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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jim VandeHei: How to write less but say more | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

rethink

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

distracted

adj. having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried

synonym: preoccupied, inattentive, absent-minded

(1) get **distracted** by an urgent matter, (2) **distracted** by a conversation

I was so **distracted** by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.

agonize

v. to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying

synonym : disturb, excruciate, lament

(1) **agonize** pain, (2) **agonize** about financing

He **agonized** over whether to accept the job offer.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym : consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

creepy

adj. causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease

synonym : eerie, unsettling, spooky

(1) feel **creepy**, (2) **creepy** atmosphere

The old, abandoned house was **creepy** and gave me the chills.

skim

v. to read something quickly to get a general idea of its contents; to remove any unwanted or unnecessary material from the surface of a liquid; to glide smoothly or briefly over a surface

synonym : glance, scan, skitter

(1) **skim** off the top, (2) **skim** the surface of the water

I like to **skim** the newspaper headlines in the morning to catch up on the news.

paginate

v. to arrange printed material in consecutive pages; to number or mark the pages of a document or publication

synonym : number, index

(1) **paginate** content, (2) **paginate** a book

I need to **paginate** this lengthy document to make it easier for readers to navigate.

perpetual

adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted

synonym : enduring, unchanging, incessant

(1) **perpetual** motion machine, (2) **perpetual** struggle

The company employs a **perpetual** inventory system.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict

Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

android

n. a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system

synonym : droid, cyborg

(1) household **android**, (2) **Android** tablet

The lab is developing an **android** robot that assists in dangerous construction work.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym : suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym : surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

applaud

v. to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands

synonym : clap, celebrate, praise

(1) **applaud** his courage, (2) **applaud** the orchestra

I enthusiastically **applaud** my rival's achievement.

babble

n. the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech

synonym: drivel, gabble, gibberish

(1) the **babble** of a crowd, (2) mindless **babble**

Please avoid using excessive jargon or too much technological **babble**.

rewire

v. to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns

synonym: rewire, renovate, upgrade

(1) **rewire** a house, (2) **rewire** a program

I need to **rewire** the faulty electrical system in my house to prevent a fire.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym: divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

multitasking

n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

synonym: juggling, multihandling, parallelism

(1) computer **multitasking**, (2) **multitasking** ability

She could finish all her work on time because of her **multitasking** skills.

awash

adj. flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive

synonym: flooded, inundated, immersed

(1) **awash** with cash, (2) **awash** in debt

The beach was **awash** with seaweed after the storm.

tweet

n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym : peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**

We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

slack

adj. lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude

synonym : loose, lax, floppy

(1) a **slack** rope, (2) **slack** performance

The team's **slack** attitude towards deadlines caused the project to fall behind schedule.

peck

v. to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble

synonym : beak, nibble, pick

(1) **peck** on the cheek, (2) **peck** at feed

The wood **pecker** would peck at the tree high up in the branches.

brevity

n. the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time

synonym : briefness, shortness, conciseness

(1) for the sake of **brevity**, (2) **brevity** of life

Unnecessary information has been omitted for **brevity**.

humanly

adv. in a way that is characteristic of or relating to human beings; in a way that is possible for humans to achieve or accomplish

synonym : physically, mundanely, practically

(1) **humanly** possible, (2) **humanly** acceptable

It is **humanly** difficult to understand why some people choose to harm others for no reason

vomit

v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach

through the mouth

synonym : puke, throw up, spew

(1) **vomit** abuse, (2) **vomit** after ingesting

She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to **vomit**.

meander

v. to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road

synonym : wander, zigzag, twist

(1) **meander** down the river, (2) **meander** aimlessly

We decided to **meander** through the park and enjoy the scenery.

trump

n. a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

(1) **trump** card, (2) choose **trump**

The **trump** suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.

enamored

adj. deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for

synonym : captivated, smitten, in love

(1) **enamored** of the idea, (2) **enamored** of bygone days

He had been **enamored** with her since the first time he saw her.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym : coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

frazzle

v. to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (noun) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork

synonym :

exhaust, wear out, (noun) fatigue

(1) **frazzle** my nerves, (2) **frazzle-free** hair

The long hours of studying for the exam **frazzled** my brain.

