

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Esther Duflo: Social experiments to fight poverty | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/esther\\_duflo\\_social\\_experiments\\_to\\_fight\\_poverty](https://www.ted.com/talks/esther_duflo_social_experiments_to_fight_poverty)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### sober

*adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

*synonym* : calm, lucid, temperate

(1) **sober** discussion, (2) as **sober** as a judge

He led a **sober** life.

### eradicate

*v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

*synonym* : destroy, eliminate, exterminate

(1) **eradicate** the deficit, (2) **eradicate** racial discrimination

We are trying to **eradicate** this disease from the world.

### exacerbate

*v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse

*synonym* : worsen, aggravate, escalate

(1) **exacerbate** the situation, (2) **exacerbate** symptoms

The heat wave **exacerbated** the drought conditions.

### aft

*adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

## counterfactual

*adj.* relating to or expressing what is contrary to fact or reality, often used to explore hypothetical situations or alternatives

*synonym* : hypothetical, speculative, imagined

(1) **counterfactual** scenario, (2) **counterfactual** comparison

Historians often engage in **counterfactual** speculation to explore what might have occurred under different circumstances.

## leech

*n.* a type of worm that feeds on the blood of humans or animals; a person who takes advantage of others for personal gain without giving anything in return

*synonym* : bloodsucker, parasite, sucker

(1) blood-sucking **leech**, (2) aquatic **leech** habitat

The pharmacy sells **leeches** for medicinal purposes, but they're not cheap.

## immunization

*n.* the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure

*synonym* : vaccination, shot, inoculation

(1) **immunization** program, (2) childhood **immunization**

Due to the success of **immunization** programs, certain diseases, such as smallpox, have been eradicated.

## sub-Saharan

*adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

(1) **sub-Saharan** Africa, (2) **sub-Saharan** countries

The coffee producers in **sub-Saharan** countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.

## insecticide

*n.* a substance used to kill insects

*synonym* : pesticide, bug-killer, rodenticide

(1) **insecticide** spray, (2) **insecticide** residue

The farmer sprayed the crop with **insecticide** to protect it

from pests.

## contagion

*n.* the spread of a disease or harmful influence from one person or thing to another

*synonym*: infection, disease, transmission

(1) a **contagion** of fear, (2) **contagion** effect

The government has implemented measures to prevent the **contagion** of COVID-19, such as social distancing and mandatory mask-wearing.

## subsidize

*v.* to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially

*synonym*: finance, endow, sponsor

(1) **subsidize** the project, (2) **subsidize** the cost

Governments **subsidize** renewable energy generation in various ways.

## medicinal

*adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

*synonym*: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

## guesswork

*n.* the act or process of making an estimate or speculation based on incomplete or uncertain information; conjecture or supposition

*synonym*: speculation, conjecture, estimation

(1) pure **guesswork**, (2) rely on **guesswork**

Making decisions based on **guesswork** can lead to costly mistakes.

## policymaker

*n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

*synonym*: lawmaker, legislator

(1) education **policymaker**, (2) regional **policymaker**

**Policymakers** struggle to develop various laws and

regulations to address international trade conflicts.

## measles

*n.* a highly infectious viral disease that causes fever, red spots on the skin, and other flu-like symptoms, typically affects children

*synonym*: rash, red measles, rubella

(1) **measles** outbreak, (2) **measles** vaccine

The school sent a notice of a **measles** case in one of the classrooms.

## misconception

*n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis

*synonym*: fallacy, incomprehension, misunderstanding

(1) dispel the **misconception**, (2) commonly held **misconception**

There are numerous **misconceptions** about food and health.

## postpone

*v.* to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date

*synonym*: delay, defer, reschedule

(1) **postpone** meeting, (2) **postpone** event

Due to inclement weather, the game has been **postponed** until next week.

## lentil

*n.* a small, flat, round legume that is cooked and often used in soups, stews, salads, and other dishes, and which is a good source of protein, iron, and other nutrients

*synonym*: pulse, legume, bean

(1) **lentil** soup, (2) **lentil** salad

I made a hearty stew for dinner tonight with **lentils**, vegetables, and spices.

## beforehand

*adv.* ahead of time; in advance

*synonym*: in advance, preceding, earlier

(1) take a seat **beforehand**, (2) three months **beforehand**

She packed her sunscreen **beforehand** to remember it on the beach trip.

## randomize

*v.* to arrange or select by or depending on chance; to make something random

*synonym*: scramble, shuffle, mix

(1) **randomize** variables, (2) **randomize** the order of the numbers

The study participants were **randomized** into two groups to control for bias.

