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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Iseult Gillespie: The tragic myth of the Sun God's son
| TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

harness

- v. to control and exploit the power of something, especially natural resources that produce energy; (noun) a set of narrow pieces of leather and metal that are used to control or hold in place a person, animal, or object

synonym: rein in, control, (noun) belt

- (1) **harness** a horse to a carriage, (2) put a **harness** on my pet

People have been exploring ways to **harness** natural forces and resources since ancient times.

unleash

- v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

synonym: discharge, free, release

- (1) **unleash** a hound, (2) **unleash** her anger

The general was still reluctant to **unleash** his troops in pursuit of an enemy.

chariot

- n. a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing

- (1) **chariot** builder, (2) **chariot** race

The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating **chariot** races.

transform

v. to change in outward structure or looks;

synonym: alter, convert, change

(1) **transform** an education system, (2) **transform** heat into power

My father's death **transformed** my life completely.

dawn

n. the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky

synonym: daybreak, sunrise, advent

(1) the wan light of **dawn**, (2) crack of **dawn**

Missile assaults on the capital continued around **dawn**.

bloom

n. a flower, especially one having showy or colorful parts; the best time of youth

synonym: blossom, flush, flower

(1) **bloom** in autumn, (2) black-and-white **blooms**

The cherry blossoms in the park were in full **bloom**.

nymph

n. (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform

synonym: sprite, fairy, pixie

(1) **nymph** of the woods, (2) water **nymph**

The sea **nymphs** were said to lure sailors with their seductive voices.

wander

v. to walk around slowly or to a place, often without any clear purpose or direction

synonym: ramble, roam, stroll

(1) **wander** alone in a strange country, (2) **wander** far from home

I often **wander** around the park for half an hour.

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.

tale *n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
synonym : canard, fiction, fable
(1) a fairy **tale**, (2) **tale** of horror
Ghosts in folk **tales** are almost always malicious.

divine *adj.* of, from, or like a god; holy or sacred
synonym : godly, holy, sacred
(1) **divine** intervention, (2) **divine** grace
The view from the mountaintop was truly **divine**.

pride *n.* a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements
synonym : vanity, conceit, egotism
(1) **pride** of a company, (2) hide his **pride**
She took great **pride** in her work, always striving for perfection.

peer *n.* a person who has the same age, status, or ability
synonym : fellow, associate, counterpart
(1) **peer** group, (2) **peer** review
Among young people, **peer** pressure can be pretty influential.

temper *n.* a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object
synonym : mood, disposition, nature
(1) a hasty **temper**, (2) bridle my **temper**
The **temper** of the steel needs to be just right to ensure the product's durability.

arrogance *n.* excessive self-confidence or self-importance
synonym : hubris, haughtiness, conceit

(1) brazen **arrogance**, (2) **arrogance** of power
He acted with **arrogance** and was not well-liked by his colleagues.

taunt

v. to tease or ridicule in a challenging manner
synonym: tease, ridicule, jeer

(1) **taunt** him with cowardice, (2) **taunt** the losing team
She **taunted** him with sarcastic comments about his lack of success.

absolute

adj. perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible

synonym: complete, infrangible, indisputable

(1) **absolute** loyalty, (2) an **absolute** must
Gandhi had an **absolute** zeal for nonviolence.

proof

n. a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists

synonym: testimony, evidence, assurance

(1) documentary **proof**, (2) a geometric **proof**
Proof is better than argument.

contrary

n. acting in opposition to what is expected or desired

synonym: opposing, contradictory, conflicting

(1) the clear **contrary**, (2) **contrary** evidence
The two sides argued their points, but the judge ultimately sided with the **contrary** viewpoint.

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.

confront

v. to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person

synonym: engage, encounter, contend

(1) **confront** a global warming, (2) **confront** the issue

He finally decided to **confront** problems directly.

insist

v. to say something clearly or demand something forcefully, especially when other people disagree with or oppose what you say

synonym: demand, assert, claim

(1) **insist** on a clear answer, (2) **insist** over and over

He **insisted** that she pay her debt to the last penny.

nevertheless

adv. in spite of that; yet

synonym: nonetheless, yet, still

(1) keep working **nevertheless**, (2) **nevertheless**, she persevered

She was tired and hungry, but **nevertheless**, she persevered.

seize

v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

synonym: grab, grasp, capture

(1) **seize** a person's property, (2) **seize** the day

He has the superpower to **seize** a business opportunity.

doubt

n. a feeling of being uncertain about something, especially about how good or accurate it is

synonym: distrust, suspect, mistrust

(1) dispel **doubts**, (2) no **doubt** about the news

Doubt is the start, not the end, of intelligence.

