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Bevy Smith: How to discover your authentic self -- at any age | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

snide

adj. derogatory or mocking indirectly or subtly, often with a tone of contempt or disapproval

synonym: sarcastic, mocking, derisive

(1) **snide** criticism, (2) **snide** attitude

His **snide** remarks toward his coworkers showed his lack of respect for them.

revelry

n. lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment

synonym: festivity, merrymaking, celebration

(1) **revelry** in the streets, (2) festival **revelry**

The street was filled with **revelry** on New Year's Eve.

pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

synonym: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

glamorous

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

synonym: alluring, bewitching, enchanting

(1) **glamorous** movie stars, (2) cast **glamorous** eyes

The south coast is less **glamorous** yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

humdrum

adj. lacking in excitement or variety; repetitive; monotonous

synonym: monotonous, dull, boring

(1) **humdrum** routine, (2) **humdrum** day

My **humdrum** job is boring and unfulfilling.

stereotype

n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

(1) avoid **stereotype**, (2) negative **stereotypes**

Changing **stereotypes** about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.

equate

v. to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous

synonym: associate, liken, relate

(1) **equate** mistakes with failure, (2) **equate** to legal responsibility

It isn't very reasonable to **equate** money with happiness.

quitter

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

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

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

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

quo

n. the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

synonym: status, condition, state

(1) status **quo** politician, (2) **quo** warranto

The company has been successful in maintaining the status **quo**.

invariably

adv. in every case or on every occasion; without exception

synonym : consistently, always, uniformly

(1) **invariably** polite, (2) **invariably** correct

She **invariably** arrived at the office early each day.

shady

adj. characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight

synonym : shadowy, dubious, questionable

(1) **shady** business, (2) **shady** deal

The tree provided some **shady** relief from the scorching sun.

epitome

n. a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type

synonym : embodiment, apotheosis

(1) an **epitome** of history, (2) world's **epitome**

He was the **epitome** of courage, always standing up for his beliefs.

extravaganza

n. a spectacular or extravagant show, event, or celebration; a lavish or excessive display of wealth, talent, or creativity

synonym : spectacle, pageant, show

(1) holiday **extravaganza**, (2) music **extravaganza**

The fashion show was a lavish, glittering **extravaganza** of style and glamour.

carving

n. the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design

synonym : sculpture, engraving, sculpture

(1) a wood **carving**, (2) **carving** instrument

The intricate **carving** on the wooden box was the work of a master craftsman.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

glamour

n. an attractive or exciting quality that makes people feel admiration or fascination; the attractive and exciting quality that people often associate with the fashion, entertainment, and beauty industries

synonym: glitz, allure, charisma

(1) **glamour** model, (2) Hollywood **glamour**

Her shimmering dress added **glamour** to the evening party.

coy

adj. deliberately shy, evasive, or modest, often in a way that is seen as flirtatious or coquettish; unwilling to commit to a course of action or express an opinion

synonym: bashful, shy, demure

(1) **coy** smile, (2) **coy** behavior

The **coy** mannerisms of the actress only added to her allure on and off the screen.

wardrobe

n. a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings

synonym: clothing, attire, closet

(1) walk-in **wardrobe**, (2) minimalist **wardrobe**

Her **wardrobe** selection included several pieces from high-end designer brands.

turtleneck

n. a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar

synonym: polo-neck

(1) a **turtleneck** sweater, (2) **turtleneck** undershirts

I want to buy a new **turtleneck** tomorrow.

compulsive

adj. relating to or involving an irresistible urge to do something repeatedly or excessively, often in a way that is harmful or detrimental to one's well-being or relationships

synonym : compelling, obsessive, uncontrollable

(1) **compulsive** gambling, (2) **compulsive** behavior

He had a **compulsive** need to check the stove was turned off every time he left the house.

craze

n. an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad

synonym : mania, fad, agitation

(1) **craze** for speculation, (2) fitness **craze**

We experienced a **craze** for electric vehicles as interest in green tech grew.

