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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dan Dennett: Let's teach religion -- all religion -- in schools | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

doggerel

n. verse or poetry that is poorly written or of low literary quality, often characterized by forced rhymes, simplistic language, and awkward or amateurish phrasing

(1) silly **doggerel**, (2) humorous **doggerel**

The poet was embarrassed by the poor quality of his **doggerel**.

ancestor

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
synonym: forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

aurochs

n. an extinct species of wild oxen that inhabited Europe, Asia, and North Africa until the 17th century

(1) extinct **aurochs**, (2) **aurochs** skeleton

The cave paintings in Lascaux depict **aurochs** and other animals that were once native to Europe.

domesticate

v. to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company

synonym: tame, naturalize, cultivate

(1) easy to **domesticate**, (2) **domesticate** the plant

We **domesticate** cows to gain milk and meat.

steward

n. a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

synonym : caretaker, manager, custodian

(1) **steward** duties, (2) **steward** service

The **steward** on the flight was very helpful in assisting passengers with their needs.

eloquent

adj. able to speak or write clearly and impressively

synonym : persuasive, fluent, well-spoken

(1) an **eloquent** speaker, (2) **eloquent** writing

She gave an **eloquent** speech at the graduation ceremony.

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.

brilliantly

adv. in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively

synonym : brightly, radiantly, excellently

(1) **brilliantly** executed, (2) **brilliantly** lit

He played the piano **brilliantly** at the concert.

symbolism

n. the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities, especially in art and literature; an artistic movement in the late 19th century that tried to express abstract or mystical ideas through the symbolic use of images

synonym : iconography, allegory, metaphor

(1) the **symbolism** of the event, (2) political **symbolism**

The **symbolism** in the painting was rich and complex, with many layers of meaning.

bedrock

n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

synonym : foundation, foundation stone, base

(1) **bedrock** foundation, (2) **bedrock** geology

The **bedrock** beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym : captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church

Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

totalitarian

adj. of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power

synonym : dictatorial, authoritarian, oppressive

(1) **totalitarian** ideology, (2) **totalitarian** state

The government was criticized for having a **totalitarian** regime.

libertarian

n. a person who believes that people should be free to think and behave as they want and the government should only have a minimal level of control, and a person who advocates those beliefs

synonym : latitudinarian

(1) **libertarian** group, (2) civil **libertarian**

Western liberal democracy serves as the foundation for the **libertarian** philosophy of the media.

defensible

adj. able to be defended or justified; justifiable or reasonable; capable of withstanding attack or criticism

synonym : justifiable, supportable, vindicable

(1) **defensible** fort, (2) **defensible** decision

The lawyer argued that his client's actions were **defensible** given the circumstances.

ectosymbiont

n. an organism that lives on the surface or exterior of another organism, typically in a mutually beneficial relationship

synonym : associate, partner, companion

(1) marine **ectosymbiont**, (2) **ectosymbiont** relationships

The **ectosymbiont** on the fish helps to clean its skin and protect it from parasites.

serendipity

n. the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery

synonym : luck, chance, fortune

(1) **serendipity** moment, (2) **serendipity** discovery

The discovery of penicillin was a result of **serendipity**.

convergent

adj. tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge

synonym : merging, meeting

(1) **convergent** beam, (2) **convergent** thinking

The similarities between the two cultures suggest **convergent** evolution.

shepherd

n. a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area

synonym : herder, flock-keeper, sheepdog

(1) **shepherd** boy, (2) sheep without a **shepherd**

The **shepherd's** dog helped keep the sheep in line and protect them from predators.

predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

synonym : vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

clueless

adj. lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

synonym : uninformed, unaware, ignorant

(1) **clueless** in many ways, (2) **clueless** about the situation
She was completely **clueless** as to how to solve the problem.

hoax

n. a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank

synonym : deception, fraud, trick

(1) suspect a **hoax**, (2) **hoax** email

The newspaper article was revealed to be a **hoax**.