indulgent

adj. given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish

synonym : lavish, self-indulgent, excessive

(1) an **indulgent** father, (2) **indulgent** lifestyle

The rich and **indulgent** dessert was worth every calorie.

manifesto

n. a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions

synonym : declaration, proclamation, statement

(1) **manifesto** statement, (2) environmental **manifesto**

The political party issued a **manifesto** outlining its plans for the country's future.

papal

adj. relating to the pope (= the head of the Roman Catholic Church) or the Roman Catholic Church

synonym : pontifical, papistic, apostolical

(1) **papal** authority, (2) **papal** visit

The **papal** palace was a grand and imposing structure.

homily

n. a sermon or discourse that offers moral or spiritual advice or instruction; a moralistic lecture or speech

synonym : sermon, lecture, discourse

(1) **homily** on forgiveness, (2) listen to a **homily**

The priest gave a heartfelt **homily** during the Sunday service.

applause

n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

synonym : clapping, cheering, acclaim

(1) round of **applause**, (2) earn **applause**

The **applause** burst from the audience.

- nun** *n.* a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community
synonym: sister, religious, monastic
(1) **nun** habit, (2) meditating **nun**
The cloistered **nun** devoted her life to serving the poor and marginalized.
- elongate** *v.* to extend something in length; to lengthen, stretch out, or to make longer
synonym: stretch, lengthen, extend
(1) **elongate** muscles, (2) **elongate** a dress
The yoga instructor told us to **elongate** our spines during the practice.
- prevaricate** *v.* to speak or act in an evasive, vague, or misleading way; to deliberately avoid telling the whole truth or making a direct statement
synonym: equivocate, deceive, lie
(1) **prevaricate** about the issue, (2) **prevaricate** in response
Instead of giving a straight answer, the suspect continued to **prevaricate** during the police interrogation.
- stiffen** *v.* to make or become stiff or rigid; to become inflexible or unyielding in one's attitude or behavior
synonym: harden, solidify, tense
(1) **stiffen** joints, (2) **stiffen** penalties
The cold weather made my muscles **stiffen** up.
- acronym** *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
synonym: abbreviation, initialism, shortcut
(1) **acronym** definition, (2) use an **acronym**
RADAR is an **acronym** for radio detection and ranging.

wordy

adj. using more words than necessary to express an idea;
overly verbose or long-winded in speech or writing

synonym: verbose, worded, tedious

(1) **wordy** sentence, (2) cut down on **wordy** phrases

His writing style is very **wordy**, making it difficult to understand the point he is trying to make.

Session 2: Spelling

1. st____n penalties v. to make or become stiff or rigid; to become inflexible or unyielding in one's attitude or behavior
2. re____k a marketing plan v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
3. fr____e-free hair v. to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (noun) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork
4. cr____y atmosphere *adj.* causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease
5. sma____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
6. round of ap____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
7. pre____te in response v. to speak or act in an evasive, vague, or misleading way; to deliberately avoid telling the whole truth or making a direct statement
8. en____ed of bygone days *adj.* deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
9. vo__t after ingesting v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

ANSWERS: 1. stiffen, 2. rethink, 3. frazzle, 4. creepy, 5. smartphone, 6. applause, 7. prevaricate, 8. enamored, 9. vomit

10. for the sake of br____y *n.* the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time
11. sl__k performance *adj.* lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude
12. his latest tw__ts *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
13. wo__y sentence *adj.* using more words than necessary to express an idea; overly verbose or long-winded in speech or writing
14. ast____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
15. me____r down the river *v.* to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road
16. hu____y acceptable *adv.* in a way that is characteristic of or relating to human beings; in a way that is possible for humans to achieve or accomplish
17. household an____d *n.* a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
18. s__m off the top *v.* to read something quickly to get a general idea of its contents; to remove any unwanted or unnecessary material from the surface of a liquid; to glide smoothly or briefly over a surface
19. pa__l visit *adj.* relating to the pope (= the head of the Roman Catholic Church) or the Roman Catholic Church

ANSWERS: 10. brevity, 11. slack, 12. tweet, 13. wordy, 14. astonishing, 15. meander, 16. humanly, 17. android, 18. skim, 19. papal

