

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Jessica Smith: Mansa Musa, one of the wealthiest people who ever lived | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jessica\\_smith\\_mansa\\_musa\\_one\\_of\\_the\\_wealthiest\\_people\\_who\\_ever\\_lived](https://www.ted.com/talks/jessica_smith_mansa_musa_one_of_the_wealthiest_people_who_ever_lived)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### billionaire

*n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars

*synonym* : mega-rich, wealthy, tycoon

(1) Silicon Valley **billionaire**, (2) oil **billionaire**

The self-made **billionaire** donated millions to charity.

### mogul

*n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry

*synonym* : big shot, bigwig, executive

(1) real-estate **mogul**, (2) business **mogul**

He is a media **mogul** and owns several major newspapers.

### amass

*v.* to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something over time; to collect or assemble for future use or reference

*synonym* : gather, collect, accumulate

(1) **amass** a patent portfolio, (2) **amass** followers

She had **amassed** a fortune through wise investments and shrewd business decisions.

### famine

*n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons

*synonym* : hunger, starvation, drought

(1) **famine** relief, (2) coal **famine**

The severe **famine** caused by the drought has left many people without food.

## **flourish**

*v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully  
*synonym*: boom, advance, succeed

(1) **flourish** economically, (2) **flourish** worldwide

The Ottoman Empire **flourished** for over five centuries.

## **annex**

*v.* to add territory to a country, state, or region, typically by conquest; (noun) an addition that extends a main building

*synonym*: add, take over, (noun) appendix

(1) **annex** notes, (2) hotel **annex**

The government **annexed** the territory from the neighboring country.

## **reestablish**

*v.* to establish again or anew; to restore something that was lost or disrupted, often relating to an organization, relationship, or system

*synonym*: restore, reconstitute, rehabilitate

(1) **reestablish** ties, (2) **reestablish** trust

We need to **reestablish** our relationship after our argument.

## **pilgrim**

*n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion

*synonym*: traveler, wayfarer, sojourner

(1) shrine for **pilgrims**, (2) **pilgrim** site

The group of **pilgrims** walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.

## **mecca**

*n.* a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam

*synonym*: cynosure, center

(1) tourist **mecca**, (2) **mecca** for surfers

The building has become a **mecca** for fans of the movie.

## caravan

*n.* a group of travelers journeying together, often in a convoy of motor vehicles; a covered wagon used for traveling and camping

*synonym* : convoy, train, procession

(1) **caravan** park, (2) solar **caravan**

We traveled across the country in a **caravan** of RVs and campers.

## 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.

## extravagant

*adj.* exceeding the bounds of reason or necessity; wildly excessive; lavish

*synonym* : excessive, lavish, indulgent

(1) **extravagant** expenses, (2) **extravagant** lifestyle

The wedding was an **extravagant** affair with a guest list of over 500 people.

## excursion

*n.* a short trip or outing, often for leisure or educational purposes, sometimes organized by a group or institution; a deviation or departure from a usual or regular course of action or behavior

*synonym* : outing, trip, expedition

(1) **excursion** package, (2) weekend **excursion**

We went on an exciting **excursion** to explore the ancient ruins of a lost civilization.

## entourage

*n.* a group of people who attend or surround an important and influential person

*synonym* : retinue

(1) presidential **entourage**, (2) member of his **entourage**

The politician and his **entourage** arrived half an hour late.

## herald

*v.* to be a sign or indication of something to come; to proclaim or announce something publicly, often with great enthusiasm or fanfare

*synonym*: announce, proclaim, declare

(1) **herald** the news, (2) **herald** a new era

The sound of the trumpet **heralded** the arrival of the king.

## souvenir

*n.* an object, often a small item, that is kept as a reminder or memento of a person, place, or event; a keepsake

*synonym*: memento, keepsake, token

(1) city **souvenir**, (2) **souvenir** shop

I bought my sister a miniature Eiffel Tower **souvenir** when I visited Paris.

