

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*T. Boone Pickens: Let's transform energy -- with natural gas | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/t\\_boone\\_pickens\\_let\\_s\\_transform\\_energy\\_with\\_natural\\_gas](https://www.ted.com/talks/t_boone_pickens_let_s_transform_energy_with_natural_gas)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### disbeliever

*n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

*synonym*: non-believer, skeptic, doubter

(1) persuade a **disbeliever**, (2) stubborn **disbeliever**

Despite the evidence, she remained a **disbeliever** in the theory of evolution.

### blob

*n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance

*synonym*: chunk, lump, hunk

(1) a big **blob** of yellow, (2) a **blob** of jelly

A **blob** of ink fell on the floor.

### doe

*n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

*synonym*: rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

### octane

*n.* a hydrocarbon compound (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>18</sub>) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and

greater resistance to engine knock

*synonym* : fuel, gas, gasoline

(1) **octane** compound, (2) low- **octane** fuel

Premium gas has a higher **octane** rating, which makes it more expensive than regular gasoline.

## refinery

*n.* a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or valuable form

*synonym* : plant, factory, processing plant

(1) hydrogen **refinery**, (2) **refinery** operations

The oil **refinery** was shut down due to safety concerns after a major accident.

## 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.

## theorist

*n.* a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation

*synonym* : philosopher, academic, scholar

(1) scientific **theorist**, (2) conspiracy **theorist**

The feminist **theorist** criticized traditional models of gender roles and argued for greater equality between the sexes.

## methane

*n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH<sub>4</sub> with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

(1) atmospheric **methane**, (2) reduce **methane** emissions

The ignition of **methane** gas in the plant killed five employees.

## hydrate

v. to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization

*synonym*: moisturize, water, rehydrate

(1) **hydrate** my skin, (2) acid **hydrate**

She drank water to **hydrate** her body.

## frack

v. to inject water and chemicals into the ground at high pressure to fracture the rock and release the gas or oil, especially to extract them

*synonym*: extract, drill, mine

(1) **frack** the land, (2) **frack** multiple wells

The energy company plans to **frack** the shale deposit to extract natural gas.

## explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

*synonym*: detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

## plummet

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

*synonym*: drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

## nutshell

n. the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something

*synonym*: summary, essence, covering

(1) move into a **nutshell**, (2) **nutshell** version

Can you explain your argument in a **nutshell**?

## shale

*n.* a sedimentary rock formed from the accumulation of fine-grained clay, silt, or mud, often used in construction or as a source of fuel

*synonym* : rock, sedimentary rock

(1) **shale** rock, (2) **shale** gas

The geologist studied the **shale** layers in the rock formations to determine their age.

## overwhelm

*v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

*synonym* : conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

## reformer

*n.* a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it

*synonym* : inciter, innovator, agitator

(1) education **reformer**, (2) catalytic **reformer**

He is regarded as a passionate social **reformer**.

## nuke

*v.* (derived from "nuclear") to attack or destroy a place or target with a nuclear weapon; to cook food in a microwave oven; (noun) a nuclear weapon, such as a nuclear bomb or missile

*synonym* : blast, bomb, attack

(1) **nuke** a city, (2) **nuke** missile

The government threatened to **nuke** the enemy territory if they didn't surrender.

## tease

*v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

*synonym* : bully, annoy, provoke

(1) **tease** the children, (2) **tease** wool

This ad is intended to **tease** a competing product.

## aquifer

*n.* an underground layer of rock, sand, or Earth that can take in and hold water

(1) **aquifer** soil, (2) subsurface **aquifer**

Some areas melt snow by harnessing heat from underground **aquifers**.

## boon

*n.* something that is helpful or beneficial for the quality of life

*synonym*: benefit, favor, blessing

(1) a **boon** companion, (2) prove a great **boon**

The increased demand for semiconductors worldwide has been a significant **boon** for the country's economy.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. subsurface aq_____r  | <i>n.</i> an underground layer of rock, sand, or Earth that can take in and hold water  |
| 2. acid hy_____e        | <i>v.</i> to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization                               |
| 3. n__e missile         | <i>v.</i> (derived from "nuclear") to attack or destroy a place or target with a nuclear weapon; to cook food in a microwave oven; (noun) a nuclear weapon, such as a nuclear bomb or missile |
| 4. hydrogen re_____ry   | <i>n.</i> a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or valuable form   |
| 5. atmospheric me_____e | <i>n.</i> a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH <sub>4</sub> with no smell or color, often used as a fuel  |
| 6. ind_____us worker    | <i>adj.</i> hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort   |
| 7. te__e wool           | <i>v.</i> to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing    |
| 8. a b__n companion     | <i>n.</i> something that is helpful or beneficial for the quality of life   |

ANSWERS: 1. aquifer, 2. hydrate, 3. nuke, 4. refinery, 5. methane, 6. industrious, 7. tease, 8. boon

9. reduce me\_\_\_\_e emissions *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH<sub>4</sub> with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
10. ind\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
11. fr\_\_k multiple wells *v.* to inject water and chemicals into the ground at high pressure to fracture the rock and release the gas or oil, especially to extract them
12. aq\_\_\_\_r soil *n.* an underground layer of rock, sand, or Earth that can take in and hold water
13. low-oc\_\_\_\_e fuel *n.* a hydrocarbon compound (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>18</sub>) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and greater resistance to engine knock
14. hy\_\_\_\_e my skin *v.* to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization
15. d\_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
16. buck and d\_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
17. ex\_\_\_\_e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

