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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Marie Brodsky: Can you solve the birthday cake riddle? | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

timeless

adj. not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion

synonym : dateless, everlasting, imperishable

(1) **timeless** masterpiece, (2) **timeless** topic

There is a **timeless** aspect to his most remarkable work.

giant

adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are

synonym : big, gigantic, huge

(1) **giant** trees, (2) **giant** tech company

The **giant** jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.

feast

n. a large meal, typically one served on a special occasion

synonym : banquet, celebration, dinner

(1) a **feast** for the eyes, (2) a nightly **feast**

The royal **feast** celebrated the harvest, and the community enjoyed it.

meticulously

adv. with great attention to detail; thoroughly and carefully

synonym : carefully, attentively, scrupulously

(1) **meticulously** crafted product, (2) **meticulously** executed

She **meticulously** planned every detail of her wedding.

sculpt

v. to create a work of art by carving, casting, or other shaping techniques

synonym: carve, mold, shape

(1) **sculpt** an image, (2) **sculpt** prototype

He spent hours every day **sculpting** figures out of clay.

centerpiece

n. the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table

synonym: highlight, focal point, heart

(1) the **centerpiece** of the meal, (2) **centerpiece** proposal

His writing activities are the **centerpiece** of his life.

interior

n. the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building

synonym: inner, inside, internal

(1) **interior** decoration, (2) plenty of **interior** space

The painter focused on the moody **interiors** of abandoned buildings in his work.

tunnel

n. an underground or underwater passage, typically for trains or cars

synonym: passageway, underground passage

(1) **tunnel** construction work, (2) **tunnel** disease

The workers had to dig through solid rock to create the vehicular **tunnel** allowing the cars to pass through the mountain.

asleep

adj. in a state of sleep

synonym: sleeping, fallen, at rest

(1) **asleep** at the wheel, (2) dead **asleep**

He lay down and fell **asleep** immediately.

sneak

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do

something secretly or stealthily

synonym : creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

undetected

adj. not perceived or discovered

synonym : undiscovered, hidden, concealed

(1) **undetected** cancer, (2) leave the house **undetected**

Doctors made mistakes, and diseases remained **undetected**.

bodysuit

n. a tight-fitting one-piece garment that covers the torso and sometimes the arms and legs, often used in sports or as a fashion accessory

synonym : leotard, jumpsuit, unitard

(1) **bodysuit** costume, (2) lycra **bodysuit**

The winter sports enthusiasts wore insulated **bodysuits** to stay warm in the snow.

brace

n. a device, typically one of a pair, for holding something in position or for strengthening an object; (verb) to support or hold steady and make steadfast

synonym : support, clamp, (verb) strengthen

(1) **brace** for impact, (2) **brace** my energies

She wore a **brace** on her leg to support her injured ankle.

vanilla

n. a tropical climbing orchid of the genus *Vanilla*, particularly *vanilla planifolia* native to Mexico and Central America; a flavor derived from the vanilla bean, often used as a sweetening agent or condiment in desserts and beverages

(1) **vanilla** extract, (2) **vanilla** flavor

I love the taste of **vanilla** ice cream.

discernible

adj. able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable

synonym : apparent, noticeable, distinguishable

(1) **discernible** pattern, (2) lack of **discernible** progress

There was a **discernible** change in the atmosphere when the boss walked into the room.

loop

n. a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself

synonym : circle, curl, spiral

(1) exit from a **loop**, (2) positive feedback **loop**

Many people in this city use the **loop** railway for transportation.

disappear

v. to cease to exist or be visible

synonym : fade, evaporate, vanish

(1) **disappear** without a trace, (2) **disappear** after a week

They watched the train **disappear** into the distance.

strategy

n. a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.

synonym : approach, procedure, scenario

(1) military **strategy**, (2) develop a **strategy**

Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing **strategy**.

pause

v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

synonym : halt, break, intermit

(1) **pause** a moment, (2) **pause** for a reaction

The man **paused** before opening the door.

straightforward

adj. easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity

synonym : honest, candid, forthright

(1) **straightforward** manner, (2) make a **straightforward** dash

The defendant gave a **straightforward** and accurate description of the accident.

