

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*James Zucker: How do you know you exist? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/james\\_zucker\\_how\\_do\\_you\\_know\\_you\\_exist](https://www.ted.com/talks/james_zucker_how_do_you_know_you_exist)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### demolish

*v.* to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something

*synonym*: destroy, wreck, level

(1) **demolish** a myth, (2) **demolish** a bridge

The city decided to **demolish** the old, unsafe building and build a new one.

### preconceived

*adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness

(1) a **preconceived** notion, (2) **preconceived** opinions

We should start a discussion from scratch with no **preconceived** ideas.

### deceive

*v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true, often by telling a lie or creating a false impression

*synonym*: mislead, dupe, hoodwink

(1) **deceive** to lie, (2) **deceive** skillfully

The magician's illusions were designed to **deceive** the audience into believing they saw something impossible.

### deception

*n.* the act of misleading or tricking someone, often by creating a false impression or concealing the truth; a

fraudulent or dishonest action

*synonym* : fraud, deceit, trickery

(1) **deception** tactics, (2) **deception** in advertising

The politician was accused of **deception** for making false promises during his campaign.

## concoct

v. to make something, especially food, by mixing or adding different things; to invent a story or plan, especially for a dishonest purpose

*synonym* : conceive, invent, cook up

(1) **concoct** a conspiracy, (2) **concoct** herbal medicines

They **concocted** a plot to discredit the local politician.

## 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.

## diabolical

*adj.* characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character

*synonym* : wicked, evil, sinister

(1) **diabolical** revenge, (2) **diabolical** media mogul

The **diabolical** plan was to steal the diamond using sophisticated traps and deception.

## dupe

v. to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them

*synonym* : trick, deceive, fool

(1) **dupe** him into believing, (2) **dupe** the public

He tried to **dupe** me into buying a product that didn't work.

## merry

*adj.* cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood

*synonym* : jolly, happy, cheerful

(1) **merry-making**, (2) **merry** laughter

We had a **merry** time at the Christmas party, singing carols and drinking eggnog.

## **weary**

*adj.* feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time

*synonym*: depleted, exhausted, fatigued

(1) a **weary** brain, (2) **weary** expression

He became **weary** of the daily train commute.

## **non-existent**

*adj.* not real; not existing or having no real existence

*synonym*: not real, lacking, absent

(1) **non-existent** resources, (2) presently **non-existent**

The evidence for this theory is **non-existent**.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. de\_\_\_\_\_e skillfully  
v. to cause someone to believe something that is not true, often by telling a lie or creating a false impression
2. dia\_\_\_\_\_al revenge  
*adj.* characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character
3. co\_\_\_\_\_t a conspiracy  
v. to make something, especially food, by mixing or adding different things; to invent a story or plan, especially for a dishonest purpose
4. d\_\_e him into believing  
v. to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them
5. dia\_\_\_\_\_al media mogul  
*adj.* characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character
6. we\_\_y expression  
*adj.* feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time
7. de\_\_\_\_\_sh a bridge  
v. to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something

ANSWERS: 1. deceive, 2. diabolical, 3. concoct, 4. dupe, 5. diabolical, 6. weary, 7. demolish

8. me\_\_y-making *adj.* cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood
9. me\_\_y laughter *adj.* cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood
10. a pre\_\_\_\_\_ved notion *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
11. d\_\_e the public *v.* to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them
12. a we\_\_y brain *adj.* feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time
13. de\_\_\_\_\_sh a myth *v.* to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something
14. co\_\_\_\_\_t herbal medicines *v.* to make something, especially food, by mixing or adding different things; to invent a story or plan, especially for a dishonest purpose
15. di\_\_\_\_\_ve global warming *v.* to show that something is not true or correct
16. de\_\_\_\_\_on tactics *n.* the act of misleading or tricking someone, often by creating a false impression or concealing the truth; a fraudulent or dishonest action

ANSWERS: 8. merry, 9. merry, 10. preconceived, 11. dupe, 12. weary, 13. demolish, 14. concoct, 15. disprove, 16. deception



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The magician's illusions were designed to \_\_\_\_\_ the audience into believing they saw something impossible.
  - v. to cause someone to believe something that is not true, often by telling a lie or creating a false impression
  
2. He tried to \_\_\_\_\_ me into buying a product that didn't work.
  - v. to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them
  
3. The city decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the old, unsafe building and build a new one.
  - v. to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something
  
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ a plot to discredit the local politician.
  - v. to make something, especially food, by mixing or adding different things; to invent a story or plan, especially for a dishonest purpose
  
5. We should start a discussion from scratch with no \_\_\_\_\_ ideas.
  - adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
  
6. He became \_\_\_\_\_ of the daily train commute.
  - adj. feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time
  
7. The politician was accused of \_\_\_\_\_ for making false promises during his campaign.
  - n. the act of misleading or tricking someone, often by creating a false impression or concealing the truth; a fraudulent or dishonest action

ANSWERS: 1. deceive, 2. dupe, 3. demolish, 4. concocted, 5. preconceived, 6. weary, 7. deception

8. The evidence for this theory is \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* not real; not existing or having no real existence

9. The researchers were unable to \_\_\_\_\_ the theory.

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

10. The \_\_\_\_\_ plan was to steal the diamond using sophisticated traps and deception.

*adj.* characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character

11. We had a \_\_\_\_\_ time at the Christmas party, singing carols and drinking eggnog.

*adj.* cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood

ANSWERS: 8. non-existent, 9. disprove, 10. diabolical, 11. merry