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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

David Pogue: Simplicity sells | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

mold

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

synonym : cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

unmanned

adj. not having a human crew or operator, as in unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or unmanned spacecraft

synonym : uncrewed, automated, robotized

(1) an **unmanned** stop, (2) **unmanned** drone

The **unmanned** spacecraft landed on the asteroid.

wreak

v. to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events

synonym : cause, inflict, bring about

(1) **wreak** a lot of changes, (2) **wreak** further damage

The virus has **wreaked** havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.

vengeance

n. the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done

synonym :

retaliation, retribution, revenge

(1) **vengeance** justice, (2) wreak **vengeance**

He sought **vengeance** for the wrongs done to him.

gush

v. to flow or pour out rapidly and in large quantities

synonym: jet, burst, flush

(1) **gush** about my love for sports, (2) **gush** out and won't stop

A supertanker continues to **gush** oil off the coast of Spain.

gash

n. a deep cut or wound, especially in the skin

synonym: cut, wound, laceration

(1) **gash** wound, (2) straight **gash**

He received a deep **gash** on his leg from the accident.

accompanist

n. a person who plays an instrument, typically piano, for a soloist or ensemble

synonym: collaborator, partner

(1) musical **accompanist**, (2) **accompanist** singer

She was the **accompanist** for the singer at the concert.

slick

adj. smoothly polished and shiny; cleverly and smoothly done; well-organized and efficient

synonym: smooth, polished, shiny

(1) a **slick** operation, (2) **slick** design

The politician gave a **slick** speech, but it was full of empty promises.

gadget

n. a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job

synonym: appliance, gimmick, device

(1) a handy **gadget**, (2) time-saving **gadget**

I found the kitchen **gadget** that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.

downside

n. the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure

synonym : drawback, negative, disadvantage

(1) major **downside**, (2) **downside** of globalization

The **downside** of the new policy was that it would be more expensive for customers.

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.

woe

n. significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness

synonym : anguish, despair, suffering

(1) economic **woe**, (2) full of **woe**

Recurrent financial **woes** hampered his subsequent career.

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.

squeak

v. to make a high-pitched, short, sharp noise; to speak or say something in a high-pitched, weak, or timid voice

synonym : squeal, whine, creak

(1) **squeak** out a few words, (2) mice **squeak**

The door **squeaked** when I opened it.

squarely

adv. directly and firmly; in a square shape

synonym : honestly, justly, straightforwardly

(1) look **squarely** at reality, (2) a **squarely** cut piece of paper

We must **squarely** address the problem.

primal

adj. of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive

synonym : original, fundamental, basic

(1) **primal** eras, (2) **primal** fear

The **primal** instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.

paradox

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

synonym : incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap

There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

nod

v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym : respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

retouch

v. to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools

synonym : edit, revise, touch up

(1) **retouch** photo, (2) **retouch** painting

She had her portrait **retouched** to remove blemishes.

toolbar

n. a strip of icons or buttons on a computer screen that allows the user to access certain functions or applications quickly

synonym : ribbon, menu, interface

(1) **toolbar** icon, (2) a floating **toolbar**

The **toolbar** at the top of the screen allows you to access different features.

teeny

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym : tiny, mini, minuscule

(1) **teeny** bit, (2) so **teeny** tiny

The ring was so **teeny** that it almost looked like a toy.

underline

v. to draw a line or lines underneath something, typically to emphasize or draw attention to it

synonym : emphasize, highlight, stress

(1) **underline** the vision, (2) **underline** the key points

He **underlined** the important points in the document.

divergent

adj. different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions

synonym : differing, disparate, atypical

(1) follow a **divergent** path, (2) wildly **divergent** results

The prime minister had to reconcile **divergent** opinions on controversial issues like abortion.

screenful

n. the amount of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time; (adjective) full of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time

synonym : display, window, interface

(1) a **screenful** of text, (2) **screenful** information

The spreadsheet took up an entire **screenful** of data.

