

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Joshua Prager: Wisdom from great writers on every year of life | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/joshua\\_prager\\_wisdom\\_from\\_great\\_writers\\_on\\_every\\_year\\_of\\_life](https://www.ted.com/talks/joshua_prager_wisdom_from_great_writers_on_every_year_of_life)

### 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

### Norman

*adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

*synonym* : medieval, antique, archaic

(1) **norman** cathedral, (2) **norman** invasion

The **Norman** architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.

### sentimental

*adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

*synonym* : bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage

Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

### confinement

*n.* the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited

*synonym* : captivity, imprisonment, detention

(1) **confinement** cell, (2) house **confinement**

The prisoner spent months in solitary **confinement**.

## emancipation

*n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence

*synonym*: liberation, freedom, release

(1) self- **emancipation**, (2) history of **emancipation**

His **emancipation** from his parents was a defining moment and gave him newfound freedom.

## 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.

## grindstone

*v.* a thick, disc-shaped stone that is used for grinding, sharpening, or polishing metal tools or implements; (verb) to sharpen or polish with a grindstone; to work hard and consistently

*synonym*: (verb) sharpen, (verb) polish

(1) diamond **grindstone**, (2) go back to the **grindstone**

He had to put his nose to the **grindstone** to meet the deadline for the project.

## postpone

*v.* to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date

*synonym*: delay, defer, reschedule

(1) **postpone** meeting, (2) **postpone** event

Due to inclement weather, the game has been **postponed** until next week.

## dishearten

*v.* to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize

*synonym*: discourage, dismay, demoralize

(1) **dishearten** employees, (2) **dishearten** the hopeful job applicant

The team's loss in the semifinals did not **dishearten** their determination to return stronger next season.

## chronicle

*n.* a historical account of events arranged in order of time, typically without analysis or interpretation

*synonym*: record, history, annals

(1) **chronicle** of the war, (2) heroic **chronicle**

The **chronicle** of the kingdom's history was passed down through generations of royalty.

## clasp

*v.* to hold tightly with the hands, arms, or other parts of the body; to fasten or secure something with a device such as a hook, clip, or buckle; (noun) a device used for fastening things together

*synonym*: grasp, grip, fasten

(1) **clasp** his seatbelt, (2) **clasp** a necklace

I **clasp** my friend's hand to congratulate her on her achievement.

## fleeting

*adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

*synonym*: temporary, brief, transitory

(1) for a **fleeting** moment, (2) **fleeting** opportunity

She savored the **fleeting** happiness she felt during the vacation.

## obsess

*v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

*synonym*: torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

## diminish

*v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

*synonym*: decline, dwindle, lessen

(1) **diminish** a reputation, (2) **diminish** swelling

As people get old, their energies may **diminish**.

## coalesce

v. to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole

*synonym*: merge, combine, unite

(1) **coalesce** ideas, (2) **coalesce** with the other

The various departments of the company will **coalesce** into one cohesive unit.

## wasteland

n. a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value

*synonym*: desert, barren, wild

(1) post-apocalyptic **wasteland**, (2) nuclear **wasteland**

The abandoned industrial site is now a **wasteland** of decaying buildings and rusted machinery.

## visualize

v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

*synonym*: imagine, picture, envision

(1) **visualize** data, (2) **visualize** flying through space

She tried to **visualize** the layout of the new house in her mind.

## ripen

v. to cause something to be fully developed; to become ripe

*synonym*: mature, grow, age

(1) **ripen** the fruit, (2) **ripen** naturally

His tireless efforts **ripen** into success.

## apotheosis

n. the highest point or pinnacle of something; the elevation or exaltation of someone or something to a divine or godlike status; the perfect or most ideal example of something

*synonym*: pinnacle, climax, epitome

(1) artistic **apotheosis**, (2) **apotheosis** of love

The **apotheosis** of his career was winning the industry's most prestigious award.

## **nod**

*v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

*synonym*: respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

## **thanatology**

*n.* the study of death and dying, including the social, cultural, psychological, and physiological aspects of death and grief

*synonym*: death studies, deathlore

(1) **thanatology** studies, (2) **thanatology** counseling

Researchers in the **thanatology** field explore death's impact on individuals and society.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. con\_\_\_\_\_nt cell  
*n.* the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited
2. no\_\_\_\_n invasion  
*adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period
3. n\_d courteously  
*v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
4. for a fl\_\_\_\_\_ng moment  
*adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
5. sen\_\_\_\_\_al damage  
*adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
6. post-apocalyptic wa\_\_\_\_\_nd  
*n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value

ANSWERS: 1. confinement, 2. Norman, 3. nod, 4. fleeting, 5. sentimental, 6. wasteland

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 7. heroic ch_____le        | <i>n.</i> a historical account of events arranged in order of time, typically without analysis or interpretation   |
| 8. po_____ne meeting       | <i>v.</i> to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date   |
| 9. tha_____gy counseling   | <i>n.</i> the study of death and dying, including the social, cultural, psychological, and physiological aspects of death and grief  |
| 10. fl_____ng opportunity  | <i>adj.</i> brief or temporary, lasting only a short time  |
| 11. history of ema_____ion | <i>n.</i> the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence   |
| 12. tha_____gy studies     | <i>n.</i> the study of death and dying, including the social, cultural, psychological, and physiological aspects of death and grief  |
| 13. dis_____en employees   | <i>v.</i> to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize  |
| 14. self-ema_____ion       | <i>n.</i> the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence   |
| 15. cl__p his seatbelt     | <i>v.</i> to hold tightly with the hands, arms, or other parts of the body; to fasten or secure something with a device such as a hook, clip, or buckle; (noun) a device used for fastening things together  |
| 16. no___n cathedral       | <i>adj.</i> relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period |

