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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Michael Schur: How ethics can help you make better decisions | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

animate

v. to make something full of interest and energy

synonym: invigorate, energize, enliven

(1) **animate** the body, (2) **animate** his soul

The positive attitude of the supervisor **animated** the discussion.

sitcom

n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format

synonym: comedy, TV show

(1) **sitcom** series, (2) popular **sitcom**

I love to watch **sitcoms** when I need a good laugh.

seduce

v. to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship

synonym: tempt, lure, entice

(1) **seduce** him into crime, (2) **seduce** her mind

He tried to **seduce** her with his charm and good looks.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment
The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

goofy

adj. silly or foolish

synonym: silly, crazy, dopey

(1) wore a **goofy** hat, (2) with a **goofy** expression
He made a **goofy** face as he recalled this morning's events.

rinse

v. to wash off soap or remaining dirt with clean water; to gargle your mouth and throat with mouthwash

synonym: wash out, flush, irrigate

(1) **rinse** out your mouth, (2) **rinse** the shampoo
Please **rinse** the soap off of those dishes well.

irritate

v. to annoy, provoke, or cause resentment or anger in someone; to inflame or make sore

synonym: annoy, vex, bother

(1) **irritate** skin, (2) **irritate** my partner
The sound of his chewing loudly **irritates** me during dinner.

fender

n. a barrier that surrounds the wheels of a vehicle to block splashing water or mud; a cushion-like device that reduces shock due to an impact

synonym: cover, bumper, cushion

(1) front **fender**, (2) vehicle **fender**
He had a **fender** bender last night.

rile

v. to make someone annoyed, irritated, or angry; to provoke or stir up strong emotions or responses

synonym: aggravate, provoke, irritate

(1) **rile** him up, (2) **rile** up controversy
The loud music and shouting **riled** up the crowd at the concert.

strained

adj. tight, tense, or stretched; under pressure or stress; characterized by a lack of ease or naturalness

synonym : tense, tight, forced

(1) **strained** relationship, (2) **strained** muscles

The musician's face showed a **strained** expression as he struggled to hit the high note.

crease

n. a line or mark made by folding or wrinkling a surface or material; a slight ridge or fold in fabric or paper caused by pressing or folding

synonym : fold, wrinkle, ridge

(1) **crease** in fabric, (2) deep **crease**

The shirt had a noticeable **crease** along the sleeve from being folded.

ding

v. to make a ringing, chiming, or knocking sound; to damage or dent a surface through impact or collision; (noun, Chinese) a type of ancient cooking vessel that was used for cooking, boiling, and steaming food

synonym : hit, smack, bump

(1) **ding** a bell, (2) **ding** a ling

I accidentally **dinged** my new car door in the parking lot.

dent

v. to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface

synonym : indent, depress, mark

(1) **dent** removal, (2) **dent** his pride

He acci **dentally** dented his car when he bumped into a tree.

pinpoint

v. to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

synonym : name, direct, identify

(1) **pinpoint** the problem, (2) **pinpoint** signs of manipulation

This radar quickly **pinpoints** the position of the enemy.

fury

n. intense and often violent anger

synonym : rage, wrath, ire

(1) market **fury**, (2) **fury** of the storm

The crowd's **fury** was palpable as they shouted and protested against the government's decision.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

categorical

adj. stating something as an absolute fact, without the possibility of doubt or exception; relating to or included in a category or categories

synonym : absolute, unconditional, unqualified

(1) **categorical** denial, (2) law of **categorical** judgment

She made a **categorical** statement that she would never eat sushi.

calamity

n. a serious event that causes damage, injury, or loss

synonym : disaster, tragedy, misfortune

(1) financial **calamity**, (2) a dire **calamity**

The earthquake was a major **calamity** that left many homeless.

generosity

n. the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely

synonym : goodness, hospitality, unselfishness

(1) act of **generosity**, (2) boundless **generosity**

He is remembered for his **generosity** and civilization.

imprecise

adj. not exact or accurate; not clearly stated or defined; lacking in specificity or detail

synonym : inaccurate, vague

(1) **imprecise** instructions, (2) **imprecise** language

The **imprecise** measurements led to erroneous results in the experiment.

utilitarianism

n. the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority

(1) individualistic **utilitarianism**, (2) institutional

utilitarianism

Utilitarianism focuses on results and consequences rather than rules.

shred

v. to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount

synonym: rip up, tear up, cut

(1) **shred** paper into little pieces, (2) **shred** lettuce for a salad

There is not a **shred** of evidence that he is guilty.

utilitarian

adj. designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious

synonym: functional, practical, pragmatic

(1) **utilitarian** design, (2) **utilitarian** economics

The kitchen is designed with a **utilitarian** approach, focusing on practicality rather than aesthetics.