## hinge

*n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close

*synonym*: joint, pivot

(1) a stiff **hinge**, (2) insecure **hinge**

His involvement is the **hinge** of our plan.

## discourage

*v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

*synonym*: dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth

His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

## handout

*n.* giving money, food, or clothing to those who are poor or in need

*synonym*: contribution, aid, brochure

(1) plead for **handouts**, (2) three-page **handout**

All those eligible will receive financial **handouts**.

## creditor

*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

## latrine

*n.* a public or communal toilet, usually located outdoors or in the military, camping, or other semi-permanent settings

*synonym*: outhouse, lavatory, washroom

(1) outdoor **latrine**, (2) army **latrine**

During the exercise, the troops were forced to use a makeshift **latrine** in the field.

## **fine-tuning**

*n.* the act of making small adjustments or changes to improve or optimize the performance, quality, or effectiveness of something

*synonym*: adjustment, calibration, tweaking

(1) **fine-tuning** process, (2) **fine-tuning** of a financial plan  
The **fine-tuning** of the car engine made it run more smoothly.

## **bribe**

*v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements

*synonym*: graft, corrupt

(1) **bribe** a politician, (2) **bribe** him with food  
He tries to **bribe** the ship's captain to export illegal products.

## **intuition**

*n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

*synonym*: instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research  
Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be influenced by their experiences and biases.

## **localize**

*v.* to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market

*synonym*: place, pinpoint, identify

(1) **localize** an infection, (2) **localize** the problem  
It is crucial to quickly **localize** the source of the contamination to prevent further spread of the virus.

## **deworm**

*v.* to treat a person or animal for the removal of parasitic worms from the body, typically through medication or other treatment options

*synonym*: cleanse, purify

(1) **deworm** your pets, (2) **deworm** all stray animals

The farmer must **deworm** his cattle every six months to prevent parasitic infections.

## numb

*adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

*synonym*: dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

## trump

*n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

(1) **trump** card, (2) choose **trump**

The **trump** suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.

## practicality

*n.* the quality of being practical or useful in real-life circumstances; the ability to make responsible decisions based on practical considerations rather than abstract or theoretical ones

*synonym*: usefulness, functionality, pragmatism

(1) the **practicality** of the solution, (2) lack of **practicality**

The company chose a more expensive option to prioritize **practicality** over aesthetics.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                    |    |   |
|------------------------------------|----|---|
| 1. de___m all stray animals        | v. | to treat a person or animal for the removal of parasitic worms from the body, typically through medication or other treatment options   |
| 2. dis_____ge bacterial growth     | v. | to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something  |
| 3. le___l salad                    | n. | a small, flat, round legume that is cooked and often used in soups, stews, salads, and other dishes, and which is a good source of protein, iron, and other nutrients                     |
| 4. creative in_____on              | n. | the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why                      |
| 5. the pra_____ity of the solution | n. | the quality of being practical or useful in real-life circumstances; the ability to make responsible decisions based on practical considerations rather than abstract or theoretical ones |
| 6. imm_____ion program             | n. | the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure  |
| 7. ins_____de spray                | n. | a substance used to kill insects  |

ANSWERS: 1. deworm, 2. discourage, 3. lentil, 4. intuition, 5. practicality, 6. immunization, 7. insecticide



8. sub\_\_\_\_\_an countries *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
9. me\_\_\_\_\_s vaccine *n.* a highly infectious viral disease that causes fever, red spots on the skin, and other flu-like symptoms, typically affects children
10. po\_\_\_\_\_ne event *v.* to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date
11. fin\_\_\_\_\_ng of a financial plan *n.* the act of making small adjustments or changes to improve or optimize the performance, quality, or effectiveness of something
12. three months bef\_\_\_\_\_nd *adv.* ahead of time; in advance
13. as so\_\_r as a judge *adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises
14. er\_\_\_\_\_te racial discrimination *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
15. exa\_\_\_\_\_te symptoms *v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
16. lo\_\_\_\_\_ze an infection *v.* to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market
17. take a seat bef\_\_\_\_\_nd *adv.* ahead of time; in advance
18. a n\_\_b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

ANSWERS: 8. sub-Saharan, 9. measles, 10. postpone, 11. fine-tuning, 12. beforehand, 13. sober, 14. eradicate, 15. exacerbate, 16. localize, 17. beforehand, 18. numb

