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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Bruce Feiler: The secret to mastering life's biggest transitions | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

imaginable

adj. capable of being imagined

synonym: conceivable, plausible, possible

(1) easily **imaginable**, (2) worst **imaginable** case

This is the only **imaginable** strategy.

reimagine

v. to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

synonym: re-conceptualize, re-envision, re-create

(1) **reimagine** the future, (2) **reimagine** the possibilities

The company is trying to **reimagine** its business model to stay competitive.

sidetrack

v. to divert or deflect from the main topic or goal; to cause someone or something to take a different direction or course

synonym: divert, distract, derail

(1) **sidetrack** a discussion, (2) **sidetrack** his attention

Don't let small setbacks **sidetrack** you from achieving your long-term goals.

pitfall

n. a hidden or unsuspected danger or difficulty; a trap or snare

synonym: trap, snare, hazard

(1) potential **pitfall**, (2) **pitfall** to be avoided

One of the biggest **pitfalls** of starting a new business is underestimating the costs.

pothole

n. a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles

synonym: chuckhole, pit, depression

(1) deep **pothole**, (2) **pothole** repair

The car hit a **pothole** and caused a flat tire.

pandemic

n. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

synonym: outbreak

(1) flu **pandemic**, (2) global **pandemic**

They fear a **pandemic** of a new type of virus.

awry

adv. in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss

synonym: amiss, askew, incorrect

(1) **awry** plan, (2) **awry** hair

The plans for the surprise party went **awry** when the cake was ruined.

unstick

v. to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else

synonym: detach, remove, free

(1) **unstick** the door, (2) **unstick** the pages of a book

I had to use a knife to **unstick** the envelope from the table.

wallop

n. a heavy blow or punch; a sudden, powerful impact; a defeat or setback that is particularly severe or decisive

synonym: whack, punch, hit

(1) pack a **wallop**, (2) emotional **wallop**

The boxer delivered a **wallop** to his opponent's chin, knocking him out.

bankrupt

adj. unable to pay one's debts; having been reduced to a state of financial ruin; lacking in something essential or fundamental

synonym : insolvent, broke, ruined

(1) **bankrupt** business, (2) financially **bankrupt**

Unfortunately, the company went **bankrupt** and had to close its doors permanently.

spree

n. a short period of indulgence or excessive activity, often involving spending money or engaging in risky or impulsive behavior

synonym : binge, fling, spree

(1) shopping **spree**, (2) crime **spree**

She went on a travel **spree** and visited six countries in one month.

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**.

upend

v. to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order

synonym : overturn, upset, invert

(1) **upend** a table, (2) **upend** a tradition

The sudden news **upended** their plans for the weekend.

kilter

n. a state of proper balance or adjustment, a state of good order or organization

synonym : balance, alignment, equilibrium

(1) off- **kilter**, (2) in good **kilter**

The door was out of **kilter** and wouldn't close properly.

crisscross

v. to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's

(1) **crisscross** over the edges of the walls, (2) **crisscross** my heart

The roads **crisscrossed** through the countryside, creating a beautiful scenic drive.

sober

adj. not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

synonym : calm, lucid, temperate

(1) **sober** discussion, (2) as **sober** as a judge

He led a **sober** life.

hopeless

adj. having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

synonym : despairing, helpless, futile

(1) **hopeless** situation, (2) **hopeless** at everything

After months of job searching, he felt **hopeless** and unsure of his future.

anomaly

n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand

synonym : abnormality, irregularity, deviation

(1) **anomaly** detection, (2) global temperature **anomaly**

The sudden drop in the stock market was an **anomaly** that puzzled many investors.

staircase

n. a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side

synonym : stairway, stairwell

(1) spiral **staircase**, (2) beetle up the **staircase**

She walked urgently down the emergency **staircase**.

retiring

adj. withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved

synonym : shy, leaving, quitting

(1) near **retiring** age, (2) a **retiring** pension

The **retiring** CEO passed on the reins to his successor.

precede

v. to happen or go before something or someone in time or space

synonym: lead, forego, antecede

(1) men often **precede** women when walking, (2) **precede** any discussion

Agricultural development generally **precedes** economic growth.

psychosexual

adj. relating to the psychological and sexual aspects of a person's development, behavior, or identity

synonym: sexual, erotic, libidinal

(1) **psychosexual** development, (2) **psychosexual** disorders

The therapist used **psychosexual** techniques to help the couple improve their intimacy.