## mosque

*n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)

(1) domed **mosque**, (2) the sacred **mosque**

Jumeirah **Mosque** is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.

## destabilize

*v.* to cause something to become less stable or secure

*synonym*: unsettle, disrupt, upset

(1) **destabilize** the market, (2) **destabilize** a good relationship

The political crisis **destabilized** the country and caused widespread turmoil.

## elevate

*v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

*synonym*: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

## 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.

## scepter

*n.* a ceremonial staff or rod that represents authority or power, often carried by monarchs or other high-ranking officials; a symbol of royalty or sovereignty

*synonym*: royal staff, staff, wand

(1) hold a **scepter**, (2) royal **scepter**

The royal palace had a room designed to store the king's **scepter** and crown jewels.

## gleam

*v.* to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent

*synonym*: glitter, shimmer, shine

(1) **gleam** in eyes, (2) **gleam** like honey

The diamond ring **gleamed** in the sunlight, catching everyone's eye.

## nugget

*n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food

*synonym*: chunk, clod, clump

(1) a gold **nugget**, (2) **nugget** of truth

It took a few weeks to extract the **nugget** of information from those complicated sources.

## devout

*adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety

*synonym*: pious, religious, faithful

(1) **devout** Buddhist, (2) act in a **devout** manner

The **devout** monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.

## annexation

*n.* the process of adding territory to a country, state, or other political units

*synonym*: absorption, incorporation, addition

(1) **annexation** of territory, (2) **annexation** by force of arms

The **annexation** of the neighboring country was a controversial decision.

## urbanize

*v.* to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns

*synonym*: develop, modernize, city-build

(1) **urbanize** a region, (2) **urbanize** transportation systems

The government plans to **urbanize** the rural area by building more housing units and improving transportation infrastructure.

## mausoleum

*n.* a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground

*synonym*: tomb, sepulcher, crypt

(1) visit a **mausoleum**, (2) marble **mausoleum**

The imperial **mausoleum** was built to honor the late king.

## testament

*n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

*synonym*: proof, testimony, testimonial

(1) give properties by **testament**, (2) **testament** to the superior quality

His wealth is a **testament** to his success.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. a det_____nt of crop yields | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result                         |
| 2. business mo__l              | <i>n.</i> a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry  |
| 3. he___d the news             | <i>v.</i> to be a sign or indication of something to come; to proclaim or announce something publicly, often with great enthusiasm or fanfare                         |
| 4. ree_____sh ties             | <i>v.</i> to establish again or anew; to restore something that was lost or disrupted, often relating to an organization, relationship, or system                     |
| 5. hold a sc_____r             | <i>n.</i> a ceremonial staff or rod that represents authority or power, often carried by monarchs or other high-ranking officials; a symbol of royalty or sovereignty |
| 6. member of his en_____ge     | <i>n.</i> a group of people who attend or surround an important and influential person  |
| 7. ur_____ze a region          | <i>v.</i> to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns   |
| 8. so_____ir shop              | <i>n.</i> an object, often a small item, that is kept as a reminder or memento of a person, place, or event; a keepsake   |

ANSWERS: 1. determinant, 2. mogul, 3. herald, 4. reestablish, 5. scepter, 6. entourage, 7. urbanize, 8. souvenir

9. ur\_\_\_\_ze transportation systems      *v.* to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns
10. tourist me\_\_a      *n.* a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam
11. fa\_\_\_e relief      *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
12. coal fa\_\_\_e      *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
13. ann\_\_\_\_\_on by force of arms      *n.* the process of adding territory to a country, state, or other political units
14. de\_\_\_t a feeling of isolation      *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
15. visit a ma\_\_\_\_\_um      *n.* a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground
16. ext\_\_\_\_\_nt lifestyle      *adj.* exceeding the bounds of reason or necessity; wildly excessive; lavish
17. environmental det\_\_\_\_\_nt      *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
18. el\_\_\_e educational standards      *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
19. ree\_\_\_\_\_sh trust      *v.* to establish again or anew; to restore something that was lost or disrupted, often relating to an organization, relationship, or system