angst

n. a feeling of deep anxiety or dread, typically an unfocused one about the human condition or the state of the world in general

synonym : anxiety, worry, stress

(1) an endless stream of **angst**, (2) with no **angst**

He felt a sense of **angst** about the future and wasn't sure what would happen.

yell

v. to shout in a sudden and loud way

synonym : shout, scream, cry

(1) **yell** for help, (2) **yell** as loud as we can

When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and **yelled** at me.

insidious

adj. tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

synonym : sly, cunning, subtle

(1) **insidious** plot, (2) **insidious** behavior

The disease has an **insidious** onset, making it difficult to diagnose.

elusive

adj. difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember

synonym: mysterious, ambiguous, inapproachable

(1) an **elusive** criminal, (2) track down an **elusive** fact

The physicist who found the **elusive** particle won the Nobel Prize.

miraculous

adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected

synonym: amazing, astonishing, awesome

(1) a **miraculous** encounter, (2) go through a **miraculous** change

He made a **miraculous** recovery.

tutelage

n. the act or process of providing guidance, instruction, or protection to someone, especially someone who is young or inexperienced; the relationship between a mentor or teacher and their student or protégé

synonym: mentoring, guidance, apprenticeship

(1) **tutelage** of young learners, (2) provide **tutelage**

The student was under the **tutelage** of a well-known scholar.

mingle

v. to mix or blend in, especially socially; to associate with others in a friendly, informal manner

synonym: mix, blend, merge

(1) **mingle** with colleagues, (2) **mingle** with the locals

I decided to **mingle** with the crowd and converse with some new people.

sepia

n. a reddish-brown color reminiscent of old photographs; a photographic process or technique that produces prints in this color

synonym: brownish, rust-colored, tan

(1) **sepia** filter, (2) **sepia** photograph

The old photograph had a beautiful **sepia** tone.

sinister

adj. giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen

synonym: ominous, foreboding, evil

(1) **sinister** look, (2) in **sinister** terms

The dark clouds in the sky gave off a **sinister** feeling.

instill

v. to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually

synonym: implant, ingrain, inculcate

(1) **instill** confidence, (2) **instill** medication into my eye

The teacher attempted to **instill** the importance of hard work in her students.

alas

adv. (also exclamation) an expression of grief, condolence, or regret that is used to acknowledge a situation or outcome that is unfortunate or disappointing

synonym: alack, regrettably, unluckily

(1) **alas**, we did not win the game, (2) **alas**, I cannot attend the party

Alas, I realized I had left my keys at home and couldn't enter the building.

bevy

n. a large group or collection of people or things, particularly a group of birds or women

synonym: group, flock, cluster

(1) **bevy** of options, (2) **bevy** of beauties

A **bevy** of birds was flying together in formation.

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.

trajectory

n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space

synonym: course, curve, orbit

(1) career **trajectory**, (2) a **trajectory** missile

The company has shown an excellent growth **trajectory** over the years.

impersonate

v. to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire

synonym : imitate, mimic, copy

(1) **impersonate** a government official, (2) **impersonate** a character

The comedian is famous for his ability to **impersonate** famous politicians.

snark

n. sarcastic or cutting remarks or comments intended to ridicule or undermine someone, often with a tone of superiority or disdain

synonym : criticism, sarcasm, irony

(1) media **snark**, (2) political **snark**

She couldn't resist adding a little **snark** to her online comment.

montage

n. a sequence of images, sounds, or clips that are combined to convey a particular message or emotion

synonym : collage, mosaic, compilation

(1) **montage** sequence, (2) photographic **montage**

The film used a **montage** of images to show the progress of the character's journey over time.

limber

v. to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity

synonym : stretch, warm up, flex

(1) **limber** up with some stretching exercises, (2) **limber** my body

You need to **limber** up before starting to exercise to prevent injury.

