

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Nadia Kalman: Three anti-social skills to improve your writing | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/nadia\\_kalman\\_three\\_anti\\_social\\_skills\\_to\\_improve\\_your\\_writing](https://www.ted.com/talks/nadia_kalman_three_anti_social_skills_to_improve_your_writing)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

- wilt**
- v. to become limp and drooping, often as a result of heat, lack of water, or disease; to lose strength, vitality, or energy; to fade or wither away
- synonym* : droop, wither, fade
- (1) **wilt** in the heat of the day, (2) **wilt** after several setbacks
- The young athlete's spirit started to **wilt** after losing multiple competitions.
- vow**
- v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
- synonym* : promise, pledge, swear
- (1) **vow** allegiance to the new king, (2) **vow** never to give up
- They **vowed** to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.
- writ**
- n. a written legal order or command
- synonym* : legal document, order, legal process
- (1) a **writ** of summons, (2) issue a **writ**
- He was served with a **writ** of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.
- antisocial**
- adj. not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted

social norms or standards

*synonym* : unsociable, withdrawn, reclusive

(1) **antisocial** tendencies, (2) **antisocial** personality disorder

The suspect's **antisocial** behavior and lack of remorse made the judge question their sanity.

## eavesdrop

v. to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission

*synonym* : listen in, spy, overhear

(1) **eavesdrop** conversation, (2) **eavesdrop** on a secret plot  
I accidentally **eavesdropped** on a confidential meeting last week.

## overhear

v. to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge

*synonym* : catch, eavesdrop

(1) happen to **overhear** a conversation, (2) accidentally **overheard** their talk

She was inside at the time and **overheard** the conversation.

## flirt

v. to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men

*synonym* : tease

(1) **flirt** with him, (2) **flirt** like a schoolgirl

My husband never **flirts** with other women.

## pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

*synonym* : presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

## **mutter**

*v.* to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath

*synonym*: grumble, mumble, complain

(1) **mutter** in a low voice, (2) **mutter** to myself

He **muttered** under his breath about the job relocation.

## **contraction**

*n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount

*synonym*: shrinking, compression, reduction

(1) **contraction** of a disease, (2) **contraction** in the industry

The **contraction** of the economy has led to job losses.

## **adverb**

*n.* a type of word that modifies, describes, or provides additional information about a verb, adjective, or other adverbs, such as often, quickly, or very

*synonym*: modifier, qualifier, descriptor

(1) **adverb** placement, (2) **adverb** of degree

During our English class, we spent an entire lesson learning how to use an **adverb** clause in our writing correctly.

## **lovingly**

*adv.* in a manner showing deep affection or care; with fondness and warmth; in a way that expresses or suggests love

*synonym*: fondly, affectionately

(1) **lovingly** crafted, (2) **lovingly** prepared

She looked at him **lovingly** and knew he was the one for her.

## **recap**

*v.* to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.

*synonym*: outline, summarize, abstract

(1) **recap** key points, (2) **recap** briefly

Let me quickly **recap** these results.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                       |      |  |
|---------------------------------------|------|--|
| 1. w__t after several setbacks        | v.   | to become limp and drooping, often as a result of heat, lack of water, or disease; to lose strength, vitality, or energy; to fade or wither away       |
| 2. happen to ov_____ar a conversation | v.   | to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge  |
| 3. ea_____op conversation             | v.   | to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission   |
| 4. fl__t like a schoolgirl            | v.   | to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men     |
| 5. ad___b placement                   | n.   | a type of word that modifies, describes, or provides additional information about a verb, adjective, or other adverbs, such as often, quickly, or very |
| 6. ant_____al tendencies              | adj. | not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted social norms or standards                         |
| 7. re__p briefly                      | v.   | to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.   |
| 8. w__t in the heat of the day        | v.   | to become limp and drooping, often as a result of heat, lack of water, or disease; to lose strength, vitality, or energy; to fade or wither away       |

ANSWERS: 1. wilt, 2. overhear, 3. eavesdrop, 4. flirt, 5. adverb, 6. antisocial, 7. recap, 8. wilt

9. fl\_\_t with him *v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
10. pre\_\_\_\_\_on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
11. con\_\_\_\_\_on in the industry *n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount
12. v\_w allegiance to the new king *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
13. a w\_\_t of summons *n.* a written legal order or command
14. v\_w never to give up *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
15. con\_\_\_\_\_on of a disease *n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount
16. lo\_\_\_\_ly prepared *adv.* in a manner showing deep affection or care; with fondness and warmth; in a way that expresses or suggests love
17. mu\_\_\_\_r to myself *v.* to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath
18. lo\_\_\_\_ly crafted *adv.* in a manner showing deep affection or care; with fondness and warmth; in a way that expresses or suggests love
19. ea\_\_\_\_\_op on a secret plot *v.* to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission

ANSWERS: 9. flirt, 10. pretension, 11. contraction, 12. vow, 13. writ, 14. vow, 15. contraction, 16. lovingly, 17. mutter, 18. lovingly, 19. eavesdrop

20. ant\_\_\_\_\_al personality disorder      *adj.* not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted social norms or standards
21. issue a w\_\_t      *n.* a written legal order or command
22. mu\_\_\_r in a low voice      *v.* to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath
23. ad\_\_\_b of degree      *n.* a type of word that modifies, describes, or provides additional information about a verb, adjective, or other adverbs, such as often, quickly, or very
24. accidentally ov\_\_\_\_\_ard their talk      *v.* to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge
25. baseless pre\_\_\_\_\_on      *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
26. re\_\_p key points      *v.* to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.

ANSWERS: 20. antisocial, 21. writ, 22. mutter, 23. adverb, 24. overhear, 25. pretension, 26. recap

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I accidentally \_\_\_\_\_ on a confidential meeting last week.  
*v.* to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission
  
2. My husband never \_\_\_\_\_ with other women.  
*v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions;  
(noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
  
3. He was served with a \_\_\_\_\_ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.  
*n.* a written legal order or command
  
4. During our English class, we spent an entire lesson learning how to use an \_\_\_\_\_ clause in our writing correctly.  
*n.* a type of word that modifies, describes, or provides additional information about a verb, adjective, or other adverbs, such as often, quickly, or very
  
5. They \_\_\_\_\_ to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.  
*v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
  
6. He \_\_\_\_\_ under his breath about the job relocation.  
*v.* to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath
  
7. The young athlete's spirit started to \_\_\_\_\_ after losing multiple competitions.  
*v.* to become limp and drooping, often as a result of heat, lack of water, or disease; to lose strength, vitality, or energy; to fade or wither away

ANSWERS: 1. eavesdropped, 2. flirts, 3. writ, 4. adverb, 5. vowed, 6. muttered, 7. wilt

8. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the economy has led to job losses.  
*n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount
9. His \_\_\_\_\_ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.  
*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
10. She looked at him \_\_\_\_\_ and knew he was the one for her.  
*adv.* in a manner showing deep affection or care; with fondness and warmth; in a way that expresses or suggests love
11. The suspect's \_\_\_\_\_ behavior and lack of remorse made the judge question their sanity.  
*adj.* not wanting to be around or spend time with other people; unwilling or unable to conform to accepted social norms or standards
12. Let me quickly \_\_\_\_\_ these results.  
*v.* to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.
13. She was inside at the time and \_\_\_\_\_ the conversation.  
*v.* to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge

ANSWERS: 8. contraction, 9. pretensions, 10. lovingly, 11. antisocial, 12. recap, 13. overheard