20. n_n habit *n.* a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community
21. ag____e pain *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
22. choose tr__p *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
23. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
24. en_____ed of the idea *adj.* deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
25. re_____k the role of the manager *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
26. aw__h with cash *adj.* flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive
27. serial qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
28. an in_____nt father *adj.* given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish
29. st_____n joints *v.* to make or become stiff or rigid; to become inflexible or unyielding in one's attitude or behavior
30. tr__p card *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

ANSWERS: 20. nun, 21. agonize, 22. trump, 23. medicinal, 24. enamored, 25. rethink, 26. awash, 27. quitter, 28. indulgent, 29. stiffen, 30. trump

31. di_____ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
32. el_____te muscles *v.* to extend something in length; to lengthen, stretch out, or to make longer
33. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
34. br_____y of life *n.* the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time
35. re___e a program *v.* to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns
36. fr_____e my nerves *v.* to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (*n.*) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork
37. An_____d tablet *n.* a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
38. ac_____m definition *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
39. dis_____ed by a conversation *adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried

ANSWERS: 31. distract, 32. elongate, 33. quitter, 34. brevity, 35. rewire, 36. frazzle, 37. android, 38. acronym, 39. distracted

40. ap____d the orchestra *v.* to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands
41. aw__h in debt *adj.* flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive
42. a chick's tw__t *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
43. the ba____e of a crowd *n.* the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech
44. me____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
45. pa__l authority *adj.* relating to the pope (= the head of the Roman Catholic Church) or the Roman Catholic Church
46. pe____al struggle *adj.* continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
47. feel cr____y *adj.* causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease
48. de____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
49. pa____te content *v.* to arrange printed material in consecutive pages; to number or mark the pages of a document or publication

ANSWERS: 40. applaud, 41. awash, 42. tweet, 43. babble, 44. medicinal, 45. papal, 46. perpetual, 47. creepy, 48. dedicate, 49. paginate

50. a sl__k rope *adj.* lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude
51. earn ap____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
52. vo__t abuse *v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth
53. meditating n_n *n.* a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community
54. mul_____ing ability *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
55. s__m the surface of the water *v.* to read something quickly to get a general idea of its contents; to remove any unwanted or unnecessary material from the surface of a liquid; to glide smoothly or briefly over a surface
56. pre_____te about the issue *v.* to speak or act in an evasive, vague, or misleading way; to deliberately avoid telling the whole truth or making a direct statement
57. use an ac____m *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
58. ap____d his courage *v.* to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands

ANSWERS: 50. slack, 51. applause, 52. vomit, 53. nun, 54. multitasking, 55. skim, 56. prevaricate, 57. acronym, 58. applaud

59. re___e a house *v.* to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns
60. ho___y on forgiveness *n.* a sermon or discourse that offers moral or spiritual advice or instruction; a moralistic lecture or speech
61. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
62. computer mul_____ing *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
63. p__k at feed *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
64. pa_____te a book *v.* to arrange printed material in consecutive pages; to number or mark the pages of a document or publication
65. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
66. ag_____e about financing *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
67. di_____ct attention from the real issue *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
68. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

ANSWERS: 59. rewire, 60. homily, 61. opportune, 62. multitasking, 63. peck, 64. paginate, 65. opportune, 66. agonize, 67. distract, 68. astonishing

69. listen to a ho___y *n.* a sermon or discourse that offers moral or spiritual advice or instruction; a moralistic lecture or speech
70. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
71. get dis_____ed by an urgent matter *adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
72. cut down on wo___y phrases *adj.* using more words than necessary to express an idea; overly verbose or long-winded in speech or writing
73. p__k on the cheek *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
74. in_____nt lifestyle *adj.* given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish
75. el_____te a dress *v.* to extend something in length; to lengthen, stretch out, or to make longer
76. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
77. hu_____y possible *adv.* in a way that is characteristic of or relating to human beings; in a way that is possible for humans to achieve or accomplish
78. ma_____to statement *n.* a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions

ANSWERS: 69. homily, 70. dedicate, 71. distracted, 72. wordy, 73. peck, 74. indulgent, 75. elongate, 76. smartphone, 77. humanly, 78. manifesto

79. mindless ba___e *n.* the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech
80. environmental ma_____to *n.* a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions
81. me_____r aimlessly *v.* to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road
82. pe_____al motion machine *adj.* continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted

ANSWERS: 79. babble, 80. manifesto, 81. meander, 82. perpetual

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The long hours of studying for the exam _____ my brain.
 - v.* to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (noun) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork

2. The _____ burst from the audience.
 - n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

3. The beach was _____ with seaweed after the storm.
 - adj.* flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive

4. The company employs a _____ inventory system.
 - adj.* continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted

5. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
 - adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

6. The cold weather made my muscles _____ up.
 - v.* to make or become stiff or rigid; to become inflexible or unyielding in one's attitude or behavior

7. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
 - n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

ANSWERS: 1. frazzled, 2. applause, 3. awash, 4. perpetual, 5. medicinal, 6. stiffen, 7. smartphones

8. He _____ over whether to accept the job offer.
- v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
9. The priest gave a heartfelt _____ during the Sunday service.
- n.* a sermon or discourse that offers moral or spiritual advice or instruction; a moralistic lecture or speech
10. I was so _____ by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.
- adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
11. We have to _____ our company's product lineup for further growth.
- v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
12. I like to _____ the newspaper headlines in the morning to catch up on the news.
- v.* to read something quickly to get a general idea of its contents; to remove any unwanted or unnecessary material from the surface of a liquid; to glide smoothly or briefly over a surface
13. I need to _____ this lengthy document to make it easier for readers to navigate.
- v.* to arrange printed material in consecutive pages; to number or mark the pages of a document or publication
14. The yoga instructor told us to _____ our spines during the practice.
- v.* to extend something in length; to lengthen, stretch out, or to make longer
15. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.
- n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

ANSWERS: 8. agonized, 9. homily, 10. distracted, 11. rethink, 12. skim, 13. paginate, 14. elongate, 15. tweet

16. I enthusiastically _____ my rival's achievement.

v. to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands

17. We decided to _____ through the park and enjoy the scenery.

v. to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road

18. I need to _____ the faulty electrical system in my house to prevent a fire.

v. to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns

19. The rich and _____ dessert was worth every calorie.

adj. given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish

20. She could finish all her work on time because of her _____ skills.

n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

21. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

22. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

23. The cloistered ____ devoted her life to serving the poor and marginalized.

n. a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community

ANSWERS: 16. applaud, 17. meander, 18. rewire, 19. indulgent, 20. multitasking, 21. opportune, 22. distract, 23. nun

24. Please avoid using excessive jargon or too much technological _____.
- n.* the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech
25. The team's _____ attitude towards deadlines caused the project to fall behind schedule.
- adj.* lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude
26. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
- n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
27. The lab is developing an _____ robot that assists in dangerous construction work.
- n.* a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
28. Unnecessary information has been omitted for _____.
- n.* the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time
29. Instead of giving a straight answer, the suspect continued to _____ during the police interrogation.
- v.* to speak or act in an evasive, vague, or misleading way; to deliberately avoid telling the whole truth or making a direct statement
30. The _____ palace was a grand and imposing structure.
- adj.* relating to the pope (= the head of the Roman Catholic Church) or the Roman Catholic Church

ANSWERS: 24. babble, 25. slack, 26. quitter, 27. android, 28. brevity, 29. prevaricate, 30. papal

31. RADAR is an _____ for radio detection and ranging.

- n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

32. The wood_____ would peck at the tree high up in the branches.

- v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble

33. He _____ his life to helping others.

- v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

34. She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to _____.

- v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

35. It is _____ difficult to understand why some people choose to harm others for no reason

- adv.* in a way that is characteristic of or relating to human beings; in a way that is possible for humans to achieve or accomplish

36. His writing style is very _____ making it difficult to understand the point he is trying to make.

- adj.* using more words than necessary to express an idea; overly verbose or long-winded in speech or writing

37. The old, abandoned house was _____ and gave me the chills.

- adj.* causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease

ANSWERS: 31. acronym, 32. pecker, 33. dedicated, 34. vomit, 35. humanly, 36. wordy, 37. creepy

38. The _____ suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.
n. a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
39. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
40. He had been _____ with her since the first time he saw her.
adj. deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
41. The political party issued a _____ outlining its plans for the country's future.
n. a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions

ANSWERS: 38. trump, 39. astonishing, 40. enamored, 41. manifesto