

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Julian Treasure: The 4 ways sound affects us | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/julian\\_treasure\\_the\\_4\\_way\\_s\\_sound\\_affects\\_us](https://www.ted.com/talks/julian_treasure_the_4_way_s_sound_affects_us)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### 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.

### cortisol

*n.* a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure

*synonym*: stress hormone, hydrocortisone

(1) **cortisol** stress, (2) excessive **cortisol**

**Cortisol** levels in the body are often elevated during times of stress.

### secrete

*v.* to produce and discharge a substance, such as a hormone or glandular secretion; to conceal or hide something

*synonym*: excrete, seep, discharge

(1) **secrete** mucus, (2) **secrete** enzymes

The glands in the body **secrete** hormones that regulate various bodily functions.

## brainwave

*n.* a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity

*synonym*: inspiration, brainstorm, revelation

(1) **brainwave** idea, (2) sudden **brainwave**

The engineer had a **brainwave** and redesigned the product to be more efficient.

## 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.

## adagio

*n.* a slow tempo in music, slower than andante but faster than largo

*synonym*: slow movement, slow tempo

(1) **adagio** dance, (2) **adagio** music

The **adagio** section of the piece was played with great emotion and expressiveness.

## reassure

*v.* to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence

*synonym*: comfort, soothe, bolster

(1) **reassure** anxious patients, (2) **reassure** market

The pilot tried to **reassure** the customers that the planes were safe.

## singe

*v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

*synonym*: sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric

I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

## auditory

*adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear

*synonym*: hearing, audible, aural

(1) a good **auditory** memory, (2) **auditory** system

The **auditory** nerve carries sound signals from the ear to the brain.

## jackhammer

*n.* a powerful mechanical tool used to break up pavement, concrete, or other hard materials, typically used in construction or demolition projects

*synonym*: pneumatic hammer, hammer drill

(1) handheld **jackhammer**, (2) loud **jackhammer** noise

The operator of the **jackhammer** wears noise-canceling headphones to protect their ears.

## soundscape

*n.* the overall sound environment of a particular area or place

*synonym*: auditory environment, acoustics

(1) **soundscape** music, (2) tranquil **soundscape**

The **soundscape** of the city was a symphony of car horns and chatter.

## dreadful

*adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear

*synonym*: terrible, horrible, awful

(1) **dreadful** accident, (2) **dreadful** news

The conditions of the prison were **dreadful** and inhumane.

## veneer

*n.* a thin layer of material applied to the surface of something for decoration or protection; a superficial or deceptive outward appearance that conceals the true nature of something beneath it

*synonym*: overlay, laminate, facing

(1) **veneer** knowledge, (2) **veneer** stone

The wooden table had a thin **veneer** of cherry wood on top, giving it a beautiful and glossy finish.

## jingle

*v.* to create or make a ringing sound, particularly one that is musical or catchy

*synonym*: tinkle, chime, ring

(1) **jingle** a little bell, (2) **jingle** money in my pocket

The keys on her keychain **jingled** loudly as she fumbled to unlock the door.

## ringtone

*n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message

*synonym*: ringback tone, caller tune, dialler tone

(1) download **ringtone**, (2) **ringtone** melody

I forgot to silence my phone during the meeting, and everyone heard my embarrassing **ringtone**.

## congruent

*adj.* in agreement or harmony with something; having the same shape and size, often used in mathematics

*synonym*: matching, identical, corresponding

(1) **congruent** squares, (2) **congruent** in style

The algebraic equation had **congruent** sides, leading to a valid solution.

## 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.

## bombard

*v.* to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage

*synonym*: bomb, shoot, blitz

(1) **bombard** him with questions, (2) **bombard** a fort with heavy shells

Overprotective parents often **bombard** their children with messages reinforcing their lack of mastery.

## countervail

*v.* to oppose or balance something with equal force or weight; to counteract or compensate for something

*synonym*: counteract, oppose, offset

(1) **countervail** the argument, (2) **countervail** the cost  
The company implemented new security measures to  
**countervail** the threat of cyber attacks.

