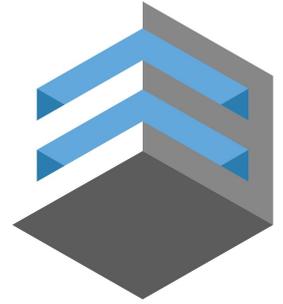


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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Elon Musk: A future worth getting excited about | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

musky

adj. having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss

synonym : musty, earthy, pungent

(1) **musky** aroma, (2) **musky** perfume

The **musky** scent of the old book filled the air of the dusty library.

pessimistic

adj. tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome

synonym : cynical, defeatist, despairing

(1) take a **pessimistic** view of life, (2) **pessimistic** for our survival

She was unduly **pessimistic** about her future.

doomsday

n. the last day of the world when Christians believe that God will judge everyone; an unpleasant or disastrous event

synonym : Day of Judgment, Last Judgement

(1) **doomsday** scenario, (2) economic **doomsday**

This task is going to take me till **doomsday**.

catastrophe

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

synonym : disaster, calamity, cataclysm

(1) **catastrophe** risk management, (2) avoid climate **catastrophe**

The lack of funds has resulted in a **catastrophe** for our university system.

complacency

n. a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems

synonym: self-satisfaction, smugness, satisfaction

(1) dangerous **complacency**, (2) avoid **complacency**

The team's **complacency** led to their defeat, as they didn't put in the effort needed to win the game.

complacent

adj. satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes

synonym: content, satisfied, self-satisfied

(1) **complacent** attitude, (2) **complacent** with past successes

He became **complacent** in his job and stopped trying to improve.

prophecy

n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

synonym: prediction, foretelling, divination

(1) **prophecy** fulfillment, (2) **prophecy** of doom

The fortune teller's **prophecy** that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.

hydro

n. a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology

synonym: water, aqua, liquid

(1) **hydro** power, (2) **hydro** turbine

The **hydro** plant generates electricity by harnessing the power of water.

geothermal

adj. relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth

synonym : underground, thermal, subterranean

(1) **geothermal** activity, (2) **geothermal** drilling

The town is exploring using **geothermal** energy to power its homes and buildings.

propellant

n. a substance that provides the force to propel (= to cause something to move forwards) something, such as a rocket or spray can

synonym : fuel, driving force, impelling agent

(1) **propellant** mixture, (2) **propellant** tank

The **propellant** in the rocket provided the force needed to reach outer space.

lithium

n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

synonym : lithy, Li, salt

(1) **lithium** carbonate, (2) **lithium** mining

Lithium-ion batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.

alarming

adj. causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing

synonym : forbidding, concerning, disturbing

(1) **alarming** news, (2) **alarming** statistics

The sudden rise in crime rates in our neighborhood is quite **alarming**.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

entitle

v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

synonym : allow, permit, enable

(1) **entitle** him to a pension, (2) **entitle** the company to use the logo

The employee was **entitled** to a week of vacation time.

sequester

v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

synonym : isolate, set apart, segregate

(1) **sequester** ten percent of the annual carbon emissions, (2) **sequester** myself from the world

He approved their requests to **sequester** the jury.

seawater

n. water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

synonym : saltwater, brine, ocean water

(1) **seawater** pollution, (2) **seawater** bacteria

The desalination plant turned **seawater** into drinking water through a complex process.

irrigate

v. to supply water to land to help plants grow

synonym : water, drench, soak

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

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

particulate

adj. consisting of small particles, especially those that are suspended in a fluid or air

synonym : granular, dusty

(1) **particulate** size, (2) **particulate** pollution

Smoke from forest fires is causing an increase in **particulate** matter in the air.

segue

v. to make a smooth and uninterrupted transition from one topic or activity to another

synonym: transit, move, shift

(1) **segue** the conversation, (2) **segue** between topics

He smoothly **segued** from one topic to the next during his presentation.

scoff

v. to laugh and talk about a person or idea in a way that makes it clear that you think they are stupid or silly

synonym: mock, gibe, jeer

(1) **scoff** at a rumor, (2) **scoff** at the idea

We tend to **scoff** at the education, habits, and tastes of people from very different cultures.

diminish

v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

synonym: decline, dwindle, lessen

(1) **diminish** a reputation, (2) **diminish** swelling

As people get old, their energies may **diminish**.

retrospect

n. a review or analysis of past events, particularly to gain insight or understanding; a consideration of something that has already occurred or been accomplished

synonym: review, hindsight, contemplation

(1) **retrospect** review, (2) with hindsight **retrospect**

In **retrospect**, I wish I had made a different decision.

logarithmic

adj. of or relating to logarithms (= the exponent that shows how many times a number has to be multiplied by itself to produce a given number)

synonym: exponential, logarithmical

(1) a **logarithmic** table, (2) **logarithmic** function

The **logarithmic** scale of the graph made it easier to compare the different values.

unify

v. to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit

synonym : bring together, consolidate, merge

(1) **unify** the system, (2) **unify** the party

The people believe that they can **unify** the country.

ambiguity

n. the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning

synonym : uncertainty, vagueness, obscurity

(1) free from **ambiguity**, (2) avoid **ambiguity** in writing

The **ambiguity** in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.

synchronize

v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

synonym : coordinate, accompany, harmonize

(1) **synchronize** movements, (2) **synchronize** our watches

The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly **synchronized**.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym : intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

flywheel

n. a large, heavy wheel with a smooth rim that is used to store rotational energy and to smooth out fluctuations in the speed of an engine or other machine

(1) **flywheel** energy, (2) the **flywheel** on the car's engine

The exercise bike has a large **flywheel** that provides resistance and simulates outdoor cycling.

quirk

n. a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group

synonym : eccentricity, idiosyncrasy, peculiarity

(1) personality **quirk**, (2) a **quirk** of fate

One of her **quirks** is that she always wears mismatched socks.