midlife

n. the period of life between young adulthood and old age, typically characterized by a sense of maturity, stability, and sometimes, dissatisfaction or restlessness

(1) **midlife** depression, (2) **midlife** changes

Many people go through a **midlife** crisis and contemplate major life changes.

overstate

v. to exaggerate or make something seem more important or serious than it is

synonym: exaggerate, embellish, magnify

(1) **overstate** the issue, (2) **overstate** the importance

He tends to **overstate** his accomplishments to impress others.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

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.

lifequake

n. a sudden and significant change or upheaval in one's life, often resulting in a period of personal reassessment, transformation, and growth

synonym: transition, upheaval, crisis

(1) **lifequake** recovery, (2) surviving a **lifequake**

Moving to a new country is a **lifequake** for most people.

upheaval

n. great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation

synonym: disturbance, turmoil, upheaval

(1) **upheaval** of society, (2) the big **upheaval** of my life

The recent political **upheaval** has left the country in a state of chaos.

clump

n. a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.

synonym: cluster, bunch, bundle

(1) **clump** of bacteria, (2) a **clump** of trees

I heard the **clump** of his boots in the hallway.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

haunted

adj. inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions

synonym : spooky, eerie, ghostly

(1) **haunted** house, (2) **haunted** by memories

The old mansion was known to be **haunted**, with strange noises and eerie sightings reported by visitors.

unnerve

v. to cause someone to feel anxious, frightened, or unsettled; to deprive someone of their composure, confidence, or courage

synonym : unsettle, intimidate, disturb

(1) **unnerve** opponent, (2) **unnerve** crowd

The unpredictable weather pattern **unnerved** the farmers as it affected their crops.

involuntary

adj. acting or done without or against one's will

synonym : coerced, forced, automatic

(1) **involuntary** manslaughter, (2) **involuntary** muscles

The drug's side effects can include **involuntary** loss of urine.

recession

n. a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases

synonym : downturn, slump, contraction

(1) **recession** period, (2) recover from a **recession**

The country is facing a **recession**, with high unemployment and low GDP.

superpower

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym : great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower**

in comic books and movies.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

fetus

n. an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal

(1) development of the **fetus**, (2) an aborted **fetus**

The female vagina is elastic enough to allow the passage of a **fetus**.

mourn

v. to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone

synonym: grieve, lament, weep

(1) **mourn** with deep grief, (2) **mourn** death

We **mourned** the loss of our dear friend at the memorial service.

unveil

v. to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time

synonym: reveal, uncover, expose

(1) **unveil** a monument, (2) **unveil** a comprehensive plan

The company plans to **unveil** its new product at the trade show next week.

gravitation

n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

synonym: attraction, pull, gravity

(1) terrestrial **gravitation**, (2) universal **gravitation**

The force of **gravitation** keeps the planets in our solar

system in orbit around the sun.

boggy

adj. containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged

synonym: swampy, marshy, mucky

(1) **boggy** land, (2) **boggy** area

The trail through the forest was so **boggy** that our shoes became soaked.

buckle

v. to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat;
(*noun*) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap

synonym: bend, crumple, contort

(1) **buckle** down to study, (2) **buckle** shoe

The severe heat wave **buckled** railway tracks.

dishearten

v. to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize

synonym: discourage, dismay, demoralize

(1) **dishearten** employees, (2) **dishearten** the hopeful job applicant

The team's loss in the semifinals did not **dishearten** their determination to return stronger next season.

disorient

v. to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go

synonym: confuse, flummox, perplex

(1) **disorient** his audience, (2) **disorient** and wrong-foot viewers

Several studies have indicated that human activity at sea might **disorient** dolphins and whales.

mindset

n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

synonym: attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education

system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

molt

v. to shed feathers, skin, or hair, especially in the process of growing a new coat or plumage; to undergo a process of renewal or transformation, often by shedding the old or outdated

synonym: shed, exuviate, doff

(1) **molt** its feathers, (2) **molt** at regular intervals

The snake **molted** its skin to grow bigger.

spar

v. to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills

synonym: fight, wrestle

(1) **spar** with a partner, (2) **spar** over ideas

The kayakers had to **spar** with the strong winds and waves to reach the shore.

paycheck

n. a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check

synonym: salary, earnings, income

(1) electronic **paycheck**, (2) monthly **paycheck**

I received a bonus on top of my regular **paycheck** this month.