ANSWERS: 9. methane, 10. industrious, 11. frack, 12. aquifer, 13. octane, 14. hydrate, 15. doe, 16. doe, 17. explode

18. oc\_\_\_e compound *n.* a hydrocarbon compound (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>18</sub>) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and greater resistance to engine knock
19. n\_\_e a city *v.* (derived from "nuclear") to attack or destroy a place or target with a nuclear weapon; to cook food in a microwave oven; (noun) a nuclear weapon, such as a nuclear bomb or missile
20. catalytic re\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it
21. scientific th\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation
22. a b\_\_b of jelly *n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance
23. sh\_\_e gas *n.* a sedimentary rock formed from the accumulation of fine-grained clay, silt, or mud, often used in construction or as a source of fuel
24. education re\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it
25. te\_\_e the children *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

ANSWERS: 18. octane, 19. nuke, 20. reformer, 21. theorist, 22. blob, 23. shale, 24. reformer, 25. tease

26. stubborn dis\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
27. conspiracy th\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation
28. ov\_\_\_\_\_lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
29. he was ov\_\_\_\_\_lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
30. sh\_\_e rock *n.* a sedimentary rock formed from the accumulation of fine-grained clay, silt, or mud, often used in construction or as a source of fuel
31. persuade a dis\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
32. move into a nu\_\_\_\_\_ll *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
33. pl\_\_\_\_\_ting sales *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
34. a big b\_\_b of yellow *n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance
35. re\_\_\_\_\_ry operations *n.* a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or valuable form

ANSWERS: 26. disbeliever, 27. theorist, 28. overwhelm, 29. overwhelm, 30. shale, 31. disbeliever, 32. nutshell, 33. plummet, 34. blob, 35. refinery

36. prove a great b\_\_n *n.* something that is helpful or beneficial for the quality of life
37. ex\_\_\_\_e in popularity *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
38. nu\_\_\_\_ll version *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
39. pl\_\_\_\_t against other major currencies *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
40. fr\_\_k the land *v.* to inject water and chemicals into the ground at high pressure to fracture the rock and release the gas or oil, especially to extract them

ANSWERS: 36. boon, 37. explode, 38. nutshell, 39. plummet, 40. frack

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Too much variety may \_\_\_\_\_ and confuse viewers.
  - v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
  
2. The government threatened to \_\_\_\_\_ the enemy territory if they didn't surrender.
  - v. (derived from "nuclear") to attack or destroy a place or target with a nuclear weapon; to cook food in a microwave oven; (noun) a nuclear weapon, such as a nuclear bomb or missile
  
3. The oil \_\_\_\_\_ was shut down due to safety concerns after a major accident.
  - n. a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or valuable form
  
4. He is regarded as a passionate social \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n. a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it
  
5. Hunters use a whistle that makes the \_\_\_\_\_ sound to lure stags.
  - n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
  
6. The old building \_\_\_\_\_ in a fiery inferno.
  - v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
  
7. The ignition of \_\_\_\_\_ gas in the plant killed five employees.
  - n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH<sub>4</sub> with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

ANSWERS: 1. overwhelm, 2. nuke, 3. refinery, 4. reformer, 5. doe, 6. exploded, 7. methane

8. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
9. Despite the evidence, she remained a \_\_\_\_\_ in the theory of evolution.  
*n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
10. The feminist \_\_\_\_\_ criticized traditional models of gender roles and argued for greater equality between the sexes.  
*n.* a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation
11. Can you explain your argument in a \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
12. The stock prices have \_\_\_\_\_ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.  
*v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
13. Some areas melt snow by harnessing heat from underground \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* an underground layer of rock, sand, or Earth that can take in and hold water
14. This ad is intended to \_\_\_\_\_ a competing product.  
*v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
15. The increased demand for semiconductors worldwide has been a significant \_\_\_\_\_ for the country's economy.  
*n.* something that is helpful or beneficial for the quality of life

ANSWERS: 8. industrious, 9. disbeliever, 10. theorist, 11. nutshell?, 12. plummeted, 13. aquifers, 14. tease, 15. boon

16. Premium gas has a higher \_\_\_\_\_ rating, which makes it more expensive than regular gasoline.
- n.* a hydrocarbon compound (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>18</sub>) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and greater resistance to engine knock
17. A \_\_\_\_\_ of ink fell on the floor.
- n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance
18. The geologist studied the \_\_\_\_\_ layers in the rock formations to determine their age.
- n.* a sedimentary rock formed from the accumulation of fine-grained clay, silt, or mud, often used in construction or as a source of fuel
19. She drank water to \_\_\_\_\_ her body.
- v.* to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization
20. The energy company plans to \_\_\_\_\_ the shale deposit to extract natural gas.
- v.* to inject water and chemicals into the ground at high pressure to fracture the rock and release the gas or oil, especially to extract them

ANSWERS: 16. octane, 17. blob, 18. shale, 19. hydrate, 20. frack