- ram** v. to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
synonym: crash, collide, slam
(1) **ram** the door open, (2) **ram** into the ice
The car **rammed** into the wall, causing significant damage.
- occlude** v. to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access
synonym: block, obstruct, close
(1) **occlude** a blood vessel, (2) **occlude** the ureteral orifice
The traffic jam **occluded** the road and caused a significant delay in the journey.
- skeptic** n. a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
synonym: doubter, disbeliever, questioner
(1) an ingrained **skeptic**, (2) climate **skeptic**
He was a **skeptic** who doubted the existence of supernatural phenomena.
- terrifying** *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
synonym: frightening, intimidating, alarming
(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events
Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.
- veer** v. to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another
synonym: swerve, diverge, shift
(1) **veer** toward danger, (2) **veer** to the left
The car **veered** off the road and crashed into a tree.
- industrious** *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous
(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student
He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work

late into the night.

generalize

v. to make something, such as a theory, idea, etc., more widespread or widely applicable based on what is true in some cases

synonym: conclude, derive, extrapolate

(1) **generalize** Kepler's first law, (2) **generalize** sophisticatedly

It's dangerous to **generalize** about people.

actuate

v. to cause a machine or equipment to start to work

synonym: motivate, spark, drive

(1) **actuate** the circuits, (2) **actuate** a parking brake

A desire for success **actuated** her.

humanoid

n. a machine or creature that has a body shape similar to that of a human

synonym: android, anthropomorphic

(1) **humanoid** hand, (2) **humanoid** design

The **humanoid** robot was able to mimic human movements and expressions.

instruct

v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

synonym: train, coach, guide

(1) **instruct** a student, (2) **instruct** a computer

The facility manager **instructed** the security guards to be on high alert.

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.

mow

v. to cut down and trim grass or other vegetation, usually with a machine such as a lawnmower; to cut down or harvest crops

synonym : cut, trim, clip

(1) **mow** the field, (2) **mow** a yard

My father likes to **mow** the lawn early on Saturday mornings.

dystopia

n. an imaginary place where everything is extremely bad because of deprivation or oppression or terror, or a work of fiction describing those place

synonym : anti-utopia

(1) a crumbling **dystopia**, (2) the escape from **dystopia**

The loss of industry turned working-class neighborhoods into **dystopias**.

updatable

adj. capable of being updated or modified with new information, data, or software

synonym : upgradeable, modernizable

(1) **updatable** operating system, (2) **updatable** database

The software is **updatable**, so users can always access the latest version with improved features.

butler

n. a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties

synonym : valet, majordomo, manservant

(1) **butler** service, (2) household **butler**

The personal **butler** announced that dinner was ready, and the guests went to the dining room.

presume

v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance

synonym : assume, suppose, guess

(1) **presume** innocence, (2) **presume** on his tolerance

I **presume** you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.

scarcity

n. the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount

synonym: lack, absence, dearth

(1) fuel **scarcity**, (2) **scarcity** of capital

Some research says that a relative decline in teacher salaries is causing labor **scarcity**.

superintelligence

n. a hypothetical agent, for example, a computer or space alien, that possesses intelligence far surpassing that of humankind

(1) digital **superintelligence**, (2) artificial **superintelligence**

He is looking for evidence of the existence of **superintelligence** from cosmic signals.

decouple

v. to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously

synonym: disunite, disjoint, break up

(1) **decouple** a power supply, (2) **decouple** a space shuttle

We have to **decouple** our foreign policy from ideology.

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.

unintended

adj. not planned or meant

synonym: accidental, unconsenting, involuntary

(1) **unintended** bias, (2) **unintended** misunderstanding

Excessive human interference in the global environment may bring **unintended** consequences.

cyborg

n. a being that is part human and part machine or technology, often created through the integration of electronic and mechanical devices

synonym : android, bionic, half-human

(1) **cyborg** technology, (2) **cyborg** cop

The idea of a superhuman **cyborg** army is a popular trope in action movies.

eerie

adj. strange, or frightening; suggestive of the supernatural

synonym : bizarre, creepy, dreadful

(1) **eerie** silence, (2) the **eerie** whistle of dropping bombs

The street was entirely silent and a bit **eerie**.

symbiosis

n. a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms, typically to the advantage of all

synonym : cooperation, interdependence, mutualism

(1) industrial **symbiosis**, (2) **symbiosis** establishment

The **symbiosis** between the coral and the algae is an important example of mutualism.

optimist

n. a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future

synonym : positive thinker, dreamer, idealist

(1) **optimist** by nature, (2) excessive **optimist**

She is a confident **optimist** who always looks on the bright side.

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

synonym : nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

gruesome

adj. causing horror or disgust

synonym : appalling, horrific, terrible

(1) hear **gruesome** details, (2) **gruesome** accident
The **gruesome** crime scene was difficult for the detectives to stomach.

sect

n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

synonym: group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

synonym: ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

neurological

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

synonym: nervous, neural, brain-related

(1) fever with **neurological** signs, (2) **neurological** symptoms

The patient was diagnosed with a **neurological** disorder affecting their motor skills.

morbid

adj. characterized by a preoccupation with death or unhealthy topics or behaviors; gruesome or disturbing

synonym: unhealthy, sickly, gruesome

(1) **morbid** fascination, (2) **morbid** joke

The decayed and **morbid** atmosphere of the abandoned house scared her.

schizophrenia

n. a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior

synonym : psychosis, disorder, mental illness

(1) **schizophrenia** spectrum disorder, (2) **schizophrenia** treatment

The **schizophrenia** patient was experiencing severe auditory hallucinations.

app

n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

synonym : application, software

(1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**

The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.

heartbreak

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

synonym : grief, sorrow, bitterness

(1) ease her **heartbreak**, (2) go through **heartbreak**

They had experienced the **heartbreak** of losing two children due to premature births.

abreast

adv. side by side and facing the same way; keeping up to date with the latest developments or knowledge

synonym : side by side, alongside, parallel

(1) keep **abreast** of advancement, (2) ride **abreast**

Scientists attend conferences and read scientific journals to stay **abreast** of the latest research findings.

limbic

adj. of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction

(1) **limbic** cortex, (2) **limbic** epilepsy

The **limbic** brain region responded readily to negative or sad sounds.

