

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Catarina Mota: Play with smart materials | TED Talk  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/catarina\\_mota\\_play\\_with\\_smart\\_materials](https://www.ted.com/talks/catarina_mota_play_with_smart_materials)

### 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

### futurist

*n.* a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold

*synonym*: foreseer, prophet, fortune-teller

(1) **futurist** architecture, (2) **futurist** ideas

The radical **futurist** predicted that virtual reality would become a standard in everyday life.

### electrify

*v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

*synonym*: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

### conductivity

*n.* the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.

*synonym*: conduction

(1) low **conductivity**, (2) electrical **conductivity**

High thermal **conductivity** is also essential for the exterior of the machine.

## infuse

v. to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue

*synonym*: instill, fill, permeate

(1) **infuse** with spirit, (2) **infuse** life with meaning

She **infused** fresh herbs into the soup for added flavor.

## diffuse

*adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place

*synonym*: spread, scatter

(1) **diffuse** bleeding, (2) **diffuse** cloud

Direct lighting is preferable to **diffuse** lighting when reading.

## illuminate

v. to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity

*synonym*: brighten, light, adorn

(1) **illuminate** a dark hall, (2) **illuminate** my understanding

That biologist **illuminated** the mechanism of heredity.

## thermochromic

*adj.* describing a material or substance that changes color or appearance in response to changes in temperature

*synonym*: temperature-sensitive, color-changing

(1) **thermochromic** pigments, (2) **thermochromic** material

The **thermochromic** ink changes color with temperature variations, making it popular for measurement or safety purposes.

## opaque

*adj.* not transparent; not allowing light to pass through; not permitting a clear view

*synonym*: impenetrable, obscure, cloudy

(1) **opaque** material, (2) **opaque** color

The curtains were made of **opaque** fabric that blocked out all light.

## flick

v. to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement

*synonym*: snap, tap, flip

(1) **flicker** candle, (2) **flick** through pages

He **flicked** the light switch, and the room was illuminated.

## secondly

*adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.

*synonym* : in the second place, next, subsequently

(1) **secondly** connected, (2) **secondly**, it is important

Firstly, we will discuss the budget; **secondly**, we will go over the schedule.

## tinker

*v.* to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way

*synonym* : fiddle, play, fix

(1) **tinker** with the bill, (2) **tinker** with the settings

He spent the afternoon **tinkering** with his car engine.

## bunker

*n.* a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel

*synonym* : shelter, fortification, defense

(1) coal **bunker**, (2) **bunker** facility

The soldiers took cover in the dug-out **bunker** during the bombing.

## vortex

*n.* a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind

*synonym* : whirlpool, whirlwind, maelstrom

(1) **vortex** formation, (2) blow in a **vortex**

The **vortex** of the tornado was massive and destructive.

## recreate

*v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

*synonym* : renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her

stage setting.

## devise

*v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

*synonym*: create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

## unconventional

*adj.* not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards

*synonym*: nontraditional, avant-garde, bizarre

(1) in an **unconventional** manner, (2) **unconventional** ideas

Her **unconventional** approach to teaching has been a hit with the students.

## mainframe

*n.* a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications

(1) **mainframe** computer, (2) **mainframe** operating system

IBM has consistently been a significant supplier of **mainframes** for a long time.

## preempt

*v.* to act in advance to prevent something or to replace it with something else

*synonym*: forestall, head off, anticipate

(1) **preempt** a financial crisis, (2) **preempt** trouble

The government **preempted** the release of sensitive information.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                |      |  |
|--------------------------------|------|--|
| 1. re_____te a single country  | v.   | to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again  |
| 2. pr_____t trouble            | v.   | to act in advance to prevent something or to replace it with something else  |
| 3. fu_____st ideas             | n.   | a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold |
| 4. el_____fy the audience      | v.   | to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something                           |
| 5. unc_____nal ideas           | adj. | not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards                          |
| 6. de___e a literary plot      | v.   | to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination  |
| 7. ti___r with the bill        | v.   | to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way   |
| 8. pr_____t a financial crisis | v.   | to act in advance to prevent something or to replace it with something else  |
| 9. in___e life with meaning    | v.   | to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue   |

ANSWERS: 1. recreate, 2. preempt, 3. futurist, 4. electrify, 5. unconventional, 6. devise, 7. tinker, 8. preempt, 9. infuse

