

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Barry Schwartz: The way we think about work is broken | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/barry\\_schwartz\\_the\\_way\\_we\\_think\\_about\\_work\\_is\\_broken](https://www.ted.com/talks/barry_schwartz_the_way_we_think_about_work_is_broken)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### stimming

*n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

*synonym*: self-stimulation, repetitive behaviors

(1) autistic **stimming**, (2) **stimming** therapy

Autistic children may engage in **stimming** behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

### monotonous

*adj.* lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious

*synonym*: tedious, dull, boring

(1) **monotonous** routine, (2) **monotonous** job

The **monotonous** task of data entry required intense concentration.

### meaningless

*adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose

*synonym*: pointless, absurd, senseless

(1) a **meaningless** endeavor, (2) do a **meaningless** task

This experiment's results are **meaningless** because the other conditions are not identical.

## deaden

v. to make something less intense, active, or lively; to reduce the effect, force, or impact of something

*synonym*: dampen, muffle, suppress

(1) **deaden** the impact, (2) **deaden** the pain

The thick curtains helped **deaden** the sound coming from the busy street outside.

## envelop

v. to surround and cover completely; to encase

*synonym*: wrap, cover, surround

(1) **envelop** the whole world, (2) **envelop** her in a bear hug

The fog **enveloped** the city, making it difficult to see.

## aspire

v. to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great

*synonym*: aim, desire, strive

(1) **aspire** to greatness, (2) **aspire** after perfection

She **aspired** to become a successful businesswoman.

## oppress

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

*synonym*: antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force

Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

## revolt

n. to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

*synonym*: rebellion, uprising, insurgence

(1) **revolt** against existing ways of thinking, (2) **revolt** against the dictator

The people tried to **revolt** to oust the tyrant.

## profoundly

adv. to a great or complete degree; deeply

*synonym*: deeply, greatly, completely

(1) **profoundly** insightful, (2) sleep **profoundly**

The novel affected her **profoundly**, causing her to question her beliefs and values.

## blacksmith

*n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil

(1) **blacksmith** welding, (2) **blacksmith** shop

The **blacksmith** shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.

## incentivize

*v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward

*synonym*: encourage, motivate

(1) **incentivize** carpooling, (2) **incentivize** the right behavior

Governments **incentivize** their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.

## soulless

*adj.* having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling

*synonym*: heartless, affectless, cold-blooded

(1) he is **soulless** and mechanical, (2) in a **soulless** manner

She is sitting in a tree with a **soulless** look after hearing the news.

## deprive

*v.* to take away something from someone

*synonym*: deny, take away, divest

(1) **deprive** others of profit, (2) **deprive** him of his status

He was **deprived** of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.

## opportune

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

*synonym*: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

## cosmos

*n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system

*synonym* : universe, macrocosm

(1) exploration of **cosmos**, (2) origin of the **cosmos**

Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the **cosmos**.

## indifferent

*adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral

*synonym* : apathetic, disinterested, unmoved

(1) an **indifferent** glance, (2) emotionally **indifferent**

Despite the good news, she remained **indifferent** to the situation.

## anthropology

*n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

(1) social **anthropology**, (2) **anthropology** of religion

The areas of **anthropology** and psychology are significantly related to one another.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. as\_\_\_e to greatness *v.* to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great
2. mon\_\_\_\_\_us routine *adj.* lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious
3. as\_\_\_e after perfection *v.* to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great
4. re\_\_\_t against the dictator *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
5. de\_\_\_\_\_e him of his status *v.* to take away something from someone
6. mon\_\_\_\_\_us job *adj.* lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious
7. sleep pro\_\_\_\_\_ly *adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply
8. social ant\_\_\_\_\_ogy *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
9. inc\_\_\_\_\_ze carpooling *v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
10. an ind\_\_\_\_\_nt glance *adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral
11. en\_\_\_\_\_p her in a bear hug *v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase

ANSWERS: 1. aspire, 2. monotonous, 3. aspire, 4. revolt, 5. deprive, 6. monotonous, 7. profoundly, 8. anthropology, 9. incentivize, 10. indifferent, 11. envelop

12. do a mea\_\_\_\_\_ss task *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
13. de\_\_\_n the pain *v.* to make something less intense, active, or lively; to reduce the effect, force, or impact of something
14. an op\_\_\_\_\_ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
15. a mea\_\_\_\_\_ss endeavor *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
16. re\_\_\_t against existing ways of thinking *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
17. op\_\_\_\_\_s the people with force *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
18. exploration of co\_\_\_s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
19. bla\_\_\_\_\_th welding *n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
20. origin of the co\_\_\_s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
21. pro\_\_\_\_\_ly insightful *adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply
22. bla\_\_\_\_\_th shop *n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
23. inc\_\_\_\_\_ze the right behavior *v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward

ANSWERS: 12. meaningless, 13. deaden, 14. opportune, 15. meaningless, 16. revolt, 17. oppress, 18. cosmos, 19. blacksmith, 20. cosmos, 21. profoundly, 22. blacksmith, 23. incentivize

24. ant\_\_\_\_\_ogy of religion *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
25. de\_\_\_\_\_e others of profit *v.* to take away something from someone
26. de\_\_\_\_n the impact *v.* to make something less intense, active, or lively; to reduce the effect, force, or impact of something
27. emotionally ind\_\_\_\_\_nt *adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral
28. en\_\_\_\_\_p the whole world *v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase
29. in a so\_\_\_\_\_ss manner *adj.* having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling
30. op\_\_\_\_\_ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
31. he is so\_\_\_\_\_ss and mechanical *adj.* having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling
32. st\_\_\_\_\_ng therapy *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

ANSWERS: 24. anthropology, 25. deprive, 26. deaden, 27. indifferent, 28. envelop, 29. soulless, 30. opportune, 31. soulless, 32. stimming

33. op\_\_\_\_s the minority

*v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

34. autistic st\_\_\_\_ng

*n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

ANSWERS: 33. oppress, 34. stimming



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. This experiment's results are \_\_\_\_\_ because the other conditions are not identical.

*adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose

2. The novel affected her \_\_\_\_\_ causing her to question her beliefs and values.

*adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply

3. The people tried to \_\_\_\_\_ to oust the tyrant.

*n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

4. The fog \_\_\_\_\_ the city, making it difficult to see.

*v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase

5. Historically, many countries have often \_\_\_\_\_ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

*v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

6. Autistic children may engage in \_\_\_\_\_ behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

*n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

7. She \_\_\_\_\_ to become a successful businesswoman.

*v.* to have an ambition or a desire to achieve something, typically something high or great

ANSWERS: 1. meaningless, 2. profoundly, 3. revolt, 4. enveloped, 5. oppressed, 6. stimulating, 7. aspired

8. The \_\_\_\_\_ task of data entry required intense concentration.  
*adj.* lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious
9. She is sitting in a tree with a \_\_\_\_\_ look after hearing the news.  
*adj.* having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling
10. He was \_\_\_\_\_ of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.  
*v.* to take away something from someone
11. The thick curtains helped \_\_\_\_\_ the sound coming from the busy street outside.  
*v.* to make something less intense, active, or lively; to reduce the effect, force, or impact of something
12. Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.  
*n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
14. Governments \_\_\_\_\_ their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.  
*v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
15. The areas of \_\_\_\_\_ and psychology are significantly related to one another.  
*n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

ANSWERS: 8. monotonous, 9. soulless, 10. deprived, 11. deaden, 12. cosmos, 13. blacksmith, 14. incentivize, 15. anthropology

16. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

17. Despite the good news, she remained \_\_\_\_\_ to the situation.

*adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral

ANSWERS: 16. opportune, 17. indifferent