## consciously

*adv.* with awareness; in a deliberate manner

*synonym*: intentionally, deliberately, knowingly

(1) **consciously** aware of a problem, (2) act **consciously**  
He **consciously** criticizes her in the publicity.

## chirp

*n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or  
by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

*synonym*: tweet, chirrup, peep

(1) the **chirp** of a bird, (2) the **chirp** of a cricket  
The sound of the **chirp** woke me up early in the morning.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. excessive co_____ol         | <i>n.</i> a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure |
| 2. ji___e money in my pocket   | <i>v.</i> to create or make a ringing sound, particularly one that is musical or catchy   |
| 3. so___e anxiety              | <i>v.</i> to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable  |
| 4. act con_____ly              | <i>adv.</i> with awareness; in a deliberate manner  |
| 5. sudden br_____ve            | <i>n.</i> a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity   |
| 6. ji___e a little bell        | <i>v.</i> to create or make a ringing sound, particularly one that is musical or catchy   |
| 7. a good au_____ry memory     | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear  |
| 8. so___e a baby to sleep      | <i>v.</i> to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable  |
| 9. se_____ly connected         | <i>adv.</i> used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.                            |
| 10. co_____nt in style         | <i>adj.</i> in agreement or harmony with something; having the same shape and size, often used in mathematics                             |
| 11. re_____re anxious patients | <i>v.</i> to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence  |

ANSWERS: 1. cortisol, 2. jingle, 3. soothe, 4. consciously, 5. brainwave, 6. jingle, 7. auditory, 8. soothe, 9. secondly, 10. congruent, 11. reassure

12. se\_\_\_\_\_e enzymes      *v.* to produce and discharge a substance, such as a hormone or glandular secretion; to conceal or hide something
13. au\_\_\_\_\_ry system      *adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
14. 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
15. tranquil sou\_\_\_\_\_pe      *n.* the overall sound environment of a particular area or place
16. sou\_\_\_\_\_pe music      *n.* the overall sound environment of a particular area or place
17. ad\_\_\_\_o music      *n.* a slow tempo in music, slower than andante but faster than largo
18. si\_\_e off the hair over the flames      *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
19. loud jac\_\_\_\_\_er noise      *n.* a powerful mechanical tool used to break up pavement, concrete, or other hard materials, typically used in construction or demolition projects
20. ve\_\_\_\_r stone      *n.* a thin layer of material applied to the surface of something for decoration or protection; a superficial or deceptive outward appearance that conceals the true nature of something beneath it
21. handheld jac\_\_\_\_\_er      *n.* a powerful mechanical tool used to break up pavement, concrete, or other hard materials, typically used in construction or demolition projects

ANSWERS: 12. secrete, 13. auditory, 14. pretension, 15. soundscape, 16. soundscape, 17. adagio, 18. singe, 19. jackhammer, 20. veneer, 21. jackhammer

22. the ch\_\_p of a bird *n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers
23. se\_\_\_\_\_ly, it is important *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
24. con\_\_\_\_\_ly aware of a problem *adv.* with awareness; in a deliberate manner
25. the ch\_\_p of a cricket *n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers
26. cou\_\_\_\_\_il the cost *v.* to oppose or balance something with equal force or weight; to counteract or compensate for something
27. ad\_\_\_o dance *n.* a slow tempo in music, slower than andante but faster than largo
28. cou\_\_\_\_\_il the argument *v.* to oppose or balance something with equal force or weight; to counteract or compensate for something
29. re\_\_\_\_\_re market *v.* to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
30. si\_\_e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
31. ri\_\_\_\_\_ne melody *n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message
32. bo\_\_\_\_\_d him with questions *v.* to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage

ANSWERS: 22. chirp, 23. secondly, 24. consciously, 25. chirp, 26. countervail, 27. adagio, 28. countervail, 29. reassure, 30. singe, 31. ringtone, 32. bombard