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.

ukulele

n. a small, four-stringed instrument of Hawaiian origin that is similar to a guitar and is played by strumming or plucking the strings

synonym : uke, small guitar

(1) tune the **ukulele**, (2) **ukulele** music

He played the **ukulele** and sang sweet Hawaiian songs on the beach.

sergeant

n. a rank of non-commissioned officer in the armed forces, typically above corporal but below staff sergeant or sergeant first class

synonym : officer, serjeant, noncommissioned officer

(1) police **sergeant**, (2) army **sergeant**

The fire department **sergeant** instructed the firefighters on how to tackle the blaze.

ideate

v. to conceive of and develop an idea or concept in one's mind, often as part of a creative process or a problem-solving effort

synonym : conceive, think up, brainstorm

(1) **ideate** solutions, (2) **ideate** process

The team met to **ideate** new marketing strategies for the upcoming product launch.

hostility

n. aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior

synonym : antagonism, antipathy, estrangement

(1) an act of **hostility**, (2) bitter **hostility**

Her unconcealed **hostility** made us unpleasant.

splatter

v. to scatter or spray liquid, mud, or a similar substance in small droplets or flecks; to stain or cover with such droplets or specks

synonym : swash, splash, spray

(1) **splatter** paint, (2) **splatter** all over the floor

The construction workers wore protective gear to avoid being **splattered** with wet cement.

cliche

n. a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement

synonym : truism, platitude, stereotype

(1) **cliche** plot, (2) age-old **cliche**

Using the same **cliche** phrase in every conversation can take time and effort.

loaf

n. a quantity of bread that is shaped and baked in one piece and usually sliced for serving; (verb) to be lazy or idle

synonym : bread, boule, brioche

(1) crusty **loaf**, (2) **loaf** around during the day

On my way home from work, I picked up a **loaf** of bread from the bakery.

loneliness

n. a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people

synonym : isolation, alienation, desolation

(1) a strong sense of **loneliness**, (2) remedy **loneliness**

I realize the **loneliness** of a single life.

crave

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

synonym : desire, yearn, long for

(1) **crave** chocolate, (2) **crave** advice from others

She **craves** success and is always pushing herself to do better.

phenotype

n. the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives

synonym : trait, characteristic, attribute

(1) **phenotype** variation, (2) dominant **phenotype**

Our genetic **phenotype** determines the color of our eyes.

nudge

v. to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or

behavior

synonym: bump, elbow, (noun) prod

(1) **nudge** price levels up, (2) give a person a **nudge**

The teacher **nudged** the student to get his attention and asked him a question.

slap

v. to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly

synonym: smack, hit, whack

(1) **slap** on the back, (2) **slap** a heavy fine

The politician tried to **slap** down the rumors about his personal life.

autobiographical

adj. relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative

synonym: self-written, self-told, personal

(1) **autobiographical** narrative, (2) **autobiographical** memory

The author wrote an **autobiographical** novel about growing up in a small town.

revisit

v. to go to a place again, especially after a long period

synonym: reexplore, review, reexamine

(1) **revisit** a place, (2) **revisit** an old friend

We need to **revisit** this proposal as soon as the budget is more apparent than before.

retell

v. to tell someone about something again or differently

synonym: reiterate, repeat, restate

(1) **retell** a story, (2) **retell** an old tale

He **retells** the truth to plead not guilty.

memoir

n. a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events

synonym : bio, biography

(1) family **memoir**, (2) publish a **memoir**

He wrote his **memoirs** while awaiting trial.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym : narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

bleak

adj. unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope

synonym : miserable, pathetic, dim

(1) prospects were **bleak**, (2) **bleak** future

The political landscape looks **bleak** without a change of administration.

grit

n. very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles

synonym : determination, fortitude, courage

(1) **grit** determination, (2) **grit** washer

She has a lot of **grit** and determination to succeed.

grind

v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

synonym : mill, crush, grate

(1) **grind** away at my work, (2) **grind** your teeth

She had to **grind** the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.

fable

n. a short story, often with animal characters, that teaches a general truth or a moral lesson

synonym : fantasy, story, legend

(1) classic **fable**, (2) moralize a **fable**

In his speech, he quoted a passage from a well-known **fable**.

fairy tale

n. a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals

synonym: fable, myth, legend

(1) **fairy tale** romance, (2) popular **fairy tale**

The children's book was a **fairy tale** about a princess and her journey to find true love.