cockpit

n. the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft

synonym : flight deck, control room, bridge

(1) navigator's **cockpit**, (2) **cockpit** ship

The pilot sat in the **cockpit** of the airplane.

stylus

n. a thin, pointed tool used to write, draw, or select items on a touchscreen device

synonym : pen, pointer, cursor

(1) **stylus** pen, (2) **stylus** pocket

Many artists prefer to use a **stylus** over their fingers when drawing on a digital canvas.

mediocrity

n. the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

synonym : averageness, ordinariness, unoriginality

(1) sink into **mediocrity**, (2) escape **mediocrity**

He was content with living a life of **mediocrity**.

miser

n. a person who hoards wealth and lives frugally

synonym : skinflint, cheapskate, penny-pincher

(1) **miser** penny-pincher, (2) fuel **miser**

He was such a **miser** that he wouldn't even spend money on coffee.

recharge

v. to restore the energy or power of something by supplying it with more energy or power; to refresh or renew oneself by rest or sleep

synonym : renew, refresh, replenish

(1) **recharge** brain and body, (2) **recharge** energy

He needed to **recharge** his phone before the meeting.

crunch

n. a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation

synonym : crushing, snapping, crisis

(1) financial **crunch**, (2) a gas **crunch**

The **crunch** of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.

illuminating

adj. making something clear or easy to understand; providing light

synonym : enlightening, informative, clarifying

(1) **illuminating** light, (2) an **illuminating** answer

The lecture was **illuminating** and gave me a new perspective on the topic.

turtleneck

n. a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar

synonym : polo-neck

(1) a **turtleneck** sweater, (2) **turtleneck** undershirts

I want to buy a new **turtleneck** tomorrow.

jean

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

synonym: denim, cotton, pants

(1) a **jean** skirt, (2) **jean** denim

She wore her favorite pair of **jeans** to the party.

rhyme

n. a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting

synonym: verse, poetry, meter

(1) **rhyme** poem, (2) write in **rhyme**

The poem had a consistent **rhyme** scheme throughout.

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.

viol

n. a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba

synonym: viola, viola da gamba, string instrument

(1) **viol** instrument, (2) **viol** music

The **viol** player was rehearsing for an upcoming concert.

propriety

n. the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct

synonym: appropriateness, correctness, decorum

(1) a breach of **propriety**, (2) **propriety** etiquette

The company's code of **propriety** requires all employees to dress professionally.

offload

v. to transfer the responsibility or burden of something or someone to another person or group; to unload or discharge goods or cargo from a vehicle or ship

synonym : unload, transfer, delegate

(1) **offload** the van, (2) **offload** freight

They **offloaded** the cargo from the ship to the dock.

dictate

v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

synonym : read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

dissuade

v. to persuade someone not to do something; to discourage or deter someone from a course of action

synonym : discourage, deter, convince

(1) **dissuade** a person, (2) **dissuade** him from committing the crime

He tried to **dissuade** her from quitting her job.

converse

v. to talk informally

synonym : discourse, discuss, exchange

(1) **converse** with an acquaintance, (2) ask a **converse** question

She enjoyed the opportunity to **converse** with a person who spoke her language.

darn

v. to mend a piece of clothing by sewing over a hole or tear with small, tight stitches

synonym : mend, repair, patch

(1) **darn** stockings, (2) **darn** hole

I have to **darn** these socks before they become unwearable.