instinct

n. an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

synonym : intuition, aptitude, feeling

(1) **instinct** for self-preservation, (2) aggressive **instinct**
When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial **instinct** was to flee.

telepathy

n. the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses

synonym : mind-reading, esp, thought transference

(1) **telepathy** test, (2) **telepathy** experiment

The comic book hero had a **telepathy** power, which allowed him to read and control minds, making him a formidable foe

starship

n. a spacecraft designed for long-distance travel between stars; a fictional spacecraft used in science fiction

synonym : interstellar vessel, spaceship, galactic craft

(1) **starship** captain, (2) futuristic **starship** design

The **starship** crew encountered an alien race they had never seen before.

grail

n. a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable

synonym : chalice, treasure, quest

(1) holy **grail**, (2) ultimate **grail**

The search for the **grail** is often used as a metaphor for any difficult quest or task.

falcon

n. a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight

synonym : hawk, eagle, kestrel

(1) **falcon** feathers, (2) peregrine **falcon**

The **falcon's** keen eyesight makes it an excellent hunter.

moreover

adv. indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before

synonym : furthermore, besides, in addition

(1) **moreover**, she decided to go, (2) but **moreover**, they work well together

The company is environmentally conscious, and **moreover**, it uses sustainable materials in its products.

refurbish

v. to renovate or improve something old or worn out, typically by cleaning, repairing, or replacing parts to restore its original condition or appearance

synonym : renovate, revamp, remodel

(1) **refurbish** a room, (2) **refurbish** a classic car

I plan to **refurbish** my old dresser with a fresh coat of paint and new drawer handles.

booster

n. something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something

synonym : promoter, supporter, advocate

(1) metabolism **booster**, (2) morale **booster**

The energy drink is marketed as a **booster** to help athletes perform better.

mind-boggling

adj. extremely surprising or overwhelming and, therefore, difficult to understand or imagine

synonym : overwhelming, amazing, astonishing

(1) a **mind-boggling** puzzle, (2) a **mind-boggling** display

Educating hundreds of thousands of recruits is a **mind-boggling** task.

methane

n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

(1) atmospheric **methane**, (2) reduce **methane** emissions

The ignition of **methane** gas in the plant killed five employees.

propulsive

adj. having the ability or tendency to propel or drive forward; having a strong impelling force

synonym : driving, impelling, compelling

(1) **propulsive** force, (2) **propulsive** power

The airplane's **propulsive** engines were powerful, allowing for a speedy takeoff.

parachute

n. a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air

(1) **parachute** troops, (2) golden **parachute**

This training includes emergency escape drills with **parachutes**.

asteroid

n. a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

synonym : minor planet, planetoid, rocky planetesimal

(1) **asteroid** mining, (2) **asteroid** explorer

Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the **asteroid** belt to understand the early solar system better.

Jovian

adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

synonym : Jupiter, giant planet

(1) **Jovian** satellites, (2) **Jovian** planet

The **Jovian** moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.

spartan

adj. of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity

synonym : ascetic, austere, hard

(1) **spartan** training, (2) a **spartan** diet

The soldier lived a **spartan** lifestyle, with few possessions and luxuries.

armada

n. a large fleet of warships or other vessels, typically organized for a specific military purpose and often under the command of a single admiral; a large group of powerful or influential people or things

synonym: fleet, flotilla, squadron

(1) naval **armada**, (2) **armada** ships

The Spanish **Armada** was a powerful fleet of ships that attempted to invade England in 1588.

cramped

adj. not having enough space for the people in it; uncomfortably small or restricted

synonym: congested, overcrowded, narrow

(1) feel **cramped**, (2) a **cramped** house

She writes a **cramped** hand.

lifespan

n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

synonym: duration, lifetime, continuance

(1) **lifespan** extension, (2) **lifespan** retrieval curve

Generally speaking, men have a shorter **lifespan** than women.

volcano

n. a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

synonym: mount, peak, crater

(1) **volcano** alert level, (2) active **volcano**

The island was formed by a **volcano** millions of years ago.

paradox

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

synonym: incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

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

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

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.

enlightened

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

synonym: educated, informed, aware

(1) **enlightened** age, (2) make an **enlightened** decision

The **enlightened** teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

cephalopod

n. marine mollusk such as an octopus or squid, characterized by a well-developed head, eyes, and tentacles (= long parts like arms)

(1) **cephalopod** mollusk, (2) a **cephalopod** with eight arms

Cephalopods move quickly through the outflow of water from a muscular funnel beneath the head.

devour

v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

synonym: consume, swallow, destroy

(1) **devour** a meal, (2) **devour** my way

She **devoured** the mystery novel in one sitting.

allude

v. to suggest or make reference to something indirectly

synonym: imply, indicate, hint

(1) **allude** to his low origin, (2) **allude** to the planning

He **alluded** to the problem but did not mention it directly.

boggle

v. to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised

synonym: hesitate, stagger, bewilder

(1) **boggle** the imagination, (2) **boggle** at the price
The complexity of the situation can **boggle** the mind.

synergy

n. the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

synonym: cooperation, collaboration, partnership

(1) **synergy** collaboration, (2) **synergy** between businesses
The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee **synergy**.

subterranean

adj. under the ground

synonym: underground, belowground, subsurface

(1) **subterranean** rooms, (2) **subterranean** motives for murder

Such **subterranean** passages span kilometers in London.

devote

v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

synonym: commit, dedicate, apply

(1) **devote** all of my energies, (2) **devote** my own life
He **devoted** himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.

divert

v. to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose

synonym: distract, redirect, sidetrack

(1) **divert** attention, (2) **divert** an assault

Due to the road construction, we had to **divert** our course to get to the restaurant.

facto

adj. of or relating to facts; done in reality; actually existing or occurring

synonym: actual, real

(1) ex post **facto** approval, (2) a de **facto** government
The new software has become the de **facto** tool for professionals in the field.

bonkers

adj. slang for completely crazy or insane

synonym: crazy, insane, nuts

(1) **bonkers** idea, (2) sound **bonkers**

The traffic during rush hour can make even the calmest person go **bonkers**.

