

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Noah Tavlin: What "Orwellian" really means | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/noah\\_tavlin\\_what\\_orwellian\\_really\\_means](https://www.ted.com/talks/noah_tavlin_what_orwellian_really_means)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### depict

*v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

*synonym*: illustrate, describe, express

(1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation

His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

### oppressive

*adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way

*synonym*: stifling, overwhelming, depressing

(1) the atmosphere was **oppressive**, (2) **oppressive** governments

The political situation has become increasingly **oppressive**.

### totalitarian

*adj.* of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power

*synonym*: dictatorial, authoritarian, oppressive

(1) **totalitarian** ideology, (2) **totalitarian** state

The government was criticized for having a **totalitarian** regime.

### 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.

## tyranny

*n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

*synonym* : despotism, oppression, dictatorship

(1) brutal **tyranny**, (2) **tyranny** of the majority

The country was ruled by a **tyranny** that oppressed its citizens.

## proliferate

*v.* to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner

*synonym* : multiply, spread, propagate

(1) **proliferate** cells, (2) **proliferate** weeds

The number of COVID cases continued to **proliferate** in many countries worldwide.

## loom

*v.* to appear or take shape as a large, especially in a frightening way

*synonym* : appear, come on, overshadow

(1) **loom** over the global economy, (2) **loom** on the horizon

The issue of divorce **loomed** large in his mind.

## inundate

*v.* to flood or overwhelm with an excessive amount of something

*synonym* : flood, submerge, overwhelm

(1) **inundate** swaths of farmland, (2) **inundate** his entire body

The heavy rain **inundated** the low-lying areas and caused flooding.

## detain

*v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving

*synonym* : hold, keep, detainment

(1) **detain** a terrorist, (2) **detain** for investigation

The police **detained** the suspect for questioning.

## corruptible

*adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

*synonym* : bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

## dialect

*n.* a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics

*synonym* : accent, language, vernacular

(1) a local **dialect**, (2) minority **dialect**

The **dialect** spoken in the region differed from other parts of the country.

## acronym

*n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

*synonym* : abbreviation, initialism, shortcut

(1) **acronym** definition, (2) use an **acronym**

RADAR is an **acronym** for radio detection and ranging.

## nuanced

*adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.

*synonym* : fine, subtle, slight

(1) **nuanced** view, (2) the common but **nuanced** opinion

The sommelier can distinguish **nuanced** variance in the flavor of the wine.

## psyche

*n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit

*synonym* : mind, soul, spirit

(1) deep **psyche**, (2) **psyche** healing

The therapist helped her understand the workings of her **psyche** and how to cope with her anxiety.

## hypnotic

*adj.* inducing sleep; causing sleepiness, mainly as a result of a repetitive noise or motion

*synonym* : soothing, soporific, slumberous

(1) mild **hypnotic**, (2) **hypnotic** effect

His voice had a **hypnotic** quality for me.

## dissonance

*n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds

*synonym* : conflict, disharmony, disagreement

(1) cognitive **dissonance**, (2) musical **dissonance**

The **dissonance** between the two melodies created a sense of tension in the music.

## compel

*v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

*synonym* : force, oblige, coerce

(1) **compel** a person to submission, (2) **compel** attention

The strict deadlines will **compel** the team to work efficiently.

## dictate

*v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

*synonym* : read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

## viol

*n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba

*synonym* : viola, viola da gamba, string instrument

(1) **viol** instrument, (2) **viol** music

The **viol** player was rehearsing for an upcoming concert.

## subversive

*adj.* intended to undermine or overthrow a system, authority, or established order through an intentional effort to cause disruption or to challenge the existing norms or beliefs; (noun) a person or thing intended to undermine the power or authority of an established system or

institution

*synonym* : incendiary, dissident, (noun) rebel

(1) **subversive** elements, (2) **subversive** literature

The artwork was criticized for its **subversive** theme that undermined religious beliefs.

## rebellion

*n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler

*synonym* : insurrection, uprising, revolt

(1) **rebellion** leader, (2) excite **rebellion**

The antigovernment **rebellion** was put down quickly by the government's military forces.

## pretentious

*adj.* attempting to impress others by pretending to be more important, innovative, or significant than is actually the case; showy or ostentatious

*synonym* : ostentatious, showy, pompous

(1) **pretentious** behavior, (2) **pretentious** language

The **pretentious** guest at the party talked endlessly about his expensive taste in wine.

## atrocious

*n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act

*synonym* : evil, horror, iniquity

(1) commit **atrocious**, (2) cold-blooded **atrocious**

The **atrocious** of the war left many children orphaned.

