

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Kare Anderson: Be an opportunity maker | TED Talk*  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/kare\\_anderson\\_be\\_an\\_opportunity\\_maker](https://www.ted.com/talks/kare_anderson_be_an_opportunity_maker)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### phobia

*n.* an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder

*synonym* : fear, dread, terror

(1) **phobia** treatment, (2) social **phobia**

She has a **phobia** of spiders and always avoids them.

### stutter

*v.* to speak with sudden involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, syllables, or words; (noun) a speech disorder characterized by the repetition or prolongation of sounds, syllables, or words, or by pauses or blocks in speech

*synonym* : stammer, falter, stumble

(1) **stutter** speech, (2) **stutter** out an apology

He tends to **stutter** when he gets nervous, making it difficult for others to understand him.

### mindset

*n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

*synonym* : attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

## 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.

## opportune

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

*synonym*: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

## disprove

*v.* to show that something is not true or correct

*synonym*: refute, discredit, invalidate

(1) **disprove** global warming, (2) **disprove** the conjecture

The researchers were unable to **disprove** the theory.

## fervent

*adj.* characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion

*synonym*: ardent, passionate, enthusiastic

(1) **fervent** supporter, (2) **fervent** belief

She had a **fervent** desire to pursue her passion and make a difference in the world.

## vamp

*n.* the upper part of a shoe or boot above the sole, covering the instep and sometimes extending over the toes; a woman who uses her charm or allure to seduce and manipulate men; (of music) an improvised or repeated section of music, usually a jazz or blues piece

*synonym*: seductress, temptress, enchantress

(1) **vamp** designs, (2) seductive **vamp** neckline

He was trying to repair the **vamp** of his shoe, which had become detached from the sole.

## selfie

*n.* a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a smartphone or webcam to share on social

media

*synonym* : self-portrait, self-photo, self-snap

(1) **selfie** stick, (2) pose for a **selfie**

She took a **selfie** in front of the famous tower and shared it on the app.

**solitary**

*adj.* existing, living, or doing without others

*synonym* : lonely, unsociable, singular

(1) use of **solitary** confinement, (2) a **solitary** traveler

He never uttered a **solitary** word.

**buff**

*n.* a person who is very knowledgeable or enthusiastic about a particular subject or activity; a soft, furry animal hide that has been treated and prepared for use in clothing, accessories, or upholstery

*synonym* : enthusiast, aficionado, fan

(1) **buffalo** buff, (2) movie **buff**

She's a history **buff** and can tell you everything about the American Revolution.

**plaza**

*n.* a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries

*synonym* : park, square, center

(1) main **plaza**, (2) memorial **plaza**

Three young men were busking in the shopping **plaza**.

**walkway**

*n.* a path or trail for people to walk on, typically in a park or garden

*synonym* : pathway, footpath, trail

(1) install a **walkway**, (2) **walkway** bridge

The **walkway** through the park was a popular spot for joggers and walkers.

**afterward**

*adv.* after the time mentioned

*synonym* : later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

### startling

*adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

*synonym* : alarming, astonishing, shocking

(1) **startling** earthquake shocks, (2) **startling** discovery

He describes the story with **startling** reality.

### transcend

*v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

*synonym* : surpass, exceed, overcome

(1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

### seize

*v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

*synonym* : grab, grasp, capture

(1) **seize** a person's property, (2) **seize** the day

He has the superpower to **seize** a business opportunity.

### affront

*n.* an action or statement that causes offense or disrespect to someone's dignity or honor; a deliberate insult or slight; (verb) to insult or offend someone intentionally, often by showing disrespect or disregard for their feelings, beliefs, or social norms

*synonym* : insult, offense, slight

(1) **affront** his pride, (2) **affront** to reputation

The rude remark was an **affront** to her dignity.

### fascinate

*v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

*synonym* : captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

## devise

*v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

*synonym* : create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

## drone

*n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

*synonym* : hum, whirr, idler

(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**

He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.

## institutionalize

*v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

*synonym* : formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

## racket

*n.* a loud and unpleasant noise that is often repeated or sustained over a period of time; a tool or implement used in various leisure activities or sports, such as tennis or badminton

*synonym* : dissonance, noise, paddle

(1) make a **racket**, (2) badminton **racket**

The sound of shelves crashing to the floor created a terrible **racket** in the grocery store.

## serendipity

*n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery

*synonym* : luck, chance, fortune

(1) **serendipity** moment, (2) **serendipity** discovery

The discovery of penicillin was a result of **serendipity**.

**trait**

*n.* a particular feature of your nature

*synonym* : attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

**firsthand**

*adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source

*synonym* : direct

(1) hear customer's voices **firsthand**, (2) conduct **firsthand** research

The manager tried to hear customers' voices **firsthand**.