10. se\_\_\_\_ly, it is important *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
11. the \_\_\_\_\_mic pigments *adj.* describing a material or substance that changes color or appearance in response to changes in temperature
12. the \_\_\_\_\_mic material *adj.* describing a material or substance that changes color or appearance in response to changes in temperature
13. low con\_\_\_\_\_ity *n.* the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.
14. ill\_\_\_\_\_te my understanding *v.* to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity
15. fl\_\_k through pages *v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement
16. di\_\_\_\_\_e bleeding *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
17. se\_\_\_\_ly connected *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
18. op\_\_\_e material *adj.* not transparent; not allowing light to pass through; not permitting a clear view
19. op\_\_\_e color *adj.* not transparent; not allowing light to pass through; not permitting a clear view
20. ma\_\_\_\_\_me operating system *n.* a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications

ANSWERS: 10. secondly, 11. thermochromic, 12. thermochromic, 13. conductivity, 14. illuminate, 15. flick, 16. diffuse, 17. secondly, 18. opaque, 19. opaque, 20. mainframe

21. el\_\_\_\_\_fy a manufacturing process      *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
22. coal bu\_\_\_\_r      *n.* a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel
23. de\_\_\_\_e a plan      *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
24. re\_\_\_\_\_te the feeling of the 1920s      *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
25. blow in a vo\_\_\_\_x      *n.* a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind
26. in an unc\_\_\_\_\_nal manner      *adj.* not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards
27. di\_\_\_\_\_e cloud      *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
28. in\_\_\_\_e with spirit      *v.* to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue
29. vo\_\_\_\_x formation      *n.* a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind

ANSWERS: 21. electrify, 22. bunker, 23. devise, 24. recreate, 25. vortex, 26. unconventional, 27. diffuse, 28. infuse, 29. vortex

30. ma\_\_\_\_\_me computer *n.* a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications
31. bu\_\_\_r facility *n.* a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel
32. ill\_\_\_\_\_te a dark hall *v.* to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity
33. electrical con\_\_\_\_\_ity *n.* the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.
34. fu\_\_\_\_\_st architecture *n.* a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold
35. fl\_\_\_ker candle *v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement
36. ti\_\_\_r with the settings *v.* to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way

ANSWERS: 30. mainframe, 31. bunker, 32. illuminate, 33. conductivity, 34. futurist, 35. flick, 36. tinker



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. They had to \_\_\_\_\_ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
  - v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
  
2. IBM has consistently been a significant supplier of \_\_\_\_\_ for a long time.
  - n. a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications
  
3. He spent the afternoon \_\_\_\_\_ with his car engine.
  - v. to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way
  
4. She \_\_\_\_\_ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
  - v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
  
5. That biologist \_\_\_\_\_ the mechanism of heredity.
  - v. to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity
  
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ ink changes color with temperature variations, making it popular for measurement or safety purposes.
  - adj. describing a material or substance that changes color or appearance in response to changes in temperature
  
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the tornado was massive and destructive.
  - n. a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind

ANSWERS: 1. devise, 2. mainframes, 3. tinkering, 4. recreated, 5. illuminated, 6. thermochromic, 7. vortex

8. The curtains were made of \_\_\_\_\_ fabric that blocked out all light.  
*adj.* not transparent; not allowing light to pass through; not permitting a clear view
9. The radical \_\_\_\_\_ predicted that virtual reality would become a standard in everyday life.  
*n.* a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold
10. The soldiers took cover in the dug-out \_\_\_\_\_ during the bombing.  
*n.* a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel
11. Direct lighting is preferable to \_\_\_\_\_ lighting when reading.  
*adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
12. Her \_\_\_\_\_ approach to teaching has been a hit with the students.  
*adj.* not following traditional or commonly accepted beliefs, practices, or customs; not conforming to established norms or standards
13. He \_\_\_\_\_ the light switch, and the room was illuminated.  
*v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement
14. High thermal \_\_\_\_\_ is also essential for the exterior of the machine.  
*n.* the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.
15. The government \_\_\_\_\_ the release of sensitive information.  
*v.* to act in advance to prevent something or to replace it with something else

ANSWERS: 8. opaque, 9. futurist, 10. bunker, 11. diffuse, 12. unconventional, 13. flicked, 14. conductivity, 15. preempted

16. The product developed through years of research continues to \_\_\_\_\_ the market.

- v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

17. She \_\_\_\_\_ fresh herbs into the soup for added flavor.

- v. to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue

18. Firstly, we will discuss the budget; \_\_\_\_\_ we will go over the schedule.

- adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.

ANSWERS: 16. electrify, 17. infused, 18. secondly,