

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Vinu Daniel: The beauty of building with mud and trash | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/vinu\\_daniel\\_the\\_beauty\\_of\\_building\\_with\\_mud\\_and\\_trash](https://www.ted.com/talks/vinu_daniel_the_beauty_of_building_with_mud_and_trash)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym* : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

### compress

*v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space

*synonym* : condense, constrict, squeeze

(1) **compress** the chest, (2) **compress** gas

She **compressed** the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.

### pascal

*n.* a unit of pressure in the International System of Units (SI) named after the French mathematician and physicist Blaise Pascal, which equals one newton per square meter; the name of a high-level programming language developed in the 1970s

*synonym* : Pa, unit of pressure

(1) 980 hecto **pascals**, (2) pressure conditions from 100 to 1600 **pascals**

Meteorologists recorded a sudden drop in air pressure to 980 hecto **pascals**, signaling the approach of a storm.

## demote

*v.* to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities

*synonym*: downgrade, lower, demerit

(1) **demote** an employee, (2) **demote** a song from the top charts

His poor performance caused the coach to **demote** him to the bench.

## mason

*n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

*synonym*: bricklayer, stonemason, masonry worker

(1) **mason** jar, (2) the craft of a **mason**

The accomplished **mason** expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.

## ram

*v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force

*synonym*: crash, collide, slam

(1) **ram** the door open, (2) **ram** into the ice

The car **rammed** into the wall, causing significant damage.

## vault

*n.* a large room or chamber used for storage, often for valuables such as money, documents, or artwork; (verb) to leap or jump over something; to move quickly or suddenly

*synonym*: safe, strongbox, coffer

(1) **vault** door, (2) **vault** from five to fifty percent

The government **vault** contains top-secret documents and classified information that only a few individuals can access.

## pirouette

*n.* a rapid spin of the body on the toes or the front part of the foot, especially performed by a ballet dancer

*synonym*: gyration, whirl, gyration

(1) perform a **pirouette**, (2) moves into a **pirouette**

She turned a triple **pirouette** on the ice.

## zigzag

*adj.* having short sharp turns or angles

*synonym* : bent, crinkled, crooked

(1) **zigzag** sewing machine, (2) a **zigzag** line

We had to go through a **zigzag** course.

## robotic

*adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

*synonym* : automated, mechanical, laborsaving

(1) **robotic** arm, (2) **robotic** guide operation

The surgeon removed the tumor using **robotic** video assistance.

## twig

*n.* a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual

*synonym* : branchlet, sprig, osier

(1) **twig** branch, (2) **twig** basket

The bird perched on a **twig** and sang a beautiful melody.

## reimagine

*v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

*synonym* : re-conceptualize, re-envision, re-create

(1) **reimagine** the future, (2) **reimagine** the possibilities

The company is trying to **reimagine** its business model to stay competitive.

## pulverize

*v.* to break into fine particles or dust; to crush, pound, or grind into a powder or a paste; to destroy completely or utterly

*synonym* : crush, smash, demolish

(1) **pulverize** rocks, (2) **pulverize** competition

The demolition crew had to **pulverize** the old building to make room for the new one.

## formidable

*adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

*synonym* : daunting, intimidating, fearful

(1) **formidable** challenge, (2) **formidable** competitor  
The mountain range was a **formidable** obstacle for the hikers.

## amuse

v. to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh  
*synonym*: entertain, delight, divert

(1) **amuse** a baby with a rattle, (2) **amuse** guests  
He **amused** himself by playing video games during his free time.

## embolden

v. to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief

*synonym*: encourage, inspire, empower

(1) **embolden** the opposition, (2) **embolden** a country's leadership

She was **emboldened** by her success and decided to take on a more significant challenge.

## multistoried

*adj.* having multiple stories or levels, especially about a building or other structure

*synonym*: multi-level, high-rise, towering

(1) **multistoried** condominium, (2) **multistoried** car park  
The **multistoried** building housed many offices and businesses.

