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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Henri Picciotto: Can you solve the fortress riddle? |

TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/henri_picciotto_can_you_solve_the_fortress_riddle

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

fledgling

n. water creatures that live in shells, especially one of the types that can be eaten

synonym: beginner, novice, neophyte

(1) **fledgling** company, (2) **fledgling** birds

The current economic situation is especially tough for **fledgling** businesses.

kingdom

n. the country ruled by a king or queen

synonym: empire, realm, land

(1) establish his **kingdom**, (2) a subordinate **kingdom**

By remaining neutral, this **kingdom** continued to exist.

herd

n. a group of animals of the same type that live or are kept together as livestock

synonym: flock, brood, horde

(1) **herd** of cattle, (2) the common **herd**

He was riding **herd** on the sheep during the day.

dinosaur

n. a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin

synonym: reptile, beast, monster

(1) hulking **dinosaur**, (2) **dinosaur** fossil

The discovery of a new **dinosaur** species made headlines in

the scientific community.

sacred

adj. connected with religion or religious purposes; worthy of respect or dedication because of a connection with a god

synonym : holy, inviolable, hallowed

(1) **sacred** music, (2) the halo of a **sacred** image

This space is a private office **sacred** to the President

nation-state

n. a sovereign political entity that is composed of a nation, which is a group of people who share a common cultural, linguistic, or ethnic identity

synonym : sovereignty, independence, autonomy

(1) emerging **nation-state**, (2) **nation-state** autonomy

Some people argue that the rise of globalization has weakened the power of **nation-states**.

alliance

n. a partnership or association formed for mutual benefit, particularly between nations or organizations.

synonym : pact, accord, coalition

(1) form **alliance**, (2) major airline **alliances**

To sell the product, the companies have formed an **alliance**.

smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

synonym : great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results

The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

devour

v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

synonym : consume, swallow, destroy

(1) **devour** a meal, (2) **devour** my way

She **devoured** the mystery novel in one sitting.

fortify

v. to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support

synonym: strengthen, reinforce, bolster

(1) **fortify** a building, (2) **fortify** an immune system

He drank a protein shake to **fortify** his muscles before the marathon.

siege

n. the surrounding of a place and isolating it by an army to defeat those defending it

synonym: blockade, encirclement, barricade

(1) hostage **siege**, (2) lay **siege** to his house

People began storing up food and supplies for the **siege**.

fabricate

v. to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone

synonym: manufacture, assemble, falsify

(1) **fabricate** a chemical, (2) **fabricate** an excuse

The detective discovered that the witness had **fabricated** her story about the crime.

reinforce

v. to strengthen or support something, especially by adding another material to it; to make emotion, idea, etc. stronger

synonym: strengthen, fortify, support

(1) **reinforce** the military, (2) **reinforce** good behavior

We should **reinforce** the troops at the front line.

segment

n. a part or section of something; a distinct group within a larger whole

synonym: section, part, division

(1) **segment** analysis, (2) market **segment**

The report divided the data into **segments** based on age, gender, and income level.

engineer

n. a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software

synonym : architect, creator, builder

(1) a civil **engineer**, (2) **engineer** shortage

The **engineer** will repair my telephone tomorrow morning.

consult

v. to seek or get advice or information from a person, book, or other source having special knowledge on a particular subject

synonym : confer, consider, see

(1) regularly **consult** with a doctor, (2) **consult** my wallet

Always **consult** a lawyer before launching a business.

rival

n. a person, company, or thing competing with others for the same thing or in the same area

synonym : adversary, competitor, contender

(1) **rival** bidder, (2) merge with a **rival** company

He interfered with his **rivals** in various ways during the campaign.

buster

n. a person or thing that breaks or causes something to be broken

synonym : breaker, destroyer, crusher

(1) crime- **buster**, (2) bug **buster**

The stress- **buster** meditation helped me relax and calm my nerves.

clown

n. a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences

synonym : jester, harlequin, comedian

(1) a **clown** act, (2) act as a **clown**

She dressed up as a Halloween **clown** with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.

royal

adj. relating to or belonging to the king or queen or a member of their family

synonym: imperial, noble, aristocratic

(1) a **royal** palace, (2) prince **royal**

She is willing to give up her position in the **royal** family to marry him.

redhead

n. a person with red hair

(1) natural **redhead**, (2) **redhead** gene

The **redhead's** hair was so bright that it almost looked like it was on fire.