insecure

adj. not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

synonym : uncertain, unsure, unconfident

(1) an **insecure** future, (2) **insecure** attachment

Children in an unstructured environment often feel **insecure**.

peruse

v. to read or examine something carefully and thoroughly
synonym : examine, scrutinize, study

(1) **peruse** every page of a book, (2) **peruse** the document
She **perused** the menu before ordering her meal.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym : mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

petty

adj. of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters

synonym : minor, insignificant, trivial

(1) **petty** crime, (2) **petty** cash

The **petty** arguments between coworkers were causing a toxic work environment.

doe

n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym : rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

conspire

v. to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose

synonym : plot, scheme, collude

(1) **conspire** his ruin, (2) **conspire** to corner the market

The group of friends **conspired** to pull a prank on their teacher.

congratulation

n. the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another

synonym : praise, compliment, felicitation

(1) **congratulation** on a promotion, (2) a matter for **congratulation**

The **congratulations** from her friends and family were overwhelming after she won the championship.

kudos

n. praise, honor, or recognition for an achievement or accomplishment

synonym : acclaim, praise, congratulations

(1) gain **kudos**, (2) **kudos** to the team

She received **kudos** from her boss for her exceptional work on the project.

malice

n. the intention or desire to do evil or harm towards someone; ill will or spite

synonym : spite, animosity, venom

(1) personal **malice**, (2) speak without **malice**

The defendant's **malice** towards the victim was evident in the testimony.

frown

v. to make an angry or severe expression by bringing your eyebrows together to indicate disapproval, displeasure, or concentration

synonym : scowl, glare, disapprove

(1) people with **frown** faces, (2) a worried **frown**

Thinking always made him **frown**.

wrinkle

n. a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty

synonym : crinkle, fold, crumple

(1) a fine **wrinkle** on a fabric, (2) a facial **wrinkle**

This suit is made of **wrinkle-proof** material.

quandary

n. a state of uncertainty or confusion, particularly when one is unsure of what to do; a dilemma

synonym : dilemma, uncertainty, predicament

(1) **quandary** situation, (2) financial **quandary**

I was in a **quandary** over which job offer to accept.

bard

n. a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song

synonym : poet, minstrel, troubadour

(1) medieval **bard**, (2) a famous **bard**

The **bard's** performance at the festival was the highlight of the event.

squelch

v. to make a sucking sound like that made by walking heavily through mud; to suppress or silence something completely; to crush or quash something, especially through force or authority

synonym : squish, slosh, splash

(1) **squelch** a rumor, (2) **squelch** a rebellion

She had to **squelch** her anger before she spoke to her boss about the issue.

excavate

v. to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something

synonym : dig, unearth, extract

(1) **excavate** a deep hole, (2) **excavate** soil

The archaeologists **excavated** the ruins of an ancient city buried under the desert sands.

cursory

adj. hasty and superficial; not detailed or thorough

synonym : superficial, hasty, quick

(1) **cursory** reading, (2) **cursory** inspection

I only had time for a **cursory** look at the report before the meeting.

adventurous

adj. willing to take risks and try new or difficult things

synonym : daring, risk-taking, bold

(1) lead an **adventurous** life, (2) **adventurous** pioneers

He has an **adventurous** spirit and is unafraid of risks.

nerd

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

synonym : geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck

He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

bravado

n. a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere

synonym : boldness, swagger, arrogance

(1) lose my **bravado**, (2) heroic **bravado**

The show of **bravado** by the bully only served to mask his insecurity and fear.

hamlet

n. a small village or settlement, often without a church

synonym : village, settlement, community

(1) **hamlet** village, (2) historic **hamlet**

The winter snowstorm entirely engulfed the small **hamlet**.

boisterous

adj. characterized by high energy, noise, or excitement; exuberant; rowdy

synonym : rowdy, loud, uproarious

(1) **boisterous** crowd, (2) **boisterous** children

The children's **boisterous** laughter could be heard from down the street.