bravo

n. an exclamation of approval, especially for a performer; an expression of appreciation, admiration, or encouragement

synonym : well done, great, good job

(1) **bravo** applause, (2) **bravo** encouragement

The audience gave a standing ovation and shouted " **bravo** "

at the end of the performance.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| 1. di_____de him from committing the crime | v. | to persuade someone not to do something; to discourage or deter someone from a course of action |
| 2. di_____e to the associate | v. | to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded |
| 3. br__o encouragement | n. | an exclamation of approval, especially for a performer; an expression of appreciation, admiration, or encouragement |
| 4. a floating to_____r | n. | a strip of icons or buttons on a computer screen that allows the user to access certain functions or applications quickly |
| 5. of_____d freight | v. | to transfer the responsibility or burden of something or someone to another person or group; to unload or discharge goods or cargo from a vehicle or ship |
| 6. pr_____ty etiquette | n. | the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct |
| 7. a tur_____ck sweater | n. | a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar |
| 8. straight g__h | n. | a deep cut or wound, especially in the skin |
| 9. time-saving ga____t | n. | a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job |

ANSWERS: 1. dissuade, 2. dictate, 3. bravo, 4. toolbar, 5. offload, 6. propriety, 7. turtleneck, 8. gash, 9. gadget

10. sc_____ul information *n.* the amount of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time; (adjective) full of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time
11. ve_____ce justice *n.* the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done
12. v__l music *n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba
13. co_____se with an acquaintance *v.* to talk informally
14. st___s pocket *n.* a thin, pointed tool used to write, draw, or select items on a touchscreen device
15. g__h about my love for sports *v.* to flow or pour out rapidly and in large quantities
16. wildly di_____nt results *adj.* different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions
17. sink into med_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal
18. financial cr___h *n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
19. di_____e a letter to secretary *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

ANSWERS: 10. screenful, 11. vengeance, 12. viol, 13. converse, 14. stylus, 15. gush, 16. divergent, 17. mediocrity, 18. crunch, 19. dictate

20. a sq____ly cut piece of paper *adv.* directly and firmly; in a square shape
21. economic w_e *n.* significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness
22. n_d courteously *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
23. sq____k out a few words *v.* to make a high-pitched, short, sharp noise; to speak or say something in a high-pitched, weak, or timid voice
24. look sq____ly at reality *adv.* directly and firmly; in a square shape
25. full of w_e *n.* significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness
26. the pa____x of the heap *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
27. re____ge brain and body *v.* to restore the energy or power of something by supplying it with more energy or power; to refresh or renew oneself by rest or sleep
28. te__y bit *adj.* extremely small; tiny
29. st____s pen *n.* a thin, pointed tool used to write, draw, or select items on a touchscreen device
30. French pa____x *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

ANSWERS: 20. squarely, 21. woe, 22. nod, 23. squeak, 24. squarely, 25. woe, 26. paradox, 27. recharge, 28. teeny, 29. stylus, 30. paradox

31. follow a di_____nt path *adj.* different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions
32. musical acc_____st *n.* a person who plays an instrument, typically piano, for a soloist or ensemble
33. un_____ed drone *adj.* not having a human crew or operator, as in unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or unmanned spacecraft
34. fuel mi__r *n.* a person who hoards wealth and lives frugally
35. to_____r icon *n.* a strip of icons or buttons on a computer screen that allows the user to access certain functions or applications quickly
36. br__o applause *n.* an exclamation of approval, especially for a performer; an expression of appreciation, admiration, or encouragement
37. di_____de a person *v.* to persuade someone not to do something; to discourage or deter someone from a course of action
38. co_____t ship *n.* the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft
39. d__n stockings *v.* to mend a piece of clothing by sewing over a hole or tear with small, tight stitches
40. re_____h photo *v.* to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools

ANSWERS: 31. divergent, 32. accompanist, 33. unmanned, 34. miser, 35. toolbar, 36. bravo, 37. dissuade, 38. cockpit, 39. darn, 40. retouch

41. an ill_____ing answer *adj.* making something clear or easy to understand; providing light
42. j__n denim *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
43. g__h wound *n.* a deep cut or wound, especially in the skin
44. sl__k design *adj.* smoothly polished and shiny; cleverly and smoothly done; well-organized and efficient
45. re_____h painting *v.* to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools
46. g__h out and won't stop *v.* to flow or pour out rapidly and in large quantities
47. wr__k further damage *v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
48. a gas cr____h *n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
49. re_____ge energy *v.* to restore the energy or power of something by supplying it with more energy or power; to refresh or renew oneself by rest or sleep
50. a sc_____ul of text *n.* the amount of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time; (adjective) full of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time

