

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*David Burkus: Why you should know how much your coworkers get paid | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/david\\_burkus\\_why\\_you\\_should\\_know\\_how\\_much\\_your\\_coworkers\\_get\\_paid](https://www.ted.com/talks/david_burkus_why_you_should_know_how_much_your_coworkers_get_paid)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### cubicle

*n.* a small, partitioned area or booth intended for working or studying, often in an office or educational setting

*synonym*: compartment, booth, workspace

(1) **cubicle** partition, (2) camping **cubicle**

I worked in an office **cubicle** surrounded by walls and fluorescent lights.

### quitter

*n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

*synonym*: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

### secrecy

*n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others

*synonym*: confidentiality, clandestineness, closeness

(1) government **secrecy**, (2) maintain **secrecy**

The company's **secrecy** surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.

## strife

*n.* conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups

*synonym*: conflict, disagreement, dissension

(1) at **strife** over the land, (2) civil **strife**

The country has been wracked by political **strife** for many years.

## underpaid

*adj.* paid less than a fair or reasonable wage

*synonym*: undervalued, under-compensated, under-rewarded

(1) **underpaid** mail, (2) **underpaid** position

Many people believe that they are **underpaid** for the work that they do.

## circulate

*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

*synonym*: flow, disperse, rotate

(1) **circulate** a rumor, (2) **circulate** an agenda before the meeting

The fan **circulates** the air in the room quickly.

## entitle

*v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

*synonym*: allow, permit, enable

(1) **entitle** him to a pension, (2) **entitle** the company to use the logo

The employee was **entitled** to a week of vacation time.

## forbidding

*adj.* giving the impression that something is difficult or unpleasant; intimidating or uninviting

*synonym*: intimidating, uninviting, daunting

(1) **forbidding** atmosphere, (2) **forbidding** mountain

The teacher's stern expression and strict rules made her classroom feel **forbidding** to the students.

## discourage

*v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

*synonym*: dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth  
His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

## 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.

## asymmetrical

*adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position

*synonym*: uneven, lopsided, crooked

(1) **asymmetrical** design, (2) **asymmetrical** haircut

The **asymmetrical** shape of the vase made it unique and exciting.

## awry

*adv.* in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss

*synonym*: amiss, askew, incorrect

(1) **awry** plan, (2) **awry** hair

The plans for the surprise party went **awry** when the cake was ruined.

## overpay

*v.* to pay an excessive or higher amount for something than what is necessary or fair

*synonym*: overcompensate, overspend, lavish

(1) **overpay** the mechanic for the repairs, (2) **overpay** on taxes

Do your research before buying a car, or you may **overpay** for features that aren't worth the extra cost.

## affix

*v.* to attach or add something to something else

*synonym*: attach, paste, stick

(1) **affix** a label, (2) **affix** a seal to a document

She **affixed** a stamp to the letter before mailing it.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                             |                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. civil st___e                             | <i>n.</i> conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups                                                            |
| 2. af__x a seal to a document               | <i>v.</i> to attach or add something to something else                                                                             |
| 3. a__y plan                                | <i>adv.</i> in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss                                                                    |
| 4. government se____y                       | <i>n.</i> the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others     |
| 5. dis_____ge customers                     | <i>v.</i> to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something                                             |
| 6. re___t against existing ways of thinking | <i>n.</i> to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler                                                 |
| 7. for_____ng mountain                      | <i>adj.</i> giving the impression that something is difficult or unpleasant; intimidating or uninviting                            |
| 8. en_____e the company to use the logo     | <i>v.</i> to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something                               |
| 9. ci_____te an agenda before the meeting   | <i>v.</i> to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system                                                           |
| 10. asy_____cal design                      | <i>adj.</i> lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position |

ANSWERS: 1. strife, 2. affix, 3. awry, 4. secrecy, 5. discourage, 6. revolt, 7. forbidding, 8. entitle, 9. circulate, 10. asymmetrical

- |                                           |      |                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11. ov_____y on taxes                     | v.   | to pay an excessive or higher amount for something than what is necessary or fair                              |
| 12. af__x a label                         | v.   | to attach or add something to something else                                                                   |
| 13. at st___e over the land               | n.   | conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups                                                  |
| 14. un_____id mail                        | adj. | paid less than a fair or reasonable wage                                                                       |
| 15. ov_____y the mechanic for the repairs | v.   | to pay an excessive or higher amount for something than what is necessary or fair                              |
| 16. ci_____te a rumor                     | v.   | to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system                                                 |
| 17. a__y hair                             | adv. | in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss                                                            |
| 18. dis_____ge bacterial growth           | v.   | to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something                                   |
| 19. easy qu_____r                         | n.   | a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started               |
| 20. cu_____e partition                    | n.   | a small, partitioned area or booth intended for working or studying, often in an office or educational setting |
| 21. re___t against the dictator           | n.   | to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler                                       |
| 22. camping cu_____e                      | n.   | a small, partitioned area or booth intended for working or studying, often in an office or educational setting |

ANSWERS: 11. overpay, 12. affix, 13. strife, 14. underpaid, 15. overpay, 16. circulate, 17. awry, 18. discourage, 19. quitter, 20. cubicle, 21. revolt, 22. cubicle

23. asy\_\_\_\_\_cal haircut *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position
24. un\_\_\_\_\_id position *adj.* paid less than a fair or reasonable wage
25. en\_\_\_\_\_e him to a pension *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
26. for\_\_\_\_\_ng atmosphere *adj.* giving the impression that something is difficult or unpleasant; intimidating or uninviting
27. maintain se\_\_\_\_\_y *n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others
28. serial qu\_\_\_\_\_r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

ANSWERS: 23. asymmetrical, 24. underpaid, 25. entitle, 26. forbidding, 27. secrecy, 28. quitter

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The country has been wracked by political \_\_\_\_\_ for many years.  
*n.* conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups
2. Do your research before buying a car, or you may \_\_\_\_\_ for features that aren't worth the extra cost.  
*v.* to pay an excessive or higher amount for something than what is necessary or fair
3. The company's \_\_\_\_\_ surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.  
*n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others
4. His parents tried to \_\_\_\_\_ him from becoming an artist.  
*v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
5. The fan \_\_\_\_\_ the air in the room quickly.  
*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
6. I worked in an office \_\_\_\_\_ surrounded by walls and fluorescent lights.  
*n.* a small, partitioned area or booth intended for working or studying, often in an office or educational setting
7. He was labeled as a \_\_\_\_\_ after he abandoned the project halfway.  
*n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

ANSWERS: 1. strife, 2. overpay, 3. secrecy, 4. discourage, 5. circulates, 6. cubicle, 7. quitter

8. Many people believe that they are \_\_\_\_\_ for the work that they do.  
*adj.* paid less than a fair or reasonable wage
9. The people tried to \_\_\_\_\_ to oust the tyrant.  
*n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
10. She \_\_\_\_\_ a stamp to the letter before mailing it.  
*v.* to attach or add something to something else
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ shape of the vase made it unique and exciting.  
*adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position
12. The employee was \_\_\_\_\_ to a week of vacation time.  
*v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
13. The plans for the surprise party went \_\_\_\_\_ when the cake was ruined.  
*adv.* in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss
14. The teacher's stern expression and strict rules made her classroom feel \_\_\_\_\_ to the students.  
*adj.* giving the impression that something is difficult or unpleasant; intimidating or uninviting

ANSWERS: 8. underpaid, 9. revolt, 10. affixed, 11. asymmetrical, 12. entitled, 13. awry, 14. forbidding