## meager

*adj.* small in quantity, quality, or size; insufficient or inadequate

*synonym*: scanty, sparse, insufficient

(1) **meager** salary, (2) **meager** resources

The refugee family had to survive on a **meager** amount of food and water daily.

## culminate

v. to reach a peak or climax

*synonym*: end, finish, conclude

(1) **culminate** in a heart attack, (2) **culminate** in failure

The event will **culminate** in a grand fireworks display.

## lavish

*adj.* large in amount and expensive or impressive

*synonym* : grate, grand, splendid

(1) **lavish** lifestyle, (2) enjoy a **lavish** trip abroad

He has earned **lavish** praise for his achievement.

## shrub

*n.* a woody plant that is smaller than a tree and has several main stems emerging from the soil

*synonym* : bush, hedge, fern

(1) tree and **shrubs**, (2) small **shrub**

These are **shrubs** with no trunks that rarely grow taller than 3 meters.

## camouflage

*n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

*synonym* : guise, mask, cloak

(1) **camouflage** clothing, (2) work as **camouflage**

They utilized branches of trees as **camouflage**.

## traverse

*v.* to cross or move through a land or water area

*synonym* : cross, pass through, travel over

(1) **traverse** the region, (2) **traverse** a vast extent of sea

Approximately 1000 automobiles **traverse** the bridge every day.

## murmur

*v.* to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath

*synonym* : burble, gurgle, mutter

(1) **murmur** at low wages, (2) **murmur** a greeting

He always **murmurs** at the ill-treatment.

## neutralize

*v.* to counteract or cancel the effects of something; to make something neutral or harmless

*synonym* : counteract, invalidate, cancel out

(1) **neutralize** a toxin, (2) **neutralize** an argument

We need to **neutralize** the acidity of this soil before we can grow any crops.

### **underdeveloped**

*adj.* not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement

*synonym*: unadvanced, immature, backward

(1) an **underdeveloped** child, (2) remain **underdeveloped**

Many people in **underdeveloped** countries need clean water or proper healthcare access.

### **thoughtless**

*adj.* lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence

*synonym*: unthinking, careless, insensitive

(1) **thoughtless** comment, (2) **thoughtless** mistake

The **thoughtless** actions of the students caused damage to the school property.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. zi\_\_\_g sewing machine *adj.* having short sharp turns or angles
2. co\_\_\_\_\_ss the chest *v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
3. cam\_\_\_\_\_ge clothing *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
4. cu\_\_\_\_\_te in a heart attack *v.* to reach a peak or climax
5. for\_\_\_\_\_le competitor *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
6. re\_\_\_\_\_ne the possibilities *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
7. cu\_\_\_\_\_te in failure *v.* to reach a peak or climax
8. em\_\_\_\_\_en the opposition *v.* to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief
9. tree and sh\_\_bs *n.* a woody plant that is smaller than a tree and has several main stems emerging from the soil
10. an und\_\_\_\_\_ped child *adj.* not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement

ANSWERS: 1. zigzag, 2. compress, 3. camouflage, 4. culminate, 5. formidable, 6. reimagine, 7. culminate, 8. embolden, 9. shrub, 10. underdeveloped

11. tho\_\_\_\_\_ss comment *adj.* lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence
12. ma\_\_n jar *n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete
13. ro\_\_\_\_\_c arm *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
14. enjoy a la\_\_\_h trip abroad *adj.* large in amount and expensive or impressive
15. neu\_\_\_\_\_ze an argument *v.* to counteract or cancel the effects of something; to make something neutral or harmless
16. ro\_\_\_\_\_c guide operation *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
17. 980 hectopa\_\_\_ls *n.* a unit of pressure in the International System of Units (SI) named after the French mathematician and physicist Blaise Pascal, which equals one newton per square meter; the name of a high-level programming language developed in the 1970s
18. tr\_\_\_\_\_se the region *v.* to cross or move through a land or water area
19. pressure conditions from 100 to 1600 pa\_\_\_ls *n.* a unit of pressure in the International System of Units (SI) named after the French mathematician and physicist Blaise Pascal, which equals one newton per square meter; the name of a high-level programming language developed in the 1970s