brilliance

n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining

synonym : splendor, glory, luster

(1) **brilliance** of diamond, (2) economic **brilliance**

The scientist's **brilliance** led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.

foresight

n. the ability to anticipate or predict future events or outcomes; the act of planning for the future with wisdom and prudence; an intuitive sense of what is to come

synonym : prescience, prediction, clairvoyance

(1) strategic **foresight**, (2) **foresight** planning

With **foresight**, she made a plan to avoid any potential obstacles.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym : pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus

Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

lancet

n. a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures

synonym: scalpel, blade, surgical instrument

(1) **lancet** device, (2) surgical **lancet**

The doctor used a **lancet** for a small incision on the patient's skin.

fluke

n. a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence

synonym: chance, accident, stroke of luck

(1) lucky **fluke**, (2) **fluke** accident

Winning the lottery was just a **fluke**; I didn't expect it to happen.

spook

v. to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost

synonym: frighten, scare, discomfort

(1) **spook** the fish, (2) **spook** the children

The bankruptcy of that company **spooked** markets.

misunderstand

v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

synonym: misinterpret, misperceive, misapprehend

(1) **misunderstand** each other, (2) **misunderstand** entirely about her

You should not **misunderstand** the meaning of freedom.

petunia

n. a type of flowering plant, often grown in gardens or as houseplants, that has trumpet-shaped flowers in a variety of colors

(1) **petunia** flower, (2) plant **petunia**

I planted a row of bright pink **petunias** along the edge of my garden to add some color and cheer.

vertebrate

adj. relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians,

and fish

synonym: animal, chordate, backbone

(1) the muscle tissue of a **vertebrate**, (2) **vertebrate** biology

The presence of a backbone is a defining characteristic of **vertebrate** animals.

landmass

n. a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota

synonym: continent, mainland, landform

(1) large **landmass**, (2) continental **landmass**

Australia is the world's smallest continent by **landmass**.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned

synonym: later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

improbable

adj. not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring

synonym: unlikely, doubtful, implausible

(1) **improbable** story, (2) **improbable** event

It is **improbable** that we will find a solution to this problem overnight.

wield

v. to possess and exercise power, authority, etc

synonym: exert, manage, handle

(1) **wield** her authority, (2) **wield** a bad influence

They **wielded** enormous power and influence.

paintbrush

n. a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle

synonym: brush, bristle brush, artist's brush

(1) **paintbrush** stroke, (2) **paintbrush** icon

She used a flat **paintbrush** to apply the final touches to the

artwork.

varnish

n. a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry

(1) **varnish** oil, (2) fast-acting **varnish**

This **varnish** provides a long-lasting and durable gloss finish.

Martian

adj. of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants

(1) **Martian** geography, (2) **Martian** surface

There is very little water in the **Martian** atmosphere.

puzzled

adj. confused or uncertain because you do not understand something

synonym: confused, perplexed, bewildered

(1) **puzzled** expression, (2) **puzzled** by the question

She was **puzzled** by the strange behavior of her cat.

mecca

n. a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam

synonym: cynosure, center

(1) tourist **mecca**, (2) **mecca** for surfers

The building has become a **mecca** for fans of the movie.

amaze

v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

synonym: astound, surprise, stagger

(1) **amaze** and entertain visitors, (2) **amaze** everyone

The magician's tricks **amazed** the audience.

perpetuate

v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time

synonym: eternalize, preserve, maintain

(1) **perpetuate** a myth, (2) **perpetuate** chronic pain

That work **perpetuates** his fame.

parasite

n. an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense

synonym: hitchhiker, leech, saprophyte

(1) blood-sucking **parasite**, (2) **parasite** disease
Tapeworms are **parasites** that live in the intestines of humans and animals.

fearless

adj. having no fear; brave
synonym: brave, courageous, daring

(1) **fearless** attitude, (2) **fearless** bravery

The **fearless** firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child.

hijack

v. to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence

synonym: commandeer, seize, pirate

(1) **hijack** a helicopter, (2) **hijack** a phone number

He made a desperate effort to **hijack** an airliner.