obnoxious

adj. extremely unpleasant or offensive; annoying or irritating to the point of causing discomfort or harm

synonym: offensive, unpleasant, irritating

(1) **obnoxious** habits, (2) **obnoxious** odor

His **obnoxious** behavior at the party made everyone uncomfortable.

outweigh

v. to be heavier, more significant, or more critical than something

synonym: dominate, outrank, overpower

(1) **outweigh** the benefit, (2) **outweigh** our wishes

The advantages would undoubtedly **outweigh** the disadvantages.

stink

v. to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical

synonym : reek, smell, odor

(1) **stink** up the place, (2) **stink** badly

The garbage in the alley began to **stink** after a few hot days.

bum

n. a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive

synonym : hobo, vagrant, tramp

(1) homeless **bum**, (2) lazy **bum**

He used to be a successful businessman, but now he's a washed-up **bum** with nothing to show.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym : sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

annoy

v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

synonym : aggravate, irritate, unsettle

(1) **annoy** at the time, (2) **annoy** everyone else

Her constant chatter was starting to **annoy** the neighbors.

disapprove

v. to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone

synonym : object, reject, condemn

(1) **disapprove** of the government, (2) publicly **disapprove**
I **disapprove** of my friend's decision to drop out of school and pursue a career in music instead.

profuse

adj. abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something

synonym : abundant, plentiful, excessive

(1) **profuse** growth, (2) **profuse** apologies

The flu caused a **profuse** amount of sweating and fever.

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.

embarrass

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

jeopardy

n. the state of being in danger or at risk of harm or loss

synonym: danger, risk, peril

(1) put his life in **jeopardy**, (2) tax in **jeopardy**

The project is in **jeopardy** of being canceled due to a lack of funding.

huck

v. to throw or toss something quickly or carelessly; to promote or sell something aggressively or persistently

synonym: throw, toss, pitch

(1) **huck** a ball, (2) **huck** a disc

I was able to **huck** the frisbee across the field to my friend.

embroil

v. to involve or entangle someone or something in a difficult, complicated, or unpleasant situation; to implicate or incriminate

synonym: involve, complicate, entangle

(1) **embroil** him in a controversy, (2) **embroil** in controversy

The scandal **embroiled** the company's CEO and other high-level executives.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

purport

v. to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication

synonym: claim, allege, assert

(1) **purport** to answer the question, (2) the main **purport** of his speech

The document **purports** to have been signed by the president, but the signature is a forgery.

tangle

n. a confused mass of something twisted together

synonym: knot, snarl, entanglement

(1) in a **tangle**, (2) **tangle** wires

The cords behind my computer were a **tangled** mess.

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**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ir_____te my partner *v.* to annoy, provoke, or cause resentment or anger in someone; to inflame or make sore
2. dis_____ve of the government *v.* to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone
3. im_____se language *adj.* not exact or accurate; not clearly stated or defined; lacking in specificity or detail
4. with a go__y expression *adj.* silly or foolish
5. ware a go__y hat *adj.* silly or foolish
6. an__y at the time *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
7. pr_____e growth *adj.* abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
8. pi_____nt the problem *v.* to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
9. in a ta___e *n.* a confused mass of something twisted together
10. publicly dis_____ve *v.* to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone
11. d__g a ling *v.* to make a ringing, chiming, or knocking sound; to damage or dent a surface through impact or collision; (noun, Chinese) a type of ancient cooking vessel that was used for cooking, boiling, and steaming food

ANSWERS: 1. irritate, 2. disapprove, 3. imprecise, 4. goofy, 5. goofy, 6. annoy, 7. profuse, 8. pinpoint, 9. tangle, 10. disapprove, 11. ding

12. pu____t to answer the question *v.* to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication
13. st____ed muscles *adj.* tight, tense, or stretched; under pressure or stress; characterized by a lack of ease or naturalness
14. uti____an economics *adj.* designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious
15. em____ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
16. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
17. si____m series *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
18. ou____gh our wishes *v.* to be heavier, more significant, or more critical than something
19. em____ss my project *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
20. law of cat____al judgment *adj.* stating something as an absolute fact, without the possibility of doubt or exception; relating to or included in a category or categories
21. d__t removal *v.* to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface

ANSWERS: 12. purport, 13. strained, 14. utilitarian, 15. embarrass, 16. germ, 17. sitcom, 18. outweigh, 19. embarrass, 20. categorical, 21. dent

22. homeless b_m *n.* a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive
23. tax in je____dy *n.* the state of being in danger or at risk of harm or loss
24. ta___e wires *n.* a confused mass of something twisted together
25. popular si___m *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
26. deep cr___e *n.* a line or mark made by folding or wrinkling a surface or material; a slight ridge or fold in fabric or paper caused by pressing or folding
27. vehicle fe___r *n.* a barrier that surrounds the wheels of a vehicle to block splashing water or mud; a cushion-like device that reduces shock due to an impact
28. ir____te skin *v.* to annoy, provoke, or cause resentment or anger in someone; to inflame or make sore
29. ou____gh the benefit *v.* to be heavier, more significant, or more critical than something
30. lazy b_m *n.* a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive

ANSWERS: 22. bum, 23. jeopardy, 24. tangle, 25. sitcom, 26. crease, 27. fender, 28. irritate, 29. outweigh, 30. bum

31. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
32. pr____e apologies *adj.* abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
33. a dire ca____ty *n.* a serious event that causes damage, injury, or loss
34. em____l in controversy *v.* to involve or entangle someone or something in a difficult, complicated, or unpleasant situation; to implicate or incriminate
35. st____ed relationship *adj.* tight, tense, or stretched; under pressure or stress; characterized by a lack of ease or naturalness
36. front fe____r *n.* a barrier that surrounds the wheels of a vehicle to block splashing water or mud; a cushion-like device that reduces shock due to an impact
37. st__k up the place *v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical
38. an__y everyone else *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
39. boundless gen____ty *n.* the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
40. d__t his pride *v.* to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface

ANSWERS: 31. sham, 32. profuse, 33. calamity, 34. embroil, 35. strained, 36. fender, 37. stink, 38. annoy, 39. generosity, 40. dent

41. act of gen_____ty *n.* the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
42. ob_____us habits *adj.* extremely unpleasant or offensive; annoying or irritating to the point of causing discomfort or harm
43. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
44. r__e up controversy *v.* to make someone annoyed, irritated, or angry; to provoke or stir up strong emotions or responses
45. h__k a disc *v.* to throw or toss something quickly or carelessly; to promote or sell something aggressively or persistently
46. r__e him up *v.* to make someone annoyed, irritated, or angry; to provoke or stir up strong emotions or responses
47. ob_____us odor *adj.* extremely unpleasant or offensive; annoying or irritating to the point of causing discomfort or harm
48. an_____e his soul *v.* to make something full of interest and energy
49. f__y of the storm *n.* intense and often violent anger
50. im_____se instructions *adj.* not exact or accurate; not clearly stated or defined; lacking in specificity or detail
51. put his life in je_____dy *n.* the state of being in danger or at risk of harm or loss

ANSWERS: 41. generosity, 42. obnoxious, 43. sham, 44. rile, 45. huck, 46. rile, 47. obnoxious, 48. animate, 49. fury, 50. imprecise, 51. jeopardy

52. 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
53. pi_____nt signs of manipulation *v.* to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
54. cat_____al denial *adj.* stating something as an absolute fact, without the possibility of doubt or exception; relating to or included in a category or categories
55. sh__d paper into little pieces *v.* to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount
56. sh__d lettuce for a salad *v.* to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount
57. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
58. se_____e her mind *v.* to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
59. an_____e the body *v.* to make something full of interest and energy
60. st__k badly *v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical

ANSWERS: 52. meme, 53. pinpoint, 54. categorical, 55. shred, 56. shred, 57. confuse, 58. seduce, 59. animate, 60. stink

61. em_____l him in a controversy *v.* to involve or entangle someone or something in a difficult, complicated, or unpleasant situation; to implicate or incriminate
62. uti_____an design *adj.* designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious
63. h__k a ball *v.* to throw or toss something quickly or carelessly; to promote or sell something aggressively or persistently
64. se___e him into crime *v.* to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
65. ap_____d the orchestra *v.* to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands
66. market f__y *n.* intense and often violent anger
67. institutional uti_____ism *n.* the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
68. cr___e in fabric *n.* a line or mark made by folding or wrinkling a surface or material; a slight ridge or fold in fabric or paper caused by pressing or folding
69. individualistic uti_____ism *n.* the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
70. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
71. ri__e the shampoo *v.* to wash off soap or remaining dirt with clean water; to gargle your mouth and throat with mouthwash

ANSWERS: 61. embroil, 62. utilitarian, 63. huck, 64. seduce, 65. applaud, 66. fury, 67. utilitarianism, 68. crease, 69. utilitarianism, 70. confuse, 71. rinse

72. don't dis_____nt me *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
73. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
74. financial ca_____ty *n.* a serious event that causes damage, injury, or loss
75. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
76. ri__e out your mouth *v.* to wash off soap or remaining dirt with clean water; to gargle your mouth and throat with mouthwash
77. the main pu_____t of his speech *v.* to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication
78. 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
79. ap_____d his courage *v.* to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands
80. d__g a bell *v.* to make a ringing, chiming, or knocking sound; to damage or dent a surface through impact or collision; (noun, Chinese) a type of ancient cooking vessel that was used for cooking, boiling, and steaming food

ANSWERS: 72. disappoint, 73. germ, 74. calamity, 75. disappoint, 76. rinse, 77. purport, 78. meme, 79. applaud, 80. ding