downsize

v. to reduce the size, scale, or scope of something, such as a company or organization; to decrease the number of employees or members

synonym: reduce, cut back, trim

(1) **downsize** a company, (2) **downsize** a menu

The company had to **downsize** due to financial difficulties and let go of many employees.

poise

n. a calm, confident, and graceful manner with control of your feelings or behavior

synonym: confidence, grace, calmness

(1) aesthetic **poise**, (2) with easy **poise**

He took a deep breath and recovered a little of his **poise**.

banish

v. to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently

synonym: exile, deport, expel

(1) **banish** doubt, (2) **banish** my wrinkles

The queen **banished** the traitor from the kingdom, never to be seen again.

bedtime

n. the time at which a person typically goes to bed and prepares to sleep; the period just before bedtime, which may involve routines or activities that are intended to promote relaxation or sleepiness

synonym: sleep time, night-time

(1) **bedtime** meditation, (2) regular **bedtime**

Reading **bedtime** stories can help children relax and fall asleep faster.

Session 2: Spelling

1. aut_____cal memory *adj.* relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative
2. cl__p of bacteria *n.* a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.
3. a strong sense of lon_____ss *n.* a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people
4. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
5. ba_____pt business *adj.* unable to pay one's debts; having been reduced to a state of financial ruin; lacking in something essential or fundamental
6. monthly pa_____ck *n.* a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check
7. classic fa__e *n.* a short story, often with animal characters, that teaches a general truth or a moral lesson
8. electronic pa_____ck *n.* a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check

ANSWERS: 1. autobiographical, 2. clump, 3. loneliness, 4. overwhelm, 5. bankrupt, 6. paycheck, 7. fable, 8. paycheck

9. cri_____ss over the edges of the walls *v.* to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's
10. up_____al of society *n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
11. age-old cl____e *n.* a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
12. up__d a table *v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
13. shopping sp__e *n.* a short period of indulgence or excessive activity, often involving spending money or engaging in risky or impulsive behavior
14. dis_____en the hopeful job applicant *v.* to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize
15. do_____ze a menu *v.* to reduce the size, scale, or scope of something, such as a company or organization; to decrease the number of employees or members
16. universal gra_____on *n.* the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass
17. publish a me____r *n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events

ANSWERS: 9. crisscross, 10. upheaval, 11. cliché, 12. upend, 13. spree, 14. dishearten, 15. downsize, 16. gravitation, 17. memoir

18. un___d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
19. ho_____ss situation *adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
20. id___e solutions *v.* to conceive of and develop an idea or concept in one's mind, often as part of a creative process or a problem-solving effort
21. deep po_____e *n.* a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles
22. ha_____d by memories *adj.* inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions
23. s__r over ideas *v.* to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills
24. re_____t a place *v.* to go to a place again, especially after a long period
25. family me___r *n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
26. dis_____en employees *v.* to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize

ANSWERS: 18. unfold, 19. hopeless, 20. ideate, 21. pothole, 22. haunted, 23. spar, 24. revisit, 25. memoir, 26. dishearten

27. moralize a fa__e *n.* a short story, often with animal characters, that teaches a general truth or a moral lesson
28. crusty l__f *n.* a quantity of bread that is shaped and baked in one piece and usually sliced for serving; (verb) to be lazy or idle
29. s__p a heavy fine *v.* to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly
30. inv_____ry manslaughter *adj.* acting or done without or against one's will
31. ba___h my wrinkles *v.* to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently
32. an aborted fe__s *n.* an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal
33. an act of ho_____ty *n.* aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior
34. di_____nt his audience *v.* to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
35. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

ANSWERS: 27. fable, 28. loaf, 29. slap, 30. involuntary, 31. banish, 32. fetus, 33. hostility, 34. disorient, 35. superpower

36. worst ima_____le case *adj.* capable of being imagined
37. re_____t an old friend *v.* to go to a place again, especially after a long period
38. ph_____pe variation *n.* the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives
39. 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
40. mo__n with deep grief *v.* to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone
41. mi_____e depression *n.* the period of life between young adulthood and old age, typically characterized by a sense of maturity, stability, and sometimes, dissatisfaction or restlessness
42. an_____y detection *n.* something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand
43. un_____e opponent *v.* to cause someone to feel anxious, frightened, or unsettled; to deprive someone of their composure, confidence, or courage
44. re___l a story *v.* to tell someone about something again or differently