parchment

n. a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface

synonym: vellum, sheepskin, goatskin

(1) **parchment** scroll, (2) ancient **parchment**

The ancient scroll was written on **parchment** and carefully preserved in a museum.

bookstall

n. a stall or stand in a public place, such as a market or train station, where books are sold

synonym: bookstand, book booth, bookshop

(1) **bookstall** owner, (2) second-hand **bookstall**

The station **bookstall** displayed various books, from bestsellers to rare finds.

sow

v. to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion

synonym: plant, scatter, seed

(1) **sow** wheat in a field, (2) **sow** discord

She carefully **sowed** the seeds in the garden.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym : Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

insincere

adj. not expressing or showing true feelings; not genuine or honest; lacking sincerity or authenticity

synonym : dishonest, false, fake

(1) with an **insincere** smile, (2) **insincere** flattery

His **insincere** apology didn't convince anyone.

astronomical

adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

synonym : huge, vast, enormous

(1) **astronomical** observation, (2) **astronomical** numbers

The cost of the new equipment was **astronomical** and beyond the company's budget.

sentimental

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

synonym : bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage

Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

cosmos

n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system

synonym : universe, macrocosm

(1) exploration of **cosmos**, (2) origin of the **cosmos**

Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the **cosmos**.

facet

n. one of the many aspects or sides of a subject or situation, especially when seen from different angles or perspectives; a particular feature or characteristic of

something

synonym: aspect, side, angle

(1) **facet** to a question, (2) important **facet**

The different **facets** of his personality make him a complex individual.

creationist

n. a person who believes in the literal interpretation of religious texts, particularly the Bible, and holds that the universe and living things were created by a divine or supernatural force rather than through natural processes

(1) **creationist** claim, (2) **creationist** theory

The old-earth **creationist** believed God created the universe and all life on earth.

irrigate

v. to supply water to land to help plants grow

synonym: water, drench, soak

(1) **irrigate** fields, (2) **irrigate** the flowers and plants

The water shortage in the region has made it difficult for farmers to **irrigate** their crops.

discotheque

n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance

synonym: nightclub, dance club, disco

(1) **discotheque** party, (2) **discotheque** scene

He couldn't wait to hit the **discotheque** and dance the night away.

factoid

n. something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true

(1) an attention-grabbing **factoid**, (2) wacky **factoid**

We talked about an interesting **factoid** in today's newspaper.

anthropology

n. the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

(1) social **anthropology**, (2) **anthropology** of religion
The areas of **anthropology** and psychology are significantly related to one another.

hardwired

adj. built-in or innate, often referring to behavior or traits that are instinctive or automatic, as if pre-programmed in the brain or genetics

synonym: innate, ingrained, automatic

(1) **hardwired** behavior, (2) **hardwired** connection

The instinct to protect one's offspring is **hardwired** into many animal species.

disarm

v. to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary

synonym: demilitarize, neutralize

(1) **disarm** opponents, (2) **disarm** a bomb

The police were able to **disarm** the suspect without any violence.

disciple

n. a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others

synonym: student, follower, apprentice

(1) enthusiastic **disciple**, (2) **disciple** of Buddha

He became a **disciple** of a well-known spiritual leader.

baptize

v. to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)

synonym: purify, immerse

(1) **baptize** a baby, (2) **baptize** with water

The priest **baptized** my father on his deathbed.

engulf

v. to swallow up; to surround and cover completely

synonym: swallow, submerge, inundate

(1) **engulf** the politician, (2) **engulf** in water

The fire quickly **engulfed** the entire building.

meme

n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

synonym: buzzword, trend

(1) pronounce **meme**, (2) religious **meme**

This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet **meme**.

guise

n. the outward appearance or aspect of someone or something, especially in a way that is different from usual or concealing the true nature

synonym: appearance, pretense, masquerade

(1) in the **guise** of a woman, (2) under the **guise** of friendship

They operated an illegal business under the **guise** of an employment agency.