pep

n. energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness

synonym : energy, enthusiasm, liveliness

(1) **pep** me up, (2) have a lot of **peps**

The coach gave a **pep** talk to the team before the game to boost their spirits.

heave

v. to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea

synonym: lift, hoist, tug

(1) **heave** a sigh, (2) **heave** a boulder

The workers had to **heave** the heavy equipment up the staircase to the top floor.

ladle

n. a large, long-handled spoon used for serving liquids, particularly soups or stews

synonym: spoon, scoop, dipper

(1) wooden **ladle**, (2) **ladle** gravy

She used a **ladle** to pour soup into the bowls.

Session 2: Spelling

1. in_____us plot *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
2. sh__y business *adj.* characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight
3. festival re____y *n.* lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment
4. c_y behavior *adj.* deliberately shy, evasive, or modest, often in a way that is seen as flirtatious or coquettish; unwilling to commit to a course of action or express an opinion
5. world's ep_____e *n.* a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type
6. mi___e with the locals *v.* to mix or blend in, especially socially; to associate with others in a friendly, informal manner
7. co_____re his ruin *v.* to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
8. a matter for con_____ion *n.* the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another

ANSWERS: 1. insidious, 2. shady, 3. revelry, 4. coy, 5. epitome, 6. mingle, 7. conspire, 8. congratulation

9. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
10. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
11. cast gl_____us eyes *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
12. a tra_____ry missile *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
13. fitness cr___e *n.* an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad
14. in_____l confidence *v.* to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
15. li___r my body *v.* to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity
16. sq_____h a rebellion *v.* to make a sucking sound like that made by walking heavily through mud; to suppress or silence something completely; to crush or quash something, especially through force or authority
17. financial qu_____ry *n.* a state of uncertainty or confusion, particularly when one is unsure of what to do; a dilemma

ANSWERS: 9. doe, 10. determinant, 11. glamorous, 12. trajectory, 13. craze, 14. instill, 15. limber, 16. squelch, 17. quandary

18. with no an__t *n.* a feeling of deep anxiety or dread, typically an unfocused one about the human condition or the state of the world in general
19. sn__e attitude *adj.* derogatory or mocking indirectly or subtly, often with a tone of contempt or disapproval
20. eq___e to legal responsibility *v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
21. pe___e every page of a book *v.* to read or examine something carefully and thoroughly
22. ha___t village *n.* a small village or settlement, often without a church
23. he__e a sigh *v.* to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea
24. imp_____te a government official *v.* to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire
25. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
26. inv_____ly polite *adv.* in every case or on every occasion; without exception
27. se__a photograph *n.* a reddish-brown color reminiscent of old photographs; a photographic process or technique that produces prints in this color

ANSWERS: 18. angst, 19. snide, 20. equate, 21. peruse, 22. hamlet, 23. heave, 24. impersonate, 25. quitter, 26. invariably, 27. sepia

28. inv_____ly correct *adv.* in every case or on every occasion; without exception
29. com_____ve gambling *adj.* relating to or involving an irresistible urge to do something repeatedly or excessively, often in a way that is harmful or detrimental to one's well-being or relationships
30. in si_____er terms *adj.* giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
31. p_p me up *n.* energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness
32. c_y smile *adj.* deliberately shy, evasive, or modest, often in a way that is seen as flirtatious or coquettish; unwilling to commit to a course of action or express an opinion
33. an el_____e criminal *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
34. boi_____us children *adj.* characterized by high energy, noise, or excitement; exuberant; rowdy
35. tur_____ck undershirts *n.* a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar
36. y__l as loud as we can *v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
37. walk-in wa_____be *n.* a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings
38. q_o warranto *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

ANSWERS: 28. invariably, 29. compulsive, 30. sinister, 31. pep, 32. coy, 33. elusive, 34. boisterous, 35. turtleneck, 36. yell, 37. wardrobe, 38. quo

39. holiday ext_____nza *n.* a spectacular or extravagant show, event, or celebration; a lavish or excessive display of wealth, talent, or creativity
40. pe__y crime *adj.* of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters
41. y__l for help *v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
42. an ep_____e of history *n.* a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type
43. se__a filter *n.* a reddish-brown color reminiscent of old photographs; a photographic process or technique that produces prints in this color
44. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
45. minimalist wa_____be *n.* a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings
46. speak without ma___e *n.* the intention or desire to do evil or harm towards someone; ill will or spite
47. baseless pre_____on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 39. extravaganza, 40. petty, 41. yell, 42. epitome, 43. sepia, 44. intellect, 45. wardrobe, 46. malice, 47. pretension

48. qu____ry situation *n.* a state of uncertainty or confusion, particularly when one is unsure of what to do; a dilemma
49. sq____h a rumor *v.* to make a sucking sound like that made by walking heavily through mud; to suppress or silence something completely; to crush or quash something, especially through force or authority
50. hu____m routine *adj.* lacking in excitement or variety; repetitive; monotonous
51. negative ste____pes *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
52. boi____us crowd *adj.* characterized by high energy, noise, or excitement; exuberant; rowdy
53. in____re attachment *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
54. mi____e with colleagues *v.* to mix or blend in, especially socially; to associate with others in a friendly, informal manner
55. media sn__k *n.* sarcastic or cutting remarks or comments intended to ridicule or undermine someone, often with a tone of superiority or disdain
56. sh__y deal *adj.* characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight

ANSWERS: 48. quandary, 49. squelch, 50. humdrum, 51. stereotype, 52. boisterous, 53. insecure, 54. mingle, 55. snark, 56. shady

57. a worried fr__n *v.* to make an angry or severe expression by bringing your eyebrows together to indicate disapproval, displeasure, or concentration
58. tu____ge of young learners *n.* the act or process of providing guidance, instruction, or protection to someone, especially someone who is young or inexperienced; the relationship between a mentor or teacher and their student or protégé
59. hu____m day *adj.* lacking in excitement or variety; repetitive; monotonous
60. photographic mo____e *n.* a sequence of images, sounds, or clips that are combined to convey a particular message or emotion
61. mo____e sequence *n.* a sequence of images, sounds, or clips that are combined to convey a particular message or emotion
62. historic ha____t *n.* a small village or settlement, often without a church
63. b__y of beauties *n.* a large group or collection of people or things, particularly a group of birds or women
64. a tur____ck sweater *n.* a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar
65. gl____r model *n.* an attractive or exciting quality that makes people feel admiration or fascination; the attractive and exciting quality that people often associate with the fashion, entertainment, and beauty industries

ANSWERS: 57. frown, 58. tutelage, 59. humdrum, 60. montage, 61. montage, 62. hamlet, 63. bevy, 64. turtleneck, 65. glamour

66. go through a mir_____us change *adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
67. a famous b__d *n.* a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song
68. a__s, we did not win the game *adv.* (also exclamation) an expression of grief, condolence, or regret that is used to acknowledge a situation or outcome that is unfortunate or disappointing
69. lead an adv_____us life *adj.* willing to take risks and try new or difficult things
70. b__y of options *n.* a large group or collection of people or things, particularly a group of birds or women
71. political sn__k *n.* sarcastic or cutting remarks or comments intended to ridicule or undermine someone, often with a tone of superiority or disdain
72. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
73. con_____ion on a promotion *n.* the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another
74. imp_____te a character *v.* to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire

ANSWERS: 66. miraculous, 67. bard, 68. alas, 69. adventurous, 70. bevy, 71. snark, 72. nerd, 73. congratulation, 74. impersonate

75. a mir_____us encounter *adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
76. ex_____te a deep hole *v.* to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something
77. a__s, I cannot attend the party *adv.* (also exclamation) an expression of grief, condolence, or regret that is used to acknowledge a situation or outcome that is unfortunate or disappointing
78. pre_____on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
79. serial qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
80. have a lot of p_ps *n.* energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness
81. track down an el_____e fact *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
82. sn__e criticism *adj.* derogatory or mocking indirectly or subtly, often with a tone of contempt or disapproval
83. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
84. heroic br_____o *n.* a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere

ANSWERS: 75. miraculous, 76. excavate, 77. alas, 78. pretension, 79. quitter, 80. pep, 81. elusive, 82. snide, 83. doe, 84. bravado

85. an endless stream of an__t *n.* a feeling of deep anxiety or dread, typically an unfocused one about the human condition or the state of the world in general
86. environmental det____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
87. co____re to corner the market *v.* to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
88. gain ku__s *n.* praise, honor, or recognition for an achievement or accomplishment
89. ind____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
90. provide tu____ge *n.* the act or process of providing guidance, instruction, or protection to someone, especially someone who is young or inexperienced; the relationship between a mentor or teacher and their student or protégé
91. eq____e mistakes with failure *v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
92. lose my br____o *n.* a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere
93. wooden la__e *n.* a large, long-handled spoon used for serving liquids, particularly soups or stews

ANSWERS: 85. angst, 86. determinant, 87. conspire, 88. kudos, 89. industrious, 90. tutelage, 91. equate, 92. bravado, 93. ladle

94. an in_____re future *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
95. li____r up with some stretching exercises *v.* to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity
96. ca_____g instrument *n.* the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design
97. a wood ca_____g *n.* the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design
98. la__e gravy *n.* a large, long-handled spoon used for serving liquids, particularly soups or stews
99. people with fr__n faces *v.* to make an angry or severe expression by bringing your eyebrows together to indicate disapproval, displeasure, or concentration
100. adv_____us pioneers *adj.* willing to take risks and try new or difficult things
101. cu_____y reading *adj.* hasty and superficial; not detailed or thorough
102. gl_____us movie stars *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
103. avoid ste_____pe *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

ANSWERS: 94. insecure, 95. limber, 96. carving, 97. carving, 98. ladle, 99. frown, 100. adventurous, 101. cursory, 102. glamorous, 103. stereotype

104. si____er look *adj.* giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
105. personal ma____e *n.* the intention or desire to do evil or harm towards someone; ill will or spite
106. cu____y inspection *adj.* hasty and superficial; not detailed or thorough
107. re____y in the streets *n.* lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment
108. ex____te soil *v.* to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something
109. music ext____nza *n.* a spectacular or extravagant show, event, or celebration; a lavish or excessive display of wealth, talent, or creativity
110. career tra____ry *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
111. a fine wr____e on a fabric *n.* a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty
112. ind____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
113. ku__s to the team *n.* praise, honor, or recognition for an achievement or accomplishment
114. in____us behavior *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

ANSWERS: 104. sinister, 105. malice, 106. cursory, 107. revelry, 108. excavate, 109. extravaganza, 110. trajectory, 111. wrinkle, 112. industrious, 113. kudos, 114. insidious

115. status q_o politician *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
116. medieval b__d *n.* a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song
117. com_____ve behavior *adj.* relating to or involving an irresistible urge to do something repeatedly or excessively, often in a way that is harmful or detrimental to one's well-being or relationships
118. a facial wr_____e *n.* a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty
119. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
120. human in _____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
121. in_____l medication into my eye *v.* to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
122. pe__y cash *adj.* of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters
123. Hollywood gl_____r *n.* an attractive or exciting quality that makes people feel admiration or fascination; the attractive and exciting quality that people often associate with the fashion, entertainment, and beauty industries

ANSWERS: 115. quo, 116. bard, 117. compulsive, 118. wrinkle, 119. nerd, 120. intellect, 121. instill, 122. petty, 123. glamour

124. he__e a boulder *v.* to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea
125. cr__e for speculation *n.* an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad
126. pe___e the document *v.* to read or examine something carefully and thoroughly

ANSWERS: 124. heave, 125. craze, 126. peruse

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
 - n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

2. The show of _____ by the bully only served to mask his insecurity and fear.
 - n.* a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere

3. When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and _____ at me.
 - v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way

4. She had to _____ her anger before she spoke to her boss about the issue.
 - v.* to make a sucking sound like that made by walking heavily through mud; to suppress or silence something completely; to crush or quash something, especially through force or authority

5. You need to _____ up before starting to exercise to prevent injury.
 - v.* to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity

6. She _____ arrived at the office early each day.
 - adv.* in every case or on every occasion; without exception

7. She _____ the menu before ordering her meal.
 - v.* to read or examine something carefully and thoroughly

ANSWERS: 1. determinant, 2. bravado, 3. yelled, 4. squelch, 5. limber, 6. invariably, 7. perused

8. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
9. The _____ arguments between coworkers were causing a toxic work environment.
adj. of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters
10. He had a _____ need to check the stove was turned off every time he left the house.
adj. relating to or involving an irresistible urge to do something repeatedly or excessively, often in a way that is harmful or detrimental to one's well-being or relationships
11. _____ I realized I had left my keys at home and couldn't enter the building.
adv. (also exclamation) an expression of grief, condolence, or regret that is used to acknowledge a situation or outcome that is unfortunate or disappointing
12. This suit is made of _____ material.
n. a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty
13. It isn't very reasonable to _____ money with happiness.
v. to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
14. My _____ job is boring and unfulfilling.
adj. lacking in excitement or variety; repetitive; monotonous
15. The coach gave a _____ talk to the team before the game to boost their spirits.
n. energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness

ANSWERS: 8. intellect, 9. petty, 10. compulsive, 11. Alas, 12. wrinkle-proof, 13. equate, 14. humdrum, 15. pep

16. The film used a _____ of images to show the progress of the character's journey over time.
n. a sequence of images, sounds, or clips that are combined to convey a particular message or emotion
17. The company has shown an excellent growth _____ over the years.
n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space
18. We experienced a _____ for electric vehicles as interest in green tech grew.
n. an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad
19. He has an _____ spirit and is unafraid of risks.
adj. willing to take risks and try new or difficult things
20. I want to buy a new _____ tomorrow.
n. a sweater or jersey with a high close-fitting collar
21. He made a _____ recovery.
adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
22. The disease has an _____ onset, making it difficult to diagnose.
adj. tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
23. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

ANSWERS: 16. montage, 17. trajectory, 18. craze, 19. adventurous, 20. turtleneck, 21. miraculous, 22. insidious, 23. quitter

24. The student was under the _____ of a well-known scholar.
n. the act or process of providing guidance, instruction, or protection to someone, especially someone who is young or inexperienced; the relationship between a mentor or teacher and their student or protégé
25. The children's _____ laughter could be heard from down the street.
adj. characterized by high energy, noise, or excitement; exuberant; rowdy
26. The winter snowstorm entirely engulfed the small _____.
n. a small village or settlement, often without a church
27. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
28. She used a _____ to pour soup into the bowls.
n. a large, long-handled spoon used for serving liquids, particularly soups or stews
29. I only had time for a _____ look at the report before the meeting.
adj. hasty and superficial; not detailed or thorough
30. The comedian is famous for his ability to _____ famous politicians.
v. to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire
31. A _____ of birds was flying together in formation.
n. a large group or collection of people or things, particularly a group of birds or women

ANSWERS: 24. tutelage, 25. boisterous, 26. hamlet, 27. industrious, 28. ladle, 29. cursory, 30. impersonate, 31. bevy

