

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Peter Singer: The why and how of effective altruism | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/peter\\_singer\\_the\\_why\\_and\\_how\\_of\\_effective\\_altruism](https://www.ted.com/talks/peter_singer_the_why_and_how_of_effective_altruism)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

## Session 1: Word List

### unsettle

*v.* to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation

*synonym*: aggravate, annoy, disturb

(1) **unsettle** the nervous system, (2) **unsettle** his conviction  
This nationwide strike may **unsettle** the country's economy.

### passersby

*n.* people who are walking past a particular place often used to refer to a group of people or an undefined number of individuals

*synonym*: bystanders, onlookers, observers

(1) **passersby** on the sidewalk, (2) group of **passersby**  
The busy street was filled with **passersby** hurrying to their destinations.

### creditor

*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

### doe

*n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

*synonym*: rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

## altruism

*n.* the belief or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others; unselfish devotion to the welfare of others often expressed as acts of kindness or charity

*synonym*: selflessness, philanthropy, generosity

(1) acts of **altruism**, (2) **altruism** in society

His act of volunteering at the homeless shelter was a clear example of practical **altruism**.

## empathy

*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

*synonym*: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

**Empathy** is also necessary to understand history.

## grieve

*v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died

*synonym*: mourn, lament, sorrow

(1) **grieve** for loss, (2) **grieve** at the sad news

She **grieved** the loss of her parents.

## well-being

*n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

*synonym*: health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**

We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

## nerd

*n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

*synonym*: geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck

He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

## altruist

*n.* a person who has an unselfish or selfless concern for the welfare of others; a person who values the well-being of others over their interests or desires

*synonym* : benefactor, philanthropist, donor

(1) charitable **altruist**, (2) an **altruistic** act

The wealthy philanthropist was known as an **altruistic** individual who donated generously to many charities.

## 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.

## crouch

*v.* to put your body close to the ground, especially as a way of avoiding being seen

*synonym* : bend down, squat, stoop

(1) **crouch** into a ball, (2) **crouch** around a fire

He **crouched** down behind the bushes to avoid being seen.

## quintuple

*v.* to increase or multiply by five; to make something five times as much or as many; (adjective) being five times as great or as many

(1) **quintuple** their income, (2) **quintuple** angle

The team aims to **quintuple** its sales by the end of the fiscal year.

## matte

*adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy

*synonym* : dull, flat, lusterless

(1) **matte** coating, (2) photo with a **matte** finish

The body of his car has a **matte** finish.

## shalt

*v.* an archaic form of "shall," which is used to indicate a command, a requirement, or a prediction

*synonym* : must, should, ought

(1) full of thou **shalt** nots, (2) list of thou **shalts**

Thou **shalt** not steal.

**maim**

v. to injure or wound someone seriously, particularly by permanently disabling or disfiguring a body part

*synonym*: injure, incapacitate, wound

(1) **maim** a victim, (2) **maim** his hand

The reckless driver **maimed** several pedestrians after losing control of the vehicle.

**wan**

*adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy

*synonym*: pale, pallid, ashen

(1) **wan** light, (2) a **wan** smile

His **wan** complexion showed that he was feeling very ill.

**trachoma**

n. an infectious eye disease caused by bacteria, characterized by inflammation, irritation, and scarring of the eye tissues and, if left untreated, can lead to blindness

(1) **trachoma** infection, (2) **trachoma** prevention

The World Health Organization has launched a global campaign to eliminate **trachoma** by 2020.

**inflict**

v. to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something

*synonym*: impose, levy, administer

(1) **inflict** a heavier tax, (2) **inflict** a hard blow

The storm **inflicted** significant damage on the town.

**asteroid**

n. a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

*synonym*: minor planet, planetoid, rocky planetesimal

(1) **asteroid** mining, (2) **asteroid** explorer

Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the **asteroid** belt to understand the early solar system better.

**collide**

v. to hit something violently when moving

*synonym*: clash, slam, contradict

(1) **collide** head-on, (2) **collide** in midair

The interests of the two countries **collide**.

## deflect

v. to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone

*synonym*: deter, redirect, sidetrack

(1) **deflect** a blow, (2) **deflect** his criticism

The soccer player was able to **deflect** the ball away from the goal.

## portray

v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

*synonym*: depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

## condemn

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

*synonym*: criticize, denounce, censure

(1) **condemn** violence, (2) **condemn** crime

The government was **condemned** for its handling of the crisis.

## boulder

n. a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion

*synonym*: rock, stone, clump

(1) **boulder** field, (2) lava **boulder**

The hikers had to climb over a **boulder** that was blocking their path.

## trudge

v. to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously

*synonym*: plod, slog, hike

(1) **trudge** through mud, (2) **trudge** up the hill

The hiker **trudged** through the dense forest, chopping his way with a machete.

## hedonic

*adj.* characterized by, relating to, or focused on pleasure, enjoyment, or the pursuit of gratification; referring to the pursuit of happiness or avoidance of pain as the chief motivator of human action

*synonym*: pleasurable, indulgent, sensual

(1) **hedonic** motivation, (2) **hedonic** pleasure

He lived a **hedonic** lifestyle, often indulging in decadent foods and luxury items.