atheist

n. a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities

synonym: nonbeliever, unbeliever, secularist

(1) **atheist** community, (2) **atheist** belief

She was an **atheist** without any belief in a higher power.

agnostic

n. a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god

synonym: skeptic, doubter, unbeliever

(1) **agnostic** world-view, (2) **agnostic** position

Her scientific background led her to be **agnostic** about the existence of a higher power.

sanctity

n. the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate

importance or reverence attributed to something

synonym : holiness, sacredness, purity

(1) **sanctity** of life, (2) violate the **sanctity**

The **sanctity** of human life is a fundamental principle of many religions.

extinct

adj. no longer in existence

synonym : dead, obsolete, abolished

(1) **extinct** by human activity, (2) long- **extinct** volcano

Many species have become **extinct** due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pai_____sh icon
n. a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle
2. bri_____ce of diamond
n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
3. humorous do_____el
n. verse or poetry that is poorly written or of low literary quality, often characterized by forced rhymes, simplistic language, and awkward or amateurish phrasing
4. con_____nt thinking
adj. tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge
5. ha_____ed behavior
adj. built-in or innate, often referring to behavior or traits that are instinctive or automatic, as if pre-programmed in the brain or genetics
6. ant_____ogy of religion
n. the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
7. in the gu__e of a woman
n. the outward appearance or aspect of someone or something, especially in a way that is different from usual or concealing the true nature

ANSWERS: 1. paintbrush, 2. brilliance, 3. doggerel, 4. convergent, 5. hardwired, 6. anthropology, 7. guise

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|----------------------------------|---|
| 8. an attention-grabbing fa____d | <i>n.</i> something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true |
| 9. fl__e accident | <i>n.</i> a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence |
| 10. sexual pr____ors | <i>n.</i> an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others |
| 11. important fa__t | <i>n.</i> one of the many aspects or sides of a subject or situation, especially when seen from different angles or perspectives; a particular feature or characteristic of something |
| 12. at____t community | <i>n.</i> a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities |
| 13. fast-acting va____h | <i>n.</i> a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry |
| 14. suspect a h__x | <i>n.</i> a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank |
| 15. hi___k a helicopter | <i>v.</i> to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence |
| 16. earliest human an____or | <i>n.</i> a person from whom one is descended; a forefather |
| 17. au____s skeleton | <i>n.</i> an extinct species of wild oxen that inhabited Europe, Asia, and North Africa until the 17th century |

ANSWERS: 8. factoid, 9. fluke, 10. predator, 11. facet, 12. atheist, 13. varnish, 14. hoax, 15. hijack, 16. ancestor, 17. aurochs

18. en___f in water *v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
19. g__e him with a weapon *v.* to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound
20. pa_____nt scroll *n.* a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface
21. fa_____te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
22. st_____d duties *n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
23. tot_____ian ideology *adj.* of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power
24. ect_____ont relationships *n.* an organism that lives on the surface or exterior of another organism, typically in a mutually beneficial relationship
25. con_____nt beam *adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge
26. fa__t to a question *n.* one of the many aspects or sides of a subject or situation, especially when seen from different angles or perspectives; a particular feature or characteristic of something

ANSWERS: 18. engulf, 19. gore, 20. parchment, 21. fascinate, 22. steward, 23. totalitarian, 24. ectosymbiont, 25. convergent, 26. facet

27. di____le of Buddha *n.* a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others
28. hi___k a phone number *v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence
29. el_____nt writing *adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively
30. social ant_____ogy *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
31. di___m opponents *v.* to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
32. mis_____and each other *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
33. am___e everyone *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
34. in___t other animal species *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
35. bo_____ll owner *n.* a stall or stand in a public place, such as a market or train station, where books are sold
36. tot_____ian state *adj.* of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power

ANSWERS: 27. disciple, 28. hijack, 29. eloquent, 30. anthropology, 31. disarm, 32. misunderstand, 33. amaze, 34. infect, 35. bookstall, 36. totalitarian

