

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Euna Lee: What I learned as a prisoner in North Korea | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/euna\\_lee\\_what\\_i\\_learned\\_as\\_a\\_prisoner\\_in\\_north\\_korea](https://www.ted.com/talks/euna_lee_what_i_learned_as_a_prisoner_in_north_korea)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### determinant

*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

*synonym*: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

### yell

*v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way

*synonym*: shout, scream, cry

(1) **yell** for help, (2) **yell** as loud as we can

When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and **yelled** at me.

### stubborn

*adj.* refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change

*synonym*: persistent, obstinate, determined

(1) **stubborn** attitude, (2) **stubborn** stains

He was so **stubborn** about his beliefs that he refused to listen to any other points of view.

## frightening

*adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming  
*synonym* : scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience

The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

## instill

*v.* to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually  
*synonym* : implant, ingrain, inculcate

(1) **instill** confidence, (2) **instill** medication into my eye

The teacher attempted to **instill** the importance of hard work in her students.

## humanize

*v.* to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans

*synonym* : civilize, personalize

(1) **humanize** my pet, (2) **humanize** a room

The charity event aims to **humanize** the homeless rather than treat them as mere statistics.

## equate

*v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous

*synonym* : associate, liken, relate

(1) **equate** mistakes with failure, (2) **equate** to legal responsibility

It isn't very reasonable to **equate** money with happiness.

## interrogate

*v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

*synonym* : question, examine, probe

(1) **interrogate** an enemy soldier, (2) **interrogated** by police

The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately **interrogate** the witness.

## confession

*n.* a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal

*synonym* : admission, avowal, acknowledgment

(1) a **confession** of guilt, (2) a **confession** of faith  
The prisoner made a full **confession** and admitted to his crime.

### **affluent**

*adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth

*synonym*: wealthy, rich, prosperous

(1) **affluent** society, (2) live in **affluent** circumstances  
She lived in an **affluent** neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.

### **scold**

*v.* to reprimand or criticize someone severely or angrily

*synonym*: reprimand, rebuke, chastise

(1) **scold** him for being late, (2) **scold** in a loud voice  
He **scolded** his employees for not meeting their deadlines.

### **degrade**

*v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

*synonym*: demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

### **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.

### **provoke**

*v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect

*synonym*: stimulate, incite, encourage

(1) **provoke** a disease, (2) **provoke** a reaction  
Her behavior **provoked** a quarrel between the couple.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                     |      |   |
|-------------------------------------|------|---|
| 1. pr____e a disease                | v.   | to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect  |
| 2. sc__d him for being late         | v.   | to reprimand or criticize someone severely or angrily   |
| 3. fri_____ng experience            | adj. | causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming  |
| 4. environmental det_____nt         | n.   | a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 5. live in af_____nt circumstances  | adj. | rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth   |
| 6. a det_____nt of crop yields      | n.   | a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 7. cast fri_____ng eyes             | adj. | causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming  |
| 8. eq___e mistakes with failure     | v.   | to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous   |
| 9. int_____ted by police            | v.   | to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner   |
| 10. sc__d in a loud voice           | v.   | to reprimand or criticize someone severely or angrily   |
| 11. in_____l medication into my eye | v.   | to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually   |

ANSWERS: 1. provoke, 2. scold, 3. frightening, 4. determinant, 5. affluent, 6. determinant, 7. frightening, 8. equate, 9. interrogate, 10. scold, 11. instill

12. int\_\_\_\_\_te an enemy soldier      *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
13. a con\_\_\_\_\_on of faith      *n.* a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal
14. eq\_\_\_e to legal responsibility      *v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
15. pr\_\_\_\_\_e a reaction      *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
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. af\_\_\_\_\_nt society      *adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
18. in\_\_\_\_\_l confidence      *v.* to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
19. 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
20. hu\_\_\_\_\_ze a room      *v.* to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
21. a con\_\_\_\_\_on of guilt      *n.* a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal

ANSWERS: 12. interrogate, 13. confession, 14. equate, 15. provoke, 16. blur, 17. affluent, 18. instill, 19. blur, 20. humanize, 21. confession

22. y\_\_l as loud as we can                    *v.*    to shout in a sudden and loud way
23. st\_\_\_\_rn stains                            *adj.*   refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change
24. hu\_\_\_\_ze my pet                           *v.*    to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
25. de\_\_\_\_e his public image                *v.*    to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
26. st\_\_\_\_rn attitude                         *adj.*   refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change
27. y\_\_l for help                                *v.*    to shout in a sudden and loud way
28. de\_\_\_\_e environmental quality           *v.*    to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

ANSWERS: 22. yell, 23. stubborn, 24. humanize, 25. degrade, 26. stubborn, 27. yell, 28. degrade

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. One \_\_\_\_\_ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.  
*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ his employees for not meeting their deadlines.  
*v.* to reprimand or criticize someone severely or angrily
3. She lived in an \_\_\_\_\_ neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.  
*adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
4. When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and \_\_\_\_\_ at me.  
*v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
5. Her behavior \_\_\_\_\_ a quarrel between the couple.  
*v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
6. The teacher attempted to \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of hard work in her students.  
*v.* to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
7. 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
8. The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately \_\_\_\_\_ the witness.  
*v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

ANSWERS: 1. determinant, 2. scolded, 3. affluent, 4. yelled, 5. provoked, 6. instill, 7. blur, 8. interrogate



9. The prisoner made a full \_\_\_\_\_ and admitted to his crime.  
*n.* a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal
10. The charity event aims to \_\_\_\_\_ the homeless rather than treat them as mere statistics.  
*v.* to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
11. It isn't very reasonable to \_\_\_\_\_ money with happiness.  
*v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
12. He was so \_\_\_\_\_ about his beliefs that he refused to listen to any other points of view.  
*adj.* refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change
13. You should not \_\_\_\_\_ yourself by allowing them to use you.  
*v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
14. The news of the pandemic was a \_\_\_\_\_ reminder of the fragility of human health.  
*adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

ANSWERS: 9. confession, 10. humanize, 11. equate, 12. stubborn, 13. degrade, 14. frightening