**potluck**

*n.* a meal or gathering where everyone brings a dish to share; a situation or activity in which people contribute or participate unpredictably without prior planning or preparation

*synonym* : community meal, shared meal

(1) **potluck** dinner, (2) **potluck** party

Everyone brought a dish to share for the office **potluck**.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. ser_____ty moment                   | <i>n.</i> the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery  |
| 2. the mi_____t in an education system | <i>n.</i> the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone   |
| 3. st_____ng earthquake shocks         | <i>adj.</i> extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying   |
| 4. re_____ne the possibilities         | <i>v.</i> to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way   |
| 5. make a ra____t                      | <i>n.</i> a loud and unpleasant noise that is often repeated or sustained over a period of time; a tool or implement used in various leisure activities or sports, such as tennis or badminton  |
| 6. seductive v__p neckline             | <i>n.</i> the upper part of a shoe or boot above the sole, covering the instep and sometimes extending over the toes; a woman who uses her charm or allure to seduce and manipulate men; (of music) an improvised or repeated section of music, usually a jazz or blues piece |
| 7. the speaker's dr__e                 | <i>n.</i> a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control  |
| 8. hear customer's voices fi_____nd    | <i>adv.</i> from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source  |

ANSWERS: 1. serendipity, 2. mindset, 3. startling, 4. reimagine, 5. racket, 6. vamp, 7. drone, 8. firsthand

9. st\_\_\_\_\_ng discovery *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
10. de\_\_\_e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
11. fe\_\_\_\_\_t belief *adj.* characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion
12. a few years af\_\_\_\_\_rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
13. flexible mi\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
14. de\_\_\_e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
15. wa\_\_\_\_\_y bridge *n.* a path or trail for people to walk on, typically in a park or garden
16. a so\_\_\_\_\_ry traveler *adj.* existing, living, or doing without others
17. tr\_\_\_\_\_nd boundaries *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
18. op\_\_\_\_\_ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
19. ph\_\_\_a treatment *n.* an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder
20. an op\_\_\_\_\_ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 9. startling, 10. devise, 11. fervent, 12. afterward, 13. mindset, 14. devise, 15. walkway, 16. solitary, 17. transcend, 18. opportune, 19. phobia, 20. opportune



21. v\_\_p designs *n.* the upper part of a shoe or boot above the sole, covering the instep and sometimes extending over the toes; a woman who uses her charm or allure to seduce and manipulate men; (of music) an improvised or repeated section of music, usually a jazz or blues piece
22. po\_\_\_\_k dinner *n.* a meal or gathering where everyone brings a dish to share; a situation or activity in which people contribute or participate unpredictably without prior planning or preparation
23. di\_\_\_\_ve global warming *v.* to show that something is not true or correct
24. fa\_\_\_\_\_te the young *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
25. personality tr\_\_ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature
26. pose for a se\_\_\_e *n.* a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a smartphone or webcam to share on social media
27. af\_\_\_\_t his pride *n.* an action or statement that causes offense or disrespect to someone's dignity or honor; a deliberate insult or slight; (verb) to insult or offend someone intentionally, often by showing disrespect or disregard for their feelings, beliefs, or social norms
28. ser\_\_\_\_\_\_ty discovery *n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery

ANSWERS: 21. vamp, 22. potluck, 23. disprove, 24. fascinate, 25. trait, 26. selfie, 27. affront, 28. serendipity

29. se\_\_e the day                      *v.*    to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
30. b\_\_falo buff                        *n.*    a person who is very knowledgeable or enthusiastic about a particular subject or activity; a soft, furry animal hide that has been treated and prepared for use in clothing, accessories, or upholstery
31. tr\_\_\_\_\_nd limits                *v.*    to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
32. ins\_\_\_\_\_ize customary laws    *v.*    to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
33. af\_\_\_\_\_t to reputation        *n.*    an action or statement that causes offense or disrespect to someone's dignity or honor; a deliberate insult or slight; (verb) to insult or offend someone intentionally, often by showing disrespect or disregard for their feelings, beliefs, or social norms
34. ins\_\_\_\_\_ize a system           *v.*    to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
35. conduct fi\_\_\_\_\_nd research    *adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
36. chemical tr\_\_t                      *n.*    a particular feature of your nature
37. se\_\_\_e stick                        *n.*    a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a smartphone or webcam to share on social media

**ANSWERS:** 29. seize, 30. buff, 31. transcend, 32. institutionalize, 33. affront, 34. institutionalize, 35. firsthand, 36. trait, 37. selfie

38. dr\_\_e flight *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
39. re\_\_\_\_\_ne the future *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
40. badminton ra\_\_\_t *n.* a loud and unpleasant noise that is often repeated or sustained over a period of time; a tool or implement used in various leisure activities or sports, such as tennis or badminton
41. movie b\_\_f *n.* a person who is very knowledgeable or enthusiastic about a particular subject or activity; a soft, furry animal hide that has been treated and prepared for use in clothing, accessories, or upholstery
42. se\_\_e a person's property *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
43. fe\_\_\_\_\_t supporter *adj.* characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion
44. di\_\_\_\_\_ve the conjecture *v.* to show that something is not true or correct
45. st\_\_\_\_\_r speech *v.* to speak with sudden involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, syllables, or words; (noun) a speech disorder characterized by the repetition or prolongation of sounds, syllables, or words, or by pauses or blocks in speech