ANSWERS: 41. illuminating, 42. jean, 43. gash, 44. slick, 45. retouch, 46. gush, 47. wreak, 48. crunch, 49. recharge, 50. screenful

51. 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
52. g__e him with a weapon *v.* to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound
53. so te__y tiny *adj.* extremely small; tiny
54. d__n hole *v.* to mend a piece of clothing by sewing over a hole or tear with small, tight stitches
55. of_____d the van *v.* to transfer the responsibility or burden of something or someone to another person or group; to unload or discharge goods or cargo from a vehicle or ship
56. a j__n skirt *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
57. rh__e poem *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
58. mice sq___k *v.* to make a high-pitched, short, sharp noise; to speak or say something in a high-pitched, weak, or timid voice
59. wreak ve_____ce *n.* the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done
60. pr___l eras *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
61. tur_____ck undershirts *n.* a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar

ANSWERS: 51. overwhelm, 52. gore, 53. teeny, 54. darn, 55. offload, 56. jean, 57. rhyme, 58. squeak, 59. vengeance, 60. primal, 61. turtleneck

62. major do____de *n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
63. m__d allergy *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
64. un_____ne the vision *v.* to draw a line or lines underneath something, typically to emphasize or draw attention to it
65. ask a co_____se question *v.* to talk informally
66. a breach of pr_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct
67. ill_____ing light *adj.* making something clear or easy to understand; providing light
68. 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
69. mi__r penny-pincher *n.* a person who hoards wealth and lives frugally
70. write in rh__e *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
71. escape med_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

ANSWERS: 62. downside, 63. mold, 64. underline, 65. converse, 66. propriety, 67. illuminating, 68. overwhelm, 69. miser, 70. rhyme, 71. mediocrity

72. a casting m__d *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
73. acc____st singer *n.* a person who plays an instrument, typically piano, for a soloist or ensemble
74. wr__k a lot of changes *v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
75. v__l instrument *n.* a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba
76. un____ne the key points *v.* to draw a line or lines underneath something, typically to emphasize or draw attention to it
77. ind____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
78. pr___l fear *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
79. n_d at each other *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
80. an un____ed stop *adj.* not having a human crew or operator, as in unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or unmanned spacecraft

ANSWERS: 72. mold, 73. accompanist, 74. wreak, 75. viol, 76. underline, 77. industrious, 78. primal, 79. nod, 80. unmanned

81. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
82. a sl__k operation *adj.* smoothly polished and shiny; cleverly and smoothly done; well-organized and efficient
83. g__e scene *v.* to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound
84. navigator's co_____t *n.* the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft
85. a handy ga____t *n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
86. do_____de of globalization *n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure

ANSWERS: 81. industrious, 82. slick, 83. gore, 84. cockpit, 85. gadget, 86. downside

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
 - v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

2. I want to buy a new _____ tomorrow.
 - n. a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar

3. The _____ player was rehearsing for an upcoming concert.
 - n. a stringed instrument, typically with six strings and frets, played with a bow, also called a viola da gamba

4. 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

5. The spreadsheet took up an entire _____ of data.
 - n. the amount of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time; (adjective) full of information that can fit on a computer screen or mobile device screen at one time

6. The _____ of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.
 - n. a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation

7. She enjoyed the opportunity to _____ with a person who spoke her language.
 - v. to talk informally

ANSWERS: 1. nodded, 2. turtleneck, 3. viol, 4. overwhelm, 5. screenful, 6. crunch, 7. converse

