

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Anna Post: How to set the table | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/anna\\_post\\_how\\_to\\_set\\_the\\_table](https://www.ted.com/talks/anna_post_how_to_set_the_table)

### All Words

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### utensil

*n.* a tool used in the house

*synonym*: appliance, equipment, instrument

(1) cooking **utensils**, (2) cleaning **utensils**

This cuisine requires special kitchen **utensils**.

### tradition

*n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society

*synonym*: custom, practice, ritual

(1) a **tradition** of a culture, (2) against **tradition**

It is a **tradition** in many families to have a big Thanksgiving dinner with all their relatives.

### etiquette

*n.* a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts

*synonym*: protocol, manners, decorum

(1) email **etiquette**, (2) breach of **etiquette**

It's important to follow proper **etiquette** when attending a formal dinner.

### tip

*n.* the top or extreme point of something slender or tapering, usually a mountain or hill; a piece of advice about something practical; a small amount of money given for services

*synonym* : edge, advice, gratuity

(1) the **tip** of a paintbrush, (2) give the waiter a **tip** .

I will introduce some **tips** on learning English in this class.

## **mess**

*n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy

*synonym* : disarray, confusion, predicament

(1) have a whole **mess**, (2) get into a **mess**

He made a frightful **mess** in his room.

## **tablecloth**

*n.* a cloth used to cover a table, especially for protection or decoration

*synonym* : table cover, linens

(1) checkered **tablecloth**, (2) **tablecloth** size

The beautiful **tablecloth** added a touch of elegance to the dinner party.

## **picnic**

*n.* an outdoor meal or social gathering where food is served and eaten in nature, typically in a park, forest, or other outdoor settings

*synonym* : outing, barbecue, walkover

(1) **picnic** basket, (2) **picnic** table

The family enjoyed a lovely **picnic** in the park on a sunny day.

## **candlelight**

*n.* light provided by a candle or candles

*synonym* : lamp light, oil light, firelight

(1) **candlelight** dinner, (2) **candlelight** vigil

The room was dimly lit by soft **candlelight**.

## **decoration**

*n.* the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements

*synonym* : adornment, ornament, embellishment

(1) colorful **decorations**, (2) chocolate **decorations** for cakes

The room was filled with beautiful **decorations** for the wedding reception.

## blade

*n.* the flat part of a knife, weapon, or machine with a very thin edge used for cutting

*synonym* : knife, sword, cutter

(1) a **blade** of grass, (2) the **blade** of a turbine

The **blade** of the katana itself is still in excellent condition.

## polite

*adj.* showing consideration, respect, or deference towards others; having good manners, civility, or courteous behavior

*synonym* : courteous, civil, respectful

(1) **polite** manners, (2) **polite** tone

It's important to be **polite** even when you disagree with someone.

## aggression

*n.* the act of attacking or assaulting; hostile or violent behavior

*synonym* : hostility, assertiveness, antagonism

(1) **aggression** by a hostile country, (2) naked **aggression**

The dog's **aggression** made it difficult for its owners to take it for a walk.

## din

*n.* a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket

*synonym* : noise, racket, clamor

(1) **din** of traffic, (2) mighty **din**

The **din** of the city was overwhelming.

## dessert

*n.* a sweet food served as the last course of a meal

*synonym* : sweet, cake, confection

(1) **dessert** knife, (2) easy **dessert** recipe

Let's go to an all-you-can-eat **dessert** restaurant.

## spool

*n.* a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials

*synonym* : bobbin, reel, cylinder

(1) **spool** pin, (2) **spool** of tape

I need a new **spool** of thread for my sewing machine.

## slide

*v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption

*synonym* : glide, drift, drop

(1) **slide** a card across the table, (2) **slide** a glance

If necessary, you can **slide** the front seats forward.

## spot

*n.* a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it

*synonym* : dot, mark, place

(1) beauty **spot**, (2) a **spot** on his honor

This remote **spot** is rarely visited.

## flip

*v.* to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion

*synonym* : throw, jump

(1) **flip** over the pork chop, (2) **flip** a coin

He **flipped** when he heard that he had been accepted into the university.

## degree

*n.* a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment

*synonym* : level, qualification, diploma

(1) bachelor's **degree**, (2) **degree** centigrade

She received her **degree** in psychology from the university.

## anchor

*n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability

*synonym* : mainstay, ballast, backbone

(1) **anchor** bolt, (2) **anchor** weight

The ship dropped **anchor** in the bay.

## alphabet

*n.* a character set that includes letters and is used to write a language

*synonym* : ABC's

(1) letters of an **alphabet**, (2) an **alphabet** of manual signs

He strove to memorize the Hebrew **alphabet**.

## napkin

*n.* a small piece of cloth or paper used for wiping one's mouth and hands while eating; a decorative cloth placed on a table for formal occasions

*synonym* : serviette, handkerchief, cloth

(1) paper **napkin**, (2) linen **napkin**

I always keep a stack of **napkins** on my desk while I eat to prevent any messes.