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He acci_____dented his car when he bumped into a tree.
v. to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface
2. The earthquake was a major _____ that left many homeless.
n. a serious event that causes damage, injury, or loss
3. The project is in _____ of being canceled due to a lack of funding.
n. the state of being in danger or at risk of harm or loss
4. The shirt had a noticeable _____ along the sleeve from being folded.
n. a line or mark made by folding or wrinkling a surface or material; a slight ridge or fold in fabric or paper caused by pressing or folding
5. 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
6. The flu caused a _____ amount of sweating and fever.
adj. abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
7. The cords behind my computer were a _____ mess.
n. a confused mass of something twisted together

ANSWERS: 1. dentally, 2. calamity, 3. jeopardy, 4. crease, 5. meme, 6. profuse, 7. tangled

8. He is remembered for his _____ and civilization.
n. the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
9. She made a _____ statement that she would never eat sushi.
adj. stating something as an absolute fact, without the possibility of doubt or exception; relating to or included in a category or categories
10. The positive attitude of the supervisor _____ the discussion.
v. to make something full of interest and energy
11. I accidentally _____ my new car door in the parking lot.
v. to make a ringing, chiming, or knocking sound; to damage or dent a surface through impact or collision; (noun, Chinese) a type of ancient cooking vessel that was used for cooking, boiling, and steaming food
12. The advantages would undoubtedly _____ the disadvantages.
v. to be heavier, more significant, or more critical than something
13. This radar quickly _____ the position of the enemy.
v. to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
14. He made a _____ face as he recalled this morning's events.
adj. silly or foolish
15. I _____ of my friend's decision to drop out of school and pursue a career in music instead.
v. to have or express an unfavorable opinion or judgment about something or someone

ANSWERS: 8. generosity, 9. categorical, 10. animated, 11. dinged, 12. outweigh, 13. pinpoints, 14. goofy, 15. disapprove

16. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.
v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
17. Her constant chatter was starting to _____ the neighbors.
v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
18. The scandal _____ the company's CEO and other high-level executives.
v. to involve or entangle someone or something in a difficult, complicated, or unpleasant situation; to implicate or incriminate
19. Her remarks _____ the debate.
v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
20. The sound of his chewing loudly _____ me during dinner.
v. to annoy, provoke, or cause resentment or anger in someone; to inflame or make sore
21. He tried to _____ her with his charm and good looks.
v. to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
22. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
23. Please _____ the soap off of those dishes well.
v. to wash off soap or remaining dirt with clean water; to gargle your mouth and throat with mouthwash

ANSWERS: 16. embarrass, 17. annoy, 18. embroiled, 19. confused, 20. irritates, 21. seduce, 22. disappoint, 23. rinse

24. The crowd's _____ was palpable as they shouted and protested against the government's decision.
n. intense and often violent anger
25. His _____ behavior at the party made everyone uncomfortable.
adj. extremely unpleasant or offensive; annoying or irritating to the point of causing discomfort or harm
26. The _____ measurements led to erroneous results in the experiment.
adj. not exact or accurate; not clearly stated or defined; lacking in specificity or detail
27. I love to watch _____ when I need a good laugh.
n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
28. _____ focuses on results and consequences rather than rules.
n. the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
29. The garbage in the alley began to _____ after a few hot days.
v. to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical
30. The data he prepared was completely _____.
n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
31. The loud music and shouting _____ up the crowd at the concert.
v. to make someone annoyed, irritated, or angry; to provoke or stir up strong emotions or responses

ANSWERS: 24. fury, 25. obnoxious, 26. imprecise, 27. sitcoms, 28. Utilitarianism, 29. stink, 30. sham, 31. riled

32. He used to be a successful businessman, but now he's a washed-up ___ with nothing to show.
- n.* a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive
33. I was able to _____ the frisbee across the field to my friend.
- v.* to throw or toss something quickly or carelessly; to promote or sell something aggressively or persistently
34. The musician's face showed a _____ expression as he struggled to hit the high note.
- adj.* tight, tense, or stretched; under pressure or stress; characterized by a lack of ease or naturalness
35. The document _____ to have been signed by the president, but the signature is a forgery.
- v.* to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication
36. The kitchen is designed with a _____ approach, focusing on practicality rather than aesthetics.
- adj.* designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious
37. There is not a _____ of evidence that he is guilty.
- v.* to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount
38. The _____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
- n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

ANSWERS: 32. bum, 33. huck, 34. strained, 35. purports, 36. utilitarian, 37. shred, 38. germ

39. I enthusiastically _____ my rival's achievement.

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

40. He had a _____ bender last night.

n. a barrier that surrounds the wheels of a vehicle to block splashing water or mud; a cushion-like device that reduces shock due to an impact

ANSWERS: 39. applaud, 40. fender