

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Rob Reid: The \$8 billion iPod | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/rob\\_reid\\_the\\_8\\_billion\\_ipod](https://www.ted.com/talks/rob_reid_the_8_billion_ipod)

### 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

### dispassionate

*adj.* not influenced by strong emotions or personal feelings; objective and impartial; characterized by rationality and objectivity rather than being driven by subjective biases or emotions

*synonym*: impartial, unbiased, neutral

(1) **dispassionate** analysis, (2) **dispassionate** observation  
The judge remained **dispassionate** throughout the emotional trial.

### enlist

*v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization

*synonym*: join, sign up, appoint

(1) **enlist** in a cause, (2) **enlist** for a soldier  
He decided to **enlist** in the military after graduating from high school.

### rev

*n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

*synonym*: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd  
He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

## auditorium

*n.* a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances

*synonym*: hall, theater, amphitheater

(1) open-air **auditorium**, (2) **auditorium** annex

The **auditorium** seating was filled with people waiting for the concert to begin.

## boulevard

*n.* a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade

*synonym*: avenue, street, road

(1) tree-lined **boulevard**, (2) residential **boulevard**

The new shopping center is on a bustling **boulevard** in the city's heart.

## sorghum

*n.* a type of grain grown in tropical countries

(1) **sorghum** grain, (2) seeds of **sorghum**

**Sorghum** is an important food grain in this country.

## puzzling

*adj.* confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious

*synonym*: baffling, confusing, enigmatic

(1) **puzzling** behavior, (2) **puzzling** questions

The detective found the clues **puzzling** and couldn't solve the case immediately.

## forego

*v.* to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation

*synonym*: antecede, precede, relinquish

(1) **forego** dessert, (2) **forego** the privilege

The company decided to **forego** the expensive advertising campaign and instead rely on word of mouth.

## insidious

*adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

*synonym*: sly, cunning, subtle

(1) **insidious** plot, (2) **insidious** behavior

The disease has an **insidious** onset, making it difficult to diagnose.

## ringtone

*n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message

*synonym*: ringback tone, caller tune, dialler tone

(1) download **ringtone**, (2) **ringtone** melody

I forgot to silence my phone during the meeting, and everyone heard my embarrassing **ringtone**.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym*: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## toolkit

*n.* a set of tools, materials, or resources that are designed to be used together for a specific purpose or task; a collection of information or techniques that can be used to address a problem or achieve a goal

*synonym*: tool set, equipment, utility kit

(1) handy **toolkit**, (2) digital **toolkit**

The DIY **toolkit** includes a variety of power and hand tools for home repair.

## hoodlum

*n.* a person who engages in criminal or violent behavior; a thug or gangster

*synonym*: thug, delinquent, gangster

(1) **hoodlum** behavior, (2) notorious **hoodlum**

The police arrested the juvenile **hoodlum** responsible for the recent string of burglaries in the neighborhood.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. pu\_\_\_\_ng behavior *adj.* confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious
2. aud\_\_\_\_\_um annex *n.* a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances
3. digital to\_\_\_\_t *n.* a set of tools, materials, or resources that are designed to be used together for a specific purpose or task; a collection of information or techniques that can be used to address a problem or achieve a goal
4. r\_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
5. en\_\_\_\_t for a soldier *v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization
6. residential bo\_\_\_\_\_rd *n.* a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade
7. tree-lined bo\_\_\_\_\_rd *n.* a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade
8. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 1. puzzling, 2. auditorium, 3. toolkit, 4. rev, 5. enlist, 6. boulevard, 7. boulevard, 8. industrious

9. open-air aud\_\_\_\_\_um *n.* a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances
10. in\_\_\_\_\_us behavior *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
11. dis\_\_\_\_\_ate analysis *adj.* not influenced by strong emotions or personal feelings; objective and impartial; characterized by rationality and objectivity rather than being driven by subjective biases or emotions
12. seeds of so\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* a type of grain grown in tropical countries
13. low-r\_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
14. fo\_\_\_o the privilege *v.* to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation
15. dis\_\_\_\_\_ate observation *adj.* not influenced by strong emotions or personal feelings; objective and impartial; characterized by rationality and objectivity rather than being driven by subjective biases or emotions
16. handy to\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* a set of tools, materials, or resources that are designed to be used together for a specific purpose or task; a collection of information or techniques that can be used to address a problem or achieve a goal

ANSWERS: 9. auditorium, 10. insidious, 11. dispassionate, 12. sorghum, 13. rev, 14. forego, 15. dispassionate, 16. toolkit

17. ri\_\_\_\_ne melody *n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message
18. ho\_\_\_\_m behavior *n.* a person who engages in criminal or violent behavior; a thug or gangster
19. en\_\_\_\_t in a cause *v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization
20. notorious ho\_\_\_\_m *n.* a person who engages in criminal or violent behavior; a thug or gangster
21. ind\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
22. download ri\_\_\_\_ne *n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message
23. so\_\_\_\_m grain *n.* a type of grain grown in tropical countries
24. pu\_\_\_\_ng questions *adj.* confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious
25. in\_\_\_\_us plot *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
26. fo\_\_\_\_o dessert *v.* to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation

ANSWERS: 17. ringtone, 18. hoodlum, 19. enlist, 20. hoodlum, 21. industrious, 22. ringtone, 23. sorghum, 24. puzzling, 25. insidious, 26. forego

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
  
2. The company decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the expensive advertising campaign and instead rely on word of mouth.  
*v.* to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation
  
3. The new shopping center is on a bustling \_\_\_\_\_ in the city's heart.  
*n.* a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade
  
4. The disease has an \_\_\_\_\_ onset, making it difficult to diagnose.  
*adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
  
5. The police arrested the juvenile \_\_\_\_\_ responsible for the recent string of burglaries in the neighborhood.  
*n.* a person who engages in criminal or violent behavior; a thug or gangster
  
6. The DIY \_\_\_\_\_ includes a variety of power and hand tools for home repair.  
*n.* a set of tools, materials, or resources that are designed to be used together for a specific purpose or task; a collection of information or techniques that can be used to address a problem or achieve a goal
  
7. He decided to \_\_\_\_\_ in the military after graduating from high school.  
*v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization

ANSWERS: 1. industrious, 2. forego, 3. boulevard, 4. insidious, 5. hoodlum, 6. toolkit, 7. enlist

8. The judge remained \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the emotional trial.  
*adj.* not influenced by strong emotions or personal feelings; objective and impartial; characterized by rationality and objectivity rather than being driven by subjective biases or emotions
9. \_\_\_\_\_ is an important food grain in this country.  
*n.* a type of grain grown in tropical countries
10. I forgot to silence my phone during the meeting, and everyone heard my embarrassing \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message
11. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
12. The \_\_\_\_\_ seating was filled with people waiting for the concert to begin.  
*n.* a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances
13. The detective found the clues \_\_\_\_\_ and couldn't solve the case immediately.  
*adj.* confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious

ANSWERS: 8. dispassionate, 9. Sorghum, 10. ringtone, 11. rev, 12. auditorium, 13. puzzling