ANSWERS: 9. urbanize, 10. mecca, 11. famine, 12. famine, 13. annexation, 14. depict, 15. mausoleum, 16. extravagant, 17. determinant, 18. elevate, 19. reestablish



20. gl\_\_m in eyes v. to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
21. solar ca\_\_\_\_\_n n. a group of travelers journeying together, often in a convoy of motor vehicles; a covered wagon used for traveling and camping
22. marble ma\_\_\_\_\_um n. a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground
23. am\_\_s followers v. to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something over time; to collect or assemble for future use or reference
24. gl\_\_m like honey v. to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
25. pi\_\_\_\_\_m site n. a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
26. real-estate mo\_\_l n. a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry
27. te\_\_\_\_\_nt to the superior quality n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
28. des\_\_\_\_\_ze the market v. to cause something to become less stable or secure
29. he\_\_\_d a new era v. to be a sign or indication of something to come; to proclaim or announce something publicly, often with great enthusiasm or fanfare

ANSWERS: 20. gleam, 21. caravan, 22. mausoleum, 23. amass, 24. gleam, 25. pilgrim, 26. mogul, 27. testament, 28. destabilize, 29. herald

30. Silicon Valley bil\_\_\_\_\_re *n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
31. weekend ex\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* a short trip or outing, often for leisure or educational purposes, sometimes organized by a group or institution; a deviation or departure from a usual or regular course of action or behavior
32. fl\_\_\_\_\_sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
33. the sacred mo\_\_\_\_\_e *n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
34. city so\_\_\_\_\_ir *n.* an object, often a small item, that is kept as a reminder or memento of a person, place, or event; a keepsake
35. give properties by te\_\_\_\_\_nt *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
36. me\_\_a for surfers *n.* a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam
37. act in a de\_\_\_\_t manner *adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
38. a gold nu\_\_\_\_t *n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food
39. ex\_\_\_\_\_on package *n.* a short trip or outing, often for leisure or educational purposes, sometimes organized by a group or institution; a deviation or departure from a usual or regular course of action or behavior

ANSWERS: 30. billionaire, 31. excursion, 32. flourish, 33. mosque, 34. souvenir, 35. testament, 36. mecca, 37. devout, 38. nugget, 39. excursion

40. domed mo\_\_\_e *n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
41. de\_\_\_t a scene *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
42. royal sc\_\_\_\_\_r *n.* a ceremonial staff or rod that represents authority or power, often carried by monarchs or other high-ranking officials; a symbol of royalty or sovereignty
43. des\_\_\_\_\_ze a good relationship *v.* to cause something to become less stable or secure
44. nu\_\_\_t of truth *n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food
45. oil bil\_\_\_\_\_re *n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
46. hotel an\_\_x *v.* to add territory to a country, state, or region, typically by conquest; (noun) an addition that extends a main building
47. ext\_\_\_\_\_nt expenses *adj.* exceeding the bounds of reason or necessity; wildly excessive; lavish
48. de\_\_\_t Buddhist *adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
49. presidential en\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* a group of people who attend or surround an important and influential person
50. shrine for pi\_\_\_\_\_ms *n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion

ANSWERS: 40. mosque, 41. depict, 42. scepter, 43. destabilize, 44. nugget, 45. billionaire, 46. annex, 47. extravagant, 48. devout, 49. entourage, 50. pilgrim

51. am\_\_s a patent portfolio      *v.* to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something over time; to collect or assemble for future use or reference
52. el\_\_\_\_\_e a close relationship      *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
53. an\_\_x notes      *v.* to add territory to a country, state, or region, typically by conquest; (noun) an addition that extends a main building
54. fl\_\_\_\_\_sh worldwide      *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
55. ca\_\_\_\_\_n park      *n.* a group of travelers journeying together, often in a convoy of motor vehicles; a covered wagon used for traveling and camping
56. ann\_\_\_\_\_on of territory      *n.* the process of adding territory to a country, state, or other political units

