

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Candy Chang: Before I die I want to ... | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/candy\\_chang\\_before\\_i\\_die\\_i\\_want\\_to](https://www.ted.com/talks/candy_chang_before_i_die_i_want_to)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### stencil

*n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath

*synonym*: template, pattern

(1) **stencil** art, (2) letter **stencil**

I used a flower **stencil** to create a pattern for my art project.

### chalk

*n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards

*synonym*: white rock, limestone, gypsum

(1) a piece of **chalk**, (2) **chalk** on a blackboard

The kids used colored **chalk** to create a mural on the pavement.

### soothe

*v.* to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable

*synonym*: calm, relax, comfort

(1) **soothe** anxiety, (2) **soothe** a baby to sleep

She applied aloe vera to **soothe** her sunburn.

### sneeze

*v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants

*synonym*:

exhale, whiff, blow

(1) **sneeze** into my hand, (2) **sneeze** loudly  
Whenever I get a cold, I tend to **sneeze** a lot.

## aspiration

*n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

*synonym*: ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs  
He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

## straddle

*v.* to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests

*synonym*: strive, sit astride, span

(1) **straddle** a fence, (2) **straddle** a motorcycle  
We had to **straddle** the fallen tree to cross the river.

## cavalry

*n.* a highly mobile army unit

(1) troop of **cavalry**, (2) superbly trained **cavalry**  
The **cavalry** regrouped and launched another attack.

## enlighten

*v.* to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense

*synonym*: inform, educate, illuminate

(1) **enlighten** legions of people, (2) **enlighten** other countries

The teacher sought to **enlighten** her students by introducing them to new ideas and perspectives.

## contemplate

*v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

*synonym*: think over, ponder, consider

(1) **contemplate** a marriage, (2) **contemplated** leaving school

I recently **contemplated** dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.

### opportune

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

*synonym*: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

### distract

*v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

*synonym*: divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

### discotheque

*n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance

*synonym*: nightclub, dance club, disco

(1) **discotheque** party, (2) **discotheque** scene

He couldn't wait to hit the **discotheque** and dance the night away.

### empower

*v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something

*synonym*: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. asp_____on into the lungs               | <i>n.</i> a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath   |
| 2. con_____te a marriage                   | <i>v.</i> to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully  |
| 3. con_____ted leaving school              | <i>v.</i> to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully  |
| 4. dis_____ue party                        | <i>n.</i> a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance  |
| 5. en_____en other countries               | <i>v.</i> to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense         |
| 6. troop of ca_____y                       | <i>n.</i> a highly mobile army unit   |
| 7. a piece of ch__k                        | <i>n.</i> a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards |
| 8. dis_____ue scene                        | <i>n.</i> a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance  |
| 9. di_____ct attention from the real issue | <i>v.</i> to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do  |
| 10. an op_____ne remark                    | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose   |

ANSWERS: 1. aspiration, 2. contemplate, 3. contemplate, 4. discotheque, 5. enlighten, 6. cavalry, 7. chalk, 8. discotheque, 9. distract, 10. opportune

11. em\_\_\_\_r the secretary to do the same  
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
12. sn\_\_\_\_e into my hand  
v. to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
13. ch\_\_k on a blackboard  
n. a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards
14. st\_\_\_\_\_le a fence  
v. to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests
15. superbly trained ca\_\_\_\_y  
n. a highly mobile army unit
16. st\_\_\_\_\_le a motorcycle  
v. to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests
17. so\_\_\_\_e anxiety  
v. to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable
18. no asp\_\_\_\_\_on for fame  
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

ANSWERS: 11. empower, 12. sneeze, 13. chalk, 14. straddle, 15. cavalry, 16. straddle, 17. soothe, 18. aspiration

19. st\_\_\_\_l art *n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath
20. letter st\_\_\_\_l *n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath
21. di\_\_\_\_ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
22. em\_\_\_\_r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
23. en\_\_\_\_en legions of people *v.* to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense
24. sn\_\_\_\_e loudly *v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
25. op\_\_\_\_ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
26. so\_\_\_\_e a baby to sleep *v.* to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable

ANSWERS: 19. stencil, 20. stencil, 21. distract, 22. empower, 23. enlighten, 24. sneeze, 25. opportune, 26. soothe

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.  
*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
2. He couldn't wait to hit the \_\_\_\_\_ and dance the night away.  
*n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
3. I recently \_\_\_\_\_ dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.  
*v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
4. I used a flower \_\_\_\_\_ to create a pattern for my art project.  
*n.* a cutout or template used to reproduce a design or pattern by applying paint, ink, or other media through the openings onto a surface beneath
5. Please don't \_\_\_\_\_ me while I'm studying.  
*v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
6. The kids used colored \_\_\_\_\_ to create a mural on the pavement.  
*n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards
7. He has an \_\_\_\_\_ to become a doctor.  
*n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
8. The company \_\_\_\_\_ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.  
*v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something

ANSWERS: 1. opportune, 2. discotheque, 3. contemplated, 4. stencil, 5. distract, 6. chalk, 7. aspiration, 8. empowered

9. The teacher sought to \_\_\_\_\_ her students by introducing them to new ideas and perspectives.
- v. to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ regrouped and launched another attack.
- n. a highly mobile army unit
11. We had to \_\_\_\_\_ the fallen tree to cross the river.
- v. to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests
12. She applied aloe vera to \_\_\_\_\_ her sunburn.
- v. to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable
13. Whenever I get a cold, I tend to \_\_\_\_\_ a lot.
- v. to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants

ANSWERS: 9. enlighten, 10. cavalry, 11. straddle, 12. soothe, 13. sneeze