sanity

n. the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational

synonym: mental health, rationality, soundness

(1) **sanity** check, (2) have a **sanity** hearing

Her job's long hours and high pressure started affecting her **sanity**.

brainstorming

n. a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas

(1) **brainstorming** session, (2) do a **brainstorming** about a new product

Many companies employ **brainstorming** as a good way of generating innovative ideas.

billionaire

n. a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars

synonym: mega-rich, wealthy, tycoon

(1) Silicon Valley **billionaire**, (2) oil **billionaire**

The self-made **billionaire** donated millions to charity.

offend

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

synonym: insult, hurt, anger

(1) **offend** his sensibilities, (2) **offend** a customer

His rude comments **offended** many people at the party.

axiom

n. a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based

synonym : principle, maxim, postulate

(1) self-evident **axiom**, (2) fundamental **axiom**

It is an **axiom** in mathematics that two parallel lines never intersect.

disgust

n. a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval

synonym : nauseate, hate, dislike

(1) public **disgust**, (2) show **disgust** at his actions

He was filled with **disgust** and fear for the threat of war.

philanthropy

n. the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

synonym : altruism, benevolence, generosity

(1) **philanthropy** organization, (2) private **philanthropy**

Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on **philanthropy**.

drumbeat

n. a regular, steady beat or rhythm, often used to accompany music or to mark the passage of time

synonym : rhythm, cadence, pulse

(1) steady **drumbeat**, (2) thundering **drumbeat**

The ceremonial **drumbeat** echoed through the temple during the ritual.

shrug

v. to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

(1) **shrug** off the importance, (2) **shrug** his shoulders sadly

I respect her ability to **shrug** off harsh criticism.

birthrate

n. the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year

synonym : fertility, natality

(1) low **birthrate**, (2) declining **birthrate**

The **birthrate** in many developed countries has been decreasing in recent years.

depopulate

v. to decrease the population of a place, often because of disease, war, or other disasters; to remove people from a place, often forcibly

synonym: empty, desolate, evacuate

(1) **depopulate** town, (2) **depopulate** an area

The famine caused the village to **depopulate** as people migrated to find food.

Session 2: Spelling

1. al____ng statistics *adj.* causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
2. household bu____r *n.* a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties
3. the escape from dy____ia *n.* an imaginary place where everything is extremely bad because of deprivation or oppression or terror, or a work of fiction describing those place
4. ir____te fields *v.* to supply water to land to help plants grow
5. li____c epilepsy *adj.* of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction
6. sch____nia treatment *n.* a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior
7. make an enl____ed decision *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
8. pa____te troops *n.* a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air

ANSWERS: 1. alarming, 2. butler, 3. dystopia, 4. irrigate, 5. limbic, 6. schizophrenia, 7. enlightened, 8. parachute

9. un__y the system *v.* to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit
10. a log_____ic table *adj.* of or relating to logarithms (= the exponent that shows how many times a number has to be multiplied by itself to produce a given number)
11. cannot log in to the a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
12. de___r my way *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
13. li_____m mining *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
14. the pa_____x of the heap *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
15. bra_____ing session *n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
16. hu_____id design *n.* a machine or creature that has a body shape similar to that of a human
17. dangerous com_____cy *n.* a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems

ANSWERS: 9. unify, 10. logarithmic, 11. app, 12. devour, 13. lithium, 14. paradox, 15. brainstorming, 16. humanoid, 17. complacency

18. cy___g cop *n.* a being that is part human and part machine or technology, often created through the integration of electronic and mechanical devices
19. di___t an assault *v.* to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose
20. de___e all of my energies *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
21. di____sh a reputation *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
22. gen_____ze sophisticatedly *v.* to make something, such as a theory, idea, etc., more widespread or widely applicable based on what is true in some cases
23. golden pa_____te *n.* a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air
24. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
25. geo_____al activity *adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth

ANSWERS: 18. cyborg, 19. divert, 20. devote, 21. diminish, 22. generalize, 23. parachute, 24. industrious, 25. geothermal

26. em_____ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
27. dep_____te an area *v.* to decrease the population of a place, often because of disease, war, or other disasters; to remove people from a place, often forcibly
28. st_____ip captain *n.* a spacecraft designed for long-distance travel between stars; a fictional spacecraft used in science fiction
29. uni_____ed bias *adj.* not planned or meant
30. un__y the party *v.* to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit
31. se_____er bacteria *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
32. with hindsight ret_____ct *n.* a review or analysis of past events, particularly to gain insight or understanding; a consideration of something that has already occurred or been accomplished
33. a cep_____od with eight arms *n.* marine mollusk such as an octopus or squid, characterized by a well-developed head, eyes, and tentacles (= long parts like arms)
34. digital sup_____nce *n.* a hypothetical agent, for example, a computer or space alien, that possesses intelligence far surpassing that of humankind
35. public di_____t *n.* a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval

ANSWERS: 26. embarrass, 27. depopulate, 28. starship, 29. unintended, 30. unify, 31. seawater, 32. retrospect, 33. cephalopod, 34. superintelligence, 35. disgust

36. hear gr_____me details *adj.* causing horror or disgust
37. in_____ct for self-preservation *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
38. oil bil_____re *n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
39. com_____nt attitude *adj.* satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes
40. a qu__k of fate *n.* a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
41. artificial sup_____nce *n.* a hypothetical agent, for example, a computer or space alien, that possesses intelligence far surpassing that of humankind
42. syn_____ze movements *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
43. a min_____ing display *adj.* extremely surprising or overwhelming and, therefore, difficult to understand or imagine
44. steady dr_____at *n.* a regular, steady beat or rhythm, often used to accompany music or to mark the passage of time
45. en_____e the company to use the logo *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
46. show di_____t at his actions *n.* a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval

ANSWERS: 36. gruesome, 37. instinct, 38. billionaire, 39. complacent, 40. quirk, 41. superintelligence, 42. synchronize, 43. mind-boggling, 44. drumbeat, 45. entitle, 46. disgust