combine

v. to join or merge to form a single thing or group

synonym: coalesce, cohere, blend

(1) **combine** chemically with another substance,

(2) **combine** augmented reality

Hydrogen and oxygen **combine** to form water.

necessarily

adv. in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise

synonym: inevitable, certainly, automatically

(1) not **necessarily** a problem, (2) **necessarily** true

This accident was something that happened **necessarily**.

combination

n. a collection of things that have been combined; an assemblage of separate parts or qualities

synonym: blend, hybrid, compounding

(1) genic **combinations**, (2) **combination** number

The **combination** to the safe was a secret.

pause

v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

synonym: halt, break, intermit

(1) **pause** a moment, (2) **pause** for a reaction

The man **paused** before opening the door.

remark

n. a comment or observation, or something said or written about a particular subject or situation; (verb) to give a

spoken statement on a particular subject or situation

synonym: comment, observation, statement

(1) a flattering **remark**, (2) **remark** dripping with bitterness

His candid **remark** at the meeting sparked a lively discussion among the attendees.

elegant

adj. pleasing and graceful in appearance or manner, or showing good taste and refinement

synonym: refined, sophisticated, graceful

(1) **elegant** design, (2) write **elegant** sentences

She wore an **elegant** evening gown to the gala.

inspire

v. to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative

synonym: boost, encourage, enlighten

(1) **inspire** a feeling of curiosity, (2) **inspire** him to write a novel

The unique style of this martial arts **inspired** many action film producers.

sieve

n. a utensil with a mesh bottom or fine holes, used for separating larger objects from smaller ones or for straining liquids; (verb) to check and sort carefully

synonym: strainer, colander, tamis

(1) **sieve** tissue, (2) molecular **sieve**

The baker sifted the flour through a **sieve** to remove any lumps.

mathematics

n. the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement

synonym: arithmetic, calculation, calculus

(1) a good grounding in **mathematics**, (2) **mathematics** competition

He has a flair for **mathematics**.

ancient

adj. relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old

synonym : archaic, age-old, obsolete

(1) pre-Christian **ancient**, (2) **ancient** stories

They have been living near water since **ancient** times.

prime

adj. main or most important; basic

synonym : excellent, exceptional, premium

(1) **prime** number, (2) deputy **prime** minister

After a thorough investigation, she has been named as the **prime** suspect.

divisible

adj. able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over

synonym : separable, splittable, partitionable

(1) a **divisible** number, (2) exactly **divisible**

The class was divided into groups of four, with each group being **divisible** by two.

presumably

adv. believed to be true or likely based on the available evidence, or supposed to be the case without definite proof

synonym : likely, seemingly, supposedly

(1) **presumably** accurate, (2) **presumably** refuse the offer

The witness's testimony was **presumably** based on what he had seen and heard.

technique

n. a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill

synonym : approach, procedure, strategy

(1) a **technique** in martial arts, (2) the **technique** applied to construction

Jockey's superior **technique** brought him victory.

giant

adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are

synonym : big, gigantic, huge

(1) **giant** trees, (2) **giant** tech company

The **giant** jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.

eliminate

v. to remove or get rid of someone or something

synonym : wipe out, destroy, eradicate

(1) **eliminate** contestants, (2) **eliminate** sexual barriers

We can **eliminate** this possibility from those consumptions.

odd

adj. strange or unexpected; not divisible by two

synonym : strange, bizarre, abnormal

(1) in an **odd** way, (2) **odd** behavior

His grandfather was an **odd** man.

column

n. one of the vertical blocks that split content on a page or screen from top to bottom; an upright pillar that often supports an arch, entablature, or other structure or stands alone as a monument

synonym : line, pillar, cue

(1) the spinal **column**, (2) a **column** of water

The newspaper devoted several **columns** to the affair.

convenient

adj. useful, helpful, or quick to do

synonym : timely, fortunate, suitable

(1) **convenient** way, (2) **convenient** location

The airport offers five **convenient** access routes.

diagonal

adj. at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle

synonym : oblique, sloping, slanting

(1) **diagonal** pattern, (2) place at a **diagonal**

The **diagonal** cut of the skirt added movement and flair to the outfit.

composite

adj. made up of different parts, elements, or substances;
(noun) something made from two or more different substances

synonym : compound, combined, mixed

(1) **composite** materials, (2) a **composite** of different photographs

The **composite** index tracks the performance of multiple stocks in the same sector.