ANSWERS: 36. imaginable, 37. revisit, 38. phenotype, 39. sham, 40. mourn, 41. midlife, 42. anomaly, 43. unnerve, 44. retell

45. remedy lon_____ss *n.* a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people
46. g__t determination *n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
47. pack a wa___p *n.* a heavy blow or punch; a sudden, powerful impact; a defeat or setback that is particularly severe or decisive
48. cri_____ss my heart *v.* to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's
49. a cl__p of trees *n.* a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.
50. nu__e price levels up *v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior
51. re_____ne the future *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
52. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
53. global pa_____ic *n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

ANSWERS: 45. loneliness, 46. grit, 47. wallop, 48. crisscross, 49. clump, 50. nudge, 51. reimagine, 52. superpower, 53. pandemic

54. bl__k future *adj.* unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope
55. give a person a nu__e *v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior
56. bo__y area *adj.* containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged
57. re___l an old tale *v.* to tell someone about something again or differently
58. mo__n death *v.* to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone
59. ho____ss at everything *adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
60. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
61. as so__r as a judge *adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises
62. crime sp__e *n.* a short period of indulgence or excessive activity, often involving spending money or engaging in risky or impulsive behavior
63. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
64. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 54. bleak, 55. nudge, 56. boggy, 57. retell, 58. mourn, 59. hopeless, 60. astonishing, 61. sober, 62. spree, 63. astonishing, 64. storytelling

65. un___l a monument *v.* to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time
66. bitter ho_____ty *n.* aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior
67. un___l a comprehensive plan *v.* to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time
68. regular be_____e *n.* the time at which a person typically goes to bed and prepares to sleep; the period just before bedtime, which may involve routines or activities that are intended to promote relaxation or sleepiness
69. off-ki___r *n.* a state of proper balance or adjustment, a state of good order or organization
70. with easy po___e *n.* a calm, confident, and graceful manner with control of your feelings or behavior
71. global temperature an_____y *n.* something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand
72. easily ima_____le *adj.* capable of being imagined
73. a___y hair *adv.* in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss
74. bu___e shoe *v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap
75. aut_____cal narrative *adj.* relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative

ANSWERS: 65. unveil, 66. hostility, 67. unveil, 68. bedtime, 69. kilter, 70. poise, 71. anomaly, 72. imaginable, 73. awry, 74. buckle, 75. autobiographical

76. un____k the pages of a book *v.* to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else
77. un____d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
78. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
79. in good ki____r *n.* a state of proper balance or adjustment, a state of good order or organization
80. ha_____d house *adj.* inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions
81. financially ba_____pt *adj.* unable to pay one's debts; having been reduced to a state of financial ruin; lacking in something essential or fundamental
82. un_____e crowd *v.* to cause someone to feel anxious, frightened, or unsettled; to deprive someone of their composure, confidence, or courage
83. flexible mi_____t *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
84. sp_____er paint *v.* to scatter or spray liquid, mud, or a similar substance in small droplets or flecks; to stain or cover with such droplets or specks

ANSWERS: 76. unstick, 77. unfold, 78. overwhelm, 79. kilter, 80. haunted, 81. bankrupt, 82. unnerve, 83. mindset, 84. splatter

85. sp_____er all over the floor *v.* to scatter or spray liquid, mud, or a similar substance in small droplets or flecks; to stain or cover with such droplets or specks
86. army se_____nt *n.* a rank of non-commissioned officer in the armed forces, typically above corporal but below staff sergeant or sergeant first class
87. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
88. ba____h doubt *v.* to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently
89. potential pi_____l *n.* a hidden or unsuspected danger or difficulty; a trap or snare
90. near re_____ng age *adj.* withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
91. tune the uk_____e *n.* a small, four-stringed instrument of Hawaiian origin that is similar to a guitar and is played by strumming or plucking the strings
92. cr__e chocolate *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
93. recover from a re_____on *n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases
94. so__r discussion *adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

ANSWERS: 85. splatter, 86. sergeant, 87. storytelling, 88. banish, 89. pitfall, 90. retiring, 91. ukulele, 92. crave, 93. recession, 94. sober

95. ov_____te the importance *v.* to exaggerate or make something seem more important or serious than it is
96. uk_____e music *n.* a small, four-stringed instrument of Hawaiian origin that is similar to a guitar and is played by strumming or plucking the strings
97. l__f around during the day *n.* a quantity of bread that is shaped and baked in one piece and usually sliced for serving; (*v.*) to be lazy or idle
98. id_____e process *v.* to conceive of and develop an idea or concept in one's mind, often as part of a creative process or a problem-solving effort
99. di_____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
100. 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
101. a re_____ng pension *adj.* withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
102. re_____on period *n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases
103. un_____k the door *v.* to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else