ANSWERS: 11. thoughtless, 12. mason, 13. robotic, 14. lavish, 15. neutralize, 16. robotic, 17. pascal, 18. traverse, 19. pascal



20. r\_m the door open      *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
21. pu\_\_\_\_\_ze rocks      *v.* to break into fine particles or dust; to crush, pound, or grind into a powder or a paste; to destroy completely or utterly
22. am\_\_e a baby with a rattle      *v.* to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh
23. tho\_\_\_\_\_ss mistake      *adj.* lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence
24. va\_\_t door      *n.* a large room or chamber used for storage, often for valuables such as money, documents, or artwork; (verb) to leap or jump over something; to move quickly or suddenly
25. me\_\_\_r resources      *adj.* small in quantity, quality, or size; insufficient or inadequate
26. for\_\_\_\_\_le challenge      *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
27. la\_\_\_h lifestyle      *adj.* large in amount and expensive or impressive
28. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student      *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
29. the craft of a ma\_\_n      *n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

ANSWERS: 20. ram, 21. pulverize, 22. amuse, 23. thoughtless, 24. vault, 25. meager, 26. formidable, 27. lavish, 28. industrious, 29. mason

30. me\_\_\_r salary *adj.* small in quantity, quality, or size; insufficient or inadequate
31. t\_\_g branch *n.* a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual
32. co\_\_\_\_\_ss gas *v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
33. pu\_\_\_\_\_ze competition *v.* to break into fine particles or dust; to crush, pound, or grind into a powder or a paste; to destroy completely or utterly
34. moves into a pi\_\_\_\_\_te *n.* a rapid spin of the body on the toes or the front part of the foot, especially performed by a ballet dancer
35. mu\_\_\_r a greeting *v.* to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath
36. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
37. neu\_\_\_\_\_ze a toxin *v.* to counteract or cancel the effects of something; to make something neutral or harmless
38. tr\_\_\_\_\_se a vast extent of sea *v.* to cross or move through a land or water area
39. va\_\_t from five to fifty percent *n.* a large room or chamber used for storage, often for valuables such as money, documents, or artwork; (verb) to leap or jump over something; to move quickly or suddenly
40. mul\_\_\_\_\_ied car park *adj.* having multiple stories or levels, especially about a building or other structure

ANSWERS: 30. meager, 31. twig, 32. compress, 33. pulverize, 34. pirouette, 35. murmur, 36. industrious, 37. neutralize, 38. traverse, 39. vault, 40. multistoried

41. mul\_\_\_\_\_ied condominium *adj.* having multiple stories or levels, especially about a building or other structure
42. perform a pi\_\_\_\_\_te *n.* a rapid spin of the body on the toes or the front part of the foot, especially performed by a ballet dancer
43. t\_\_g basket *n.* a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual
44. de\_\_\_e a song from the top charts *v.* to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities
45. work as cam\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
46. de\_\_\_e an employee *v.* to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities
47. remain und\_\_\_\_\_ped *adj.* not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement
48. r\_m into the ice *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
49. am\_\_e guests *v.* to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh
50. em\_\_\_\_\_en a country's leadership *v.* to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief

ANSWERS: 41. multistoried, 42. pirouette, 43. twig, 44. demote, 45. camouflage, 46. demote, 47. underdeveloped, 48. ram, 49. amuse, 50. embolden

51. mu\_\_\_r at low wages      *v.* to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath
52. small sh\_\_b      *n.* a woody plant that is smaller than a tree and has several main stems emerging from the soil
53. re\_\_\_\_\_ne the future      *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
54. a zi\_\_\_g line      *adj.* having short sharp turns or angles