identify

v. to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are

synonym : determine, specify, recognize

(1) **identify** handwriting, (2) **identify** gene sequences

I will introduce you to how to **identify** the leading causes of the malfunction.

deliberate

adj. done with full consciousness of nature and effects rather than by accident

synonym : intentional, planned, careful

(1) the **deliberate** act of provocation, (2) **deliberate** attempt

Despite its advanced science and technology, the empire was **deliberate** about invasion.

vulnerable

adj. capable of being hurt or influenced physically or mentally

synonym : susceptible, exposed, weak

(1) a **vulnerable** bridge, (2) **vulnerable** parts of the body

Infants and pregnant women are particularly **vulnerable**.

infinite

adj. unlimited or very great; impossible to measure

synonym : boundless, countless, limitless

(1) **infinite** appetite, (2) **infinite** in supply

The battle had an **infinite** impact on the nation.

calculation

n. the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something

synonym : analysis, computation, estimate

(1) make a **calculation**, (2) **calculation** of loss and gain

The error in the **calculation** was attributable to rounding.

tense

adj. unable to relax because of being nervous or worried; stretched tight or rigid

synonym: tight, stretched, strained

(1) **tense** atmosphere, (2) have a **tense** face

This story makes me **tense**.

impregnable

adj. impossible to enter, capture, or defeat; difficult to argue against or resist

synonym: unassailable, unyielding, invulnerable

(1) **impregnable** self-confidence, (2) in an **impregnable** position

His argument was so well-reasoned that it seemed almost **impregnable**.

fortress

n. a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers

synonym: castle, citadel, stronghold

(1) **fortress** wall, (2) military **fortress**

The ancient **fortress** was built on a hill to give the defenders a strategic advantage.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. genic com_____ons | <i>n.</i> a collection of things that have been combined; an assemblage of separate parts or qualities |
| 2. act as a cl__n | <i>n.</i> a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences |
| 3. com_____on number | <i>n.</i> a collection of things that have been combined; an assemblage of separate parts or qualities |
| 4. del_____te attempt | <i>adj.</i> done with full consciousness of nature and effects rather than by accident |
| 5. natural re_____d | <i>n.</i> a person with red hair |
| 6. fl_____ng birds | <i>n.</i> water creatures that live in shells, especially one of the types that can be eaten |
| 7. te__e atmosphere | <i>adj.</i> unable to relax because of being nervous or worried; stretched tight or rigid |
| 8. molecular si__e | <i>n.</i> a utensil with a mesh bottom or fine holes, used for separating larger objects from smaller ones or for straining liquids; (verb) to check and sort carefully |
| 9. id_____fy gene sequences | <i>v.</i> to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are |

ANSWERS: 1. combination, 2. clown, 3. combination, 4. deliberate, 5. redhead, 6. fledgling, 7. tense, 8. sieve, 9. identify

10. se_____t analysis *n.* a part or section of something; a distinct group within a larger whole
11. vul_____le parts of the body *adj.* capable of being hurt or influenced physically or mentally
12. the te_____ue applied to construction *n.* a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill
13. a flattering re____k *n.* a comment or observation, or something said or written about a particular subject or situation; (verb) to give a spoken statement on a particular subject or situation
14. crime-bu____r *n.* a person or thing that breaks or causes something to be broken
15. a cl__n act *n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
16. exactly di_____le *adj.* able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over
17. di_____ur fossil *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
18. not nec_____ly a problem *adv.* in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise
19. pre_____ly refuse the offer *adv.* believed to be true or likely based on the available evidence, or supposed to be the case without definite proof
20. fl_____ng company *n.* water creatures that live in shells, especially one of the types that can be eaten

ANSWERS: 10. segment, 11. vulnerable, 12. technique, 13. remark, 14. buster, 15. clown, 16. divisible, 17. dinosaur, 18. necessarily, 19. presumably, 20. fledgling