37. st____d service
n. a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
38. pu____d expression
adj. confused or uncertain because you do not understand something
39. strategic fo_____ht
n. the ability to anticipate or predict future events or outcomes; the act of planning for the future with wisdom and prudence; an intuitive sense of what is to come
40. a few years af_____rd
adv. after the time mentioned
41. Ma_____n surface
adj. of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
42. imp_____le story
adj. not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring
43. ex_____t by human activity
adj. no longer in existence
44. ast_____cal numbers
adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
45. ser_____ty discovery
n. the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
46. teaching of Ch____t
n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

ANSWERS: 37. steward, 38. puzzled, 39. foresight, 40. afterward, 41. Martian, 42. improbable, 43. extinct, 44. astronomical, 45. serendipity, 46. Christ

47. s_w wheat in a field *v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
48. extinct au____s *n.* an extinct species of wild oxen that inhabited Europe, Asia, and North Africa until the 17th century
49. second-hand bo_____ll *n.* a stall or stand in a public place, such as a market or train station, where books are sold
50. at_____t belief *n.* a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities
51. lucky fl__e *n.* a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence
52. fe_____ss attitude *adj.* having no fear; brave
53. in a sen_____al mood *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
54. di___m a bomb *v.* to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
55. religious m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

ANSWERS: 47. sow, 48. aurochs, 49. bookstall, 50. atheist, 51. fluke, 52. fearless, 53. sentimental, 54. disarm, 55. meme

56. ser_____ty moment *n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
57. sh_____rd boy *n.* a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area
58. pe_____a flower *n.* a type of flowering plant, often grown in gardens or as houseplants, that has trumpet-shaped flowers in a variety of colors
59. g__e scene *v.* to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound
60. origin of the co____s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
61. dis_____ue scene *n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
62. Ma_____n geography *adj.* of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
63. ir_____te fields *v.* to supply water to land to help plants grow
64. civil lib_____an *n.* a person who believes that people should be free to think and behave as they want and the government should only have a minimal level of control, and a person who advocates those beliefs
65. pa_____te disease *n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense

ANSWERS: 56. serendipity, 57. shepherd, 58. petunia, 59. gore, 60. cosmos, 61. discotheque, 62. Martian, 63. irrigate, 64. libertarian, 65. parasite

66. political sy_____sm *n.* the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities, especially in art and literature; an artistic movement in the late 19th century that tried to express abstract or mystical ideas through the symbolic use of images
67. an_____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
68. large la_____ss *n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota
69. pronounce m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
70. cl_____ss in many ways *adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation
71. mis_____and entirely about her *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
72. sheep without a sh_____rd *n.* a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area
73. the Ca_____ic Church *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

ANSWERS: 66. symbolism, 67. ancestor, 68. landmass, 69. meme, 70. clueless, 71. misunderstand, 72. shepherd, 73. Catholic

74. ag____ic world-view *n.* a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god
75. ca____ic in his tastes *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
76. imp_____le event *adj.* not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring
77. cl_____ss about the situation *adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation
78. the muscle tissue of a ver_____te *adj.* relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish
79. lib_____an group *n.* a person who believes that people should be free to think and behave as they want and the government should only have a minimal level of control, and a person who advocates those beliefs
80. enthusiastic di_____le *n.* a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others
81. ancient pa_____nt *n.* a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface
82. marine ect_____ont *n.* an organism that lives on the surface or exterior of another organism, typically in a mutually beneficial relationship

ANSWERS: 74. agnostic, 75. Catholic, 76. improbable, 77. clueless, 78. vertebrate, 79. libertarian, 80. disciple, 81. parchment, 82. ectosymbiont

83. fa_____te the young *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
84. per_____te chronic pain *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
85. per_____te a myth *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
86. me__a for surfers *n.* a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam
87. cre_____st theory *n.* a person who believes in the literal interpretation of religious texts, particularly the Bible, and holds that the universe and living things were created by a divine or supernatural force rather than through natural processes
88. apex pr_____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
89. va_____h oil *n.* a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry
90. be_____k geology *n.* the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium
91. sp__k the children *v.* to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost
92. pai_____sh stroke *n.* a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle
93. be_____k foundation *n.* the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