## treadmill

*n.* a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill

*synonym*: exercise machine, routine

(1) **treadmill** workout, (2) nonstop **treadmill**

I like to watch TV while running on the **treadmill** to pass the time.

## embarrass

*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

*synonym*: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. pa\_\_\_\_\_by on the sidewalk  
*n.* people who are walking past a particular place often used to refer to a group of people or an undefined number of individuals
2. the wel\_\_\_\_\_ng of a nation  
*n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
3. he\_\_\_\_\_c pleasure  
*adj.* characterized by, relating to, or focused on pleasure, enjoyment, or the pursuit of gratification; referring to the pursuit of happiness or avoidance of pain as the chief motivator of human action
4. cr\_\_\_\_h around a fire  
*v.* to put your body close to the ground, especially as a way of avoiding being seen
5. in\_\_\_\_\_t a heavier tax  
*v.* to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something
6. m\_\_m a victim  
*v.* to injure or wound someone seriously, particularly by permanently disabling or disfiguring a body part
7. de\_\_\_\_\_t his criticism  
*v.* to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
8. m\_\_m his hand  
*v.* to injure or wound someone seriously, particularly by permanently disabling or disfiguring a body part
9. bankrupt cr\_\_\_\_\_or  
*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

ANSWERS: 1. passersby, 2. well-being, 3. hedonic, 4. crouch, 5. inflict, 6. maim, 7. deflect, 8. maim, 9. creditor

10. qu\_\_\_\_\_le their income      *v.* to increase or multiply by five; to make something five times as much or as many; (adjective) being five times as great or as many
11. d\_e rabbit      *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
12. charitable al\_\_\_\_\_st      *n.* a person who has an unselfish or selfless concern for the welfare of others; a person who values the well-being of others over their interests or desires
13. de\_\_\_\_\_t a blow      *v.* to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
14. tr\_\_\_\_\_ll workout      *n.* a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill
15. the cr\_\_\_\_\_or's claims      *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
16. group of pa\_\_\_\_\_by      *n.* people who are walking past a particular place often used to refer to a group of people or an undefined number of individuals
17. w\_n light      *adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy
18. oil bil\_\_\_\_\_re      *n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars

ANSWERS: 10. quintuple, 11. doe, 12. altruist, 13. deflect, 14. treadmill, 15. creditor, 16. passersby, 17. wan, 18. billionaire



19. tr\_\_\_\_ma prevention *n.* an infectious eye disease caused by bacteria, characterized by inflammation, irritation, and scarring of the eye tissues and, if left untreated, can lead to blindness
20. tr\_\_\_\_ma infection *n.* an infectious eye disease caused by bacteria, characterized by inflammation, irritation, and scarring of the eye tissues and, if left untreated, can lead to blindness
21. tr\_\_\_e up the hill *v.* to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously
22. un\_\_\_\_le the nervous system *v.* to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation
23. photo with a ma\_\_e finish *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
24. a sense of wel\_\_\_\_ng *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
25. a computer n\_\_d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
26. he\_\_\_\_c motivation *adj.* characterized by, relating to, or focused on pleasure, enjoyment, or the pursuit of gratification; referring to the pursuit of happiness or avoidance of pain as the chief motivator of human action

ANSWERS: 19. trachoma, 20. trachoma, 21. trudge, 22. unsettle, 23. matte, 24. well-being, 25. nerd, 26. hedonic

27. lava bo\_\_\_\_r *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
28. co\_\_\_\_e head-on *v.* to hit something violently when moving
29. in\_\_\_\_t a hard blow *v.* to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something
30. al\_\_\_\_sm in society *n.* the belief or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others; unselfish devotion to the welfare of others often expressed as acts of kindness or charity
31. a w\_n smile *adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy
32. n\_\_d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
33. cr\_\_\_\_h into a ball *v.* to put your body close to the ground, especially as a way of avoiding being seen
34. as\_\_\_\_id mining *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
35. ma\_\_e coating *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
36. buck and d\_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
37. Silicon Valley bil\_\_\_\_\_\_re *n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars

ANSWERS: 27. boulder, 28. collide, 29. inflict, 30. altruism, 31. wan, 32. nerd, 33. crouch, 34. asteroid, 35. matte, 36. doe, 37. billionaire

38. list of thou sh\_\_ts
39. nonstop tr\_\_\_\_\_ll
40. co\_\_\_\_\_n crime
41. gr\_\_\_e for loss
42. accurately po\_\_\_\_\_y the condition
43. co\_\_\_\_\_e in midair
44. qu\_\_\_\_\_le angle
45. an al\_\_\_\_\_stic act
46. gr\_\_\_e at the sad news
47. full of em\_\_\_\_\_y
- v.* an archaic form of "shall," which is used to indicate a command, a requirement, or a prediction
- n.* a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill
- v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
- v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
- v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
- v.* to hit something violently when moving
- v.* to increase or multiply by five; to make something five times as much or as many; (adjective) being five times as great or as many
- n.* a person who has an unselfish or selfless concern for the welfare of others; a person who values the well-being of others over their interests or desires
- v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
- n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