47. geo_____al drilling *adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
48. ease her hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
49. sh__g off the importance *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
50. se__e between topics *v.* to make a smooth and uninterrupted transition from one topic or activity to another
51. peregrine fa___n *n.* a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight
52. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
53. bo___e the imagination *v.* to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised
54. holy gr__l *n.* a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable
55. in_____ct a computer *v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
56. am_____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

ANSWERS: 47. geothermal, 48. heartbreak, 49. shrug, 50. segue, 51. falcon, 52. terrifying, 53. boggle, 54. grail, 55. instruct, 56. amplify

57. low bi_____te *n.* the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year
58. pro_____nt mixture *n.* a substance that provides the force to propel (= to cause something to move forwards) something, such as a rocket or spray can
59. sy_____y collaboration *n.* the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements
60. Silicon Valley bil_____re *n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
61. self-evident ax__m *n.* a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based
62. mo_____er, she decided to go *adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
63. in_____ct a student *v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
64. thundering dr_____at *n.* a regular, steady beat or rhythm, often used to accompany music or to mark the passage of time
65. r_m into the ice *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force

ANSWERS: 57. birthrate, 58. propellant, 59. synergy, 60. billionaire, 61. axiom, 62. moreover, 63. instruct, 64. drumbeat, 65. ram

66. of___d his sensibilities *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
67. li___c cortex *adj.* of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction
68. sp_____n training *adj.* of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity
69. active vo_____o *n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.
70. bu___r service *n.* a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties
71. ex post fa__o approval *adj.* of or relating to facts; done in reality; actually existing or occurring
72. al___e to the planning *v.* to suggest or make reference to something indirectly
73. se_____er pollution *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
74. the fl_____el on the car's engine *n.* a large, heavy wheel with a smooth rim that is used to store rotational energy and to smooth out fluctuations in the speed of an engine or other machine

ANSWERS: 66. offend, 67. limbic, 68. spartan, 69. volcano, 70. butler, 71. facto, 72. allude, 73. seawater, 74. flywheel

75. a min_____ing puzzle *adj.* extremely surprising or overwhelming and, therefore, difficult to understand or imagine
76. sch_____nia spectrum disorder *n.* a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior
77. ride ab_____t *adv.* side by side and facing the same way; keeping up to date with the latest developments or knowledge
78. syn_____ze our watches *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
79. pro_____ve power *adj.* having the ability or tendency to propel or drive forward; having a strong impelling force
80. up_____le operating system *adj.* capable of being updated or modified with new information, data, or software
81. s__t beliefs *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
82. sa___y check *n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
83. se__e the conversation *v.* to make a smooth and uninterrupted transition from one topic or activity to another
84. sound bo_____s *adj.* slang for completely crazy or insane

ANSWERS: 75. mind-boggling, 76. schizophrenia, 77. abreast, 78. synchronize, 79. propulsive, 80. updatable, 81. sect, 82. sanity, 83. segue, 84. bonkers

85. sub_____ean motives for murder *adj.* under the ground
86. uni_____ed misunderstanding *adj.* not planned or meant
87. of____d a customer *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
88. gr_____me accident *adj.* causing horror or disgust
89. Jo____n planet *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
90. asp_____on into the lungs *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
91. mu__y aroma *adj.* having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss
92. m_w a yard *v.* to cut down and trim grass or other vegetation, usually with a machine such as a lawnmower; to cut down or harvest crops
93. pro_____ve force *adj.* having the ability or tendency to propel or drive forward; having a strong impelling force
94. the ee__e whistle of dropping bombs *adj.* strange, or frightening; suggestive of the supernatural
95. re_____k the role of the manager *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
96. as_____id explorer *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
97. cat_____he risk management *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

ANSWERS: 85. subterranean, 86. unintended, 87. offend, 88. gruesome, 89. Jovian, 90. aspiration, 91. musky, 92. mow, 93. propulsive, 94. eerie, 95. rethink, 96. asteroid, 97. catastrophe

98. do a bra_____ing about a new product
n. a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
99. up_____le database
adj. capable of being updated or modified with new information, data, or software
100. pr_____cy of doom
n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader
101. pes_____ic for our survival
adj. tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome
102. pro_____nt tank
n. a substance that provides the force to propel (= to cause something to move forwards) something, such as a rocket or spray can
103. re_____sh a classic car
v. to renovate or improve something old or worn out, typically by cleaning, repairing, or replacing parts to restore its original condition or appearance
104. reduce me_____e emissions
n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
105. pr_____e on his tolerance
v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance
106. excessive op_____st
n. a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future

ANSWERS: 98. brainstorming, 99. updatable, 100. prophecy, 101. pessimistic, 102. propellant, 103. refurbish, 104. methane, 105. presume, 106. optimist

107. li_____an extension *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
108. op_____st by nature *n.* a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future
109. li_____m carbonate *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
110. m_w the field *v.* to cut down and trim grass or other vegetation, usually with a machine such as a lawnmower; to cut down or harvest crops
111. sc__f at a rumor *v.* to laugh and talk about a person or idea in a way that makes it clear that you think they are stupid or silly
112. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
113. fuel sc_____ty *n.* the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount
114. pr_____cy fulfillment *n.* a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader
115. re_____sh a room *v.* to renovate or improve something old or worn out, typically by cleaning, repairing, or replacing parts to restore its original condition or appearance

ANSWERS: 107. lifespan, 108. optimist, 109. lithium, 110. mow, 111. scoff, 112. electrify, 113. scarcity, 114. prophecy, 115. refurbish

116. log_____ic function *adj.* of or relating to logarithms (= the exponent that shows how many times a number has to be multiplied by itself to produce a given number)
117. as_____id mining *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
118. sc__f at the idea *v.* to laugh and talk about a person or idea in a way that makes it clear that you think they are stupid or silly
119. de___r a meal *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
120. sy_____is establishment *n.* a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms, typically to the advantage of all
121. dep_____te town *v.* to decrease the population of a place, often because of disease, war, or other disasters; to remove people from a place, often forcibly
122. mo___d joke *adj.* characterized by a preoccupation with death or unhealthy topics or behaviors; gruesome or disturbing
123. do_____ay scenario *n.* the last day of the world when Christians believe that God will judge everyone; an unpleasant or disastrous event
124. mu__y perfume *adj.* having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss

ANSWERS: 116. logarithmic, 117. asteroid, 118. scoff, 119. devour, 120. symbiosis, 121. depopulate, 122. morbid, 123. doomsday, 124. musky

125. neu_____cal symptoms *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
126. bo_____s idea *adj.* slang for completely crazy or insane
127. pr_____e innocence *v.* to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance
128. hy__o turbine *n.* a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology
129. ir_____te the flowers and plants *v.* to supply water to land to help plants grow
130. se_____er myself from the world *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
131. private phi_____opy *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
132. fever with neu_____cal signs *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
133. li_____an retrieval curve *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
134. ultimate gr__l *n.* a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable
135. cep_____od mollusk *n.* marine mollusk such as an octopus or squid, characterized by a well-developed head, eyes, and tentacles (= long parts like arms)

ANSWERS: 125. neurological, 126. bonkers, 127. presume, 128. hydro, 129. irrigate, 130. sequester, 131. philanthropy, 132. neurological, 133. lifespan, 134. grail, 135. cephalopod

136. avoid climate cat_____he *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
137. 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
138. 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
139. sh__g his shoulders sadly *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
140. par_____te size *adj.* consisting of small particles, especially those that are suspended in a fluid or air
141. a cr_____d house *adj.* not having enough space for the people in it; uncomfortably small or restricted
142. hu_____id hand *n.* a machine or creature that has a body shape similar to that of a human
143. fa___n feathers *n.* a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight
144. sy_____y between businesses *n.* the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

ANSWERS: 136. catastrophe, 137. superpower, 138. superpower, 139. shrug, 140. particulate, 141. cramped, 142. humanoid, 143. falcon, 144. synergy

145. take a pes_____ic view of life *adj.* tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome
146. en_____e him to a pension *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
147. futuristic st_____ip design *n.* a spacecraft designed for long-distance travel between stars; a fictional spacecraft used in science fiction
148. oc_____e a blood vessel *v.* to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access
149. mo_____d fascination *adj.* characterized by a preoccupation with death or unhealthy topics or behaviors; gruesome or disturbing
150. ac_____e a parking brake *v.* to cause a machine or equipment to start to work
151. bo_____e at the price *v.* to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised
152. but mo_____er, they work well together *adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
153. naval ar_____a *n.* a large fleet of warships or other vessels, typically organized for a specific military purpose and often under the command of a single admiral; a large group of powerful or influential people or things

ANSWERS: 145. pessimistic, 146. entitle, 147. starship, 148. occlude, 149. morbid, 150. actuate, 151. boggle, 152. moreover, 153. armada

154. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
155. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
156. al_____ng news *adj.* causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
157. com_____nt with past successes *adj.* satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes
158. free from am_____ty *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
159. killer a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
160. te_____hy experiment *n.* the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses
161. sc_____ty of capital *n.* the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount
162. French pa_____x *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
163. v__r toward danger *v.* to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another

ANSWERS: 154. amplify, 155. terrifying, 156. alarming, 157. complacent, 158. ambiguity, 159. app, 160. telepathy, 161. scarcity, 162. paradox, 163. veer

164. go through hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
165. no asp_____on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
166. se_____er ten percent of the annual carbon emissions *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
167. climate sk_____c *n.* a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
168. ret_____ct review *n.* a review or analysis of past events, particularly to gain insight or understanding; a consideration of something that has already occurred or been accomplished
169. v__r to the left *v.* to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another
170. re_____k a marketing plan *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
171. avoid com_____cy *n.* a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems
172. fundamental ax__m *n.* a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based

ANSWERS: 164. heartbreak, 165. aspiration, 166. sequester, 167. skeptic, 168. retrospect, 169. veer, 170. rethink, 171. complacency, 172. axiom

173. a de fa__o government *adj.* of or relating to facts; done in reality; actually existing or occurring
174. declining bi_____te *n.* the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year
175. keep ab_____t of advancement *adv.* side by side and facing the same way; keeping up to date with the latest developments or knowledge
176. a sp_____n diet *adj.* of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity
177. de_____le a space shuttle *v.* to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously
178. em_____ss my project *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
179. par_____te pollution *adj.* consisting of small particles, especially those that are suspended in a fluid or air
180. atmospheric me_____e *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
181. industrial sy_____is *n.* a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms, typically to the advantage of all
182. ee__e silence *adj.* strange, or frightening; suggestive of the supernatural

ANSWERS: 173. facto, 174. birthrate, 175. abreast, 176. spartan, 177. decouple, 178. embarrass, 179. particulate, 180. methane, 181. symbiosis, 182. eerie

183. sub_____ean rooms *adj.* under the ground
184. have a sa___y hearing *n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
185. morale bo_____r *n.* something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
186. di_____sh swelling *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
187. oc_____e the ureteral orifice *v.* to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access
188. metabolism bo_____r *n.* something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
189. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
190. r_m the door open *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
191. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
192. ar___a ships *n.* a large fleet of warships or other vessels, typically organized for a specific military purpose and often under the command of a single admiral; a large group of powerful or influential people or things

ANSWERS: 183. subterranean, 184. sanity, 185. booster, 186. diminish, 187. occlude, 188. booster, 189. industrious, 190. ram, 191. electrify, 192. armada

193. vo____o alert level *n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.
194. de___e my own life *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
195. secret s__t *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
196. hy__o power *n.* a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology
197. enl____ed age *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
198. avoid am____ty in writing *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
199. gen____ze Kepler's first law *v.* to make something, such as a theory, idea, etc., more widespread or widely applicable based on what is true in some cases
200. ne___n cell body *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
201. cy___g technology *n.* a being that is part human and part machine or technology, often created through the integration of electronic and mechanical devices

ANSWERS: 193. volcano, 194. devote, 195. sect, 196. hydro, 197. enlightened, 198. ambiguity, 199. generalize, 200. neuron, 201. cyborg