21. major airline al_____ces *n.* a partnership or association formed for mutual benefit, particularly between nations or organizations.
22. co_____e augmented reality *v.* to join or merge to form a single thing or group
23. a ro__l palace *adj.* relating to or belonging to the king or queen or a member of their family
24. in an o_d way *adj.* strange or unexpected; not divisible by two
25. di_____al pattern *adj.* at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle
26. pa__e for a reaction *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
27. re_____d gene *n.* a person with red hair
28. write el_____t sentences *adj.* pleasing and graceful in appearance or manner, or showing good taste and refinement
29. market se_____t *n.* a part or section of something; a distinct group within a larger whole
30. con_____nt location *adj.* useful, helpful, or quick to do
31. establish his ki_____m *n.* the country ruled by a king or queen
32. nat_____ate autonomy *n.* a sovereign political entity that is composed of a nation, which is a group of people who share a common cultural, linguistic, or ethnic identity
33. a good grounding in mat_____cs *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement

ANSWERS: 21. alliance, 22. combine, 23. royal, 24. odd, 25. diagonal, 26. pause, 27. redhead, 28. elegant, 29. segment, 30. convenient, 31. kingdom, 32. nation-state, 33. mathematics

34. con_____nt way *adj.* useful, helpful, or quick to do
35. in_____te appetite *adj.* unlimited or very great; impossible to measure
36. a te_____ue in martial arts *n.* a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill
37. gi__t tech company *adj.* enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
38. bug bu____r *n.* a person or thing that breaks or causes something to be broken
39. re____k dripping with bitterness *n.* a comment or observation, or something said or written about a particular subject or situation; (verb) to give a spoken statement on a particular subject or situation
40. the del_____te act of provocation *adj.* done with full consciousness of nature and effects rather than by accident
41. el_____t design *adj.* pleasing and graceful in appearance or manner, or showing good taste and refinement
42. fa_____te an excuse *v.* to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone
43. a sm_____ng blow *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
44. prince ro__l *adj.* relating to or belonging to the king or queen or a member of their family

ANSWERS: 34. convenient, 35. infinite, 36. technique, 37. giant, 38. buster, 39. remark, 40. deliberate, 41. elegant, 42. fabricate, 43. smashing, 44. royal

45. merge with a ri__l company *n.* a person, company, or thing competing with others for the same thing or in the same area
46. the common h__d *n.* a group of animals of the same type that live or are kept together as livestock
47. nec_____ly true *adv.* in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise
48. si__e tissue *n.* a utensil with a mesh bottom or fine holes, used for separating larger objects from smaller ones or for straining liquids; (verb) to check and sort carefully
49. lay si__e to his house *n.* the surrounding of a place and isolating it by an army to defeat those defending it
50. a co___n of water *n.* one of the vertical blocks that split content on a page or screen from top to bottom; an upright pillar that often supports an arch, entablature, or other structure or stands alone as a monument
51. hostage si__e *n.* the surrounding of a place and isolating it by an army to defeat those defending it
52. have a te__e face *adj.* unable to relax because of being nervous or worried; stretched tight or rigid
53. re_____ce the military *v.* to strengthen or support something, especially by adding another material to it; to make emotion, idea, etc. stronger

ANSWERS: 45. rival, 46. herd, 47. necessarily, 48. sieve, 49. siege, 50. column, 51. siege, 52. tense, 53. reinforce

54. emerging nat_____ate *n.* a sovereign political entity that is composed of a nation, which is a group of people who share a common cultural, linguistic, or ethnic identity
55. pre-Christian an_____t *adj.* relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old
56. a subordinate ki_____m *n.* the country ruled by a king or queen
57. en_____er shortage *n.* a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
58. a di_____le number *adj.* able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over
59. the halo of a sa____d image *adj.* connected with religion or religious purposes; worthy of respect or dedication because of a connection with a god
60. imp_____le self-confidence *adj.* impossible to enter, capture, or defeat; difficult to argue against or resist
61. regularly co_____t with a doctor *v.* to seek or get advice or information from a person, book, or other source having special knowledge on a particular subject
62. give sm_____ng results *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
63. a civil en_____er *n.* a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
64. fa_____te a chemical *v.* to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone

ANSWERS: 54. nation-state, 55. ancient, 56. kingdom, 57. engineer, 58. divisible, 59. sacred, 60. impregnable, 61. consult, 62. smashing, 63. engineer, 64. fabricate

65. in_____te in supply *adj.* unlimited or very great; impossible to measure
66. fo_____y an immune system *v.* to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support
67. in_____e a feeling of curiosity *v.* to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative
68. cal_____on of loss and gain *n.* the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something
69. co_____t my wallet *v.* to seek or get advice or information from a person, book, or other source having special knowledge on a particular subject
70. el_____te contestants *v.* to remove or get rid of someone or something
71. a vul_____le bridge *adj.* capable of being hurt or influenced physically or mentally
72. co_____te materials *adj.* made up of different parts, elements, or substances; (noun) something made from two or more different substances
73. in_____e him to write a novel *v.* to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative
74. in an imp_____le position *adj.* impossible to enter, capture, or defeat; difficult to argue against or resist
75. deputy pr__e minister *adj.* main or most important; basic