ANSWERS: 38. shalt, 39. treadmill, 40. condemn, 41. grieve, 42. portray, 43. collide, 44. quintuple, 45. altruist, 46. grieve, 47. empathy

48. full of thou sh\_\_t nots *v.* an archaic form of "shall," which is used to indicate a command, a requirement, or a prediction
49. bo\_\_\_\_\_r field *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
50. un\_\_\_\_\_le his conviction *v.* to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation
51. em\_\_\_\_\_ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
52. co\_\_\_\_\_n violence *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
53. as\_\_\_\_\_id explorer *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
54. po\_\_\_\_\_y feelings in words *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
55. acts of al\_\_\_\_\_sm *n.* the belief or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others; unselfish devotion to the welfare of others often expressed as acts of kindness or charity
56. tr\_\_\_e through mud *v.* to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously
57. em\_\_\_\_\_y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

ANSWERS: 48. shalt, 49. boulder, 50. unsettle, 51. embarrass, 52. condemn, 53. asteroid, 54. portray, 55. altruism, 56. trudge, 57. empathy

58. em\_\_\_\_\_ss my project

v. to cause someone to feel awkward,  
worried, or ashamed

ANSWERS: 58. embarrass

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I like to watch TV while running on the \_\_\_\_\_ to pass the time.  
*n.* a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill
2. The storm \_\_\_\_\_ significant damage on the town.  
*v.* to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something
3. The hikers had to climb over a \_\_\_\_\_ that was blocking their path.  
*n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
4. He lived a \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle, often indulging in decadent foods and luxury items.  
*adj.* characterized by, relating to, or focused on pleasure, enjoyment, or the pursuit of gratification; referring to the pursuit of happiness or avoidance of pain as the chief motivator of human action
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ down behind the bushes to avoid being seen.  
*v.* to put your body close to the ground, especially as a way of avoiding being seen
6. The World Health Organization has launched a global campaign to eliminate \_\_\_\_\_ by 2020.  
*n.* an infectious eye disease caused by bacteria, characterized by inflammation, irritation, and scarring of the eye tissues and, if left untreated, can lead to blindness
7. He looked for an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ that actor in public.  
*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

ANSWERS: 1. treadmill, 2. inflicted, 3. boulder, 4. hedonic, 5. crouched, 6. trachoma, 7. embarrass

8. The body of his car has a \_\_\_\_\_ finish.  
*adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
9. The government was \_\_\_\_\_ for its handling of the crisis.  
*v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
10. The interests of the two countries \_\_\_\_\_.  
*v.* to hit something violently when moving
11. His \_\_\_\_ complexion showed that he was feeling very ill.  
*adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy
12. Hunters use a whistle that makes the \_\_\_\_ sound to lure stags.  
*n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
13. The self-made \_\_\_\_\_ donated millions to charity.  
*n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
14. We are responsible for the care and \_\_\_\_\_ of all our employees.  
*n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
15. The soccer player was able to \_\_\_\_\_ the ball away from the goal.  
*v.* to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
16. The hiker \_\_\_\_\_ through the dense forest, chopping his way with a machete.  
*v.* to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously

ANSWERS: 8. matte, 9. condemned, 10. collide, 11. wan, 12. doe, 13. billionaire, 14. well-being, 15. deflect, 16. trudged

17. Thou \_\_\_\_\_ not steal.

- v.* an archaic form of "shall," which is used to indicate a command, a requirement, or a prediction

18. He was, by nature, a cyber \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

19. His act of volunteering at the homeless shelter was a clear example of practical \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* the belief or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others; unselfish devotion to the welfare of others often expressed as acts of kindness or charity

20. This nationwide strike may \_\_\_\_\_ the country's economy.

- v.* to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation

21. She \_\_\_\_\_ the loss of her parents.

- v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died

22. The busy street was filled with \_\_\_\_\_ hurrying to their destinations.

- n.* people who are walking past a particular place often used to refer to a group of people or an undefined number of individuals

23. We often \_\_\_\_\_ political problems as religious issues.

- v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

24. The team aims to \_\_\_\_\_ its sales by the end of the fiscal year.

- v.* to increase or multiply by five; to make something five times as much or as many; (adjective) being five times as great or as many

ANSWERS: 17. shalt, 18. nerd, 19. altruism, 20. unsettle, 21. grieved, 22. passersby, 23. portray, 24. quintuple



25. The wealthy philanthropist was known as an \_\_\_\_\_ individual who donated generously to many charities.
- n.* a person who has an unselfish or selfless concern for the welfare of others; a person who values the well-being of others over their interests or desires
26. \_\_\_\_\_ is also necessary to understand history.
- n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
27. Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the \_\_\_\_\_ belt to understand the early solar system better.
- n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
28. The reckless driver \_\_\_\_\_ several pedestrians after losing control of the vehicle.
- v.* to injure or wound someone seriously, particularly by permanently disabling or disfiguring a body part
29. I asked the lawyer to initiate \_\_\_\_\_ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.
- n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

ANSWERS: 25. altruistic, 26. Empathy, 27. asteroid, 28. maimed, 29. creditor