ANSWERS: 38. drone, 39. reimagine, 40. racket, 41. buff, 42. seize, 43. fervent, 44. disprove, 45. stutter

46. po\_\_\_\_k party *n.* a meal or gathering where everyone brings a dish to share; a situation or activity in which people contribute or participate unpredictably without prior planning or preparation
47. st\_\_\_\_r out an apology *v.* to speak with sudden involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, syllables, or words; (noun) a speech disorder characterized by the repetition or prolongation of sounds, syllables, or words, or by pauses or blocks in speech
48. memorial pl\_\_a *n.* a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries
49. use of so\_\_\_\_ry confinement *adj.* existing, living, or doing without others
50. main pl\_\_a *n.* a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries
51. go there af\_\_\_\_rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
52. install a wa\_\_\_\_y *n.* a path or trail for people to walk on, typically in a park or garden
53. fa\_\_\_\_te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
54. social ph\_\_a *n.* an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder

ANSWERS: 46. potluck, 47. stutter, 48. plaza, 49. solitary, 50. plaza, 51. afterward, 52. walkway, 53. fascinate, 54. phobia

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The music \_\_\_\_\_ cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.  
*v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
2. Everyone brought a dish to share for the office \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a meal or gathering where everyone brings a dish to share; a situation or activity in which people contribute or participate unpredictably without prior planning or preparation
3. The rude remark was an \_\_\_\_\_ to her dignity.  
*n.* an action or statement that causes offense or disrespect to someone's dignity or honor; a deliberate insult or slight; (verb) to insult or offend someone intentionally, often by showing disrespect or disregard for their feelings, beliefs, or social norms
4. Multiple genes may influence behavioral \_\_\_\_\_ concurrently.  
*n.* a particular feature of your nature
5. The new policy aims to \_\_\_\_\_ the use of renewable energy sources.  
*v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
6. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adv.* after the time mentioned
7. The discovery of penicillin was a result of \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery

ANSWERS: 1. transcended, 2. potluck, 3. affront, 4. traits, 5. institutionalize, 6. afterward, 7. serendipity

8. Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial \_\_\_\_\_ in each individual.
- n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
9. He has the superpower to \_\_\_\_\_ a business opportunity.
- v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
10. The company is trying to \_\_\_\_\_ its business model to stay competitive.
- v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
11. He heard a \_\_\_\_\_ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
- n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
12. The \_\_\_\_\_ through the park was a popular spot for joggers and walkers.
- n.* a path or trail for people to walk on, typically in a park or garden
13. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
14. She took a \_\_\_\_\_ in front of the famous tower and shared it on the app.
- n.* a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a smartphone or webcam to share on social media
15. She had a \_\_\_\_\_ desire to pursue her passion and make a difference in the world.
- adj.* characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion

ANSWERS: 8. mindset, 9. seize, 10. reimagine, 11. drone, 12. walkway, 13. opportune, 14. selfie, 15. fervent

16. The sound of shelves crashing to the floor created a terrible \_\_\_\_\_ in the grocery store.

- n.* a loud and unpleasant noise that is often repeated or sustained over a period of time; a tool or implement used in various leisure activities or sports, such as tennis or badminton

17. He tends to \_\_\_\_\_ when he gets nervous, making it difficult for others to understand him.

- v.* to speak with sudden involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, syllables, or words; (noun) a speech disorder characterized by the repetition or prolongation of sounds, syllables, or words, or by pauses or blocks in speech

18. They had to \_\_\_\_\_ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

- v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

19. She has a \_\_\_\_\_ of spiders and always avoids them.

- n.* an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder

20. Three young men were busking in the shopping \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries

21. He never uttered a \_\_\_\_\_ word.

- adj.* existing, living, or doing without others

22. The manager tried to hear customers' voices \_\_\_\_\_.

- adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source

ANSWERS: 16. racket, 17. stutter, 18. devise, 19. phobia, 20. plaza, 21. solitary, 22. firsthand

23. He was trying to repair the \_\_\_\_\_ of his shoe, which had become detached from the sole.
- n.* the upper part of a shoe or boot above the sole, covering the instep and sometimes extending over the toes; a woman who uses her charm or allure to seduce and manipulate men; (of music) an improvised or repeated section of music, usually a jazz or blues piece
24. She's a history \_\_\_\_\_ and can tell you everything about the American Revolution.
- n.* a person who is very knowledgeable or enthusiastic about a particular subject or activity; a soft, furry animal hide that has been treated and prepared for use in clothing, accessories, or upholstery
25. The magic tricks \_\_\_\_\_ the children.
- v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
26. The researchers were unable to \_\_\_\_\_ the theory.
- v.* to show that something is not true or correct
27. He describes the story with \_\_\_\_\_ reality.
- adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

ANSWERS: 23. vamp, 24. buff, 25. fascinated, 26. disprove, 27. startling