

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Stewart Brand: What squatter cities can teach us |*

*TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/stewart\\_brand\\_what\\_squatter\\_cities\\_can\\_teach\\_us](https://www.ted.com/talks/stewart_brand_what_squatter_cities_can_teach_us)

### 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

### passee

*adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

*synonym*: outdated, old-fashioned, antique

(1) **passee** entertainment, (2) **passee** trend

Bell-bottom jeans, once considered **passee** fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.

### 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**.

### Renaissance

*n.* a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music

*synonym*: rebirth, golden age

(1) artistic **renaissance**, (2) industrial **renaissance**

Folk music is now experiencing a **renaissance**.

### squatter

*n.* a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority

*synonym* : trespasser, occupant, interloper

(1) **squatter** settlement, (2) urban **squatter**

The city has many **squatters living** in abandoned buildings or streets.

## oppress

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

*synonym* : antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force  
Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

## brew

v. to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water

*synonym* : make, prepare

(1) **brew** a cup of tea, (2) **brew** beer

I am going to **brew** some coffee this morning.

## gore

v. to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death;  
(noun) coagulated blood from a wound

*synonym* : pierce, stab, puncture

(1) **gore** him with a weapon, (2) **gore** scene

The hunter **gored** the deer with an arrow.

## defuse

v. to reduce or eliminate the tension, anger, or hostility in a situation, especially a potentially explosive one, by calming, soothing, or pacifying those involved

*synonym* : calm, reduce, deactivate

(1) **defuse** a crisis, (2) **defuse** a bomb

The negotiator skillfully **defused** the tense situation with calm words and gestures.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. pa\_\_e entertainment  
*adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
2. de\_\_\_e a bomb  
*v.* to reduce or eliminate the tension, anger, or hostility in a situation, especially a potentially explosive one, by calming, soothing, or pacifying those involved
3. urban sq\_\_\_\_\_er  
*n.* a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority
4. a n\_\_b mind  
*adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
5. op\_\_\_\_\_s the minority  
*v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
6. industrial ren\_\_\_\_\_ce  
*n.* a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music
7. sq\_\_\_\_\_er settlement  
*n.* a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority

ANSWERS: 1. passe, 2. defuse, 3. squatter, 4. numb, 5. oppress, 6. Renaissance, 7. squatter

8. pa\_\_e trend *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
9. g\_\_e him with a weapon *v.* to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound
10. op\_\_\_\_s the people with force *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
11. g\_\_e scene *v.* to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound
12. n\_\_b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
13. b\_\_w a cup of tea *v.* to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water
14. de\_\_\_e a crisis *v.* to reduce or eliminate the tension, anger, or hostility in a situation, especially a potentially explosive one, by calming, soothing, or pacifying those involved
15. b\_\_w beer *v.* to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water
16. artistic ren\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music

ANSWERS: 8. passe, 9. gore, 10. oppress, 11. gore, 12. numb, 13. brew, 14. defuse, 15. brew, 16. Renaissance

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The negotiator skillfully \_\_\_\_\_ the tense situation with calm words and gestures.
  - v.* to reduce or eliminate the tension, anger, or hostility in a situation, especially a potentially explosive one, by calming, soothing, or pacifying those involved
  
2. Folk music is now experiencing a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n.* a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music
  
3. My left arm became \_\_\_\_\_.
  - adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
  
4. Bell-bottom jeans, once considered \_\_\_\_\_ fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.
  - adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
  
5. Historically, many countries have often \_\_\_\_\_ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.
  - v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
  
6. I am going to \_\_\_\_\_ some coffee this morning.
  - v.* to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water
  
7. The city has many \_\_\_\_\_ in abandoned buildings or streets.
  - n.* a person who lives in or occupies a property or land without legal ownership or permission; a person who occupies a place or position without having the proper qualifications, training, or authority

ANSWERS: 1. defused, 2. renaissance, 3. numb, 4. passe, 5. oppressed, 6. brew, 7. squatters living

8. The hunter \_\_\_\_\_ the deer with an arrow.

- v. to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound

ANSWERS: 8. gored