

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*LZ Granderson: The myth of the gay agenda | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/lz\\_granderson\\_the\\_myth\\_of\\_the\\_gay\\_agenda](https://www.ted.com/talks/lz_granderson_the_myth_of_the_gay_agenda)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### torch

*n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle

*synonym*: flashlight, lantern, flare

(1) the **torch** of learning, (2) **torch** song

She used an electric **torch** to light her way through the dark cave.

### trilogy

*n.* a series of three related works, such as books, plays, or movies, that are connected in some way, often by plot, characters, or theme

*synonym*: triple, triptych

(1) **trilogy** series, (2) **trilogy** format

The Lord of the Rings **trilogy** is a classic in the fantasy genre.

### shave

*v.* to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something

*synonym*: trim, cut down, prune

(1) **shave** my head, (2) **shave** cheese

That supermarket tried to **shave** certain costs by saving electricity.

- sew** v. to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle  
*synonym*: stitch, darn, tailor  
(1) **sew** with thread, (2) **sew** a button  
My mother taught me how to **sew**.
- disturb** v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.  
*synonym*: agitate, bother, intrude  
(1) **disturb** the peace, (2) **disturb** his sleep  
Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.
- idol** n. an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered  
*synonym*: icon, hero, legend  
(1) **idol** worship, (2) **idol** singer  
He was an **idol** to his fans, who looked up to him as a role model.
- 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.
- heterosexual** *adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex  
*synonym*: straight, conventional  
(1) **heterosexual** relationship, (2) **heterosexual** marriage  
He identified as **heterosexual** and had never considered being with someone of the same gender.
- penguin** n. a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait

(1) Adelie **penguin**, (2) **penguin** habitat

We took a boat tour to witness the magnificent **penguin** colony along the rugged coastline.

## pebble

*n.* a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water

*synonym*: rock, stone, cobble

(1) drop a **pebble** into a pond, (2) **pebble** pathway

She picked up a **pebble** from the beach and put it in her pocket as a souvenir.

## engulf

*v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely

*synonym*: swallow, submerge, inundate

(1) **engulf** the politician, (2) **engulf** in water

The fire quickly **engulfed** the entire building.

## bootleg

*adj.* relating to or referring to goods, music, movies, or other media that are produced, distributed, or sold illegally or without proper authorization; (noun) illegally made, distributed, or sold products, particularly alcoholic liquor, without paying taxes or without authorization

*synonym*: illegal, illicit, unauthorized

(1) **bootleg** copy, (2) **bootleg** of blockbuster movies

The authorities seized a large amount of **bootleg** alcohol during the raid.

## ado

*n.* an action, fuss, or commotion, often over a trivial or unimportant matter; unnecessary activity or effort

*synonym*: commotion, fuss, bother

(1) much **ado**, (2) kick up **ado**

We need to resolve this issue without any further **ado**.

## soak

*v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money

*synonym*: saturate, steep, douse

(1) **soak** in a hot spring, (2) **soak** away stress

I **soaked** the shirt in the sink before washing it.

## confuse

*v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

*synonym*: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality  
Her remarks **confused** the debate.

## transgender

*adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth

*synonym*: non-binary

(1) **transgender** person, (2) **transgender** rights  
Many **transgender** individuals face discrimination and marginalization in society.

## stink

*v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical

*synonym*: reek, smell, odor

(1) **stink** up the place, (2) **stink** badly  
The garbage in the alley began to **stink** after a few hot days.

## abridge

*v.* to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence

*synonym*: condense, shorten, abbreviate

(1) **abridge** a biography, (2) **abridge** a speech  
I had to **abridge** the novel to fit it into the time allotted for the movie.

## elitist

*adj.* believing or showing the belief that some people are naturally superior to others and, therefore, should have more power and privilege

*synonym*: exclusive, superior

(1) **elitist** mentality, (2) **elitist** mindset  
His **elitist** attitude made it difficult for him to work with people from different backgrounds.

## forebear

*n.* an ancestor or a precursor

*synonym* : ancestor, predecessor, forefather

(1) a **forebear** of one of the tribes, (2) **forebear** predecessor  
His **forebear** was one of the first settlers in the area.

## irreverent

*adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

*synonym* : disrespectful, impious, sacrilegious

(1) **irreverent** comment, (2) **irreverent** attitude

The comedian's **irreverent** jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.