ANSWERS: 83. fascinate, 84. perpetuate, 85. perpetuate, 86. mecca, 87. creationist, 88. predator, 89. varnish, 90. bedrock, 91. spook, 92. paintbrush, 93. bedrock

94. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
95. with an in_____re smile *adj.* not expressing or showing true feelings; not genuine or honest; lacking sincerity or authenticity
96. dis_____ue party *n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
97. la____t device *n.* a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures
98. continental la_____ss *n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota
99. def_____le decision *adj.* able to be defended or justified; justifiable or reasonable; capable of withstanding attack or criticism
100. surgical la____t *n.* a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures
101. in____t a computer with a virus *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
102. sp__k the fish *v.* to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost
103. economic bri_____ce *n.* the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
104. ag_____ic position *n.* a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god

ANSWERS: 94. afterward, 95. insincere, 96. discotheque, 97. lancet, 98. landmass, 99. defensible, 100. lancet, 101. infect, 102. spook, 103. brilliance, 104. agnostic

105. ver_____te biology *adj.* relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish
106. before Ch____t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
107. blood-sucking pa_____te *n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
108. tourist me__a *n.* a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam
109. bri_____ly lit *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
110. long-ex_____t volcano *adj.* no longer in existence
111. bri_____ly executed *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
112. fe_____ss bravery *adj.* having no fear; brave
113. ir_____te the flowers and plants *v.* to supply water to land to help plants grow
114. violate the sa_____ty *n.* the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate importance or reverence attributed to something
115. wacky fa_____d *n.* something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true

ANSWERS: 105. vertebrate, 106. Christ, 107. parasite, 108. mecca, 109. brilliantly, 110. extinct, 111. brilliantly, 112. fearless, 113. irrigate, 114. sanctity, 115. factoid

116. ba_____e a baby *v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
117. ba_____e with water *v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
118. wi____d a bad influence *v.* to possess and exercise power, authority, etc
119. pu_____d by the question *adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something
120. ast_____cal observation *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
121. silly do_____el *n.* verse or poetry that is poorly written or of low literary quality, often characterized by forced rhymes, simplistic language, and awkward or amateurish phrasing
122. ha_____ed connection *adj.* built-in or innate, often referring to behavior or traits that are instinctive or automatic, as if pre-programmed in the brain or genetics
123. plant pe_____a *n.* a type of flowering plant, often grown in gardens or as houseplants, that has trumpet-shaped flowers in a variety of colors
124. fo_____ht planning *n.* the ability to anticipate or predict future events or outcomes; the act of planning for the future with wisdom and prudence; an intuitive sense of what is to come

ANSWERS: 116. baptize, 117. baptize, 118. wield, 119. puzzled, 120. astronomical, 121. doggerel, 122. hardwired, 123. petunia, 124. foresight

125. an el_____nt speaker *adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively
126. en____f the politician *v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
127. def_____le fort *adj.* able to be defended or justified; justifiable or reasonable; capable of withstanding attack or criticism
128. cre_____st claim *n.* a person who believes in the literal interpretation of religious texts, particularly the Bible, and holds that the universe and living things were created by a divine or supernatural force rather than through natural processes
129. sa_____ty of life *n.* the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate importance or reverence attributed to something
130. easy to dom_____te *v.* to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company
131. the sy_____sm of the event *n.* the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities, especially in art and literature; an artistic movement in the late 19th century that tried to express abstract or mystical ideas through the symbolic use of images
132. sen_____al damage *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
133. dom_____te the plant *v.* to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company

ANSWERS: 125. eloquent, 126. engulf, 127. defensible, 128. creationist, 129. sanctity, 130. domesticate, 131. symbolism, 132. sentimental, 133. domesticate