ANSWERS: 51. amass, 52. elevate, 53. annex, 54. flourish, 55. caravan, 56. annexation

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The severe \_\_\_\_\_ caused by the drought has left many people without food.  
*n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
  
2. 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
  
3. The imperial \_\_\_\_\_ was built to honor the late king.  
*n.* a large tomb or memorial building housing a burial chamber, typically above ground
  
4. The diamond ring \_\_\_\_\_ in the sunlight, catching everyone's eye.  
*v.* to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
  
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.  
*adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
  
6. He is a media \_\_\_\_\_ and owns several major newspapers.  
*n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry
  
7. The sound of the trumpet \_\_\_\_\_ the arrival of the king.  
*v.* to be a sign or indication of something to come; to proclaim or announce something publicly, often with great enthusiasm or fanfare

ANSWERS: 1. famine, 2. determinant, 3. mausoleum, 4. gleamed, 5. devout, 6. mogul, 7. heralded

8. The government \_\_\_\_\_ the territory from the neighboring country.
- v.* to add territory to a country, state, or region, typically by conquest; (noun) an addition that extends a main building
9. We traveled across the country in a \_\_\_\_\_ of RVs and campers.
- n.* a group of travelers journeying together, often in a convoy of motor vehicles; a covered wagon used for traveling and camping
10. She had \_\_\_\_\_ a fortune through wise investments and shrewd business decisions.
- v.* to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something over time; to collect or assemble for future use or reference
11. The political crisis \_\_\_\_\_ the country and caused widespread turmoil.
- v.* to cause something to become less stable or secure
12. The group of \_\_\_\_\_ walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.
- n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
13. I bought my sister a miniature Eiffel Tower \_\_\_\_\_ when I visited Paris.
- n.* an object, often a small item, that is kept as a reminder or memento of a person, place, or event; a keepsake
14. The wedding was an \_\_\_\_\_ affair with a guest list of over 500 people.
- adj.* exceeding the bounds of reason or necessity; wildly excessive; lavish
15. His son had accurately \_\_\_\_\_ the bloom.
- v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

ANSWERS: 8. annexed, 9. caravan, 10. amassed, 11. destabilized, 12. pilgrims, 13. souvenir, 14. extravagant, 15. depicted

16. The self-made \_\_\_\_\_ donated millions to charity.

*n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars

17. The building has become a \_\_\_\_\_ for fans of the movie.

*n.* a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam

18. It took a few weeks to extract the \_\_\_\_\_ of information from those complicated sources.

*n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food

19. The royal palace had a room designed to store the king's \_\_\_\_\_ and crown jewels.

*n.* a ceremonial staff or rod that represents authority or power, often carried by monarchs or other high-ranking officials; a symbol of royalty or sovereignty

20. We went on an exciting \_\_\_\_\_ to explore the ancient ruins of a lost civilization.

*n.* a short trip or outing, often for leisure or educational purposes, sometimes organized by a group or institution; a deviation or departure from a usual or regular course of action or behavior

21. Eating food in a hurry \_\_\_\_\_ blood glucose levels.

*v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

22. His wealth is a \_\_\_\_\_ to his success.

*n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

ANSWERS: 16. billionaire, 17. mecca, 18. nugget, 19. scepter, 20. excursion, 21. elevates, 22. testament

23. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ our relationship after our argument.
- v. to establish again or anew; to restore something that was lost or disrupted, often relating to an organization, relationship, or system
24. The Ottoman Empire \_\_\_\_\_ for over five centuries.
- v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
25. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the neighboring country was a controversial decision.
- n. the process of adding territory to a country, state, or other political units
26. Jumeirah \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.
- n. a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
27. The government plans to \_\_\_\_\_ the rural area by building more housing units and improving transportation infrastructure.
- v. to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns
28. The politician and his \_\_\_\_\_ arrived half an hour late.
- n. a group of people who attend or surround an important and influential person

ANSWERS: 23. reestablish, 24. flourished, 25. annexation, 26. Mosque, 27. urbanize, 28. entourage