westward

adj. directed or going towards the west; located in the west; moving or facing towards the west

synonym: western, westerly, westbound

(1) **westward** expansion, (2) **westward** migration

Lewis and Clark's **westward** journey was an important exploration of the newly acquired Louisiana Territory.

gleam

v. to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent

synonym: glitter, shimmer, shine

(1) **gleam** in eyes, (2) **gleam** like honey

The diamond ring **gleamed** in the sunlight, catching everyone's eye.

palace

n. the residence of a high-ranking official such as a king, queen, etc.

synonym: mansion, manor, castle

(1) a **palace** garden, (2) ancestral **palace**

The imperial **palace** is currently undergoing reforms.

adjust

v. to make a minor modification to something to make it more suited for a new set of conditions or to make it function better.

synonym: adapt, alter, acclimate

(1) **adjust** a schedule, (2) **adjust** the rearview mirror

You have to **adjust** your content to the age of the audience.

radiant

adj. emitting light or heat; shining brightly

synonym: shining, glowing, brilliant

(1) **radiant** smile, (2) **radiant** light

She looked **radiant** on her wedding day.

skepticism

n. an attitude of doubting or questioning that claims or statements are true or valuable or that something will happen; the disbelief in any claims of ultimate knowledge

synonym: distrust, doubt, suspicion

(1) natural **skepticism**, (2) **skepticism** toward bureaucracy

This party expresses **skepticism** about the efficacy of the health insurance system.

beam

n. a long, sturdy piece of timber, metal, or other material used to support a structure or span a distance; a ray or stream of light emitted by a source

synonym : ray, ray of light, shaft of light

(1) **beam** of light, (2) a structural **beam** of a building

The sun's **beam** shone through the window and illuminated the room.

dispel

v. to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea

synonym : chase away, allay, disperse

(1) **dispel** a painful feeling, (2) **dispel** baseless rumors

This program aims to **dispel** certain misconceptions about the disease.

grant

v. to agree to give or allow somebody

synonym : allocate, authorize, give

(1) **grant** a new license, (2) **grant** a land

The chairperson **granted** him the right to speak.

glow

v. to give out a steady, strong light

synonym : shine, radiate, beam

(1) **glow** a pale orange, (2) **glow** gold in the light

The sun was setting, and the sky **glowed** with beautiful colors.

dim

adj. poorly lit; not bright

synonym : dull, faint, weak

(1) **dim** and distant past, (2) **dim** memory

The **dim** light made it difficult to read the book.

steer

v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

synonym : guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

breath

n. the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs

synonym : air, puff, whiff

(1) hold your **breath**, (2) **breath** of wind

He bated his **breath** when talking about this affair.

precise

adj. sharply exact or accurate or delimited

synonym : accurate, exact, distinct

(1) **precise** analyses, (2) estimate **precise** costs

The content is **precise** and informative for me.

celestial

adj. relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens

synonym : heavenly, divine, ethereal

(1) **celestial** bliss, (2) **celestial** navigation

The **celestial** bodies in the night sky were beautiful to behold.

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.

margin

n. the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold

synonym : edge, border, periphery

(1) **margin** error, (2) a profit **margin**

Unfortunately, the book's **margin** was too small to make notes.

separate

v. to force, take, or pull apart; mark as different

synonym : disunite, isolate, ramify

(1) **separate** video into chapter, (2) **separate** cream from milk

We need to **separate** the aspect of his personality from the part of his competence when making an investment decision.

stability

n. the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast

synonym: resilience, solidity, steadiness

(1) **stability** pact, (2) fiscal **stability** pact

The policy should increase the country's monetary **stability**.

catastrophe

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

synonym: disaster, calamity, cataclysm

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

catastrophe

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

confident

adj. feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future

synonym: certain, sure, convinced

(1) feel **confident**, (2) a **confident** remark

I'm not **confident** in our victory.

beg

v. to ask for something urgently or earnestly; to appeal to someone to do something

synonym: plead, implore, entreat

(1) **beg** the question, (2) **beg** for help

She **begged** her parents to let her go to the concert.

reconsider

v. to think about a decision or opinion again to

synonym: rethink, review, revisit

(1) **reconsider** the determination, (2) **reconsider** my transfer

He humbly **reconsidered** his conduct.

steadfast

adj. firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges

synonym:

unwavering, resolute, steadfast

(1) **steadfast** commitment, (2) **steadfast** determination

The **steadfast** soldier refused to leave his post despite the danger.

crack

v. to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking

synonym: snap, burst, break

(1) **crack** an eggshell, (2) a **crack** in a board

He that would eat the kernel must **crack** the nut.

rein

n. a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control

synonym: strap, harness, headstall

(1) tight **rein**, (2) **rein** in costs

The new driver struggled to keep a firm grip on the **rein** as the horse bolted.

flee

v. to leave by running away, especially out of fear or danger

synonym: exit, escape, run away

(1) **flee** their homes, (2) **flee** abroad

It is a basic instinct to **flee** from a dangerous situation.

mortal

adj. subject to death; unrelenting and deadly

synonym: deathly, perishable, non-eternal

(1) a **mortal** combat, (2) this **mortal** life

All humans are **mortal** and will eventually die.

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**.

slacken

v. to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance

synonym: relax, ease up, let up

(1) **slacken** pace, (2) never **slacken** on implementing reforms

The driver refused to **slacken** his speed, despite the dangerous road conditions.

feathery

adj. having or resembling the soft and delicate feathers of a bird, typically in texture or appearance

synonym: fluffy, plumed, downy

(1) **feathery** fronds, (2) delicate **feathery**

The **feathery** leaves of the plant gently swayed in the breeze.

whirl

v. to spin or turn rapidly; to move or be moved quickly in a circular manner; (noun) a spinning or rotating movement, often rapid or chaotic in nature

synonym: spin, rotate, swirl

(1) **whirl** in the washing machine, (2) **whirl** around the dance floor

The leaves began to **whirl** around in the windy weather.

constellation

n. a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people

synonym: asterism, array, pattern

(1) the stars of the Scorpion **constellation**, (2) northern **constellation**

Navigators still use the Little Bear **constellation** at sea.

pincers

n. a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures

that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing

synonym : pliers, tweezers, forceps

(1) scorpion **pincers**, (2) grip with **pincers**

The handyman used his trusty **pincers** to remove the rusty nails from the old boards.

arrow

n. a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow

synonym : shaft, dart, projectile

(1) **arrow** pointing, (2) **arrow** diagram

The archer aimed his **arrow** carefully at the target.

crackle

v. to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (noun) a series of sharp, popping sounds that are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity

synonym : sizzle, hiss, snap

(1) **crackle** on the gravel road, (2) the **crackle** of the thunder

The firewood **crackled** and popped into the fireplace, sending sparks up the chimney.

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.

sharply

adv. suddenly and to a great degree; in an aggressive manner

synonym : dashing, smartly, snappily

(1) **sharply** questioned, (2) drop **sharply**

The value of our house rose **sharply** last year.

lurch

- v. to make a sudden, abrupt movement; to stagger or sway unsteadily; to experience a sudden change or reversal;
(noun) a sudden, unsteady, or awkward movement or motion, often to one side or another

synonym: stumble, reel, stagger

(1) a **lurch** in the stock market, (2) **lurch** back and forth

The car suddenly **lurched** forward as we hit a pothole.

plunge

- v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall

synonym: dive, drop, thrust

(1) **plunge** into the water, (2) **plunge** a dagger through his heart

The company's profits **plunged** after the recall of their new product.

struggle

- v. to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction

synonym: toil, strive, compete

(1) **struggle** against discrimination, (2) **struggle** to get the job

He could not **struggle** against temptation.

desert

- n. arid land with little or no vegetation often covered with sand or rocks

(1) **desert** basin, (2) oasis in the **desert**

This region is predominantly **desert**.

mount

- v. to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone

synonym: climb, increase, get on

(1) **mount** a hill, (2) **mount** a counterattack

They **mounted** pictures on the paper in preparation for the birthday card.

panic

n. a sudden strong feeling of fear that cannot be controlled and prevents reasonable thought and action

synonym: confusion, hysteria, consternation

(1) a **panic** reaction, (2) **panic** buying

The participation of oil-producing countries in the war caused **panic** in the financial markets.

destine

v. to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome

synonym: ordain, doom, predestine

(1) **destine** us to meet again, (2) be **destined** to become a great artist

Some people believe that we are all **destined** for greatness.

ablaze

adj. on fire; burning brightly

synonym: burning, alight, on fire

(1) sky **ablaze** with stars, (2) **ablaze** with passion

The building was **ablaze** with fire.

hurl

v. to throw something with great force

synonym: throw, fling, launch

(1) **hurl** a brickbat, (2) **hurl** a cup out of the window

She angrily **hurled** the book across the room.

mighty

adj. very large, powerful, or strong

synonym: potent, powerful, robust

(1) **mighty** works, (2) struck a **mighty** blow

Only the **mighty** God has the power to brighten this dark land.