## brag

*v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior

*synonym* : boast, swagger, vaunt

(1) **brag** to each other, (2) **brag** about my knowledge

Despite his impressive achievements, he refrained from **bragging** about his success.

## bud

*n.* a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot

*synonym* : shoot, sprout, germ

(1) pinch off a **bud**, (2) **bud** grafting

The flower was starting to show its **bud** and would soon bloom into a beautiful blossom.

## orphanage

*n.* an institution for the care of orphans (= a child whose parents are dead)

*synonym* : home for orphans, children's home, foster home

(1) build an **orphanage**, (2) **orphanage** director

He grew up in a Christian **orphanage** and never knew his biological parents.

## disqualify

*v.* to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone

from participation in something

*synonym* : disbar, invalidate, exclude

(1) **disqualify** a candidate, (2) **disqualify** from the election

The athlete's lousy behavior was enough to **disqualify** him from the competition.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. 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
2. tra\_\_\_\_\_er person  
*adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth
3. kick up a\_o  
*n.* an action, fuss, or commotion, often over a trivial or unimportant matter; unnecessary activity or effort
4. irr\_\_\_\_\_nt comment  
*adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
5. dis\_\_\_\_\_fy a candidate  
*v.* to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something
6. b\_\_g about my knowledge  
*v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior
7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. dupe, 2. transgender, 3. ado, 4. irreverent, 5. disqualify, 6. brag, 7. dupe

8. b\_d grafting *n.* a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot
9. build an or\_\_\_\_ge *n.* an institution for the care of orphans (= a child whose parents are dead)
10. dis\_\_\_\_fy from the election *v.* to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something
11. st\_\_k badly *v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical
12. s\_w with thread *v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle
13. di\_\_\_\_b his sleep *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
14. bo\_\_\_\_g of blockbuster movies *adj.* relating to or referring to goods, music, movies, or other media that are produced, distributed, or sold illegally or without proper authorization; (noun) illegally made, distributed, or sold products, particularly alcoholic liquor, without paying taxes or without authorization
15. pe\_\_\_\_n habitat *n.* a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait
16. drop a pe\_\_\_e into a pond *n.* a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water

ANSWERS: 8. bud, 9. orphanage, 10. disqualify, 11. stink, 12. sew, 13. disturb, 14. bootleg, 15. penguin, 16. pebble



17. the to\_\_h of learning *n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle
18. to\_\_h song *n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle
19. s\_\_k away stress *v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money
20. bo\_\_\_\_g copy *adj.* relating to or referring to goods, music, movies, or other media that are produced, distributed, or sold illegally or without proper authorization; (noun) illegally made, distributed, or sold products, particularly alcoholic liquor, without paying taxes or without authorization
21. b\_\_g to each other *v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior
22. co\_\_\_\_e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
23. i\_\_l singer *n.* an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered
24. s\_w a button *v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle
25. tra\_\_\_\_er rights *adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth

ANSWERS: 17. torch, 18. torch, 19. soak, 20. bootleg, 21. brag, 22. confuse, 23. idol, 24. sew, 25. transgender

26. el\_\_\_\_t mentality *adj.* believing or showing the belief that some people are naturally superior to others and, therefore, should have more power and privilege
27. en\_\_\_\_f in water *v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
28. pinch off a b\_d *n.* a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot
29. or\_\_\_\_ge director *n.* an institution for the care of orphans (= a child whose parents are dead)
30. st\_\_k up the place *v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical
31. pe\_\_\_\_e pathway *n.* a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water
32. sh\_\_e cheese *v.* to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something
33. ab\_\_\_\_e a speech *v.* to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence
34. much a\_o *n.* an action, fuss, or commotion, often over a trivial or unimportant matter; unnecessary activity or effort
35. s\_\_k in a hot spring *v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money
36. tr\_\_\_\_y series *n.* a series of three related works, such as books, plays, or movies, that are connected in some way, often by plot, characters, or theme

ANSWERS: 26. elitist, 27. engulf, 28. bud, 29. orphanage, 30. stink, 31. pebble, 32. shave, 33. abridge, 34. ado, 35. soak, 36. trilogy

37. het\_\_\_\_\_ual marriage *adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
38. ab\_\_\_\_\_e a biography *v.* to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence
39. co\_\_\_\_\_e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
40. Adelie pe\_\_\_\_\_n *n.* a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait
41. a fo\_\_\_\_\_ar of one of the tribes *n.* an ancestor or a precursor
42. el\_\_\_\_\_t mindset *adj.* believing or showing the belief that some people are naturally superior to others and, therefore, should have more power and privilege
43. tr\_\_\_\_\_y format *n.* a series of three related works, such as books, plays, or movies, that are connected in some way, often by plot, characters, or theme
44. het\_\_\_\_\_ual relationship *adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
45. sh\_\_e my head *v.* to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something
46. en\_\_\_f the politician *v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
47. di\_\_\_\_\_b the peace *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.