locate

v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something

synonym: discover, find, place

(1) **locate** a missing pet, (2) **locate** a tumor

The robot can accurately **locate** construction material.

eventually

adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on

synonym: finally, someday, ultimately

(1) **eventually** become obsolete, (2) **eventually** succeed

The corporation **eventually** dominated the entire tobacco business.

backtrack

v. to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items

synonym: retrace, turn back, reverse

(1) **backtrack** statement, (2) **backtrack** on promise

We need to **backtrack** and figure out where we went wrong in our calculations.

depart

v. to go away or leave, especially to start a journey

synonym: go away, leave, vacate

(1) arrive and **depart** on time, (2) **depart** from the faith

We **departed** before the temperature fell below zero.

marathon

n. a long-distance race of 42.195 kilometers

synonym: endurance, race, event

(1) run a **marathon**, (2) watch a **marathon**

She successfully completed her first **marathon** with a personal best time.

sunrise

n. the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky

synonym: daybreak, morning, dawn

(1) beautiful **sunrise**, (2) high-technology **sunrise** industries

I got up early to watch the **sunrise** at the summit.

definitely

adv. without any question and beyond doubt; clearly
synonym : absolutely, certainly, indeed

(1) **definitely** become a problem, (2) say **definitely**
The paper is **definitely** worth reading thoroughly.

efficient

adj. performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials

synonym : productive, effective, competent

(1) **efficient** operation, (2) energy- **efficient** appliances
The new washing machine is much more **efficient** than the old one.

hypothesis

n. a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate

synonym : assumption, conjecture, theory

(1) test my **hypothesis**, (2) a bold **hypothesis**
This evidence supports the big-bang **hypothesis**.

suppose

v. to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
synonym : guess, assume, presume

(1) **suppose** you're right, (2) **suppose** beforehand
What do you **suppose** the culprit's motive was?

destination

n. the place to which someone or something is going or being sent; the ultimate purpose or goal of a journey or action

synonym : location, endpoint, target

(1) travel **destination**, (2) romantic **destinations**
I am excited to reach my **destination** and explore the new city finally.

possibility

n. a chance that something may happen or be true
synonym : chance, prospect, likelihood

(1) **possibility** for growth, (2) **possibility** of a major earthquake

The **possibility** of getting the disease will drastically increase.

arrangement

n. a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order

synonym : placement, configuration, account

(1) **arrangement** of the furniture, (2) **arrangement** committee

As a first **arrangement**, we agreed to meet the following Friday.

unlit

adj. not having been lit or ignited; without any source of light

synonym : dark, dim, unilluminated

(1) **unlit** candle, (2) **unlit** cigarette

The **unlit** alleyway made her feel nervous walking alone.

extinguish

v. to cause a fire to stop burning or light to stop shining

synonym : quench, smother, blow out

(1) **extinguish** a cigarette, (2) **extinguish** the street lamp

Firefighters made every effort to **extinguish** the blaze immediately.

systematic

adj. done or acting according to a determined set of systems or plans:

synonym : periodic, frequent, organized

(1) a **systematic** reformation, (2) **systematic** botany

Science is based on the **systematic** classification of experience.

round-trip

n. a journey or travel route that starts at one point, goes to another point, and then returns to the starting point, covering a full circle or loop

synonym :

return trip, two-way trip, excursion

(1) **round-trip** ticket, (2) **round-trip** commute

I booked a **round-trip** flight to Paris for my summer vacation.

involve

v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else

synonym: implicate, include, engage

(1) **involve** a lot of paperwork, (2) **involve** a high degree of risk

The investigation **involves** several government agencies and is expected to take several months.

linear

adj. of, relating to, or consisting of lines or length; able to be expressed as a straight line, especially on a graph

synonym: straight, direct, right

(1) **linear** trend, (2) a **linear** equation

People tend to make **linear** predictions.

instance

n. a particular example or single occurrence of something

synonym: example, sample, illustration

(1) for **instance**, (2) notable **instance**

These articles cite five **instances** of climate change.

discovery

n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known

synonym: finding, uncovering, detection

(1) a scientific **discovery**, (2) the great **discovery** of the century

Her research team made an important **discovery**.

