

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*ShaoLan: Learn to read Chinese ... with ease! | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/shaolan\\_learn\\_to\\_read\\_chinese\\_with\\_ease](https://www.ted.com/talks/shaolan_learn_to_read_chinese_with_ease)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### calligraphy

*n.* the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one

*synonym* : penmanship, handwriting, script

(1) **calligraphy** art, (2) **calligraphy** script

The **calligraphy** on the scroll was intricate and beautiful.

### 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.

### outsider

*n.* a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles

*synonym* : stranger, foreigner, alien

(1) **outsider** perspective, (2) **outsider** artist

Living in a foreign country can make you feel like an **outsider** at times.

### impenetrable

*adj.* not able to be passed through, entered, or understood

*synonym* : impassable, insurmountable, impregnable

(1) **impenetrable** fortress, (2) through an **impenetrable** fog  
The jungle was so dense and **impenetrable** that it was almost impossible to find a way through.

## comprehend

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully  
*synonym*: understand, grasp, apprehend

(1) **comprehend** English, (2) **comprehend** instructions  
She struggled to **comprehend** complex math problems.

## yell

v. to shout in a sudden and loud way  
*synonym*: shout, scream, cry

(1) **yell** for help, (2) **yell** as loud as we can  
When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and **yelled** at me.

## frantic

*adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied

*synonym*: wild, frenzied, manic

(1) **frantic** pace, (2) with **frantic** haste  
The mother was **frantic** as she searched for her lost child.

## saloon

*n.* a place of business, typically a bar or tavern, that serves alcoholic drinks and often features entertainment or social activities

*synonym*: barroom, tavern, pub

(1) **saloon** cabin, (2) western-style **saloon**  
She sat on a bar stool in the **saloon**, sipping her whiskey and watching the live music.

## plank

*n.* a long, flat piece of wood or other material that is used for construction or as a platform; an exercise in which a person holds their body in a straight line supported by their hands and toes

*synonym*: board, timber, beam

(1) oak **plank**, (2) **plank** exercise  
He was ordered to walk the **plank** by the pirate captain.

## prosperous

*adj.* successful financially or materially; bringing success or good fortune

*synonym* : successful, thriving, affluent

(1) **prosperous** weather, (2) **prosperous** nation

The company decided to invest in a **prosperous** industry.

## sparkle

*v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy

*synonym* : shine, glimmer, twinkle

(1) **sparkle** like a gem, (2) **sparkle** from receiving light

The diamond **sparkled** in the sunlight.

## sunrise

*n.* the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky

*synonym* : daybreak, morning, dawn

(1) beautiful **sunrise**, (2) high-technology **sunrise** industries

I got up early to watch the **sunrise** at the summit.

## sneaking

*adj.* characterized by stealth, secrecy, or furtiveness; done in a surreptitious or underhanded manner

*synonym* : sneaky, furtive, covert

(1) **sneaking** suspicion, (2) a **sneaking** sense of satisfaction

He had a **sneaking** admiration for his rival's work, even though they were competitors.

## evade

*v.* to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something

*synonym* : dodge, avoid, bypass

(1) **evade** capture, (2) **evade** an issue

The jailbroken criminal is continuously attempting to **evade** the cops.

## adultery

*n.* voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone who is not their spouse

*synonym* : infidelity, cheating, unfaithfulness

(1) commit **adultery**, (2) **adultery** scandal

She knew that having an affair with her neighbor would be considered **adultery** and could end her marriage.

## volcano

*n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

*synonym* : mount, peak, crater

(1) **volcano** alert level, (2) active **volcano**

The island was formed by a **volcano** millions of years ago.

## exile

*n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons

*synonym* : banishment, expulsion, deportation

(1) **exile** community, (2) political **exile**

The **exiled** king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.

## emperor

*n.* the male ruler of an empire

*synonym* : ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor**

The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. sp_____e from receiving light | <i>v.</i> to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy  |
| 2. cal_____hy script             | <i>n.</i> the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one  |
| 3. beautiful su_____e            | <i>n.</i> the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky  |
| 4. com_____nd instructions       | <i>v.</i> to understand the nature or meaning of something fully   |
| 5. fa_____te the public          | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly   |
| 6. imp_____ble fortress          | <i>adj.</i> not able to be passed through, entered, or understood  |
| 7. pro_____us weather            | <i>adj.</i> successful financially or materially; bringing success or good fortune   |
| 8. oak pl__k                     | <i>n.</i> a long, flat piece of wood or other material that is used for construction or as a platform; an exercise in which a person holds their body in a straight line supported by their hands and toes |
| 9. ad_____ry scandal             | <i>n.</i> voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone who is not their spouse  |
| 10. former em_____r              | <i>n.</i> the male ruler of an empire  |
| 11. ev__e capture                | <i>v.</i> to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something   |

ANSWERS: 1. sparkle, 2. calligraphy, 3. sunrise, 4. comprehend, 5. fascinate, 6. impenetrable, 7. prosperous, 8. plank, 9. adultery, 10. emperor, 11. evade

