

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Christopher Soghoian: How to avoid surveillance ...

with the phone in your pocket | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/christopher\\_soghoian\\_how\\_to\\_avoid\\_surveillance\\_with\\_the\\_phone\\_in\\_your\\_pocket](https://www.ted.com/talks/christopher_soghoian_how_to_avoid_surveillance_with_the_phone_in_your_pocket)

### 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

### wiretap

*v.* to secretly listen to a people's conversation or get their information by connecting a listening device to their phone line

*synonym* : tap, bug, intercept

(1) receiver to **wiretap** transmission data, (2) **wiretap** private communications

It later appeared that the police had **wiretapped** the suspect's conversations.

### industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym* : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

### stalker

*n.* a person who harasses or pursues someone persistently, often with threatening or unwanted behavior

*synonym* : prowler, predator, pursuer

(1) **stalker** behavior, (2) cyber **stalker**

She hired a private investigator to track down her obsessed **stalker**.

## encrypt

*v.* to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons

*synonym* : encode, cipher, scramble

(1) **encrypt** data, (2) **encrypt** message

To protect their sensitive information, many businesses **encrypt** their files.

## smartphone

*n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict  
Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

## authoritarian

*adj.* characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights

*synonym* : dictatorial, totalitarian, despotic

(1) **authoritarian** practice, (2) **authoritarian** government

The **authoritarian** leadership style left no room for dissent or alternative opinions.

## intercept

*v.* to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination

*synonym* : ambush, block, prevent

(1) **intercept** an enemy force, (2) **intercept** X rays

It is illegal to **intercept** police radio.

## backdoor

*adj.* a term used to describe an unauthorized or concealed means of accessing a computer system or network, typically through a loophole or vulnerability in the system

*synonym* : hidden, secret, covert

(1) **backdoor** access, (2) **backdoor** software

The public was outraged to discover that the company had made a **backdoor** deal with the government to avoid taxes.

## surveil

v. to closely watch, monitor, or observe a person or area, often to gather information or data; to keep surveillance on

*synonym*: monitor, watch, observe

(1) **surveil** suspect, (2) **surveil** the cheating spouse

The security team was assigned to **surveil** the building and ensure its safety.

## thwart

v. to prevent something from happening or succeeding

*synonym*: hinder, block, obstruct

(1) **thwart** enemy plans, (2) **thwart** attempts

He **thwarted** the thief's attempt to steal the painting.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. th___t attempts              | v. to prevent something from happening or succeeding  |
| 2. aut_____ian government       | <i>adj.</i> characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights                  |
| 3. aut_____ian practice         | <i>adj.</i> characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights                  |
| 4. su_____l the cheating spouse | v. to closely watch, monitor, or observe a person or area, often to gather information or data; to keep surveillance on   |
| 5. th___t enemy plans           | v. to prevent something from happening or succeeding  |
| 6. in_____pt an enemy force     | v. to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination  |
| 7. ba_____or software           | <i>adj.</i> a term used to describe an unauthorized or concealed means of accessing a computer system or network, typically through a loophole or vulnerability in the system |
| 8. sma_____ne app developer     | <i>n.</i> a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet  |
| 9. su_____l suspect             | v. to closely watch, monitor, or observe a person or area, often to gather information or data; to keep surveillance on   |

ANSWERS: 1. thwart, 2. authoritarian, 3. authoritarian, 4. surveil, 5. thwart, 6. intercept, 7. backdoor, 8. smartphone, 9. surveil

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 10. sma_____ne addict                      | <i>n.</i> a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet  |
| 11. st_____r behavior                      | <i>n.</i> a person who harasses or pursues someone persistently, often with threatening or unwanted behavior  |
| 12. ba_____or access                       | <i>adj.</i> a term used to describe an unauthorized or concealed means of accessing a computer system or network, typically through a loophole or vulnerability in the system                               |
| 13. cyber st_____r                         | <i>n.</i> a person who harasses or pursues someone persistently, often with threatening or unwanted behavior  |
| 14. receiver to wi_____p transmission data | <i>v.</i> to secretly listen to a people's conversation or get their information by connecting a listening device to their phone line   |
| 15. ind_____us student                     | <i>adj.</i> hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort   |
| 16. en_____t data                          | <i>v.</i> to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons |
| 17. wi_____p private communications        | <i>v.</i> to secretly listen to a people's conversation or get their information by connecting a listening device to their phone line   |
| 18. en_____t message                       | <i>v.</i> to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons |

ANSWERS: 10. smartphone, 11. stalker, 12. backdoor, 13. stalker, 14. wiretap, 15. industrious, 16. encrypt, 17. wiretap, 18. encrypt

19. in\_\_\_\_\_pt X rays

*v.* to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination

20. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 19. intercept, 20. industrious

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She hired a private investigator to track down her obsessed \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a person who harasses or pursues someone persistently, often with threatening or unwanted behavior
  
2. The public was outraged to discover that the company had made a \_\_\_\_\_ deal with the government to avoid taxes.  
*adj.* a term used to describe an unauthorized or concealed means of accessing a computer system or network, typically through a loophole or vulnerability in the system
  
3. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
  
4. To protect their sensitive information, many businesses \_\_\_\_\_ their files.  
*v.* to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons
  
5. It is illegal to \_\_\_\_\_ police radio.  
*v.* to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination
  
6. It later appeared that the police had \_\_\_\_\_ the suspect's conversations.  
*v.* to secretly listen to a people's conversation or get their information by connecting a listening device to their phone line
  
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ leadership style left no room for dissent or alternative opinions.  
*adj.* characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights

ANSWERS: 1. stalker, 2. backdoor, 3. smartphones, 4. encrypt, 5. intercept, 6. wiretapped, 7. authoritarian

8. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
9. The security team was assigned to \_\_\_\_\_ the building and ensure its safety.  
*v.* to closely watch, monitor, or observe a person or area, often to gather information or data; to keep surveillance on
10. He \_\_\_\_\_ the thief's attempt to steal the painting.  
*v.* to prevent something from happening or succeeding

ANSWERS: 8. industrious, 9. surveil, 10. thwarted