interval

n. a period between two events or times; a short break or pause

synonym: break, gap, intermission

(1) after an **interval** of pause, (2) at regular **intervals**

For the analysis **interval**, the system remains at a standstill

state.

lengthy

adj. tediously continuing for a long time; very long in time or size

synonym : extended, interminable, long

(1) to be a **lengthy** process, (2) **lengthy** load times

The **lengthy** medical treatment had weakened his muscles.

trek

n. a long and difficult journey, typically on foot

synonym : journey, expedition, hike

(1) horseback **trek**, (2) **trek** expedition

He was preparing for a long **trek** through the mountains.

slightly

adv. in a small degree or extent; a little

synonym : barely, narrowly, scarcely

(1) increase **slightly**, (2) **slightly** alkaline soils

He moved his body **slightly** to the left.

inconspicuous

adj. not noticeable or prominent; not attracting attention or standing out; subtle or hidden in appearance or behavior

synonym : unobtrusive, unnoticeable, subtle

(1) **inconspicuous** location, (2) **inconspicuous** behavior

The **inconspicuous** spy blended in perfectly with the crowd.

chisel

n. a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior

synonym : gouge, bevel, plane

(1) sharpen **chisel**, (2) **chisel** some money

The archaeologist used a small **chisel** to excavate the ancient artifact.

enormous

adj. extremely large or great

synonym : huge, giant, gigantic

(1) **enormous** amount, (2) **enormous** potential

Shakespeare's output of poetry was **enormous**.

downwind

adv. in the direction that the wind is blowing, particularly about the adverse effects that the wind may carry

synonym: downstream, windward, leeward

(1) sweep away **downwind**, (2) move **downwind**

The smoke from the fire was blowing **downwind** towards the nearby town.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. sharpen ch___l | <i>n.</i> a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior |
| 2. ti____ss masterpiece | <i>adj.</i> not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion |
| 3. make a str_____ard dash | <i>adj.</i> easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity |
| 4. pos_____ty of a major earthquake | <i>n.</i> a chance that something may happen or be true |
| 5. notable in____ce | <i>n.</i> a particular example or single occurrence of something |
| 6. ba_____ck on promise | <i>v.</i> to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items |
| 7. sc___t prototype | <i>v.</i> to create a work of art by carving, casting, or other shaping techniques |
| 8. beautiful su_____e | <i>n.</i> the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky |
| 9. move do_____nd | <i>adv.</i> in the direction that the wind is blowing, particularly about the adverse effects that the wind may carry |
| 10. travel des_____on | <i>n.</i> the place to which someone or something is going or being sent; the ultimate purpose or goal of a journey or action |

ANSWERS: 1. chisel, 2. timeless, 3. straightforward, 4. possibility, 5. instance, 6. backtrack, 7. sculpt, 8. sunrise, 9. downwind, 10. destination

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 11. a nightly fe__t | <i>n.</i> a large meal, typically one served on a special occasion |
| 12. ext_____sh the street lamp | <i>v.</i> to cause a fire to stop burning or light to stop shining |
| 13. sn__k out of danger | <i>v.</i> to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily |
| 14. sl_____ly alkaline soils | <i>adv.</i> in a small degree or extent; a little |
| 15. in_____e a lot of paperwork | <i>v.</i> to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else |
| 16. dead as___p | <i>adj.</i> in a state of sleep |
| 17. the cen_____ce of the meal | <i>n.</i> the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table |
| 18. a sys_____ic reformation | <i>adj.</i> done or acting according to a determined set of systems or plans: |
| 19. pos_____ty for growth | <i>n.</i> a chance that something may happen or be true |
| 20. su_____e you're right | <i>v.</i> to think that something is likely to be actual or possible |
| 21. va_____a extract | <i>n.</i> a tropical climbing orchid of the genus <i>Vanilla</i> , particularly <i>vanilla planifolia</i> native to Mexico and Central America; a flavor derived from the vanilla bean, often used as a sweetening agent or condiment in desserts and beverages |

ANSWERS: 11. feast, 12. extinguish, 13. sneak, 14. slightly, 15. involve, 16. asleep, 17. centerpiece, 18. systematic, 19. possibility, 20. suppose, 21. vanilla

22. increase sl____ly *adv.* in a small degree or extent; a little
23. lo___e a missing pet *v.* to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
24. sc___t an image *v.* to create a work of art by carving, casting, or other shaping techniques
25. a li___r equation *adj.* of, relating to, or consisting of lines or length; able to be expressed as a straight line, especially on a graph
26. eve_____ly become obsolete *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
27. tu___l construction work *n.* an underground or underwater passage, typically for trains or cars
28. def_____ly become a problem *adv.* without any question and beyond doubt; clearly
29. lo___e a tumor *v.* to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
30. plenty of in_____or space *n.* the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building
31. lycra bo_____it *n.* a tight-fitting one-piece garment that covers the torso and sometimes the arms and legs, often used in sports or as a fashion accessory
32. tu___l disease *n.* an underground or underwater passage, typically for trains or cars
33. rou_____ip ticket *n.* a journey or travel route that starts at one point, goes to another point, and then returns to the starting point, covering a full circle or loop

ANSWERS: 22. slightly, 23. locate, 24. sculpt, 25. linear, 26. eventually, 27. tunnel, 28. definitely, 29. locate, 30. interior, 31. bodysuit, 32. tunnel, 33. round-trip

34. di_____ar without a trace *v.* to cease to exist or be visible
35. t__k expedition *n.* a long and difficult journey, typically on foot
36. leave the house und_____ed *adj.* not perceived or discovered
37. sweep away do_____nd *adv.* in the direction that the wind is blowing, particularly about the adverse effects that the wind may carry
38. gi__t trees *adj.* enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
39. a scientific di_____ry *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
40. lack of dis_____le progress *adj.* able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable
41. a fe__t for the eyes *n.* a large meal, typically one served on a special occasion
42. watch a ma_____on *n.* a long-distance race of 42.195 kilometers
43. after an in_____al of pause *n.* a period between two events or times; a short break or pause
44. di_____ar after a week *v.* to cease to exist or be visible
45. str_____ard manner *adj.* easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity
46. ti_____ss topic *adj.* not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion
47. un__t candle *adj.* not having been lit or ignited; without any source of light

ANSWERS: 34. disappear, 35. trek, 36. undetected, 37. downwind, 38. giant, 39. discovery, 40. discernible, 41. feast, 42. marathon, 43. interval, 44. disappear, 45. straightforward, 46. timeless, 47. unlit

48. gi__t tech company *adj.* enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
49. arr_____nt committee *n.* a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order
50. en_____us potential *adj.* extremely large or great
51. ef_____nt operation *adj.* performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials
52. sn__k a cigarette *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
53. at regular in_____als *n.* a period between two events or times; a short break or pause
54. eve_____ly succeed *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
55. develop a st_____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
56. br__e for impact *n.* a device, typically one of a pair, for holding something in position or for strengthening an object; (verb) to support or hold steady and make steadfast
57. horseback t__k *n.* a long and difficult journey, typically on foot
58. energy-ef_____nt appliances *adj.* performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials

ANSWERS: 48. giant, 49. arrangement, 50. enormous, 51. efficient, 52. sneak, 53. interval, 54. eventually, 55. strategy, 56. brace, 57. trek, 58. efficient

59. met_____sly crafted product *adv.* with great attention to detail; thoroughly and carefully
60. to be a le_____y process *adj.* tediously continuing for a long time; very long in time or size
61. a bold hyp_____is *n.* a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate
62. test my hyp_____is *n.* a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate
63. br__e my energies *n.* a device, typically one of a pair, for holding something in position or for strengthening an object; (verb) to support or hold steady and make steadfast
64. pa__e a moment *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
65. va_____a flavor *n.* a tropical climbing orchid of the genus *Vanilla*, particularly *vanilla planifolia* native to Mexico and Central America; a flavor derived from the vanilla bean, often used as a sweetening agent or condiment in desserts and beverages
66. su_____e beforehand *v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
67. positive feedback l__p *n.* a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself

ANSWERS: 59. meticulously, 60. lengthy, 61. hypothesis, 62. hypothesis, 63. brace, 64. pause, 65. vanilla, 66. suppose, 67. loop

68. arr_____nt of the furniture *n.* a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order
69. high-technology su_____e industries *n.* the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky
70. inc_____ous location *adj.* not noticeable or prominent; not attracting attention or standing out; subtle or hidden in appearance or behavior
71. exit from a l__p *n.* a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself
72. inc_____ous behavior *adj.* not noticeable or prominent; not attracting attention or standing out; subtle or hidden in appearance or behavior
73. ch___l some money *n.* a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior
74. in_____e a high degree of risk *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
75. sys_____ic botany *adj.* done or acting according to a determined set of systems or plans:
76. for in_____ce *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
77. run a ma_____on *n.* a long-distance race of 42.195 kilometers

ANSWERS: 68. arrangement, 69. sunrise, 70. inconspicuous, 71. loop, 72. inconspicuous, 73. chisel, 74. involve, 75. systematic, 76. instance, 77. marathon

78. say def_____ly *adv.* without any question and beyond doubt; clearly
79. as___p at the wheel *adj.* in a state of sleep
80. the great di_____ry of the century *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
81. in_____or decoration *n.* the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building
82. en_____us amount *adj.* extremely large or great
83. military st_____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
84. rou_____ip commute *n.* a journey or travel route that starts at one point, goes to another point, and then returns to the starting point, covering a full circle or loop
85. und_____ed cancer *adj.* not perceived or discovered
86. met_____sly executed *adv.* with great attention to detail; thoroughly and carefully
87. dis_____le pattern *adj.* able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable
88. ext_____sh a cigarette *v.* to cause a fire to stop burning or light to stop shining
89. ba_____ck statement *v.* to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items

ANSWERS: 78. definitely, 79. asleep, 80. discovery, 81. interior, 82. enormous, 83. strategy, 84. round-trip, 85. undetected, 86. meticulously, 87. discernible, 88. extinguish, 89. backtrack

90. le____y load times *adj.* tediously continuing for a long time; very long in time or size
91. li____r trend *adj.* of, relating to, or consisting of lines or length; able to be expressed as a straight line, especially on a graph
92. pa__e for a reaction *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
93. cen____ce proposal *n.* the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table
94. de____t from the faith *v.* to go away or leave, especially to start a journey
95. arrive and de____t on time *v.* to go away or leave, especially to start a journey
96. un__t cigarette *adj.* not having been lit or ignited; without any source of light
97. bo____it costume *n.* a tight-fitting one-piece garment that covers the torso and sometimes the arms and legs, often used in sports or as a fashion accessory
98. romantic des____ons *n.* the place to which someone or something is going or being sent; the ultimate purpose or goal of a journey or action

ANSWERS: 90. lengthy, 91. linear, 92. pause, 93. centerpiece, 94. depart, 95. depart, 96. unlit, 97. bodysuit, 98. destination

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I am excited to reach my _____ and explore the new city finally.
n. the place to which someone or something is going or being sent; the ultimate purpose or goal of a journey or action
2. The _____ alleyway made her feel nervous walking alone.
adj. not having been lit or ignited; without any source of light
3. These articles cite five _____ of climate change.
n. a particular example or single occurrence of something
4. The royal _____ celebrated the harvest, and the community enjoyed it.
n. a large meal, typically one served on a special occasion
5. The workers had to dig through solid rock to create the vehicular _____ allowing the cars to pass through the mountain.
n. an underground or underwater passage, typically for trains or cars
6. He was preparing for a long _____ through the mountains.
n. a long and difficult journey, typically on foot
7. The painter focused on the moody _____ of abandoned buildings in his work.
n. the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building
8. The smoke from the fire was blowing _____ towards the nearby town.
adv. in the direction that the wind is blowing, particularly about the adverse effects that the wind may carry

ANSWERS: 1. destination, 2. unlit, 3. instances, 4. feast, 5. tunnel, 6. trek, 7. interiors, 8. downwind

9. There was a _____ change in the atmosphere when the boss walked into the room.
adj. able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable
10. Her research team made an important _____.
n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
11. The winter sports enthusiasts wore insulated _____ to stay warm in the snow.
n. a tight-fitting one-piece garment that covers the torso and sometimes the arms and legs, often used in sports or as a fashion accessory
12. The new washing machine is much more _____ than the old one.
adj. performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials
13. He lay down and fell _____ immediately.
adj. in a state of sleep
14. The _____ medical treatment had weakened his muscles.
adj. tediously continuing for a long time; very long in time or size
15. The children tried to _____ out and eat the candy.
v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
16. People tend to make _____ predictions.
adj. of, relating to, or consisting of lines or length; able to be expressed as a straight line, especially on a graph

ANSWERS: 9. discernible, 10. discovery, 11. bodysuits, 12. efficient, 13. asleep, 14. lengthy, 15. sneak, 16. linear

17. The archaeologist used a small _____ to excavate the ancient artifact.
n. a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior
18. She wore a _____ on her leg to support her injured ankle.
n. a device, typically one of a pair, for holding something in position or for strengthening an object; (verb) to support or hold steady and make steadfast
19. The _____ jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.
adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
20. Firefighters made every effort to _____ the blaze immediately.
v. to cause a fire to stop burning or light to stop shining
21. The _____ spy blended in perfectly with the crowd.
adj. not noticeable or prominent; not attracting attention or standing out; subtle or hidden in appearance or behavior
22. She _____ planned every detail of her wedding.
adv. with great attention to detail; thoroughly and carefully
23. Shakespeare's output of poetry was _____.
adj. extremely large or great
24. There is a _____ aspect to his most remarkable work.
adj. not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion
25. I got up early to watch the _____ at the summit.
n. the time in the morning when the sun first appears in the sky

ANSWERS: 17. chisel, 18. brace, 19. giant, 20. extinguish, 21. inconspicuous, 22. meticulously, 23. enormous, 24. timeless, 25. sunrise

26. We need to _____ and figure out where we went wrong in our calculations.
v. to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items
27. I booked a _____ flight to Paris for my summer vacation.
n. a journey or travel route that starts at one point, goes to another point, and then returns to the starting point, covering a full circle or loop
28. The _____ of getting the disease will drastically increase.
n. a chance that something may happen or be true
29. She successfully completed her first _____ with a personal best time.
n. a long-distance race of 42.195 kilometers
30. What do you _____ the culprit's motive was?
v. to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
31. The paper is _____ worth reading thoroughly.
adv. without any question and beyond doubt; clearly
32. The defendant gave a _____ and accurate description of the accident.
adj. easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity
33. Doctors made mistakes, and diseases remained _____.
adj. not perceived or discovered
34. We _____ before the temperature fell below zero.
v. to go away or leave, especially to start a journey

ANSWERS: 26. backtrack, 27. round-trip, 28. possibility, 29. marathon, 30. suppose, 31. definitely, 32. straightforward, 33. undetected, 34. departed

35. The robot can accurately _____ construction material.
- v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
36. For the analysis _____ the system remains at a standstill state.
- n. a period between two events or times; a short break or pause
37. His writing activities are the _____ of his life.
- n. the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table
38. I love the taste of _____ ice cream.
- n. a tropical climbing orchid of the genus *Vanilla*, particularly *vanilla planifolia* native to Mexico and Central America; a flavor derived from the vanilla bean, often used as a sweetening agent or condiment in desserts and beverages
39. He spent hours every day _____ figures out of clay.
- v. to create a work of art by carving, casting, or other shaping techniques
40. This evidence supports the big-bang _____.
- n. a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate
41. The investigation _____ several government agencies and is expected to take several months.
- v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
42. They watched the train _____ into the distance.
- v. to cease to exist or be visible

ANSWERS: 35. locate, 36. interval, 37. centerpiece, 38. vanilla, 39. sculpting, 40. hypothesis, 41. involves, 42. disappear

43. As a first _____ we agreed to meet the following Friday.

n. a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order

44. The man _____ before opening the door.

v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

45. Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing _____.

n. a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.

46. The corporation _____ dominated the entire tobacco business.

adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on

47. Many people in this city use the _____ railway for transportation.

n. a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself

48. He moved his body _____ to the left.

adv. in a small degree or extent; a little

49. Science is based on the _____ classification of experience.

adj. done or acting according to a determined set of systems or plans:

ANSWERS: 43. arrangement, 44. paused, 45. strategy, 46. eventually, 47. loop, 48. slightly, 49. systematic