211. economic do_____ay *n.* the last day of the world when Christians believe that God will judge everyone; an unpleasant or disastrous event
212. di____t attention *v.* to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose
213. an ingrained sk_____c *n.* a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
214. aggressive in_____ct *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
215. Jo____n satellites *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
216. de_____le a power supply *v.* to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously

ANSWERS: 211. doomsday, 212. divert, 213. skeptic, 214. instinct, 215. Jovian, 216. decouple

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ignition of _____ gas in the plant killed five employees.
n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
2. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
3. This task is going to take me till _____.
n. the last day of the world when Christians believe that God will judge everyone; an unpleasant or disastrous event
4. The software is _____ so users can always access the latest version with improved features.
adj. capable of being updated or modified with new information, data, or software
5. The airplane's _____ engines were powerful, allowing for a speedy takeoff.
adj. having the ability or tendency to propel or drive forward; having a strong impelling force
6. Generally speaking, men have a shorter _____ than women.
n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
7. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.
adj. very frightening or intimidating
8. The fortune teller's _____ that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.
n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

ANSWERS: 1. methane, 2. industrious, 3. doomsday, 4. updatable, 5. propulsive, 6. lifespan, 7. terrifying, 8. prophecy

9. He became _____ in his job and stopped trying to improve.
adj. satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes
10. The water shortage in the region has made it difficult for farmers to _____ their crops.
v. to supply water to land to help plants grow
11. The facility manager _____ the security guards to be on high alert.
v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
12. He was filled with _____ and fear for the threat of war.
n. a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval
13. A desire for success _____ her.
v. to cause a machine or equipment to start to work
14. The _____ crime scene was difficult for the detectives to stomach.
adj. causing horror or disgust
15. The decayed and _____ atmosphere of the abandoned house scared her.
adj. characterized by a preoccupation with death or unhealthy topics or behaviors; gruesome or disturbing
16. The _____ between the coral and the algae is an important example of mutualism.
n. a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms, typically to the advantage of all

ANSWERS: 9. complacent, 10. irrigate, 11. instructed, 12. disgust, 13. actuated, 14. gruesome, 15. morbid, 16. symbiosis

17. There are many theories to explain this _____.
- n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
18. The sudden rise in crime rates in our neighborhood is quite _____.
- adj.* causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
19. She is a confident _____ who always looks on the bright side.
- n.* a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future
20. The exercise bike has a large _____ that provides resistance and simulates outdoor cycling.
- n.* a large, heavy wheel with a smooth rim that is used to store rotational energy and to smooth out fluctuations in the speed of an engine or other machine
21. The _____ in many developed countries has been decreasing in recent years.
- n.* the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year
22. The _____ patient was experiencing severe auditory hallucinations.
- n.* a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior
23. The _____ brain region responded readily to negative or sad sounds.
- adj.* of or relating to the system of the brain that supports a variety of functions, including emotion, behavior, long-term memory, and olfaction

ANSWERS: 17. paradox, 18. alarming, 19. optimist, 20. flywheel, 21. birthrate, 22. schizophrenia, 23. limbic

24. The car _____ into the wall, causing significant damage.
- v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
25. Many companies employ _____ as a good way of generating innovative ideas.
- n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
26. Her job's long hours and high pressure started affecting her _____.
- n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
27. The Spanish _____ was a powerful fleet of ships that attempted to invade England in 1588.
- n.* a large fleet of warships or other vessels, typically organized for a specific military purpose and often under the command of a single admiral; a large group of powerful or influential people or things
28. The town is exploring using _____ energy to power its homes and buildings.
- adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
29. The ceremonial _____ echoed through the temple during the ritual.
- n.* a regular, steady beat or rhythm, often used to accompany music or to mark the passage of time
30. _____ batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.
- n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

ANSWERS: 24. rammed, 25. brainstorming, 26. sanity, 27. Armada, 28. geothermal, 29. drumbeat, 30. Lithium-ion

31. The company is environmentally conscious, and _____ it uses sustainable materials in its products.

adv. indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before

32. Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the _____ belt to understand the early solar system better.

n. a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

33. In _____ I wish I had made a different decision.

n. a review or analysis of past events, particularly to gain insight or understanding; a consideration of something that has already occurred or been accomplished

34. Smoke from forest fires is causing an increase in _____ matter in the air.

adj. consisting of small particles, especially those that are suspended in a fluid or air

35. Scientists attend conferences and read scientific journals to stay _____ of the latest research findings.

adv. side by side and facing the same way; keeping up to date with the latest developments or knowledge

36. He approved their requests to _____ the jury.

v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

37. The famine caused the village to _____ as people migrated to find food.

v. to decrease the population of a place, often because of disease, war, or other disasters; to remove people from a place, often forcibly

ANSWERS: 31. moreover, 32. asteroid, 33. retrospect, 34. particulate, 35. abreast, 36. sequester, 37. depopulate

38. Such _____ passages span kilometers in London.
adj. under the ground
39. The soldier lived a _____ lifestyle, with few possessions and luxuries.
adj. of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity
40. The loss of industry turned working-class neighborhoods into _____.
n. an imaginary place where everything is extremely bad because of deprivation or oppression or terror, or a work of fiction describing those place
41. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
42. The people believe that they can _____ the country.
v. to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit
43. The self-made _____ donated millions to charity.
n. a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
44. We have to _____ our company's product lineup for further growth.
v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
45. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.
n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

ANSWERS: 38. subterranean, 39. spartan, 40. dystopias, 41. neuron, 42. unify, 43. billionaire, 44. rethink, 45. heartbreak

46. The _____ keen eyesight makes it an excellent hunter.
- n.* a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight
47. He _____ himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.
- v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
48. The team's _____ led to their defeat, as they didn't put in the effort needed to win the game.
- n.* a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems
49. The traffic jam _____ the road and caused a significant delay in the journey.
- v.* to obstruct or block something, usually a passage or opening, in a way that prevents normal flow or access
50. The idea of a superhuman _____ army is a popular trope in action movies.
- n.* a being that is part human and part machine or technology, often created through the integration of electronic and mechanical devices
51. He was a _____ who doubted the existence of supernatural phenomena.
- n.* a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
52. The energy drink is marketed as a _____ to help athletes perform better.
- n.* something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
53. Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on _____.
- n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