19. de\_\_\_m your pets *v.* to treat a person or animal for the removal of parasitic worms from the body, typically through medication or other treatment options
20. ins\_\_\_\_\_de residue *n.* a substance used to kill insects
21. su\_\_\_\_\_ze the project *v.* to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially
22. me\_\_\_\_\_s outbreak *n.* a highly infectious viral disease that causes fever, red spots on the skin, and other flu-like symptoms, typically affects children
23. pure gu\_\_\_\_\_rk *n.* the act or process of making an estimate or speculation based on incomplete or uncertain information; conjecture or supposition
24. three-page ha\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* giving money, food, or clothing to those who are poor or in need
25. plead for ha\_\_\_\_\_ts *n.* giving money, food, or clothing to those who are poor or in need
26. cou\_\_\_\_\_ual scenario *adj.* relating to or expressing what is contrary to fact or reality, often used to explore hypothetical situations or alternatives
27. army la\_\_\_\_\_e *n.* a public or communal toilet, usually located outdoors or in the military, camping, or other semi-permanent settings
28. me\_\_\_\_\_al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

ANSWERS: 19. deworm, 20. insecticide, 21. subsidize, 22. measles, 23. guesswork, 24. handout, 25. handout, 26. counterfactual, 27. latrine, 28. medicinal

29. regional pol\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
30. blood-sucking le\_\_h *n.* a type of worm that feeds on the blood of humans or animals; a person who takes advantage of others for personal gain without giving anything in return
31. dis\_\_\_\_\_ge customers *v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
32. insecure hi\_\_e *n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
33. cou\_\_\_\_\_ual comparison *adj.* relating to or expressing what is contrary to fact or reality, often used to explore hypothetical situations or alternatives
34. a stiff hi\_\_e *n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
35. bankrupt cr\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
36. education pol\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
37. commonly held mis\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
38. sub\_\_\_\_\_an Africa *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

ANSWERS: 29. policymaker, 30. leech, 31. discourage, 32. hinge, 33. counterfactual, 34. hinge, 35. creditor, 36. policymaker, 37. misconception, 38. sub-Saharan

39. so\_\_r discussion *adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises
40. choose tr\_\_p *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
41. fin\_\_\_\_\_ng process *n.* the act of making small adjustments or changes to improve or optimize the performance, quality, or effectiveness of something
42. br\_\_e him with food *v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements
43. traditional me\_\_\_\_\_al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
44. ra\_\_\_\_\_ze the order of the numbers *v.* to arrange or select by or depending on chance; to make something random
45. lack of pra\_\_\_\_\_ity *n.* the quality of being practical or useful in real-life circumstances; the ability to make responsible decisions based on practical considerations rather than abstract or theoretical ones
46. le\_\_\_l soup *n.* a small, flat, round legume that is cooked and often used in soups, stews, salads, and other dishes, and which is a good source of protein, iron, and other nutrients
47. ra\_\_\_\_\_ze variables *v.* to arrange or select by or depending on chance; to make something random

ANSWERS: 39. sober, 40. trump, 41. fine-tuning, 42. bribe, 43. medicinal, 44. randomize, 45. practicality, 46. lentil, 47. randomize

48. co\_\_\_\_\_on effect      *n.* the spread of a disease or harmful influence from one person or thing to another
49. tr\_\_p card      *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
50. a\_t cabin      *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
51. the cr\_\_\_\_\_or's claims      *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
52. br\_\_e a politician      *v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements
53. a co\_\_\_\_\_on of fear      *n.* the spread of a disease or harmful influence from one person or thing to another
54. er\_\_\_\_\_te the deficit      *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
55. po\_\_\_\_\_ne meeting      *v.* to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date
56. childhood imm\_\_\_\_\_ion      *n.* the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure
57. dispel the mis\_\_\_\_\_ion      *n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis

ANSWERS: 48. contagion, 49. trump, 50. aft, 51. creditor, 52. bribe, 53. contagion, 54. eradicate, 55. postpone, 56. immunization, 57. misconception

58. n\_\_b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
59. lo\_\_\_\_ze the problem *v.* to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market
60. su\_\_\_\_ze the cost *v.* to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially
61. a\_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
62. in\_\_\_\_on research *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
63. exa\_\_\_\_te the situation *v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
64. rely on gu\_\_\_\_rk *n.* the act or process of making an estimate or speculation based on incomplete or uncertain information; conjecture or supposition
65. outdoor la\_\_\_\_e *n.* a public or communal toilet, usually located outdoors or in the military, camping, or other semi-permanent settings
66. aquatic le\_\_h habitat *n.* a type of worm that feeds on the blood of humans or animals; a person who takes advantage of others for personal gain without giving anything in return

ANSWERS: 58. numb, 59. localize, 60. subsidize, 61. aft, 62. intuition, 63. exacerbate, 64. guesswork, 65. latrine, 66. leech

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The heat wave \_\_\_\_\_ the drought conditions.  
*v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
  