33. 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
34. dr\_\_\_\_\_ul news *adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
35. se\_\_\_\_\_e mucus *v.* to produce and discharge a substance, such as a hormone or glandular secretion; to conceal or hide something
36. download ri\_\_\_\_\_ne *n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message
37. dr\_\_\_\_\_ul accident *adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
38. bo\_\_\_\_\_d a fort with heavy shells *v.* to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage
39. br\_\_\_\_\_ve idea *n.* a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity
40. co\_\_\_\_\_ol stress *n.* a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure
41. ve\_\_\_\_r knowledge *n.* a thin layer of material applied to the surface of something for decoration or protection; a superficial or deceptive outward appearance that conceals the true nature of something beneath it
42. co\_\_\_\_\_nt squares *adj.* in agreement or harmony with something; having the same shape and size, often used in mathematics

ANSWERS: 33. pretension, 34. dreadful, 35. secrete, 36. ringtone, 37. dreadful, 38. bombard, 39. brainwave, 40. cortisol, 41. veneer, 42. congruent

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The conditions of the prison were \_\_\_\_\_ and inhumane.  
*adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
2. The keys on her keychain \_\_\_\_\_ loudly as she fumbled to unlock the door.  
*v.* to create or make a ringing sound, particularly one that is musical or catchy
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the city was a symphony of car horns and chatter.  
*n.* the overall sound environment of a particular area or place
4. The algebraic equation had \_\_\_\_\_ sides, leading to a valid solution.  
*adj.* in agreement or harmony with something; having the same shape and size, often used in mathematics
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ nerve carries sound signals from the ear to the brain.  
*adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
6. The pilot tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the customers that the planes were safe.  
*v.* to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
7. The company implemented new security measures to \_\_\_\_\_ the threat of cyber attacks.  
*v.* to oppose or balance something with equal force or weight; to counteract or compensate for something
8. Overprotective parents often \_\_\_\_\_ their children with messages reinforcing their lack of mastery.  
*v.* to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage

ANSWERS: 1. dreadful, 2. jingled, 3. soundscape, 4. congruent, 5. auditory, 6. reassure, 7. countervail, 8. bombard

9. He \_\_\_\_\_ criticizes her in the publicity.

*adv.* with awareness; in a deliberate manner

10. I forgot to silence my phone during the meeting, and everyone heard my embarrassing \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* a sound or melody that plays on a mobile phone to indicate an incoming call or message

11. The engineer had a \_\_\_\_\_ and redesigned the product to be more efficient.

*n.* a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity

12. The wooden table had a thin \_\_\_\_\_ of cherry wood on top, giving it a beautiful and glossy finish.

*n.* a thin layer of material applied to the surface of something for decoration or protection; a superficial or deceptive outward appearance that conceals the true nature of something beneath it

13. 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

14. She applied aloe vera to \_\_\_\_\_ her sunburn.

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

15. 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: 9. consciously, 10. ringtone, 11. brainwave, 12. veneer, 13. pretensions, 14. soothe, 15. secondly,

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ section of the piece was played with great emotion and expressiveness.
- n.* a slow tempo in music, slower than andante but faster than largo
17. The glands in the body \_\_\_\_\_ hormones that regulate various bodily functions.
- v.* to produce and discharge a substance, such as a hormone or glandular secretion; to conceal or hide something
18. The operator of the \_\_\_\_\_ wears noise-canceling headphones to protect their ears.
- n.* a powerful mechanical tool used to break up pavement, concrete, or other hard materials, typically used in construction or demolition projects
19. \_\_\_\_\_ levels in the body are often elevated during times of stress.
- n.* a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure
20. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and \_\_\_\_\_ my dress.
- v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
21. The sound of the \_\_\_\_\_ woke me up early in the morning.
- n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

ANSWERS: 16. adagio, 17. secrete, 18. jackhammer, 19. Cortisol, 20. singed, 21. chirp