

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Kevin Breele: Confessions of a depressed comic | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/kevin\\_breele\\_confessions\\_of\\_a\\_depressed\\_comic](https://www.ted.com/talks/kevin_breele_confessions_of_a_depressed_comic)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### misconception

*n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis

*synonym*: fallacy, incomprehension, misunderstanding

(1) dispel the **misconception**, (2) commonly held **misconception**

There are numerous **misconceptions** about food and health.

### ledge

*n.* a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface

*synonym*: shelf, edge, brink

(1) **ledge** overlooking the ocean, (2) wooden **ledge**

He stood on the narrow **ledge**, looking down at the busy street below.

### pox

*n.* a group of infectious diseases that cause skin eruptions and fever, such as smallpox, chicken pox, and cowpox; often used to refer specifically to the skin eruptions caused by these diseases

*synonym*: rash, infection, disease

(1) deadly **pox** disease, (2) **pox** virus

The child had a severe chicken **pox** and had to stay home for over a week.

## numb

*adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

*synonym*: dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

## stigma

*n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

*synonym*: mark, blemish, disgrace

(1) social **stigma**, (2) **stigma** against obesity

The mental health **stigma** often prevents people from seeking treatment.

## sham

*n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

*synonym*: bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

## 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.

## disapprove

*v.* to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone

*synonym*: object, reject, condemn

(1) **disapprove** of the government, (2) publicly **disapprove**

I **disapprove** of my friend's decision to drop out of school and pursue a career in music instead.

## whisper

*v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

*synonym*: murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves  
He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

## hallway

*n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open  
*synonym*: foyer, corridor, entrance

(1) the head of a **hallway**, (2) wax a **hallway** floor  
He dashed down a **hallway** to a bathroom.

## ironic

*adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

*synonym*: sarcastic, wry, sardonic

(1) **ironic** result, (2) an **ironic** turn of events

It was **ironic** that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

## pretension

*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

*synonym*: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

## procrastinate

*v.* to postpone doing what you should do, often because it is unpleasant or boring

*synonym*: delay, dawdle, hesitate

(1) **procrastinate** about a big challenge, (2) **procrastinate** on my homework

He **procrastinated** the matter until it was almost too late.

## ridicule

*n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way

*synonym*: derision, mockery, satire

(1) public **ridicule**, (2) **ridicule** at his expense  
The **ridicule** from his classmates made him feel embarrassed and ashamed.

## intolerant

*adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects

*synonym*: failure, impotence, shortcoming

(1) an **intolerant** person, (2) **intolerant** of criticism

His **intolerant** attitude towards other cultures made it difficult for him to get along with others.

## adversity

*n.* difficulties or hardships that someone faces

*synonym*: hardship, difficulty, trial

(1) environmental **adversity**, (2) struggling with **adversity**

The team demonstrated great resilience in the face of **adversity** and won the game.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. turn out to be all s\_\_m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
2. a n\_\_b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
3. baseless pre\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
4. wax a ha\_\_\_\_\_y floor *n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
5. wooden le\_\_e *n.* a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface
6. ir\_\_\_c result *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
7. em\_\_\_\_\_ss my project *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
8. the head of a ha\_\_\_\_\_y *n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
9. em\_\_\_\_\_ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

ANSWERS: 1. sham, 2. numb, 3. pretension, 4. hallway, 5. ledge, 6. ironic, 7. embarrass, 8. hallway, 9. embarrass

10. st\_\_\_a against obesity *n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
11. dispel the mis\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
12. social st\_\_\_a *n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
13. int\_\_\_\_\_nt of criticism *adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects
14. ri\_\_\_\_\_le at his expense *n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way
15. pro\_\_\_\_\_ate about a big challenge *v.* to postpone doing what you should do, often because it is unpleasant or boring
16. commonly held mis\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
17. pre\_\_\_\_\_on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 10. stigma, 11. misconception, 12. stigma, 13. intolerant, 14. ridicule, 15. procrastinate, 16. misconception, 17. pretension

18. p\_x virus *n.* a group of infectious diseases that cause skin eruptions and fever, such as smallpox, chicken pox, and cowpox; often used to refer specifically to the skin eruptions caused by these diseases
19. le\_\_e overlooking the ocean *n.* a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface
20. deadly p\_x disease *n.* a group of infectious diseases that cause skin eruptions and fever, such as smallpox, chicken pox, and cowpox; often used to refer specifically to the skin eruptions caused by these diseases
21. struggling with ad\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* difficulties or hardships that someone faces
22. pro\_\_\_\_\_ate on my homework *v.* to postpone doing what you should do, often because it is unpleasant or boring
23. dis\_\_\_\_\_ve of the government *v.* to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone
24. answer in a wh\_\_\_\_\_r *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
25. n\_\_b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
26. an int\_\_\_\_\_nt person *adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects

ANSWERS: 18. pox, 19. ledge, 20. pox, 21. adversity, 22. procrastinate, 23. disapprove, 24. whisper, 25. numb, 26. intolerant

27. a s\_\_m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
28. public ri\_\_\_\_le *n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way
29. an ir\_\_\_c turn of events *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
30. environmental ad\_\_\_\_ty *n.* difficulties or hardships that someone faces
31. the wh\_\_\_\_r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
32. publicly dis\_\_\_\_ve *v.* to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone

ANSWERS: 27. sham, 28. ridicule, 29. ironic, 30. adversity, 31. whisper, 32. disapprove



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ the matter until it was almost too late.  
*v.* to postpone doing what you should do, often because it is unpleasant or boring
2. He looked for an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ that actor in public.  
*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
3. He stood on the narrow \_\_\_\_\_ looking down at the busy street below.  
*n.* a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface
4. The data he prepared was completely \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
5. The team demonstrated great resilience in the face of \_\_\_\_\_ and won the game.  
*n.* difficulties or hardships that someone faces
6. There are numerous \_\_\_\_\_ about food and health.  
*n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
7. The child had a severe chicken \_\_\_\_ and had to stay home for over a week.  
*n.* a group of infectious diseases that cause skin eruptions and fever, such as smallpox, chicken pox, and cowpox; often used to refer specifically to the skin eruptions caused by these diseases

ANSWERS: 1. procrastinated, 2. embarrass, 3. ledge, 4. sham, 5. adversity, 6. misconceptions, 7. pox

8. His \_\_\_\_\_ attitude towards other cultures made it difficult for him to get along with others.
- adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects
9. I \_\_\_\_\_ of my friend's decision to drop out of school and pursue a career in music instead.
- v.* to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone
10. The mental health \_\_\_\_\_ often prevents people from seeking treatment.
- n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
11. It was \_\_\_\_\_ that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.
- adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
12. He took me aside and \_\_\_\_\_ in my ear.
- v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
13. His \_\_\_\_\_ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
- n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ from his classmates made him feel embarrassed and ashamed.
- n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way

ANSWERS: 8. intolerant, 9. disapprove, 10. stigma, 11. ironic, 12. whispered, 13. pretensions, 14. ridicule

15. My left arm became \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

16. He dashed down a \_\_\_\_\_ to a bathroom.

*n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open

ANSWERS: 15. numb, 16. hallway