ANSWERS: 95. overstate, 96. ukulele, 97. loaf, 98. ideate, 99. disrupt, 100. fender, 101. retiring, 102. recession, 103. unstick

104. spiral st_____se *n.* a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side
105. inv_____ry muscles *adj.* acting or done without or against one's will
106. mi_____e changes *n.* the period of life between young adulthood and old age, typically characterized by a sense of maturity, stability, and sometimes, dissatisfaction or restlessness
107. popular fa_____le *n.* a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals
108. the big up_____al of my life *n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
109. po_____e repair *n.* a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles
110. police se_____nt *n.* a rank of non-commissioned officer in the armed forces, typically above corporal but below staff sergeant or sergeant first class
111. terrestrial gra_____on *n.* the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

ANSWERS: 104. staircase, 105. involuntary, 106. midlife, 107. fairytale, 108. upheaval, 109. pothole, 110. sergeant, 111. gravitation

112. s__r with a partner *v.* to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills
113. pr____e any discussion *v.* to happen or go before something or someone in time or space
114. gr__d your teeth *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
115. a__y plan *adv.* in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss
116. flu pa____ic *n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
117. g__t washer *n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
118. m__t its feathers *v.* to shed feathers, skin, or hair, especially in the process of growing a new coat or plumage; to undergo a process of renewal or transformation, often by shedding the old or outdated
119. be____e meditation *n.* the time at which a person typically goes to bed and prepares to sleep; the period just before bedtime, which may involve routines or activities that are intended to promote relaxation or sleepiness
120. the mi____t in an education system *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

ANSWERS: 112. spar, 113. precede, 114. grind, 115. awry, 116. pandemic, 117. grit, 118. molt, 119. bedtime, 120. mindset

121. cl___e plot *n.* a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
122. development of the fe__s *n.* an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal
123. gr__d away at my work *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
124. bu___e down to study *v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap
125. dominant ph_____pe *n.* the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives
126. pi_____l to be avoided *n.* a hidden or unsuspected danger or difficulty; a trap or snare
127. fa_____le romance *n.* a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals
128. 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

ANSWERS: 121. cliché, 122. fetus, 123. grind, 124. buckle, 125. phenotype, 126. pitfall, 127. fairytale, 128. fender

129. si_____ck a discussion *v.* to divert or deflect from the main topic or goal; to cause someone or something to take a different direction or course
130. re_____ne the possibilities *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
131. s__p on the back *v.* to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly
132. di_____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
133. do_____ze a company *v.* to reduce the size, scale, or scope of something, such as a company or organization; to decrease the number of employees or members
134. psy_____ual development *adj.* relating to the psychological and sexual aspects of a person's development, behavior, or identity
135. li_____ke recovery *n.* a sudden and significant change or upheaval in one's life, often resulting in a period of personal reassessment, transformation, and growth
136. surviving a li_____ke *n.* a sudden and significant change or upheaval in one's life, often resulting in a period of personal reassessment, transformation, and growth

ANSWERS: 129. sidetrack, 130. reimagine, 131. slap, 132. disrupt, 133. downsize, 134. psychosexual, 135. lifequake, 136. lifequake

137. bo__y land *adj.* containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged
138. m__t at regular intervals *v.* to shed feathers, skin, or hair, especially in the process of growing a new coat or plumage; to undergo a process of renewal or transformation, often by shedding the old or outdated
139. up__d a tradition *v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
140. beetle up the st_____se *n.* a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side
141. si_____ck his attention *v.* to divert or deflect from the main topic or goal; to cause someone or something to take a different direction or course
142. ov_____te the issue *v.* to exaggerate or make something seem more important or serious than it is
143. 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
144. men often pr_____e women when walking *v.* to happen or go before something or someone in time or space
145. aesthetic po__e *n.* a calm, confident, and graceful manner with control of your feelings or behavior
146. prospects were bl__k *adj.* unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope
147. cr__e advice from others *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

ANSWERS: 137. boggy, 138. molt, 139. upend, 140. staircase, 141. sidetrack, 142. overstate, 143. sham, 144. precede, 145. poise, 146. bleak, 147. crave

