demeanor

*synonym*: serious, grave, somber

(1) **solemn** vow, (2) **solemn** ceremony

The priest led the **solemn** procession through the church.

## impartially

*adv.* in a fair and unbiased manner; without favoritism or prejudice

*synonym*: neutrally, fairly

(1) treat people **impartially**, (2) vote **impartially**

The judge always listens **impartially** to both sides of the argument before making a decision.

## impeach

*v.* to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office

*synonym*: charge, accuse, claim

(1) **impeach** him with an error, (2) **impeach** official

The House of Representatives **impeached** the president for abuse of power.

## paragon

*n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection

*synonym*: model, exemplar, ideal

(1) **paragon** of wisdom, (2) **paragon** of virtue

She is considered a **paragon** of beauty and grace in her community.

## intellect

*n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

*synonym*: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

## titanic

*adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous,

corrosion-resistant metallic element)

*synonym*: colossal, massive, immense

(1) **titanic** battle, (2) **titanic** compound

The **titanic** ship sank on its maiden voyage.

## **exemplar**

*n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or type; a model or ideal to be emulated

*synonym*: model, paradigm, archetype

(1) **exemplar** of leadership, (2) scientific **exemplar**

The lawyer cited the famous civil rights leader as an **exemplar** of courage and perseverance.

## **dissect**

*v.* to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail

*synonym*: analyze, examine, study

(1) **dissect** the data, (2) **dissect** a personality

The scientist **dissected** the frog to study its internal organs.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Se___e hearing           | <i>n.</i> a legislative body, especially the upper house of a parliament  |
| 2. human in_____ct          | <i>n.</i> the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level  |
| 3. di_____n friend from foe | <i>v.</i> to see, perceive, or understand something that is not obvious   |
| 4. pa_____n of wisdom       | <i>n.</i> a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection      |
| 5. ind_____ion of youth     | <i>n.</i> an act or remark that shows a lack of good judgment, tact, or prudence; a behavior or disclosure that is considered inappropriate or unwise |
| 6. ex_____ar of leadership  | <i>n.</i> a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or type; a model or ideal to be emulated                    |
| 7. treat people imp_____ly  | <i>adv.</i> in a fair and unbiased manner; without favoritism or prejudice  |
| 8. di_____n the big picture | <i>v.</i> to see, perceive, or understand something that is not obvious   |
| 9. di_____t a personality   | <i>v.</i> to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail  |
| 10. pr_____ge company       | <i>n.</i> respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality                        |

ANSWERS: 1. Senate, 2. intellect, 3. discern, 4. paragon, 5. indiscretion, 6. exemplar, 7. impartially, 8. discern, 9. dissect, 10. prestige

11. un\_\_\_\_\_h burial mound      *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
12. so\_\_\_\_n vow      *adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor
13. con\_\_\_\_\_us subject      *adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
14. vote imp\_\_\_\_\_ly      *adv.* in a fair and unbiased manner; without favoritism or prejudice
15. di\_\_\_\_\_t the data      *v.* to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail
16. independence of the ju\_\_\_\_\_ry      *n.* persons who administer or enforce justice
17. no\_\_\_\_\_te him for an award      *v.* to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
18. so\_\_\_\_n ceremony      *adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor
19. member of the ju\_\_\_\_\_ry      *n.* persons who administer or enforce justice
20. enrich my in\_\_\_\_\_ct      *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

ANSWERS: 11. unearth, 12. solemn, 13. contentious, 14. impartially, 15. dissect, 16. judiciary, 17. nominate, 18. solemn, 19. judiciary, 20. intellect

21. Se\_\_\_e Finance Committee      *n.* a legislative body, especially the upper house of a parliament
22. im\_\_\_\_h official      *v.* to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office
23. national pr\_\_\_\_ge      *n.* respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality
24. ti\_\_\_\_c battle      *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
25. con\_\_\_\_us debate      *adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
26. no\_\_\_\_te government representatives      *v.* to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
27. pa\_\_\_\_n of virtue      *n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection
28. ti\_\_\_\_c compound      *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
29. scientific ex\_\_\_\_ar      *n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or type; a model or ideal to be emulated
30. un\_\_\_\_h a mystery      *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

ANSWERS: 21. Senate, 22. impeach, 23. prestige, 24. titanic, 25. contentious, 26. nominate, 27. paragon, 28. titanic, 29. exemplar, 30. unearth

31. a moment of ind\_\_\_\_\_ion

*n.* an act or remark that shows a lack of good judgment, tact, or prudence; a behavior or disclosure that is considered inappropriate or unwise

32. im\_\_\_\_\_h him with an error

*v.* to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office

ANSWERS: 31. indiscretion, 32. impeach



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The tabloids exposed the celebrity's \_\_\_\_\_ in cheating on their partner.  
*n.* an act or remark that shows a lack of good judgment, tact, or prudence; a behavior or disclosure that is considered inappropriate or unwise
  
2. Parents need to help their children \_\_\_\_\_ right and wrong.  
*v.* to see, perceive, or understand something that is not obvious
  
3. There are many \_\_\_\_\_ issues in claiming a patent.  
*adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
  
4. The organization \_\_\_\_\_ her to be the next president.  
*v.* to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
  
5. The detective \_\_\_\_\_ a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.  
*v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
  
6. The priest led the \_\_\_\_\_ procession through the church.  
*adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor
  
7. The House of Representatives \_\_\_\_\_ the president for abuse of power.  
*v.* to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office
  
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ ship sank on its maiden voyage.  
*adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

ANSWERS: 1. indiscretion, 2. discern, 3. contentious, 4. nominated, 5. unearthed, 6. solemn, 7. impeached, 8. titanic

9. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the case was inexperienced and lacked locally educated attorneys.  
*n.* persons who administer or enforce justice
10. The scientist \_\_\_\_\_ the frog to study its internal organs.  
*v.* to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail
11. She is considered a \_\_\_\_\_ of beauty and grace in her community.  
*n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection
12. The \_\_\_\_\_ majority leader announced plans to bring the bill to the floor for a vote.  
*n.* a legislative body, especially the upper house of a parliament
13. The university has great \_\_\_\_\_ in the academic community.  
*n.* respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality
14. The lawyer cited the famous civil rights leader as an \_\_\_\_\_ of courage and perseverance.  
*n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or type; a model or ideal to be emulated
15. The judge always listens \_\_\_\_\_ to both sides of the argument before making a decision.  
*adv.* in a fair and unbiased manner; without favoritism or prejudice
16. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.  
*n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

ANSWERS: 9. judiciary, 10. dissected, 11. paragon, 12. Senate, 13. prestige, 14. exemplar, 15. impartially, 16. intellect

ANSWERS: