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Deval Patrick: A different understanding of American patriotism | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

downplay

v. to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something

synonym: minimize, downsize, play down

(1) **downplay** my ability, (2) **downplay** mistakes

The company tried to **downplay** the significance of the issue.

overturn

v. to turn something upside down; to upset

synonym: flip over, upset, topple

(1) **overturn** a decision, (2) **overturn** a table

The court **overturned** the original verdict.

worrisome

adj. causing worry, trouble, or anxiety; indicating the possible presence of danger, difficulty, or harm

synonym: concerning, troubling, bothersome

(1) **worrisome** issue, (2) **worrisome** development

The **worrisome** news about the impending storm caused many people to evacuate.

overlook

v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

synonym: disregard, look down, supervise

(1) **overlook** a street, (2) **overlook** that fact

We cannot **overlook** an opportunity for great success.

disparity

n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things

synonym: difference, inequality, gap

(1) the **disparity** between theory and reality, (2) income **disparity**

There is a significant **disparity** in pay between men and women in the company.

patriot

n. a person who loves their nation and would fight for it if required

synonym: nationalist, loyalist

(1) blind **patriot**, (2) zealous **patriot**

He is more of a hypocrite than a **patriot**, to be honest.

grandparent

n. a parent of one's father or mother

(1) great- **grandparent**, (2) person of **grandparent** age

She was close to her paternal **grandparents** and often spent summers with them.

overcrowded

adj. containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable

synonym: packed, congested, jammed

(1) **overcrowded** refugee camp, (2) **overcrowded** with passengers

The school district is facing a problem with **overcrowded** classrooms.

underresourced

adj. lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission

synonym: underfunded, deprived, resource-poor

(1) **underresourced** community, (2) **underresourced** nonprofits

The **underresourced** school needed help to provide basic supplies for its students.

patriotism

n. love and loyalty to one's country
synonym : nationalism, loyalty, devotion

(1) the spirit of **patriotism**, (2) fanatic **patriotism**

His actions were a testament to his deep love and **patriotism** for his country.

lynch

v. to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance

synonym : hang, execute, mob

(1) **lynch** law, (2) **lynch** him to death

The mob wanted to **lynch** the suspect before he could be tried in court.

laborer

n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

synonym : worker, employee, operative

(1) **laborer** job, (2) skilled **laborer**

The construction site hired many **laborers** to help with the heavy lifting.

grandchild

n. a child of someone's son or daughter

synonym : offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

startle

v. to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event

synonym : frighten, shock, surprise

(1) **startle** for a moment, (2) **startle** the world

The loud bang outside the window caused him to **startle** and spill his coffee.

confuse

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

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

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

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

preppy

n. a person, often young and affluent, who adopts or represents a fashion style associated with the culture of the northeastern United States; a fashion style characterized by conservative and classic clothing often associated with upscale or Ivy League school attire

(1) **preppy** style, (2) private **preppy** school

Polo shirts and penny loafers characterize the **preppy** look.

patriotic

adj. having or showing love for one's country and a desire for its success and welfare

synonym: loyal, chauvinistic, jingoistic

(1) **patriotic** duty, (2) **patriotic** fervor

He was wearing a **patriotic** T-shirt with the American flag on it.

lapel

n. the flat or folded part of the collar on a suit coat or other jacket that is turned back against the neck; a similar broad part of a garment, typically one that is not turned up

synonym: collar, label, badge

(1) vintage **lapel**, (2) **lapel** microphone

He adjusted the pin on his **lapel** before giving his speech.

flyover

n. a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping

synonym: overpass, bridge, flypast

(1) **flyover** zone, (2) **flyover** construction

The city's new **flyover** allows traffic to bypass the busy intersection below.

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.

opportune

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

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

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

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

discourage

v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

synonym: dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth

His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

nightclub

n. a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks

synonym: discotheque, club, dance hall

(1) **nightclub** entertainment, (2) **nightclub** music

They decided to go to the **nightclub** to dance the night away.

slogan

n. a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

synonym: catchphrase, tagline, motto

(1) catchy **slogan**, (2) advertising **slogan**

The company spent months researching and testing different brand **slogans** before finally settling on 'Just Do It' as their new tagline.

unarmed

adj. without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons

synonym : defenseless, vulnerable, helpless

(1) **unarmed** combat, (2) **unarmed** robbery

The **unarmed** protesters marched peacefully through the streets.

unaccountable

adj. not able to be explained or justified, often in a way that suggests something suspicious or dishonest is going on; not responsible or answerable for one's actions or behavior

synonym : unexplainable, inexplicable, mysterious

(1) **unaccountable** behavior, (2) **unaccountable** decision

The **unaccountable** disappearance of funds led to an investigation.

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.

sanctimonious

adj. characterized by excessive or hypocritical holiness or righteousness, often to show off one's supposed moral superiority

synonym : hypocritical, pharisaical, insincere

(1) **sanctimonious** attitude, (2) **sanctimonious** speech

She accused her boss of being a **sanctimonious** hypocrite.

inconvenient

adj. causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable

synonym : troublesome, difficult, awkward

(1) face an **inconvenient** truth, (2) **inconvenient** for shopping

It was **inconvenient** for her to go out of her way to pick up the package.

compel

v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

synonym : force, oblige, coerce

(1) **compel** a person to submission, (2) **compel** attention
The strict deadlines will **compel** the team to work efficiently.

compassionate

adj. feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others

synonym : empathetic, sympathetic, merciful

(1) a **compassionate** heart, (2) **compassionate** leave
My father has a serious and **compassionate** personality.

despise

v. to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something

synonym : hate, loathe, detest

(1) **despise** a particular food, (2) secretly **despise**
I **despise** injustice and those who perpetrate it.

hyperpartisanship

n. a state of extreme or excessive loyalty and support for a particular political party or ideology, often to the extent that it becomes difficult to engage in constructive dialogue or compromise with those who hold different views

synonym : polarization, partisanship, factionalism

(1) **hyperpartisanship** politics, (2) **hyperpartisanship** on democracy

The media's sensationalism has fueled **hyperpartisanship** in recent years.

cynicism

n. a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest

synonym : distrust, skepticism, pessimism

(1) **cynicism** towards politics, (2) intellectual **cynicism**

His constant **cynicism** made it difficult for him to connect with others.

overwhelm

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

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

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

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

commonwealth

n. a community of nations or people or a state in which the people hold the supreme power

synonym: federation, union, republic

(1) the **commonwealth** of learning, (2) **commonwealth** authority

The **Commonwealth** of Nations is an association of 54 countries, mostly former territories of the British Empire.

unspeakable

adj. too terrible, shocking, or distressing to speak about

synonym: unspeakably horrible, indescribable, unutterable

(1) **unspeakable** crime, (2) **unspeakable** pain

The survivors of the plane crash could only describe the **unspeakable** horror of the experience.

famine

n. a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons

synonym: hunger, starvation, drought

(1) **famine** relief, (2) coal **famine**

The severe **famine** caused by the drought has left many people without food.

blight

v. to have a detrimental effect on something, typically causing it to deteriorate or fail; (noun) any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting

synonym: devastate, ruin, decimate

(1) **blight** his life, (2) **blight** a crop

The abandoned factory was **blighted** by vandalism and graffiti.

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**.

jean

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

synonym: denim, cotton, pants

(1) a **jean** skirt, (2) **jean** denim

She wore her favorite pair of **jeans** to the party.

aisle

n. a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

synonym: corridor, passageway, gangway

(1) **aisle** seat, (2) the center **aisle** of a church

She walked down the **aisle** to the front of the church.

whisper

v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

synonym: murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves

He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

sideline

n. a secondary or less significant job, interest, or activity; a line on the side of a sports field that players must stay behind; (verb) to remove someone from their position or role, often temporarily or as a result of a setback or failure

synonym: sidestep, periphery, (verb) ignore

(1) **sideline** reporter, (2) lucrative **sideline**

The coach benched the star player after he broke a team

rule, leaving him on the **sideline** for the entire game.

decency

n. behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards

synonym: morality, propriety, decorum

(1) an offense against **decency**, (2) **decency** standards
He always tried to act with **decency**, treating others with respect and kindness.

presumption

n. an idea or belief taken to be true without proof or confirmation; an assumption or hypothesis based on incomplete evidence or understanding; a forward or audacious attitude or behavior that assumes too much authority or familiarity

synonym: assumption, arrogance, audacity

(1) **presumption** against forfeiture, (2) **presumption** of guilt
It is a common **presumption** that doctors know best, but patients should always ask questions and be informed about their healthcare decisions.

courtroom

n. a room in which a court of law is held

synonym: law court, tribunal

(1) **courtroom** drama, (2) **courtroom** trial

The eyewitness took the stand in the **courtroom** and gave testimony crucial to the case.

summon

v. to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally

synonym: call for, muster, assemble

(1) **summon** a lawyer, (2) **summon** a city council

The chairperson was responsible for **summoning** committees.

Session 2: Spelling

1. lucrative si_____ne
n. a secondary or less significant job, interest, or activity; a line on the side of a sports field that players must stay behind; (verb) to remove someone from their position or role, often temporarily or as a result of a setback or failure
2. dis_____ge customers
v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
3. pa_____ic fervor
adj. having or showing love for one's country and a desire for its success and welfare
4. great-gra_____nt
n. a parent of one's father or mother
5. asp_____on into the lungs
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
6. no asp_____on for fame
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
7. ov_____ok that fact
v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
8. una_____ble behavior
adj. not able to be explained or justified, often in a way that suggests something suspicious or dishonest is going on; not responsible or answerable for one's actions or behavior
9. an op_____ne remark
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 1. sideline, 2. discourage, 3. patriotic, 4. grandparent, 5. aspiration, 6. aspiration, 7. overlook, 8. unaccountable, 9. opportune

10. sh__g off the importance *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
11. the center ai__e of a church *n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure
12. answer in a wh____r *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
13. ni____ub music *n.* a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks
14. a j__n skirt *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
15. su____n a lawyer *v.* to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally
16. pre____on against forfeiture *n.* an idea or belief taken to be true without proof or confirmation; an assumption or hypothesis based on incomplete evidence or understanding; a forward or audacious attitude or behavior that assumes too much authority or familiarity
17. com____ate leave *adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
18. st____e the world *v.* to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event

ANSWERS: 10. shrug, 11. aisle, 12. whisper, 13. nightclub, 14. jean, 15. summon, 16. presumption, 17. compassionate, 18. startle

19. face an inc_____ent truth *adj.* causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable
20. skilled la_____r *n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
21. bl____t a crop *v.* to have a detrimental effect on something, typically causing it to deteriorate or fail; (noun) any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting
22. person of gra_____nt age *n.* a parent of one's father or mother
23. co____l a person to submission *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
24. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
25. income di_____ty *n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
26. co____l attention *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
27. un_____d robbery *adj.* without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons
28. uns_____le pain *adj.* too terrible, shocking, or distressing to speak about

ANSWERS: 19. inconvenient, 20. laborer, 21. blight, 22. grandparent, 23. compel, 24. grandchild, 25. disparity, 26. compel, 27. unarmed, 28. unspeakable

29. pr___y style *n.* a person, often young and affluent, who adopts or represents a fashion style associated with the culture of the northeastern United States; a fashion style characterized by conservative and classic clothing often associated with upscale or Ivy League school attire
30. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
31. com_____lth authority *n.* a community of nations or people or a state in which the people hold the supreme power
32. coal fa___e *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
33. do_____ay my ability *v.* to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something
34. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
35. co_____om trial *n.* a room in which a court of law is held
36. fanatic pat_____sm *n.* love and loyalty to one's country
37. pa_____ic duty *adj.* having or showing love for one's country and a desire for its success and welfare
38. a com_____ate heart *adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
39. und_____ced nonprofits *adj.* lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission

ANSWERS: 29. preppy, 30. confuse, 31. commonwealth, 32. famine, 33. downplay, 34. confuse, 35. courtroom, 36. patriotism, 37. patriotic, 38. compassionate, 39. underresourced

40. di_____sh a reputation *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
41. the com_____lth of learning *n.* a community of nations or people or a state in which the people hold the supreme power
42. gra_____ld development *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
43. secretly de_____e *v.* to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something
44. uns_____le crime *adj.* too terrible, shocking, or distressing to speak about
45. hyp_____hip on democracy *n.* a state of extreme or excessive loyalty and support for a particular political party or ideology, often to the extent that it becomes difficult to engage in constructive dialogue or compromise with those who hold different views
46. sh__g his shoulders sadly *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
47. the di_____ty between theory and reality *n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
48. wo_____me issue *adj.* causing worry, trouble, or anxiety; indicating the possible presence of danger, difficulty, or harm
49. ove_____ed refugee camp *adj.* containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable

ANSWERS: 40. diminish, 41. commonwealth, 42. grandchild, 43. despise, 44. unspeakable, 45. hyperpartisanship, 46. shrug, 47. disparity, 48. worrisome, 49. overcrowded

50. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
51. j__n denim *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
52. pre_____on of guilt *n.* an idea or belief taken to be true without proof or confirmation; an assumption or hypothesis based on incomplete evidence or understanding; a forward or audacious attitude or behavior that assumes too much authority or familiarity
53. hyp_____hip politics *n.* a state of extreme or excessive loyalty and support for a particular political party or ideology, often to the extent that it becomes difficult to engage in constructive dialogue or compromise with those who hold different views
54. st_____e for a moment *v.* to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event
55. de_____e a particular food *v.* to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something
56. ni_____ub entertainment *n.* a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks

ANSWERS: 50. overwhelm, 51. jean, 52. presumption, 53. hyperpartisanship, 54. startle, 55. despise, 56. nightclub

57. the spirit of pat_____sm *n.* love and loyalty to one's country
58. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
59. an offense against de_____y *n.* behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards
60. san_____ous attitude *adj.* characterized by excessive or hypocritical holiness or righteousness, often to show off one's supposed moral superiority
61. vintage la__l *n.* the flat or folded part of the collar on a suit coat or other jacket that is turned back against the neck; a similar broad part of a garment, typically one that is not turned up
62. un_____d combat *adj.* without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons
63. cy_____sm towards politics *n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
64. ov_____ok a street *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
65. blind pa_____t *n.* a person who loves their nation and would fight for it if required

ANSWERS: 57. patriotism, 58. overwhelm, 59. decency, 60. sanctimonious, 61. lapel, 62. unarmed, 63. cynicism, 64. overlook, 65. patriot

66. zealous pa____t *n.* a person who loves their nation and would fight for it if required
67. ai__e seat *n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure
68. san_____ous speech *adj.* characterized by excessive or hypocritical holiness or righteousness, often to show off one's supposed moral superiority
69. inc_____ent for shopping *adj.* causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable
70. do_____ay mistakes *v.* to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something
71. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
72. de_____y standards *n.* behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards
73. wo_____me development *adj.* causing worry, trouble, or anxiety; indicating the possible presence of danger, difficulty, or harm
74. the wh_____r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
75. catchy sl____n *n.* a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

ANSWERS: 66. patriot, 67. aisle, 68. sanctimonious, 69. inconvenient, 70. downplay, 71. opportune, 72. decency, 73. worrisome, 74. whisper, 75. slogan

76. co_____om drama *n.* a room in which a court of law is held
77. fl_____r construction *n.* a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping
78. ove_____ed with passengers *adj.* containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable
79. ov_____rn a decision *v.* to turn something upside down; to upset
80. fl_____r zone *n.* a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping
81. dis_____ge bacterial growth *v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
82. und_____ced community *adj.* lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission
83. su_____n a city council *v.* to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally
84. ly__h him to death *v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance

ANSWERS: 76. courtroom, 77. flyover, 78. overcrowded, 79. overturn, 80. flyover, 81. discourage, 82. underresourced, 83. summon, 84. lynch

85. ly__h law
- v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
86. private pr___y school
- n.* a person, often young and affluent, who adopts or represents a fashion style associated with the culture of the northeastern United States; a fashion style characterized by conservative and classic clothing often associated with upscale or Ivy League school attire
87. si_____ne reporter
- n.* a secondary or less significant job, interest, or activity; a line on the side of a sports field that players must stay behind; (verb) to remove someone from their position or role, often temporarily or as a result of a setback or failure
88. la_____r job
- n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
89. intellectual cy_____sm
- n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
90. advertising sl___n
- n.* a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

ANSWERS: 85. lynch, 86. preppy, 87. sideline, 88. laborer, 89. cynicism, 90. slogan

91. ov____rn a table *v.* to turn something upside down; to upset
92. fa___e relief *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
93. una_____ble decision *adj.* not able to be explained or justified, often in a way that suggests something suspicious or dishonest is going on; not responsible or answerable for one's actions or behavior
94. di____sh swelling *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
95. la__l microphone *n.* the flat or folded part of the collar on a suit coat or other jacket that is turned back against the neck; a similar broad part of a garment, typically one that is not turned up
96. bl___t his life *v.* to have a detrimental effect on something, typically causing it to deteriorate or fail; (noun) any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting

ANSWERS: 91. overturn, 92. famine, 93. unaccountable, 94. diminish, 95. lapel, 96. blight

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The media's sensationalism has fueled _____ in recent years.
n. a state of extreme or excessive loyalty and support for a particular political party or ideology, often to the extent that it becomes difficult to engage in constructive dialogue or compromise with those who hold different views
2. He always tried to act with _____ treating others with respect and kindness.
n. behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards
3. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
4. His parents tried to _____ him from becoming an artist.
v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
5. It was _____ for her to go out of her way to pick up the package.
adj. causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable
6. The construction site hired many _____ to help with the heavy lifting.
n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
7. She walked down the _____ to the front of the church.
n. a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

ANSWERS: 1. hyperpartisanship, 2. decency, 3. opportune, 4. discourage, 5. inconvenient, 6. laborers, 7. aisle

8. The city's new _____ allows traffic to bypass the busy intersection below.
- n.* a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping
9. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
- n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
10. There is a significant _____ in pay between men and women in the company.
- n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
11. The strict deadlines will _____ the team to work efficiently.
- v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
12. The severe _____ caused by the drought has left many people without food.
- n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
13. Her remarks _____ the debate.
- v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
14. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
- n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
15. He is more of a hypocrite than a _____ to be honest.
- n.* a person who loves their nation and would fight for it if required
16. The eyewitness took the stand in the _____ and gave testimony crucial to the case.
- n.* a room in which a court of law is held

ANSWERS: 8. flyover, 9. grandchild, 10. disparity, 11. compel, 12. famine, 13. confused, 14. aspiration, 15. patriot, 16. courtroom

17. His constant _____ made it difficult for him to connect with others.
n. a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
18. My father has a serious and _____ personality.
adj. feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
19. We cannot _____ an opportunity for great success.
v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
20. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.
n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
21. He was wearing a _____ T-shirt with the American flag on it.
adj. having or showing love for one's country and a desire for its success and welfare
22. 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
23. They decided to go to the _____ to dance the night away.
n. a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks
24. Polo shirts and penny loafers characterize the _____ look.
n. a person, often young and affluent, who adopts or represents a fashion style associated with the culture of the northeastern United States; a fashion style characterized by conservative and classic clothing often associated with upscale or Ivy League school attire

ANSWERS: 17. cynicism, 18. compassionate, 19. overlook, 20. jeans, 21. patriotic, 22. shrug, 23. nightclub, 24. preppy

25. The survivors of the plane crash could only describe the _____ horror of the experience.
adj. too terrible, shocking, or distressing to speak about
26. The coach benched the star player after he broke a team rule, leaving him on the _____ for the entire game.
n. a secondary or less significant job, interest, or activity; a line on the side of a sports field that players must stay behind; (verb) to remove someone from their position or role, often temporarily or as a result of a setback or failure
27. The company spent months researching and testing different brand _____ before finally settling on 'Just Do It' as their new tagline.
n. a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea
28. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
29. The school district is facing a problem with _____ classrooms.
adj. containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable
30. She was close to her paternal _____ and often spent summers with them.
n. a parent of one's father or mother
31. The _____ disappearance of funds led to an investigation.
adj. not able to be explained or justified, often in a way that suggests something suspicious or dishonest is going on; not responsible or answerable for one's actions or behavior

ANSWERS: 25. unspeakable, 26. sideline, 27. slogans, 28. overwhelm, 29. overcrowded, 30. grandparents, 31. unaccountable

32. He adjusted the pin on his _____ before giving his speech.

- n.* the flat or folded part of the collar on a suit coat or other jacket that is turned back against the neck; a similar broad part of a garment, typically one that is not turned up

33. The abandoned factory was _____ by vandalism and graffiti.

- v.* to have a detrimental effect on something, typically causing it to deteriorate or fail; (noun) any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting

34. As people get old, their energies may _____.

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

35. The _____ of Nations is an association of 54 countries, mostly former territories of the British Empire.

- n.* a community of nations or people or a state in which the people hold the supreme power

36. The _____ school needed help to provide basic supplies for its students.

- adj.* lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission

37. The _____ news about the impending storm caused many people to evacuate.

- adj.* causing worry, trouble, or anxiety; indicating the possible presence of danger, difficulty, or harm

38. I _____ injustice and those who perpetrate it.

- v.* to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something

ANSWERS: 32. lapel, 33. blighted, 34. diminish, 35. Commonwealth, 36. underresourced, 37. worrisome, 38. despise

39. The chairperson was responsible for _____ committees.
- v. to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally
40. The court _____ the original verdict.
- v. to turn something upside down; to upset
41. He took me aside and _____ in my ear.
- v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
42. It is a common _____ that doctors know best, but patients should always ask questions and be informed about their healthcare decisions.
- n. an idea or belief taken to be true without proof or confirmation; an assumption or hypothesis based on incomplete evidence or understanding; a forward or audacious attitude or behavior that assumes too much authority or familiarity
43. She accused her boss of being a _____ hypocrite.
- adj. characterized by excessive or hypocritical holiness or righteousness, often to show off one's supposed moral superiority
44. His actions were a testament to his deep love and _____ for his country.
- n. love and loyalty to one's country
45. The _____ protesters marched peacefully through the streets.
- adj. without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons
46. The mob wanted to _____ the suspect before he could be tried in court.
- v. to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance

ANSWERS: 39. summoning, 40. overturned, 41. whispered, 42. presumption, 43. sanctimonious, 44. patriotism, 45. unarmed, 46. lynch

47. The company tried to _____ the significance of the issue.

- v. to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something

48. The loud bang outside the window caused him to _____ and spill his coffee.

- v. to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event

ANSWERS: 47. downplay, 48. startle