## traditionally

*adv.* in accordance with tradition; typically or commonly done in a particular way

*synonym* : conventionally, commonly, generally

(1) **traditionally** accepted concept, (2) **traditionally** sung at a banquet

**Traditionally**, the ceremony was held outdoors.

## underneath

*adv.* under or below something else

*synonym* : below, under, beneath

(1) **underneath** the surface of the water, (2) **underneath** the laughter

The penny fell **underneath** the piano.

## fancier

*n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing

*synonym* : enthusiast, aficionado, connoisseur

(1) a bird **fancier**, (2) known as a **fancier** of arts

He is a wine **fancier** and can tell the difference between red and white just by smelling it.

## fancy

*v.* to want to do or have something; (noun) something that many people believe but that is false, or that does not exist; imagination or fantasy

*synonym* : imagine, visualize, (noun) fantasy

(1) **fancy** a cup of coffee, (2) a flight of **fancy**

I don't **fancy** acting in such an important role.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. beauty s__t                     | <i>n.</i> a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it  |
| 2. a s__t on his honor             | <i>n.</i> a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it  |
| 3. chocolate dec_____ons for cakes | <i>n.</i> the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements |
| 4. cooking ut_____ls               | <i>n.</i> a tool used in the house  |
| 5. tab_____th size                 | <i>n.</i> a cloth used to cover a table, especially for protection or decoration  |
| 6. naked agg_____on                | <i>n.</i> the act of attacking or assaulting; hostile or violent behavior   |
| 7. und_____th the laughter         | <i>adv.</i> under or below something else   |
| 8. de_____t knife                  | <i>n.</i> a sweet food served as the last course of a meal  |
| 9. can_____ht vigil                | <i>n.</i> light provided by a candle or candles   |
| 10. checkered tab_____th           | <i>n.</i> a cloth used to cover a table, especially for protection or decoration  |
| 11. pi___c basket                  | <i>n.</i> an outdoor meal or social gathering where food is served and eaten in nature, typically in a park, forest, or other outdoor settings                            |

ANSWERS: 1. spot, 2. spot, 3. decoration, 4. utensil, 5. tablecloth, 6. aggression, 7. underneath, 8. dessert, 9. candlelight, 10. tablecloth, 11. picnic

12. give the waiter a t\_p. *n.* the top or extreme point of something slender or tapering, usually a mountain or hill; a piece of advice about something practical; a small amount of money given for services
13. sl\_\_e a card across the table *v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption
14. po\_\_\_e manners *adj.* showing consideration, respect, or deference towards others; having good manners, civility, or courteous behavior
15. get into a m\_\_s *n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy
16. the t\_p of a paintbrush *n.* the top or extreme point of something slender or tapering, usually a mountain or hill; a piece of advice about something practical; a small amount of money given for services
17. cleaning ut\_\_\_\_ls *n.* a tool used in the house
18. mighty d\_n *n.* a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket
19. breach of et\_\_\_\_te *n.* a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts
20. a bird fa\_\_\_\_r *n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing
21. sp\_\_l pin *n.* a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials

ANSWERS: 12. tip, 13. slide, 14. polite, 15. mess, 16. tip, 17. utensil, 18. din, 19. etiquette, 20. fancier, 21. spool



22. the bl\_\_e of a turbine *n.* the flat part of a knife, weapon, or machine with a very thin edge used for cutting
23. de\_\_\_e centigrade *n.* a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment
24. email et\_\_\_\_\_te *n.* a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts
25. tra\_\_\_\_\_lly sung at a banquet *adv.* in accordance with tradition; typically or commonly done in a particular way
26. a tr\_\_\_\_\_on of a culture *n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society
27. paper na\_\_\_n *n.* a small piece of cloth or paper used for wiping one's mouth and hands while eating; a decorative cloth placed on a table for formal occasions
28. letters of an al\_\_\_\_\_et *n.* a character set that includes letters and is used to write a language
29. can\_\_\_\_\_ht dinner *n.* light provided by a candle or candles
30. linen na\_\_\_n *n.* a small piece of cloth or paper used for wiping one's mouth and hands while eating; a decorative cloth placed on a table for formal occasions
31. f\_\_p over the pork chop *v.* to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion

ANSWERS: 22. blade, 23. degree, 24. etiquette, 25. traditionally, 26. tradition, 27. napkin, 28. alphabet, 29. candlelight, 30. napkin, 31. flip

32. known as a fa\_\_\_\_r of arts *n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing
33. colorful dec\_\_\_\_\_ons *n.* the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements
34. f\_\_p a coin *v.* to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion
35. und\_\_\_\_\_th the surface of the water *adv.* under or below something else
36. easy de\_\_\_\_t recipe *n.* a sweet food served as the last course of a meal
37. sl\_\_e a glance *v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption
38. pi\_\_\_\_c table *n.* an outdoor meal or social gathering where food is served and eaten in nature, typically in a park, forest, or other outdoor settings
39. a bl\_\_e of grass *n.* the flat part of a knife, weapon, or machine with a very thin edge used for cutting
40. against tr\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society
41. tra\_\_\_\_\_lly accepted concept *adv.* in accordance with tradition; typically or commonly done in a particular way

