

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Joy Lin: If superpowers were real: Super speed | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/joy\\_lin\\_if\\_superpowers\\_were\\_real\\_super\\_speed](https://www.ted.com/talks/joy_lin_if_superpowers_were_real_super_speed)

### 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

### superhero

*n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

(1) **superhero** movies, (2) **superhero** comics

Superman is a classic **superhero** known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.

### scrape

*v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

*synonym*: scratch, graze, rub

(1) **scrape** meat off a bone, (2) **scrape** a hole in the ground  
He **scraped** the mud off his boots before entering the house.

### indestructible

*adj.* impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair

*synonym*: unbreakable, sturdy, durable

(1) **indestructible** warrior, (2) **indestructible** object

The vault was advertised as **indestructible** but was eventually broken into.

### swoop

*v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon

*synonym*: dart, pounce

(1) **swoop** down the water slide, (2) **swoop** up the escalator

The eagle **swooped** down from the sky to catch its prey.

## Newtonian

*adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation

*synonym* : classical, physics, mechanics

(1) **Newtonian** physics, (2) **Newtonian** mechanics

The motion of planets can be described using **Newtonian** mechanics.

## inertia

*n.* the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act

*synonym* : sluggishness, lethargy, idleness

(1) **inertia** resistance, (2) Newton's law of **inertia**

The object's **inertia** kept it moving in a straight line until acted upon by an outside force.

## mushy

*adj.* soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet

*synonym* : sappy, sentimental

(1) **mushy** romance, (2) **mushy** peas

The cake was **mushy** because I accidentally added too much milk to the batter.

## astronaut

*n.* a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere

*synonym* : spaceman, cosmonaut

(1) **astronaut** mission, (2) **astronaut** in training

The shuttle **astronaut** trained for months before embarking on the space mission.

## slam

*v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily

*synonym* : bang, crash, shut

(1) **slam** the door, (2) **slam** the book against a wall

She **slammed** the door shut, angry at the person on the other

side.

## superpower

*n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

*synonym*: great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

## immortality

*n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever

*synonym*: endless life, timelessness, agelessness

(1) the **immortality** of the soul, (2) achieve **immortality**

Many people believe in the concept of **immortality** and an afterlife.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. as_____ut mission          | <i>n.</i> a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere   |
| 2. Newton's law of in_____a   | <i>n.</i> the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act  |
| 3. s__m the door              | <i>v.</i> to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily  |
| 4. as_____ut in training      | <i>n.</i> a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere   |
| 5. the imm_____ty of the soul | <i>n.</i> the state or quality of being able to live or last forever  |
| 6. mu__y peas                 | <i>adj.</i> soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet  |
| 7. sw__p down the water slide | <i>v.</i> to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon  |
| 8. Ne_____an physics          | <i>adj.</i> relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation  |
| 9. sup_____er leader          | <i>n.</i> a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities |

ANSWERS: 1. astronaut, 2. inertia, 3. slam, 4. astronaut, 5. immortality, 6. mushy, 7. swoop, 8. Newtonian, 9. superpower

10. s\_\_m the book against a wall *v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
11. Ne\_\_\_\_\_an mechanics *adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
12. ind\_\_\_\_\_ble object *adj.* impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair
13. su\_\_\_\_\_ro comics *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
14. mu\_\_y romance *adj.* soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet
15. sc\_\_\_e a hole in the ground *v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
16. achieve imm\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
17. sc\_\_\_e meat off a bone *v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
18. in\_\_\_\_\_a resistance *n.* the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act
19. sup\_\_\_\_\_er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

ANSWERS: 10. slam, 11. Newtonian, 12. indestructible, 13. superhero, 14. mushy, 15. scrape, 16. immortality, 17. scrape, 18. inertia, 19. superpower

20. sw\_\_p up the escalator

*v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon

21. ind\_\_\_\_\_ble warrior

*adj.* impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair

22. su\_\_\_\_\_ro movies

*n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

ANSWERS: 20. swoop, 21. indestructible, 22. superhero

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ the mud off his boots before entering the house.  
*v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
  
2. The eagle \_\_\_\_\_ down from the sky to catch its prey.  
*v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon
  
3. The vault was advertised as \_\_\_\_\_ but was eventually broken into.  
*adj.* impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair
  
4. Many people believe in the concept of \_\_\_\_\_ and an afterlife.  
*n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
  
5. The cake was \_\_\_\_\_ because I accidentally added too much milk to the batter.  
*adj.* soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet
  
6. The shuttle \_\_\_\_\_ trained for months before embarking on the space mission.  
*n.* a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere
  
7. She \_\_\_\_\_ the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.  
*v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
  
8. The object's \_\_\_\_\_ kept it moving in a straight line until acted upon by an outside force.  
*n.* the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act

ANSWERS: 1. scraped, 2. swooped, 3. indestructible, 4. immortality, 5. mushy, 6. astronaut, 7. slammed, 8. inertia

9. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a \_\_\_\_\_ in comic books and movies.
- n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
10. The motion of planets can be described using \_\_\_\_\_ mechanics.
- adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
11. Superman is a classic \_\_\_\_\_ known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.
- n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

ANSWERS: 9. superpower, 10. Newtonian, 11. superhero