ANSWERS: 7. chronicle, 8. postpone, 9. thanatology, 10. fleeting, 11. emancipation, 12. thanatology, 13. dishearten, 14. emancipation, 15. clasp, 16. Norman

17. em\_\_\_\_r the secretary to do the same      *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
18. ri\_\_n naturally      *v.* to cause something to be fully developed; to become ripe
19. in a sen\_\_\_\_\_al mood      *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
20. house con\_\_\_\_\_nt      *n.* the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited
21. dis\_\_\_\_\_en the hopeful job applicant      *v.* to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize
22. ri\_\_n the fruit      *v.* to cause something to be fully developed; to become ripe
23. vi\_\_\_\_\_ze data      *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
24. co\_\_\_\_\_ce with the other      *v.* to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole
25. ch\_\_\_\_\_le of the war      *n.* a historical account of events arranged in order of time, typically without analysis or interpretation
26. nuclear wa\_\_\_\_\_nd      *n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value

ANSWERS: 17. empower, 18. ripen, 19. sentimental, 20. confinement, 21. dishearten, 22. ripen, 23. visualize, 24. coalesce, 25. chronicle, 26. wasteland



27. he is ob\_\_\_sed with the fear      v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
28. diamond gri\_\_\_\_\_ne      v. a thick, disc-shaped stone that is used for grinding, sharpening, or polishing metal tools or implements; (verb) to sharpen or polish with a grindstone; to work hard and consistently
29. cl\_\_p a necklace      v. to hold tightly with the hands, arms, or other parts of the body; to fasten or secure something with a device such as a hook, clip, or buckle; (noun) a device used for fastening things together
30. co\_\_\_\_\_ce ideas      v. to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole
31. em\_\_\_\_\_r my life      v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
32. n\_d at each other      v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
33. vi\_\_\_\_\_ze flying through space      v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
34. go back to the gri\_\_\_\_\_ne      v. a thick, disc-shaped stone that is used for grinding, sharpening, or polishing metal tools or implements; (verb) to sharpen or polish with a grindstone; to work hard and consistently
35. artistic apo\_\_\_\_\_is      n. the highest point or pinnacle of something; the elevation or exaltation of someone or something to a divine or godlike status; the perfect or most ideal example of something

ANSWERS: 27. obsess, 28. grindstone, 29. clasp, 30. coalesce, 31. empower, 32. nod, 33. visualize, 34. grindstone, 35. apotheosis

36. di\_\_\_\_sh swelling      *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
37. apo\_\_\_\_\_is of love      *n.* the highest point or pinnacle of something; the elevation or exaltation of someone or something to a divine or godlike status; the perfect or most ideal example of something
38. di\_\_\_\_sh a reputation      *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
39. ob\_\_\_\_s over her weight      *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
40. po\_\_\_\_ne event      *v.* to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date

ANSWERS: 36. diminish, 37. apotheosis, 38. diminish, 39. obsess, 40. postpone

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He had to put his nose to the \_\_\_\_\_ to meet the deadline for the project.
  - v. a thick, disc-shaped stone that is used for grinding, sharpening, or polishing metal tools or implements; (verb) to sharpen or polish with a grindstone; to work hard and consistently
  
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the kingdom's history was passed down through generations of royalty.
  - n. a historical account of events arranged in order of time, typically without analysis or interpretation
  
3. She tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the layout of the new house in her mind.
  - v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
  
4. Due to inclement weather, the game has been \_\_\_\_\_ until next week.
  - v. to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date
  
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of his career was winning the industry's most prestigious award.
  - n. the highest point or pinnacle of something; the elevation or exaltation of someone or something to a divine or godlike status; the perfect or most ideal example of something
  
6. His tireless efforts \_\_\_\_\_ into success.
  - v. to cause something to be fully developed; to become ripe
  
7. He's utterly \_\_\_\_\_ with his promotion.
  - v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

ANSWERS: 1. grindstone, 2. chronicle, 3. visualize, 4. postponed, 5. apotheosis, 6. ripen, 7. obsessed

8. Researchers in the \_\_\_\_\_ field explore death's impact on individuals and society.
- n.* the study of death and dying, including the social, cultural, psychological, and physiological aspects of death and grief
9. The various departments of the company will \_\_\_\_\_ into one cohesive unit.
- v.* to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole
10. The abandoned industrial site is now a \_\_\_\_\_ of decaying buildings and rusted machinery.
- n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value
11. She savored the \_\_\_\_\_ happiness she felt during the vacation.
- adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
12. The team's loss in the semifinals did not \_\_\_\_\_ their determination to return stronger next season.
- v.* to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize
13. The prisoner spent months in solitary \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited
14. I \_\_\_\_\_ my friend's hand to congratulate her on her achievement.
- v.* to hold tightly with the hands, arms, or other parts of the body; to fasten or secure something with a device such as a hook, clip, or buckle; (noun) a device used for fastening things together

ANSWERS: 8. thanatology, 9. coalesce, 10. wasteland, 11. fleeting, 12. dishearten, 13. confinement, 14. clasp

15. The \_\_\_\_\_ architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.

*adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

16. She \_\_\_\_\_ quietly in response to the question.

*v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

17. His \_\_\_\_\_ from his parents was a defining moment and gave him newfound freedom.

*n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence

18. Stop being \_\_\_\_\_ and always speak the truth.

*adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

19. As people get old, their energies may \_\_\_\_\_.

*v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

20. 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

ANSWERS: 15. Norman, 16. nodded, 17. emancipation, 18. sentimental, 19. diminish, 20. empowered