134. in_____re flattery *adj.* not expressing or showing true feelings; not genuine or honest; lacking sincerity or authenticity
135. exploration of co____s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
136. h__x email *n.* a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank
137. wi__d her authority *v.* to possess and exercise power, authority, etc
138. under the gu__e of friendship *n.* the outward appearance or aspect of someone or something, especially in a way that is different from usual or concealing the true nature
139. am__e and entertain visitors *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
140. s_w discord *v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion

ANSWERS: 134. insincere, 135. cosmos, 136. hoax, 137. wield, 138. guise, 139. amaze, 140. sow

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The government was criticized for having a _____ regime.
adj. of or relating to a system of government in which a single political party has complete control and power
2. Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the _____.
n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
3. The cost of the new equipment was _____ and beyond the company's budget.
adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
4. We _____ cows to gain milk and meat.
v. to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company
5. It is _____ that we will find a solution to this problem overnight.
adj. not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring
6. The water shortage in the region has made it difficult for farmers to _____ their crops.
v. to supply water to land to help plants grow
7. He couldn't wait to hit the _____ and dance the night away.
n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance

ANSWERS: 1. totalitarian, 2. cosmos, 3. astronomical, 4. domesticate, 5. improbable, 6. irrigate, 7. discotheque

8. She carefully _____ the seeds in the garden.
v. to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
9. The building has become a _____ for fans of the movie.
n. a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam
10. The doctor used a _____ for a small incision on the patient's skin.
n. a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures
11. The newspaper article was revealed to be a _____.
n. a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank
12. She was _____ by the strange behavior of her cat.
adj. confused or uncertain because you do not understand something
13. The scientist's _____ led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.
n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
14. The instinct to protect one's offspring is _____ into many animal species.
adj. built-in or innate, often referring to behavior or traits that are instinctive or automatic, as if pre-programmed in the brain or genetics
15. The different _____ of his personality make him a complex individual.
n. one of the many aspects or sides of a subject or situation, especially when seen from different angles or perspectives; a particular feature or characteristic of something

ANSWERS: 8. sowed, 9. mecca, 10. lancet, 11. hoax, 12. puzzled, 13. brilliance, 14. hardwired, 15. facets

16. The discovery of penicillin was a result of _____.
- n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
17. The police were able to _____ the suspect without any violence.
- v.* to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
18. The _____ on the fish helps to clean its skin and protect it from parasites.
- n.* an organism that lives on the surface or exterior of another organism, typically in a mutually beneficial relationship
19. He played the piano _____ at the concert.
- adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
20. The lawyer argued that his client's actions were _____ given the circumstances.
- adj.* able to be defended or justified; justifiable or reasonable; capable of withstanding attack or criticism
21. Tapeworms are _____ that live in the intestines of humans and animals.
- n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
22. The presence of a backbone is a defining characteristic of _____ animals.
- adj.* relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish
23. The magic tricks _____ the children.
- v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

ANSWERS: 16. serendipity, 17. disarm, 18. ectosymbiont, 19. brilliantly, 20. defensible, 21. parasites, 22. vertebrate, 23. fascinated

24. Australia is the world's smallest continent by _____.
- n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota
25. They operated an illegal business under the _____ of an employment agency.
- n.* the outward appearance or aspect of someone or something, especially in a way that is different from usual or concealing the true nature
26. The _____ firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child.
- adj.* having no fear; brave
27. I planted a row of bright pink _____ along the edge of my garden to add some color and cheer.
- n.* a type of flowering plant, often grown in gardens or as houseplants, that has trumpet-shaped flowers in a variety of colors
28. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.
- adv.* after the time mentioned
29. This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet _____.
- n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
30. You should not _____ the meaning of freedom.
- v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
31. With _____ she made a plan to avoid any potential obstacles.
- n.* the ability to anticipate or predict future events or outcomes; the act of planning for the future with wisdom and prudence; an intuitive sense of what is to come

ANSWERS: 24. landmass, 25. guise, 26. fearless, 27. petunias, 28. afterward, 29. meme, 30. misunderstand, 31. foresight,