ANSWERS: 46. falcon's, 47. devoted, 48. complacency, 49. occluded, 50. cyborg, 51. skeptic, 52. booster, 53. philanthropy

54. I respect her ability to _____ off harsh criticism.

- v. to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

55. The employee was _____ to a week of vacation time.

- v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

56. The minority _____ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

- n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

57. The traffic during rush hour can make even the calmest person go _____.

- adj. slang for completely crazy or insane

58. She _____ the mystery novel in one sitting.

- v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

59. She was unduly _____ about her future.

- adj. tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome

60. I plan to _____ my old dresser with a fresh coat of paint and new drawer handles.

- v. to renovate or improve something old or worn out, typically by cleaning, repairing, or replacing parts to restore its original condition or appearance

61. The car _____ off the road and crashed into a tree.

- v. to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another

ANSWERS: 54. shrug, 55. entitled, 56. sect, 57. bonkers, 58. devoured, 59. pessimistic, 60. refurbish, 61. veered

62. The street was entirely silent and a bit _____.

adj. strange, or frightening; suggestive of the supernatural

63. When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial _____ was to flee.

n. an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

64. He is looking for evidence of the existence of _____ from cosmic signals.

n. a hypothetical agent, for example, a computer or space alien, that possesses intelligence far surpassing that of humankind

65. The _____ plant generates electricity by harnessing the power of water.

n. a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology

66. _____ move quickly through the outflow of water from a muscular funnel beneath the head.

n. marine mollusk such as an octopus or squid, characterized by a well-developed head, eyes, and tentacles (= long parts like arms)

67. It is an _____ in mathematics that two parallel lines never intersect.

n. a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based

68. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 62. eerie, 63. instinct, 64. superintelligence, 65. hydro, 66. Cephalopods, 67. axiom, 68. electrify

69. He smoothly _____ from one topic to the next during his presentation.
v. to make a smooth and uninterrupted transition from one topic or activity to another
70. He _____ to the problem but did not mention it directly.
v. to suggest or make reference to something indirectly
71. The _____ crew encountered an alien race they had never seen before.
n. a spacecraft designed for long-distance travel between stars; a fictional spacecraft used in science fiction
72. The personal _____ announced that dinner was ready, and the guests went to the dining room.
n. a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties
73. My father likes to _____ the lawn early on Saturday mornings.
v. to cut down and trim grass or other vegetation, usually with a machine such as a lawnmower; to cut down or harvest crops
74. One of her _____ is that she always wears mismatched socks.
n. a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
75. Some research says that a relative decline in teacher salaries is causing labor _____.
n. the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount
76. She writes a _____ hand.
adj. not having enough space for the people in it; uncomfortably small or restricted

ANSWERS: 69. segued, 70. alluded, 71. starship, 72. butler, 73. mow, 74. quirks, 75. scarcity, 76. cramped

77. The _____ in the rocket provided the force needed to reach outer space.
n. a substance that provides the force to propel (= to cause something to move forwards) something, such as a rocket or spray can
78. The new software has become the de _____ tool for professionals in the field.
adj. of or relating to facts; done in reality; actually existing or occurring
79. The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly _____.
v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
80. I _____ you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.
v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance
81. Due to the road construction, we had to _____ our course to get to the restaurant.
v. to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose
82. The _____ scent of the old book filled the air of the dusty library.
adj. having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss
83. The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee _____.
n. the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

ANSWERS: 77. propellant, 78. facto, 79. synchronized, 80. presume, 81. divert, 82. musky, 83. synergy

84. We have to _____ our foreign policy from ideology.
- v.* to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously
85. The _____ in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.
- n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
86. It's dangerous to _____ about people.
- v.* to make something, such as a theory, idea, etc., more widespread or widely applicable based on what is true in some cases
87. The search for the _____ is often used as a metaphor for any difficult quest or task.
- n.* a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable
88. The comic book hero had a _____ power, which allowed him to read and control minds, making him a formidable foe
- n.* the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses
89. As people get old, their energies may _____.
- v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
90. The _____ moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.
- adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

ANSWERS: 84. decouple, 85. ambiguity, 86. generalize, 87. grail, 88. telepathy, 89. diminish, 90. Jovian

91. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the _____ release.
n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
92. The _____ robot was able to mimic human movements and expressions.
n. a machine or creature that has a body shape similar to that of a human
93. The lack of funds has resulted in a _____ for our university system.
n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
94. Educating hundreds of thousands of recruits is a _____ task.
adj. extremely surprising or overwhelming and, therefore, difficult to understand or imagine
95. The _____ scale of the graph made it easier to compare the different values.
adj. of or relating to logarithms (= the exponent that shows how many times a number has to be multiplied by itself to produce a given number)
96. You might need to _____ this point.
v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
97. This training includes emergency escape drills with _____.
n. a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air
98. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.
v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

ANSWERS: 91. app's, 92. humanoid, 93. catastrophe, 94. mind-boggling, 95. logarithmic, 96. amplify, 97. parachutes, 98. embarrass

99. 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
100. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
- n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
101. The island was formed by a _____ millions of years ago.
- n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.
102. Excessive human interference in the global environment may bring _____ consequences.
- adj.* not planned or meant
103. The desalination plant turned _____ into drinking water through a complex process.
- n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
104. The _____ teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.
- adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
105. We tend to _____ at the education, habits, and tastes of people from very different cultures.
- v.* to laugh and talk about a person or idea in a way that makes it clear that you think they are stupid or silly

ANSWERS: 99. superpower, 100. aspiration, 101. volcano, 102. unintended, 103. seawater, 104. enlightened, 105. scoff

106. The patient was diagnosed with a _____ disorder affecting their motor skills.

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

107. The complexity of the situation can _____ the mind.

v. to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised

108. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

ANSWERS: 106. neurological, 107. boggle, 108. offended