ANSWERS: 65. infinite, 66. fortify, 67. inspire, 68. calculation, 69. consult, 70. eliminate, 71. vulnerable, 72. composite, 73. inspire, 74. impregnable, 75. prime

76. pr__e number *adj.* main or most important; basic
77. a co_____te of different photographs *adj.* made up of different parts, elements, or substances; (noun) something made from two or more different substances
78. make a cal_____on *n.* the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something
79. de___r my way *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
80. the spinal co___n *n.* one of the vertical blocks that split content on a page or screen from top to bottom; an upright pillar that often supports an arch, entablature, or other structure or stands alone as a monument
81. place at a di_____al *adj.* at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle
82. co_____e chemically with another substance *v.* to join or merge to form a single thing or group
83. fo_____y a building *v.* to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support
84. form al_____ce *n.* a partnership or association formed for mutual benefit, particularly between nations or organizations.
85. id_____fy handwriting *v.* to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are

ANSWERS: 76. prime, 77. composite, 78. calculation, 79. devour, 80. column, 81. diagonal, 82. combine, 83. fortify, 84. alliance, 85. identify

86. o_d behavior *adj.* strange or unexpected; not divisible by two
87. pa__e a moment *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
88. el_____te sexual barriers *v.* to remove or get rid of someone or something
89. re_____ce good behavior *v.* to strengthen or support something, especially by adding another material to it; to make emotion, idea, etc. stronger
90. mat_____cs competition *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
91. pre_____ly accurate *adv.* believed to be true or likely based on the available evidence, or supposed to be the case without definite proof
92. de___r a meal *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
93. an_____t stories *adj.* relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old
94. hulking di_____ur *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
95. military fo_____ss *n.* a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers
96. ri__l bidder *n.* a person, company, or thing competing with others for the same thing or in the same area

ANSWERS: 86. odd, 87. pause, 88. eliminate, 89. reinforce, 90. mathematics, 91. presumably, 92. devour, 93. ancient, 94. dinosaur, 95. fortress, 96. rival

97. gi__t trees *adj.* enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
98. h__d of cattle *n.* a group of animals of the same type that live or are kept together as livestock
99. fo_____ss wall *n.* a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers
100. sa___d music *adj.* connected with religion or religious purposes; worthy of respect or dedication because of a connection with a god

ANSWERS: 97. giant, 98. herd, 99. fortress, 100. sacred

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The witness's testimony was _____ based on what he had seen and heard.
adv. believed to be true or likely based on the available evidence, or supposed to be the case without definite proof
2. Some people argue that the rise of globalization has weakened the power of _____.
n. a sovereign political entity that is composed of a nation, which is a group of people who share a common cultural, linguistic, or ethnic identity
3. The man _____ before opening the door.
v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
4. The stress-_____ meditation helped me relax and calm my nerves.
n. a person or thing that breaks or causes something to be broken
5. This story makes me _____.
adj. unable to relax because of being nervous or worried; stretched tight or rigid
6. The ancient _____ was built on a hill to give the defenders a strategic advantage.
n. a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers
7. The detective discovered that the witness had _____ her story about the crime.
v. to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone

ANSWERS: 1. presumably, 2. nation-states, 3. paused, 4. buster, 5. tense, 6. fortress, 7. fabricated

8. She _____ the mystery novel in one sitting.
v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
9. His grandfather was an ____ man.
adj. strange or unexpected; not divisible by two
10. After a thorough investigation, she has been named as the _____ suspect.
adj. main or most important; basic
11. To sell the product, the companies have formed an _____.
n. a partnership or association formed for mutual benefit, particularly between nations or organizations.
12. By remaining neutral, this _____ continued to exist.
n. the country ruled by a king or queen
13. People began storing up food and supplies for the _____.
n. the surrounding of a place and isolating it by an army to defeat those defending it
14. The band's new album was a _____ success, reaching the top of the charts.
adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
15. He interfered with his _____ in various ways during the campaign.
n. a person, company, or thing competing with others for the same thing or in the same area
16. This space is a private office _____ to the President
adj. connected with religion or religious purposes; worthy of respect or dedication because of a connection with a god