2. The pharmacy sells \_\_\_\_\_ for medicinal purposes, but they're not cheap.  
*n.* a type of worm that feeds on the blood of humans or animals; a person who takes advantage of others for personal gain without giving anything in return
  
3. I made a hearty stew for dinner tonight with \_\_\_\_\_ vegetables, and spices.  
*n.* a small, flat, round legume that is cooked and often used in soups, stews, salads, and other dishes, and which is a good source of protein, iron, and other nutrients
  
4. The farmer must \_\_\_\_\_ his cattle every six months to prevent parasitic infections.  
*v.* to treat a person or animal for the removal of parasitic worms from the body, typically through medication or other treatment options
  
5. There are numerous \_\_\_\_\_ about food and health.  
*n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
  
6. My left arm became \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
  
7. The study participants were \_\_\_\_\_ into two groups to control for bias.  
*v.* to arrange or select by or depending on chance; to make something random

ANSWERS: 1. exacerbated, 2. leeches, 3. lentils, 4. deworm, 5. misconceptions, 6. numb, 7. randomized



8. We are trying to \_\_\_\_\_ this disease from the world.  
*v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.  
*adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
10. The coffee producers in \_\_\_\_\_ countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.  
*adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
11. His parents tried to \_\_\_\_\_ him from becoming an artist.  
*v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
12. Due to inclement weather, the game has been \_\_\_\_\_ until next week.  
*v.* to delay or reschedule something to a later time or date
13. Governments \_\_\_\_\_ renewable energy generation in various ways.  
*v.* to pay part of the cost of something to support an organization, activity, etc. financially
14. He tries to \_\_\_\_\_ the ship's captain to export illegal products.  
*v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements
15. Due to the success of \_\_\_\_\_ programs, certain diseases, such as smallpox, have been eradicated.  
*n.* the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure

ANSWERS: 8. eradicate, 9. medicinal, 10. sub-Saharan, 11. discourage, 12. postponed, 13. subsidize, 14. bribe, 15. immunization

16. The government has implemented measures to prevent the \_\_\_\_\_ of COVID-19, such as social distancing and mandatory mask-wearing.
- n.* the spread of a disease or harmful influence from one person or thing to another
17. The school sent a notice of a \_\_\_\_\_ case in one of the classrooms.
- n.* a highly infectious viral disease that causes fever, red spots on the skin, and other flu-like symptoms, typically affects children
18. The farmer sprayed the crop with \_\_\_\_\_ to protect it from pests.
- n.* a substance used to kill insects
19. The \_\_\_\_ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.
- adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
20. His involvement is the \_\_\_\_\_ of our plan.
- n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
21. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the car engine made it run more smoothly.
- n.* the act of making small adjustments or changes to improve or optimize the performance, quality, or effectiveness of something
22. The company chose a more expensive option to prioritize \_\_\_\_\_ over aesthetics.
- n.* the quality of being practical or useful in real-life circumstances; the ability to make responsible decisions based on practical considerations rather than abstract or theoretical ones

ANSWERS: 16. contagion, 17. measles, 18. insecticide, 19. aft, 20. hinge, 21. fine-tuning, 22. practicality

23. He led a \_\_\_\_\_ life.

*adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

24. Historians often engage in \_\_\_\_\_ speculation to explore what might have occurred under different circumstances.

*adj.* relating to or expressing what is contrary to fact or reality, often used to explore hypothetical situations or alternatives

25. It is crucial to quickly \_\_\_\_\_ the source of the contamination to prevent further spread of the virus.

*v.* to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market

26. She packed her sunscreen \_\_\_\_\_ to remember it on the beach trip.

*adv.* ahead of time; in advance

27. During the exercise, the troops were forced to use a makeshift \_\_\_\_\_ in the field.

*n.* a public or communal toilet, usually located outdoors or in the military, camping, or other semi-permanent settings

28. The \_\_\_\_\_ suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.

*n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

29. I asked the lawyer to initiate \_\_\_\_\_ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

30. All those eligible will receive financial \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* giving money, food, or clothing to those who are poor or in need

ANSWERS: 23. sober, 24. counterfactual, 25. localize, 26. beforehand, 27. latrine, 28. trump, 29. creditor, 30. handouts

31. Making decisions based on \_\_\_\_\_ can lead to costly mistakes.
- n.* the act or process of making an estimate or speculation based on incomplete or uncertain information; conjecture or supposition
32. Some studies suggest that people's \_\_\_\_\_ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.
- n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
33. \_\_\_\_\_ struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.
- n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

ANSWERS: 31. guesswork, 32. intuitions, 33. Policymakers