32. The _____ performance at the festival was the highlight of the event.
- n.* a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song
33. Hunters use a whistle that makes the ____ sound to lure stags.
- n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
34. The ____ mannerisms of the actress only added to her allure on and off the screen.
- adj.* deliberately shy, evasive, or modest, often in a way that is seen as flirtatious or coquettish; unwilling to commit to a course of action or express an opinion
35. Her _____ selection included several pieces from high-end designer brands.
- n.* a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings
36. He was the _____ of courage, always standing up for his beliefs.
- n.* a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type
37. She received _____ from her boss for her exceptional work on the project.
- n.* praise, honor, or recognition for an achievement or accomplishment
38. The tree provided some _____ relief from the scorching sun.
- adj.* characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight
39. Thinking always made him _____.
- v.* to make an angry or severe expression by bringing your eyebrows together to indicate disapproval, displeasure, or concentration

ANSWERS: 32. bard's, 33. doe, 34. coy, 35. wardrobe, 36. epitome, 37. kudos, 38. shady, 39. frown

40. The workers had to _____ the heavy equipment up the staircase to the top floor.
v. to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea
41. Children in an unstructured environment often feel _____.
adj. not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
42. The south coast is less _____ yet has many clean and appealing hotels.
adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
43. The dark clouds in the sky gave off a _____ feeling.
adj. giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
44. The defendant's _____ towards the victim was evident in the testimony.
n. the intention or desire to do evil or harm towards someone; ill will or spite
45. He felt a sense of _____ about the future and wasn't sure what would happen.
n. a feeling of deep anxiety or dread, typically an unfocused one about the human condition or the state of the world in general
46. The old photograph had a beautiful _____ tone.
n. a reddish-brown color reminiscent of old photographs; a photographic process or technique that produces prints in this color
47. He was, by nature, a cyber _____.
n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
48. She couldn't resist adding a little _____ to her online comment.
n. sarcastic or cutting remarks or comments intended to ridicule or undermine someone, often with a tone of superiority or disdain

ANSWERS: 40. heave, 41. insecure, 42. glamorous, 43. sinister, 44. malice, 45. angst, 46. sepia, 47. nerd, 48. snark

49. The fashion show was a lavish, glittering _____ of style and glamour.
n. a spectacular or extravagant show, event, or celebration; a lavish or excessive display of wealth, talent, or creativity
50. His _____ remarks toward his coworkers showed his lack of respect for them.
adj. derogatory or mocking indirectly or subtly, often with a tone of contempt or disapproval
51. His _____ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
52. The teacher attempted to _____ the importance of hard work in her students.
v. to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
53. The _____ from her friends and family were overwhelming after she won the championship.
n. the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another
54. The company has been successful in maintaining the status _____.
n. the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
55. The intricate _____ on the wooden box was the work of a master craftsman.
n. the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design
56. The archaeologists _____ the ruins of an ancient city buried under the desert sands.
v. to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something

ANSWERS: 49. extravaganza, 50. snide, 51. pretensions, 52. instill, 53. congratulations, 54. quo, 55. carving, 56. excavated

57. Changing _____ about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.
- n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
58. I was in a _____ over which job offer to accept.
- n.* a state of uncertainty or confusion, particularly when one is unsure of what to do; a dilemma
59. I decided to _____ with the crowd and converse with some new people.
- v.* to mix or blend in, especially socially; to associate with others in a friendly, informal manner
60. The physicist who found the _____ particle won the Nobel Prize.
- adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
61. The street was filled with _____ on New Year's Eve.
- n.* lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment
62. The group of friends _____ to pull a prank on their teacher.
- v.* to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
63. Her shimmering dress added _____ to the evening party.
- n.* an attractive or exciting quality that makes people feel admiration or fascination; the attractive and exciting quality that people often associate with the fashion, entertainment, and beauty industries

ANSWERS: 57. stereotypes, 58. quandary, 59. mingle, 60. elusive, 61. revelry, 62. conspired, 63. glamour