ANSWERS: 37. heterosexual, 38. abridge, 39. confuse, 40. penguin, 41. forebear, 42. elitist, 43. trilogy, 44. heterosexual, 45. shave, 46. engulf, 47. disturb

48. i\_\_l worship *n.* an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered
49. irr\_\_\_\_\_nt attitude *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
50. fo\_\_\_\_\_ar predecessor *n.* an ancestor or a precursor

ANSWERS: 48. idol, 49. irreverent, 50. forebear

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Tourists frequently \_\_\_\_\_ the island's delicate natural balance.  
*v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
2. We took a boat tour to witness the magnificent \_\_\_\_\_ colony along the rugged coastline.  
*n.* a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait
3. Many \_\_\_\_\_ individuals face discrimination and marginalization in society.  
*adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ the shirt in the sink before washing it.  
*v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money
5. The comedian's \_\_\_\_\_ jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.  
*adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
6. The fire quickly \_\_\_\_\_ the entire building.  
*v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
7. The authorities seized a large amount of \_\_\_\_\_ alcohol during the raid.  
*adj.* relating to or referring to goods, music, movies, or other media that are produced, distributed, or sold illegally or without proper authorization; (noun) illegally made, distributed, or sold products, particularly alcoholic liquor, without paying taxes or without authorization

ANSWERS: 1. disturb, 2. penguin, 3. transgender, 4. soaked, 5. irreverent, 6. engulfed, 7. bootleg

8. That supermarket tried to \_\_\_\_\_ certain costs by saving electricity.
- v. to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something
9. She used an electric \_\_\_\_\_ to light her way through the dark cave.
- n. a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle
10. Despite his impressive achievements, he refrained from \_\_\_\_\_ about his success.
- v. to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior
11. His \_\_\_\_\_ was one of the first settlers in the area.
- n. an ancestor or a precursor
12. I had to \_\_\_\_\_ the novel to fit it into the time allotted for the movie.
- v. to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence
13. His \_\_\_\_\_ attitude made it difficult for him to work with people from different backgrounds.
- adj. believing or showing the belief that some people are naturally superior to others and, therefore, should have more power and privilege
14. 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

ANSWERS: 8. shave, 9. torch, 10. bragging, 11. forebear, 12. abridge, 13. elitist, 14. dupe

15. We need to resolve this issue without any further \_\_\_\_.

- n.* an action, fuss, or commotion, often over a trivial or unimportant matter; unnecessary activity or effort

16. Her remarks \_\_\_\_\_ the debate.

- v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

17. He grew up in a Christian \_\_\_\_\_ and never knew his biological parents.

- n.* an institution for the care of orphans (= a child whose parents are dead)

18. She picked up a \_\_\_\_\_ from the beach and put it in her pocket as a souvenir.

- n.* a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water

19. My mother taught me how to \_\_\_\_.

- v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle

20. He was an \_\_\_\_\_ to his fans, who looked up to him as a role model.

- n.* an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered

21. The Lord of the Rings \_\_\_\_\_ is a classic in the fantasy genre.

- n.* a series of three related works, such as books, plays, or movies, that are connected in some way, often by plot, characters, or theme

22. The garbage in the alley began to \_\_\_\_\_ after a few hot days.

- v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical

ANSWERS: 15. ado, 16. confused, 17. orphanage, 18. pebble, 19. sew, 20. idol, 21. trilogy, 22. stink

23. The flower was starting to show its \_\_\_\_ and would soon bloom into a beautiful blossom.
- n.* a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot
24. He identified as \_\_\_\_\_ and had never considered being with someone of the same gender.
- adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
25. The athlete's lousy behavior was enough to \_\_\_\_\_ him from the competition.
- v.* to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something

ANSWERS: 23. bud, 24. heterosexual, 25. disqualify