ANSWERS: 51. murmur, 52. shrub, 53. reimagine, 54. zigzag

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company is trying to \_\_\_\_\_ its business model to stay competitive.  
*v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
  
2. His poor performance caused the coach to \_\_\_\_\_ him to the bench.  
*v.* to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities
  
3. These are \_\_\_\_\_ with no trunks that rarely grow taller than 3 meters.  
*n.* a woody plant that is smaller than a tree and has several main stems emerging from the soil
  
4. The bird perched on a \_\_\_\_\_ and sang a beautiful melody.  
*n.* a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual
  
5. She turned a triple \_\_\_\_\_ on the ice.  
*n.* a rapid spin of the body on the toes or the front part of the foot, especially performed by a ballet dancer
  
6. Meteorologists recorded a sudden drop in air pressure to 980 hecto\_\_\_\_\_ signaling the approach of a storm.  
*n.* a unit of pressure in the International System of Units (SI) named after the French mathematician and physicist Blaise Pascal, which equals one newton per square meter; the name of a high-level programming language developed in the 1970s
  
7. He \_\_\_\_\_ himself by playing video games during his free time.  
*v.* to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh

ANSWERS: 1. reimagine, 2. demote, 3. shrubs, 4. twig, 5. pirouette, 6. pascals, 7. amused

8. The surgeon removed the tumor using \_\_\_\_\_ video assistance.  
*adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
9. The government \_\_\_\_\_ contains top-secret documents and classified information that only a few individuals can access.  
*n.* a large room or chamber used for storage, often for valuables such as money, documents, or artwork; (verb) to leap or jump over something; to move quickly or suddenly
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ actions of the students caused damage to the school property.  
*adj.* lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence
11. Approximately 1000 automobiles \_\_\_\_\_ the bridge every day.  
*v.* to cross or move through a land or water area
12. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ the acidity of this soil before we can grow any crops.  
*v.* to counteract or cancel the effects of something; to make something neutral or harmless
13. Many people in \_\_\_\_\_ countries need clean water or proper healthcare access.  
*adj.* not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement
14. The refugee family had to survive on a \_\_\_\_\_ amount of food and water daily.  
*adj.* small in quantity, quality, or size; insufficient or inadequate
15. He always \_\_\_\_\_ at the ill-treatment.  
*v.* to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath

ANSWERS: 8. robotic, 9. vault, 10. thoughtless, 11. traverse, 12. neutralize, 13. underdeveloped, 14. meager, 15. murmurs

16. They utilized branches of trees as \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
17. The accomplished \_\_\_\_\_ expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.
- n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete
18. The car \_\_\_\_\_ into the wall, causing significant damage.
- v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
19. The demolition crew had to \_\_\_\_\_ the old building to make room for the new one.
- v.* to break into fine particles or dust; to crush, pound, or grind into a powder or a paste; to destroy completely or utterly
20. The event will \_\_\_\_\_ in a grand fireworks display.
- v.* to reach a peak or climax
21. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
22. We had to go through a \_\_\_\_\_ course.
- adj.* having short sharp turns or angles
23. The \_\_\_\_\_ building housed many offices and businesses.
- adj.* having multiple stories or levels, especially about a building or other structure

ANSWERS: 16. camouflage, 17. mason, 18. rammed, 19. pulverize, 20. culminate, 21. industrious, 22. zigzag, 23. multistoried

24. The mountain range was a \_\_\_\_\_ obstacle for the hikers.

*adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

25. She was \_\_\_\_\_ by her success and decided to take on a more significant challenge.

*v.* to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief

26. He has earned \_\_\_\_\_ praise for his achievement.

*adj.* large in amount and expensive or impressive

27. She \_\_\_\_\_ the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.

*v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space

ANSWERS: 24. formidable, 25. emboldened, 26. lavish, 27. compressed