## bury

*v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

*synonym* : entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

## euphemism

*n.* a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing

*synonym* : mild expression, implication, circumlocution

(1) genteel **euphemism**, (2) a **euphemism** for death

The company used the **euphemism** "downsizing" to describe the layoffs of hundreds of employees.

## convoluted

*adj.* extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand

*synonym* : intricate, complex, bending

(1) **convoluted** plot, (2) **convoluted** legal language

James Joyce's books are full of long, **convoluted** sentences.

## mundane

*adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

*synonym* : ordinary, everyday, prosaic

(1) **mundane** affairs, (2) **mundane** objects

After returning from the war, he had a pretty **mundane** life.

## soundbite

*n.* a short and memorable excerpt or snippet of speech or music, typically taken from a longer recording, presentation, or interview, often used in media to convey a concise message or key point

*synonym* : quote, snippet, excerpt

(1) media **soundbite**, (2) catchy **soundbite**

The politician delivered a powerful **soundbite** during the press conference, capturing media attention.

## ready-made

*adj.* (of a product) already made or prepared; (of an idea or solution) preconceived or complete and requiring no further development or work

*synonym* : pre-made, off-the-shelf, prefab

(1) **ready-made** templates, (2) **ready-made** curtains

I prefer using **ready-made** meals when short on time and don't feel like cooking from scratch.

## glean

*v.* to collect information, knowledge, etc., in small amounts and often with difficulty; to gather, as natural products

*synonym* : cull, collect, extract

(1) **glean** important information, (2) **glean** the fields

He carefully interviewed the victims and tried to **glean** the details of the culprit.

## deceptive

*adj.* tending to mislead or deceive either deliberately or inadvertently; causing one to believe what is not true or fail to believe what is true

*synonym* : misleading, trickery, fraudulent

(1) **deceptive** practices, (2) appearances are **deceptive**  
The politician's statements were found to be **deceptive** and not based on fact.

## manipulative

*adj.* characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner

*synonym* : maneuvering, calculating, shrewd

(1) **manipulative** behavior, (2) **manipulative** language  
He was accused of being **manipulative** when he lied to his friends to get what he wanted.

## intrude

*v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something

*synonym* : impose, obtrude, interlope

(1) **intrude** on his personal space, (2) **intrude** on other people's conversations  
The loud music from the party next door **intruded** into my peaceful evening at home.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. v\_\_l music *n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba
2. a eu\_\_\_\_\_sm for death *n.* a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing
3. deep ps\_\_\_e *n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit
4. cognitive dis\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
5. gl\_\_n the fields *v.* to collect information, knowledge, etc., in small amounts and often with difficulty; to gather, as natural products
6. pro\_\_\_\_\_te cells *v.* to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner
7. con\_\_\_\_\_ed plot *adj.* extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand
8. pre\_\_\_\_\_us behavior *adj.* attempting to impress others by pretending to be more important, innovative, or significant than is actually the case; showy or ostentatious
9. cor\_\_\_\_\_le judges *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
10. media so\_\_\_\_\_te *n.* a short and memorable excerpt or snippet of speech or music, typically taken from a longer recording, presentation, or interview, often used in media to convey a concise message or key point

ANSWERS: 1. viol, 2. euphemism, 3. psyche, 4. dissonance, 5. glean, 6. proliferate, 7. convoluted, 8. pretentious, 9. corruptible, 10. soundbite



11. aut\_\_\_\_\_ian government *adj.* characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights
12. tot\_\_\_\_\_ian ideology *adj.* of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power
13. musical dis\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
14. minority di\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics
15. the atmosphere was opp\_\_\_\_\_ve *adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way
16. I\_\_m on the horizon *v.* to appear or take shape as a large, especially in a frightening way
17. nu\_\_\_\_\_d view *adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.
18. rea\_\_\_\_\_de templates *adj.* (of a product) already made or prepared; (of an idea or solution) preconceived or complete and requiring no further development or work
19. aut\_\_\_\_\_ian practice *adj.* characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights
20. de\_\_\_t a feeling of isolation *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

ANSWERS: 11. authoritarian, 12. totalitarian, 13. dissonance, 14. dialect, 15. oppressive, 16. loom, 17. nuanced, 18. ready-made, 19. authoritarian, 20. depict