8. He received a deep _____ on his leg from the accident.

n. a deep cut or wound, especially in the skin

9. He sought _____ for the wrongs done to him.

n. the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done

10. The hunter _____ the deer with an arrow.

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

11. The _____ instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.

adj. of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive

12. She had her portrait _____ to remove blemishes.

v. to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools

13. I found the kitchen _____ that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.

n. a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job

14. The ring was so _____ that it almost looked like a toy.

adj. extremely small; tiny

15. He needed to _____ his phone before the meeting.

v. to restore the energy or power of something by supplying it with more energy or power; to refresh or renew oneself by rest or sleep

16. The door _____ when I opened it.

v. to make a high-pitched, short, sharp noise; to speak or say something in a high-pitched, weak, or timid voice

ANSWERS: 8. gash, 9. vengeance, 10. gored, 11. primal, 12. retouched, 13. gadget, 14. teeny, 15. recharge, 16. squeaked

17. The virus has _____ havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.
- v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
18. The audience gave a standing ovation and shouted " _____ at the end of the performance.
- n.* an exclamation of approval, especially for a performer; an expression of appreciation, admiration, or encouragement
19. The _____ of the new policy was that it would be more expensive for customers.
- n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
20. Mushrooms and _____ are fungi.
- n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
21. The company's code of _____ requires all employees to dress professionally.
- n.* the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct
22. The _____ at the top of the screen allows you to access different features.
- n.* a strip of icons or buttons on a computer screen that allows the user to access certain functions or applications quickly

ANSWERS: 17. wreaked, 18. bravo", 19. downside, 20. mold, 21. propriety, 22. toolbar

23. The pilot sat in the _____ of the airplane.

n. the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft

24. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

25. The politician gave a _____ speech, but it was full of empty promises.

adj. smoothly polished and shiny; cleverly and smoothly done; well-organized and efficient

26. They _____ the cargo from the ship to the dock.

v. to transfer the responsibility or burden of something or someone to another person or group; to unload or discharge goods or cargo from a vehicle or ship

27. She was the _____ for the singer at the concert.

n. a person who plays an instrument, typically piano, for a soloist or ensemble

28. He was content with living a life of _____.

n. the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

29. Recurrent financial _____ hampered his subsequent career.

n. significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness

30. The prime minister had to reconcile _____ opinions on controversial issues like abortion.

adj. different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions

ANSWERS: 23. cockpit, 24. jeans, 25. slick, 26. offloaded, 27. accompanist, 28. mediocrity, 29. woes, 30. divergent

31. The lecture was _____ and gave me a new perspective on the topic.

adj. making something clear or easy to understand; providing light

32. We must _____ address the problem.

adv. directly and firmly; in a square shape

33. He _____ the important points in the document.

v. to draw a line or lines underneath something, typically to emphasize or draw attention to it

34. There are many theories to explain this _____.

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

35. The allies _____ the terms of surrender to the country.

v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

36. The _____ spacecraft landed on the asteroid.

adj. not having a human crew or operator, as in unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or unmanned spacecraft

37. A supertanker continues to _____ oil off the coast of Spain.

v. to flow or pour out rapidly and in large quantities

38. The poem had a consistent _____ scheme throughout.

n. a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting

ANSWERS: 31. illuminating, 32. squarely, 33. underlined, 34. paradox, 35. dictated, 36. unmanned, 37. gush, 38. rhyme

39. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
40. He was such a _____ that he wouldn't even spend money on coffee.
n. a person who hoards wealth and lives frugally
41. I have to _____ these socks before they become unwearable.
v. to mend a piece of clothing by sewing over a hole or tear with small, tight stitches
42. Many artists prefer to use a _____ over their fingers when drawing on a digital canvas.
n. a thin, pointed tool used to write, draw, or select items on a touchscreen device
43. He tried to _____ her from quitting her job.
v. to persuade someone not to do something; to discourage or deter someone from a course of action

ANSWERS: 39. industrious, 40. miser, 41. darn, 42. stylus, 43. dissuade