- |   |             |  |
|---|-------------|--|
| 12. com_____nd English                  | <i>v.</i>   | to understand the nature or meaning of something fully   |
| 13. ex__e community                     | <i>n.</i>   | the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons  |
| 14. y__l as loud as we can              | <i>v.</i>   | to shout in a sudden and loud way  |
| 15. em_____r of Rome                    | <i>n.</i>   | the male ruler of an empire  |
| 16. fr_____c pace                       | <i>adj.</i> | marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied   |
| 17. high-technology su_____e industries | <i>n.</i>   | the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky  |
| 18. pro_____us nation                   | <i>adj.</i> | successful financially or materially; bringing success or good fortune   |
| 19. vo_____o alert level                | <i>n.</i>   | a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust. |
| 20. sp_____e like a gem                 | <i>v.</i>   | to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy  |
| 21. ev__e an issue                      | <i>v.</i>   | to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something   |
| 22. commit ad_____ry                    | <i>n.</i>   | voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone who is not their spouse  |
| 23. political ex__e                     | <i>n.</i>   | the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons  |

ANSWERS: 12. comprehend, 13. exile, 14. yell, 15. emperor, 16. frantic, 17. sunrise, 18. prosperous, 19. volcano, 20. sparkle, 21. evade, 22. adultery, 23. exile

24. a sn\_\_\_\_\_ng sense of satisfaction      *adj.* characterized by stealth, secrecy, or furtiveness; done in a surreptitious or underhanded manner
25. ou\_\_\_\_\_er artist      *n.* a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles
26. fa\_\_\_\_\_te the young      *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
27. ou\_\_\_\_\_er perspective      *n.* a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles
28. western-style sa\_\_\_\_\_n      *n.* a place of business, typically a bar or tavern, that serves alcoholic drinks and often features entertainment or social activities
29. cal\_\_\_\_\_hy art      *n.* the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one
30. sa\_\_\_\_\_n cabin      *n.* a place of business, typically a bar or tavern, that serves alcoholic drinks and often features entertainment or social activities
31. y\_\_l for help      *v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
32. active vo\_\_\_\_\_o      *n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

ANSWERS: 24. sneaking, 25. outsider, 26. fascinate, 27. outsider, 28. saloon, 29. calligraphy, 30. saloon, 31. yell, 32. volcano

33. with fr\_\_\_\_c haste *adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
34. pl\_\_k exercise *n.* a long, flat piece of wood or other material that is used for construction or as a platform; an exercise in which a person holds their body in a straight line supported by their hands and toes
35. through an imp\_\_\_\_\_ble fog *adj.* not able to be passed through, entered, or understood
36. sn\_\_\_\_\_ng suspicion *adj.* characterized by stealth, secrecy, or furtiveness; done in a surreptitious or underhanded manner

ANSWERS: 33. frantic, 34. plank, 35. impenetrable, 36. sneaking



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Living in a foreign country can make you feel like an \_\_\_\_\_ at times.  
*n.* a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles
2. He had a \_\_\_\_\_ admiration for his rival's work, even though they were competitors.  
*adj.* characterized by stealth, secrecy, or furtiveness; done in a surreptitious or underhanded manner
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ on the scroll was intricate and beautiful.  
*n.* the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one
4. The diamond \_\_\_\_\_ in the sunlight.  
*v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
5. The island was formed by a \_\_\_\_\_ millions of years ago.  
*n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.
6. The mother was \_\_\_\_\_ as she searched for her lost child.  
*adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
7. I got up early to watch the \_\_\_\_\_ at the summit.  
*n.* the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky
8. The jungle was so dense and \_\_\_\_\_ that it was almost impossible to find a way through.  
*adj.* not able to be passed through, entered, or understood

ANSWERS: 1. outsider, 2. sneaking, 3. calligraphy, 4. sparkled, 5. volcano, 6. frantic, 7. sunrise, 8. impenetrable

9. The magic tricks \_\_\_\_\_ the children.  
*v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
10. She knew that having an affair with her neighbor would be considered \_\_\_\_\_ and could end her marriage.  
*n.* voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone who is not their spouse
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ once lived in the vast palace.  
*n.* the male ruler of an empire
12. When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and \_\_\_\_\_ at me.  
*v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
13. The jailbroken criminal is continuously attempting to \_\_\_\_\_ the cops.  
*v.* to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something
14. The company decided to invest in a \_\_\_\_\_ industry.  
*adj.* successful financially or materially; bringing success or good fortune
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.  
*n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
16. He was ordered to walk the \_\_\_\_\_ by the pirate captain.  
*n.* a long, flat piece of wood or other material that is used for construction or as a platform; an exercise in which a person holds their body in a straight line supported by their hands and toes

ANSWERS: 9. fascinated, 10. adultery, 11. Emperor, 12. yelled, 13. evade, 14. prosperous, 15. exiled, 16. plank

17. She struggled to \_\_\_\_\_ complex math problems.

*v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

18. She sat on a bar stool in the \_\_\_\_\_ sipping her whiskey and watching the live music.

*n.* a place of business, typically a bar or tavern, that serves alcoholic drinks and often features entertainment or social activities

ANSWERS: 17. comprehend, 18. saloon,