21. de\_\_\_n for investigation      *v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving
22. v\_\_\_l instrument      *n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba
23. catchy so\_\_\_\_\_te      *n.* a short and memorable excerpt or snippet of speech or music, typically taken from a longer recording, presentation, or interview, often used in media to convey a concise message or key point
24. in\_\_\_\_\_e on his personal space      *v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something
25. rea\_\_\_\_\_de curtains      *adj.* (of a product) already made or prepared; (of an idea or solution) preconceived or complete and requiring no further development or work
26. sub\_\_\_\_\_ve literature      *adj.* intended to undermine or overthrow a system, authority, or established order through an intentional effort to cause disruption or to challenge the existing norms or beliefs; (noun) a person or thing intended to undermine the power or authority of an established system or institution
27. tot\_\_\_\_\_ian state      *adj.* of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power

ANSWERS: 21. detain, 22. viol, 23. soundbite, 24. intrude, 25. ready-made, 26. subversive, 27. totalitarian

28. b\_\_y in the earth      *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
29. man\_\_\_\_\_ive behavior      *adj.* characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner
30. re\_\_\_\_\_on leader      *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
31. cor\_\_\_\_\_le officials      *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
32. in\_\_\_\_\_e on other people's conversations      *v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something
33. mild hy\_\_\_\_\_ic      *adj.* inducing sleep; causing sleepiness, mainly as a result of a repetitive noise or motion
34. gl\_\_n important information      *v.* to collect information, knowledge, etc., in small amounts and often with difficulty; to gather, as natural products
35. sub\_\_\_\_\_ve elements      *adj.* intended to undermine or overthrow a system, authority, or established order through an intentional effort to cause disruption or to challenge the existing norms or beliefs; (noun) a person or thing intended to undermine the power or authority of an established system or institution
36. appearances are de\_\_\_\_\_ve      *adj.* tending to mislead or deceive either deliberately or inadvertently; causing one to believe what is not true or fail to believe what is true

ANSWERS: 28. bury, 29. manipulative, 30. rebellion, 31. corruptible, 32. intrude, 33. hypnotic, 34. glean, 35. subversive, 36. deceptive

37. de\_\_\_n a terrorist *v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving
38. l\_\_m over the global economy *v.* to appear or take shape as a large, especially in a frightening way
39. commit at\_\_\_\_ty *n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
40. mu\_\_\_\_\_e objects *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
41. cold-blooded at\_\_\_\_ty *n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
42. a local di\_\_\_\_t *n.* a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics
43. di\_\_\_\_\_e a letter to secretary *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
44. hy\_\_\_\_ic effect *adj.* inducing sleep; causing sleepiness, mainly as a result of a repetitive noise or motion
45. de\_\_\_\_\_ve practices *adj.* tending to mislead or deceive either deliberately or inadvertently; causing one to believe what is not true or fail to believe what is true
46. ac\_\_\_\_m definition *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

ANSWERS: 37. detain, 38. loom, 39. atrocity, 40. mundane, 41. atrocity, 42. dialect, 43. dictate, 44. hypnotic, 45. deceptive, 46. acronym

47. con\_\_\_\_\_ed legal language *adj.* extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand
48. in\_\_\_\_\_te his entire body *v.* to flood or overwhelm with an excessive amount of something
49. use an ac\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
50. di\_\_\_\_\_e to the associate *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
51. mu\_\_\_\_\_e affairs *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
52. in\_\_\_\_\_te swaths of farmland *v.* to flood or overwhelm with an excessive amount of something
53. man\_\_\_\_\_ive language *adj.* characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner
54. co\_\_\_\_\_l attention *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
55. de\_\_\_\_\_t a scene *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
56. genteel eu\_\_\_\_\_sm *n.* a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing

ANSWERS: 47. convoluted, 48. inundate, 49. acronym, 50. dictate, 51. mundane, 52. inundate, 53. manipulative, 54. compel, 55. depict, 56. euphemism

57. ps\_\_\_e healing *n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit
58. ty\_\_\_\_y of the majority *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
59. pro\_\_\_\_\_te weeds *v.* to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner
60. b\_\_y emotion *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
61. the common but nu\_\_\_\_d opinion *adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.
62. co\_\_\_l a person to submission *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
63. pre\_\_\_\_\_us language *adj.* attempting to impress others by pretending to be more important, innovative, or significant than is actually the case; showy or ostentatious
64. opp\_\_\_\_\_ve governments *adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way
65. excite re\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
66. brutal ty\_\_\_\_y *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

ANSWERS: 57. psyche, 58. tyranny, 59. proliferate, 60. bury, 61. nuanced, 62. compel, 63. pretentious, 64. oppressive, 65. rebellion, 66. tyranny