32. The priest _____ my father on his deathbed.
- v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
33. The fire quickly _____ the entire building.
- v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
34. The similarities between the two cultures suggest _____ evolution.
- adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge
35. Western liberal democracy serves as the foundation for the _____ philosophy of the media.
- n.* a person who believes that people should be free to think and behave as they want and the government should only have a minimal level of control, and a person who advocates those beliefs
36. The ancient scroll was written on _____ and carefully preserved in a museum.
- n.* a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface
37. He became a _____ of a well-known spiritual leader.
- n.* a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others
38. The _____ dog helped keep the sheep in line and protect them from predators.
- n.* a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area

ANSWERS: 32. baptized, 33. engulfed, 34. convergent, 35. libertarian, 36. parchment, 37. disciple, 38. shepherd's

39. She was completely _____ as to how to solve the problem.

adj. lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

40. He made a desperate effort to _____ an airliner.

v. to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence

41. The poet was embarrassed by the poor quality of his _____.

n. verse or poetry that is poorly written or of low literary quality, often characterized by forced rhymes, simplistic language, and awkward or amateurish phrasing

42. The station _____ displayed various books, from bestsellers to rare finds.

n. a stall or stand in a public place, such as a market or train station, where books are sold

43. There is very little water in the _____ atmosphere.

adj. of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants

44. The _____ in the painting was rich and complex, with many layers of meaning.

n. the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities, especially in art and literature; an artistic movement in the late 19th century that tried to express abstract or mystical ideas through the symbolic use of images

45. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

ANSWERS: 39. clueless, 40. hijack, 41. doggerel, 42. bookstall, 43. Martian, 44. symbolism, 45. Christmas

46. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.
v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
47. The cave paintings in Lascaux depict _____ and other animals that were once native to Europe.
n. an extinct species of wild oxen that inhabited Europe, Asia, and North Africa until the 17th century
48. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.
n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
49. The magician's tricks _____ the audience.
v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
50. The bankruptcy of that company _____ markets.
v. to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost
51. We talked about an interesting _____ in today's newspaper.
n. something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true
52. His _____ apology didn't convince anyone.
adj. not expressing or showing true feelings; not genuine or honest; lacking sincerity or authenticity
53. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.
adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

ANSWERS: 46. infect, 47. aurochs, 48. ancestor, 49. amazed, 50. spooked, 51. factoid, 52. insincere, 53. catholic

54. She was an _____ without any belief in a higher power.
n. a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities
55. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
56. Many species have become _____ due to habitat destruction and other human activities.
adj. no longer in existence
57. The hunter _____ the deer with an arrow.
v. to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound
58. Her scientific background led her to be _____ about the existence of a higher power.
n. a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god
59. The _____ of human life is a fundamental principle of many religions.
n. the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate importance or reverence attributed to something
60. The areas of _____ and psychology are significantly related to one another.
n. the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
61. She used a flat _____ to apply the final touches to the artwork.
n. a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle

ANSWERS: 54. atheist, 55. predator's, 56. extinct, 57. gored, 58. agnostic, 59. sanctity, 60. anthropology, 61. paintbrush

62. They _____ enormous power and influence.

v. to possess and exercise power, authority, etc

63. This _____ provides a long-lasting and durable gloss finish.

n. a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry

64. That work _____ his fame.

v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time

65. Winning the lottery was just a _____ I didn't expect it to happen.

n. a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence

66. Stop being _____ and always speak the truth.

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

67. The _____ on the flight was very helpful in assisting passengers with their needs.

n. a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

68. She gave an _____ speech at the graduation ceremony.

adj. able to speak or write clearly and impressively

69. The _____ beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.

n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

ANSWERS: 62. wielded, 63. varnish, 64. perpetuates, 65. fluke;, 66. sentimental, 67. steward, 68. eloquent, 69. bedrock

70. The old-earth _____ believed God created the universe and all life on earth.
- n.* a person who believes in the literal interpretation of religious texts, particularly the Bible, and holds that the universe and living things were created by a divine or supernatural force rather than through natural processes

ANSWERS: 70. creationist