ANSWERS: 32. fancier, 33. decoration, 34. flip, 35. underneath, 36. dessert, 37. slide, 38. picnic, 39. blade, 40. tradition, 41. traditionally

42. sp\_\_l of tape *n.* a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials
43. agg\_\_\_\_\_on by a hostile country *n.* the act of attacking or assaulting; hostile or violent behavior
44. d\_n of traffic *n.* a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket
45. an\_\_\_r weight *n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability
46. fa\_\_y a cup of coffee *v.* to want to do or have something; (noun) something that many people believe but that is false, or that does not exist; imagination or fantasy
47. po\_\_\_e tone *adj.* showing consideration, respect, or deference towards others; having good manners, civility, or courteous behavior
48. an al\_\_\_\_\_et of manual signs *n.* a character set that includes letters and is used to write a language
49. an\_\_\_r bolt *n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability
50. have a whole m\_\_s *n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy

ANSWERS: 42. spool, 43. aggression, 44. din, 45. anchor, 46. fancy, 47. polite, 48. alphabet, 49. anchor, 50. mess

51. bachelor's de\_\_\_e

*n.* a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment

52. a flight of fa\_\_y

*v.* to want to do or have something; (noun) something that many people believe but that is false, or that does not exist; imagination or fantasy

ANSWERS: 51. degree, 52. fancy

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. If necessary, you can \_\_\_\_\_ the front seats forward.  
*v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption
2. The \_\_\_\_ of the city was overwhelming.  
*n.* a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket
3. The penny fell \_\_\_\_\_ the piano.  
*adv.* under or below something else
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ when he heard that he had been accepted into the university.  
*v.* to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion
5. Let's go to an all-you-can-eat \_\_\_\_\_ restaurant.  
*n.* a sweet food served as the last course of a meal
6. It's important to follow proper \_\_\_\_\_ when attending a formal dinner.  
*n.* a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts
7. He made a frightful \_\_\_\_ in his room.  
*n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy
8. He is a wine \_\_\_\_\_ and can tell the difference between red and white just by smelling it.  
*n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing

ANSWERS: 1. slide, 2. din, 3. underneath, 4. flipped, 5. dessert, 6. etiquette, 7. mess, 8. fancier

9. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ in many families to have a big Thanksgiving dinner with all their relatives.
- n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society
10. The dog's \_\_\_\_\_ made it difficult for its owners to take it for a walk.
- n.* the act of attacking or assaulting; hostile or violent behavior
11. She received her \_\_\_\_\_ in psychology from the university.
- n.* a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment
12. I don't \_\_\_\_\_ acting in such an important role.
- v.* to want to do or have something; (noun) something that many people believe but that is false, or that does not exist; imagination or fantasy
13. The room was filled with beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ for the wedding reception.
- n.* the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements
14. It's important to be \_\_\_\_\_ even when you disagree with someone.
- adj.* showing consideration, respect, or deference towards others; having good manners, civility, or courteous behavior
15. This cuisine requires special kitchen \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a tool used in the house
16. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the katana itself is still in excellent condition.
- n.* the flat part of a knife, weapon, or machine with a very thin edge used for cutting

ANSWERS: 9. tradition, 10. aggression, 11. degree, 12. fancy, 13. decorations, 14. polite, 15. utensils, 16. blade

17. He strove to memorize the Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a character set that includes letters and is used to write a language
18. I always keep a stack of \_\_\_\_\_ on my desk while I eat to prevent any messes.
- n.* a small piece of cloth or paper used for wiping one's mouth and hands while eating; a decorative cloth placed on a table for formal occasions
19. The family enjoyed a lovely \_\_\_\_\_ in the park on a sunny day.
- n.* an outdoor meal or social gathering where food is served and eaten in nature, typically in a park, forest, or other outdoor settings
20. The ship dropped \_\_\_\_\_ in the bay.
- n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability
21. \_\_\_\_\_ the ceremony was held outdoors.
- adv.* in accordance with tradition; typically or commonly done in a particular way
22. I will introduce some \_\_\_\_\_ on learning English in this class.
- n.* the top or extreme point of something slender or tapering, usually a mountain or hill; a piece of advice about something practical; a small amount of money given for services
23. This remote \_\_\_\_\_ is rarely visited.
- n.* a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it
24. I need a new \_\_\_\_\_ of thread for my sewing machine.
- n.* a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials

ANSWERS: 17. alphabet, 18. napkins, 19. picnic, 20. anchor, 21. Traditionally, 22. tips, 23. spot, 24. spool

25. The room was dimly lit by soft \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* light provided by a candle or candles

26. The beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ added a touch of elegance to the dinner party.

*n.* a cloth used to cover a table, especially for protection or decoration

ANSWERS: 25. candlelight, 26. tablecloth