148. di_____nt and wrong-foot viewers *v.* to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
149. emotional wa___p *n.* a heavy blow or punch; a sudden, powerful impact; a defeat or setback that is particularly severe or decisive
150. psy_____ual disorders *adj.* relating to the psychological and sexual aspects of a person's development, behavior, or identity

ANSWERS: 148. disorient, 149. wallop, 150. psychosexual

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
2. The fire department _____ instructed the firefighters on how to tackle the blaze.
n. a rank of non-commissioned officer in the armed forces, typically above corporal but below staff sergeant or sergeant first class
3. The car hit a _____ and caused a flat tire.
n. a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles
4. Using the same _____ phrase in every conversation can take time and effort.
n. a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
5. The recent political _____ has left the country in a state of chaos.
n. great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
6. He played the _____ and sang sweet Hawaiian songs on the beach.
n. a small, four-stringed instrument of Hawaiian origin that is similar to a guitar and is played by strumming or plucking the strings
7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. astonishing, 2. sergeant, 3. pothole, 4. cliché, 5. upheaval, 6. ukulele, 7. sham

8. The politician tried to _____ down the rumors about his personal life.
- v. to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly
9. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
- v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
10. Agricultural development generally _____ economic growth.
- v. to happen or go before something or someone in time or space
11. The teacher _____ the student to get his attention and asked him a question.
- v. to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior
12. On my way home from work, I picked up a _____ of bread from the bakery.
- n. a quantity of bread that is shaped and baked in one piece and usually sliced for serving; (verb) to be lazy or idle
13. Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial _____ in each individual.
- n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
14. The queen _____ the traitor from the kingdom, never to be seen again.
- v. to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently
15. Many people go through a _____ crisis and contemplate major life changes.
- n. the period of life between young adulthood and old age, typically characterized by a sense of maturity, stability, and sometimes, dissatisfaction or restlessness

ANSWERS: 8. slap, 9. unfolded, 10. precedes, 11. nudged, 12. loaf, 13. mindset, 14. banished, 15. midlife

16. The country is facing a _____ with high unemployment and low GDP.
- n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases
17. The female vagina is elastic enough to allow the passage of a _____.
- n.* an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal
18. The snake _____ its skin to grow bigger.
- v.* to shed feathers, skin, or hair, especially in the process of growing a new coat or plumage; to undergo a process of renewal or transformation, often by shedding the old or outdated
19. The boxer delivered a _____ to his opponent's chin, knocking him out.
- n.* a heavy blow or punch; a sudden, powerful impact; a defeat or setback that is particularly severe or decisive
20. She has a lot of _____ and determination to succeed.
- n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
21. Several studies have indicated that human activity at sea might _____ dolphins and whales.
- v.* to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
22. She walked urgently down the emergency _____.
- n.* a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side
23. She had to _____ the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.
- v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

ANSWERS: 16. recession, 17. fetus, 18. molted, 19. wallop, 20. grit, 21. disorient, 22. staircase, 23. grind

24. This is the only _____ strategy.

adj. capable of being imagined

25. He _____ the truth to plead not guilty.

v. to tell someone about something again or differently

26. The author wrote an _____ novel about growing up in a small town.

adj. relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative

27. The force of _____ keeps the planets in our solar system in orbit around the sun.

n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

28. The drug's side effects can include _____ loss of urine.

adj. acting or done without or against one's will

29. Her unconcealed _____ made us unpleasant.

n. aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior

30. He took a deep breath and recovered a little of his _____.

n. a calm, confident, and graceful manner with control of your feelings or behavior

31. The sudden drop in the stock market was an _____ that puzzled many investors.

n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand

ANSWERS: 24. imaginable, 25. retells, 26. autobiographical, 27. gravitation, 28. involuntary, 29. hostility, 30. poise, 31. anomaly

32. He wrote his _____ while awaiting trial.
- n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
33. The children's book was a _____ about a princess and her journey to find true love.
- n.* a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals
34. The construction workers wore protective gear to avoid being _____ with wet cement.
- v.* to scatter or spray liquid, mud, or a similar substance in small droplets or flecks; to stain or cover with such droplets or specks
35. The team met to _____ new marketing strategies for the upcoming product launch.
- v.* to conceive of and develop an idea or concept in one's mind, often as part of a creative process or a problem-solving effort
36. Our genetic _____ determines the color of our eyes.
- n.* the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives
37. The kayakers had to _____ with the strong winds and waves to reach the shore.
- v.* to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills

ANSWERS: 32. memoirs, 33. fairytale, 34. splattered, 35. ideate, 36. phenotype, 37. spar

38. The _____ CEO passed on the reins to his successor.
adj. withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
39. I heard the _____ of his boots in the hallway.
n. a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.
40. The roads _____ through the countryside, creating a beautiful scenic drive.
v. to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's
41. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
42. 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
43. The trail through the forest was so _____ that our shoes became soaked.
adj. containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged
44. I received a bonus on top of my regular _____ this month.
n. a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check
45. The company plans to _____ its new product at the trade show next week.
v. to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time

ANSWERS: 38. retiring, 39. clump, 40. crisscrossed, 41. disrupt, 42. fender, 43. boggy, 44. paycheck, 45. unveil

46. He led a _____ life.

adj. not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

47. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

48. After months of job searching, he felt _____ and unsure of his future.

adj. having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

49. The severe heat wave _____ railway tracks.

v. to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap

50. We need to _____ this proposal as soon as the budget is more apparent than before.

v. to go to a place again, especially after a long period

51. Reading _____ stories can help children relax and fall asleep faster.

n. the time at which a person typically goes to bed and prepares to sleep; the period just before bedtime, which may involve routines or activities that are intended to promote relaxation or sleepiness

52. The team's loss in the semifinals did not _____ their determination to return stronger next season.

v. to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize

ANSWERS: 46. sober, 47. superpower, 48. hopeless, 49. buckled, 50. revisit, 51. bedtime, 52. dishearten

53. The company had to _____ due to financial difficulties and let go of many employees.
- v.* to reduce the size, scale, or scope of something, such as a company or organization; to decrease the number of employees or members
54. The political landscape looks _____ without a change of administration.
- adj.* unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope
55. They fear a _____ of a new type of virus.
- n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
56. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
- v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
57. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
- n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
58. She _____ success and is always pushing herself to do better.
- v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
59. In his speech, he quoted a passage from a well-known _____.
- n.* a short story, often with animal characters, that teaches a general truth or a moral lesson
60. We _____ the loss of our dear friend at the memorial service.
- v.* to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone

ANSWERS: 53. downsize, 54. bleak, 55. pandemic, 56. overwhelm, 57. storytelling, 58. craves, 59. fable, 60. mourned

61. Don't let small setbacks _____ you from achieving your long-term goals.
- v.* to divert or deflect from the main topic or goal; to cause someone or something to take a different direction or course
62. I realize the _____ of a single life.
- n.* a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people
63. One of the biggest _____ of starting a new business is underestimating the costs.
- n.* a hidden or unsuspected danger or difficulty; a trap or snare
64. Unfortunately, the company went _____ and had to close its doors permanently.
- adj.* unable to pay one's debts; having been reduced to a state of financial ruin; lacking in something essential or fundamental
65. Moving to a new country is a _____ for most people.
- n.* a sudden and significant change or upheaval in one's life, often resulting in a period of personal reassessment, transformation, and growth
66. The plans for the surprise party went _____ when the cake was ruined.
- adv.* in a wrong or crooked position; out of order; amiss
67. The therapist used _____ techniques to help the couple improve their intimacy.
- adj.* relating to the psychological and sexual aspects of a person's development, behavior, or identity
68. The company is trying to _____ its business model to stay competitive.
- v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 61. sidetrack, 62. loneliness, 63. pitfalls, 64. bankrupt, 65. lifequake, 66. awry, 67. psychosexual, 68. reimagine

69. I had to use a knife to _____ the envelope from the table.
v. to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else
70. The unpredictable weather pattern _____ the farmers as it affected their crops.
v. to cause someone to feel anxious, frightened, or unsettled; to deprive someone of their composure, confidence, or courage
71. The sudden news _____ their plans for the weekend.
v. to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
72. The door was out of _____ and wouldn't close properly.
n. a state of proper balance or adjustment, a state of good order or organization
73. He tends to _____ his accomplishments to impress others.
v. to exaggerate or make something seem more important or serious than it is
74. The old mansion was known to be _____ with strange noises and eerie sightings reported by visitors.
adj. inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions
75. She went on a travel _____ and visited six countries in one month.
n. a short period of indulgence or excessive activity, often involving spending money or engaging in risky or impulsive behavior

ANSWERS: 69. unstick, 70. unnerved, 71. upended, 72. kilter, 73. overstate, 74. haunted, 75. spree