ANSWERS: 8. devoured, 9. odd, 10. prime, 11. alliance, 12. kingdom, 13. siege, 14. smashing, 15. rivals, 16. sacred

17. Infants and pregnant women are particularly _____.
adj. capable of being hurt or influenced physically or mentally
18. The current economic situation is especially tough for _____ businesses.
n. water creatures that live in shells, especially one of the types that can be eaten
19. The _____ will repair my telephone tomorrow morning.
n. a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
20. They have been living near water since _____ times.
adj. relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old
21. The discovery of a new _____ species made headlines in the scientific community.
n. a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
22. The battle had an _____ impact on the nation.
adj. unlimited or very great; impossible to measure
23. The report divided the data into _____ based on age, gender, and income level.
n. a part or section of something; a distinct group within a larger whole
24. The airport offers five _____ access routes.
adj. useful, helpful, or quick to do

ANSWERS: 17. vulnerable, 18. fledgling, 19. engineer, 20. ancient, 21. dinosaur, 22. infinite, 23. segments, 24. convenient

25. The _____ index tracks the performance of multiple stocks in the same sector.

adj. made up of different parts, elements, or substances; (noun) something made from two or more different substances

26. Always _____ a lawyer before launching a business.

v. to seek or get advice or information from a person, book, or other source having special knowledge on a particular subject

27. He drank a protein shake to _____ his muscles before the marathon.

v. to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support

28. He has a flair for _____.

n. the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement

29. His candid _____ at the meeting sparked a lively discussion among the attendees.

n. a comment or observation, or something said or written about a particular subject or situation; (verb) to give a spoken statement on a particular subject or situation

30. The _____ jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.

adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are

31. Hydrogen and oxygen _____ to form water.

v. to join or merge to form a single thing or group

32. We can _____ this possibility from those consumptions.

v. to remove or get rid of someone or something

ANSWERS: 25. composite, 26. consult, 27. fortify, 28. mathematics, 29. remark, 30. giant, 31. combine, 32. eliminate

33. He was riding _____ on the sheep during the day.
n. a group of animals of the same type that live or are kept together as livestock
34. The _____ cut of the skirt added movement and flair to the outfit.
adj. at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle
35. Despite its advanced science and technology, the empire was _____ about invasion.
adj. done with full consciousness of nature and effects rather than by accident
36. The baker sifted the flour through a _____ to remove any lumps.
n. a utensil with a mesh bottom or fine holes, used for separating larger objects from smaller ones or for straining liquids; (verb) to check and sort carefully
37. She dressed up as a Halloween _____ with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.
n. a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
38. The newspaper devoted several _____ to the affair.
n. one of the vertical blocks that split content on a page or screen from top to bottom; an upright pillar that often supports an arch, entablature, or other structure or stands alone as a monument
39. She wore an _____ evening gown to the gala.
adj. pleasing and graceful in appearance or manner, or showing good taste and refinement
40. She is willing to give up her position in the _____ family to marry him.
adj. relating to or belonging to the king or queen or a member of their family

ANSWERS: 33. herd, 34. diagonal, 35. deliberate, 36. sieve, 37. clown, 38. columns, 39. elegant, 40. royal

41. The _____ hair was so bright that it almost looked like it was on fire.
n. a person with red hair
42. This accident was something that happened _____.
adv. in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise
43. The class was divided into groups of four, with each group being _____ by two.
adj. able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over
44. His argument was so well-reasoned that it seemed almost _____.
adj. impossible to enter, capture, or defeat; difficult to argue against or resist
45. The _____ to the safe was a secret.
n. a collection of things that have been combined; an assemblage of separate parts or qualities
46. I will introduce you to how to _____ the leading causes of the malfunction.
v. to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are
47. The error in the _____ was attributable to rounding.
n. the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something
48. Jockey's superior _____ brought him victory.
n. a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill
49. The unique style of this martial arts _____ many action film producers.
v. to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative

ANSWERS: 41. redhead's, 42. necessarily, 43. divisible, 44. impregnable, 45. combination, 46. identify, 47. calculation, 48. technique, 49. inspired

50. We should _____ the troops at the front line.

- v. to strengthen or support something, especially by adding another material to it;
to make emotion, idea, etc. stronger

ANSWERS: 50. reinforce