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ guest at the party talked endlessly about his expensive taste in wine.  
*adj.* attempting to impress others by pretending to be more important, innovative, or significant than is actually the case; showy or ostentatious
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ between the two melodies created a sense of tension in the music.  
*n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
3. The country was ruled by a \_\_\_\_\_ that oppressed its citizens.  
*n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
4. The allies \_\_\_\_\_ the terms of surrender to the country.  
*v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
5. The strict deadlines will \_\_\_\_\_ the team to work efficiently.  
*v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ spoken in the region differed from other parts of the country.  
*n.* a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics
7. RADAR is an \_\_\_\_\_ for radio detection and ranging.  
*n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

ANSWERS: 1. pretentious, 2. dissonance, 3. tyranny, 4. dictated, 5. compel, 6. dialect, 7. acronym



8. The loud music from the party next door \_\_\_\_\_ into my peaceful evening at home.

- v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something

9. James Joyce's books are full of long, \_\_\_\_\_ sentences.

- adj.* extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand

10. Bureaucracies are more \_\_\_\_\_ than other systems or organizations.

- adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

11. The politician delivered a powerful \_\_\_\_\_ during the press conference, capturing media attention.

- n.* a short and memorable excerpt or snippet of speech or music, typically taken from a longer recording, presentation, or interview, often used in media to convey a concise message or key point

12. The number of COVID cases continued to \_\_\_\_\_ in many countries worldwide.

- v.* to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner

13. The company used the \_\_\_\_\_ "downsizing" to describe the layoffs of hundreds of employees.

- n.* a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing

14. The heavy rain \_\_\_\_\_ the low-lying areas and caused flooding.

- v.* to flood or overwhelm with an excessive amount of something

ANSWERS: 8. intruded, 9. convoluted, 10. corruptible, 11. soundbite, 12. proliferate, 13. euphemism, 14. inundated

15. The antigovernment \_\_\_\_\_ was put down quickly by the government's military forces.

*n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler

16. 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

17. The therapist helped her understand the workings of her \_\_\_\_\_ and how to cope with her anxiety.

*n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit

18. The politician's statements were found to be \_\_\_\_\_ and not based on fact.

*adj.* tending to mislead or deceive either deliberately or inadvertently; causing one to believe what is not true or fail to believe what is true

19. The political situation has become increasingly \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way

20. The issue of divorce \_\_\_\_\_ large in his mind.

*v.* to appear or take shape as a large, especially in a frightening way

21. The \_\_\_\_\_ player was rehearsing for an upcoming concert.

*n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba

22. His voice had a \_\_\_\_\_ quality for me.

*adj.* inducing sleep; causing sleepiness, mainly as a result of a repetitive noise or motion

ANSWERS: 15. rebellion, 16. authoritarian, 17. psyche, 18. deceptive, 19. oppressive, 20. loomed, 21. viol, 22. hypnotic

23. There is plenty of space to \_\_\_\_\_ everyone.

*v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

24. The sommelier can distinguish \_\_\_\_\_ variance in the flavor of the wine.

*adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.

25. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the war left many children orphaned.

*n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act

26. I prefer using \_\_\_\_\_ meals when short on time and don't feel like cooking from scratch.

*adj.* (of a product) already made or prepared; (of an idea or solution) preconceived or complete and requiring no further development or work

27. He carefully interviewed the victims and tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the details of the culprit.

*v.* to collect information, knowledge, etc., in small amounts and often with difficulty; to gather, as natural products

28. He was accused of being \_\_\_\_\_ when he lied to his friends to get what he wanted.

*adj.* characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner

29. His son had accurately \_\_\_\_\_ the bloom.

*v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

30. After returning from the war, he had a pretty \_\_\_\_\_ life.

*adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

ANSWERS: 23. bury, 24. nuanced, 25. atrocity, 26. ready-made, 27. glean, 28. manipulative, 29. depicted, 30. mundane

31. The artwork was criticized for its \_\_\_\_\_ theme that undermined religious beliefs.

*adj.* intended to undermine or overthrow a system, authority, or established order through an intentional effort to cause disruption or to challenge the existing norms or beliefs; (noun) a person or thing intended to undermine the power or authority of an established system or institution

32. The police \_\_\_\_\_ the suspect for questioning.

*v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving

33. The government was criticized for having a \_\_\_\_\_ regime.

*adj.* of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power

ANSWERS: 31. subversive, 32. detained, 33. totalitarian