thunderbolt

n. a powerful and loud electrical discharge in the atmosphere, usually accompanied by lightning; a sudden and unexpected event or experience that is shocking or overwhelming

synonym : lightning bolt, electrical discharge, thunder stroke

(1) **thunderbolt** strike, (2) **thunderbolt** out of the blue

The sudden **thunderbolt** scared the hikers and made them seek shelter.

suspend

v. to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely

synonym : stop, postpone, adjourn

(1) **suspend** a decision, (2) **suspend** fruits from the ceiling

The University **suspended** the most recalcitrant demonstrators.

heaven

n. (of various religious and mythological traditions) a place or state of existence considered to be the abode of the divine, the afterlife, or a higher realm of being; a state of great happiness, contentment, or beauty

synonym : paradise, nirvana, utopia

(1) ascend to **heaven**, (2) **heaven** on earth

He felt like **heaven** when he tasted the delicious chocolate cake.

plummet

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

synonym : drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

resurface

v. to restore or repair the surface of something, particularly a road, pavement, or sports field; to come to the surface or become visible again after a period of obscurity or

concealment

synonym : renew, restore, revamp

(1) **resurface** more than once, (2) **resurface** a tennis court
The city plans to **resurface** the roads downtown to fix potholes and cracks.

riverbank

n. the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes

synonym : riverside, embankment

(1) **riverbank** erosion, (2) walk along the **riverbank**

We enjoyed a picnic on the **riverbank** and watched the boats go by.

weep

v. to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain

synonym : cry, sob, mourn

(1) **weep** bitter tears, (2) **weep** for joy

I'm easily moved to tears, so I would **weep** in sympathy if I saw that movie.

gradual

adj. happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt

synonym : incremental, gradational, piecemeal

(1) a **gradual** process, (2) a **gradual** change

The country experienced a **gradual** increase in population.

metamorphose

v. to undergo a dramatic change in form, structure, or substance; to transform or alter in appearance or nature

synonym : transform, change, alter

(1) **metamorphose** in appearance, (2) **metamorphose** over time

The caterpillar **metamorphoses** into a butterfly during its life cycle.

poplar

n. a type of deciduous tree with soft, light-colored wood and large, flat leaves that tremble in the wind, often used for plywood, furniture, or paper pulp

synonym : aspen, cottonwood, balsam

(1) **poplar** trees, (2) **poplar** wood

The sound of the wind rustling through the leaves of the **poplar** trees was calming and peaceful.

leak

v. to allow liquid or gas to get in or out from a hole or crack in a pipe or container

synonym : outflow, divulge, disclose

(1) **leak** data, (2) **leak** a classified memo

He **leaked** serious accounting irregularities that only people in the company's executive could know.

precious

adj. uncommon and extremely valuable

synonym : adored, cherished, valued

(1) price of **precious** metals, (2) **precious** information

We cannot afford to squander **precious** time.

amber

n. a hard, translucent, yellow-orange or brownish-yellow fossil resin that is used in jewelry and ornamentation and often contains insects or other small organisms that were trapped inside when the resin was sticky; also used to describe the color that resembles this type of resin

synonym : resin, fossilized tree sap, golden stone

(1) **amber** resin, (2) **amber** ale

The bracelet was made of beautiful **amber** stones.

everlasting

adj. lasting forever or indefinitely; eternal or infinite in duration, also used to describe something unchanging, constant, or enduring

synonym : perpetual, eternal, enduring

(1) **everlasting** love, (2) **everlasting** memories

The writer's words left an **everlasting** impact on his readers.

memorial

n. a structure or monument to commemorate a person or event

synonym : monument, remembrance, tribute

(1) **memorial** address, (2) **memorial** park

The war **memorial** stands as a reminder of the sacrifices made by our ancestors.

strew

v. to scatter or spread things over an area; to scatter something in an untidy way

synonym: scatter, sprinkle, disperse

(1) **strew** the room with balloons, (2) **strew** garbage

The wind **strew** the leaves all over the lawn.

overcome

v. to succeed in controlling or dealing with something, such as a problem or difficulty; to defeat or overwhelm someone

synonym: beat, confound, overwhelm

(1) **overcome** opponents, (2) **overcome** all difficulties

He tried to **overcome** a bad reputation and win the election.

grief

n. a very great sadness, especially when somebody dies

synonym: anguish, desperation, dismay

(1) have **grief** and sorrow, (2) a lot of **grief**

Each person has a unique **grief** experience.

greet

v. to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone

synonym: welcome, salute, acknowledge

(1) **greet** a customer, (2) **greet** an idea

He **greeted** his friends with a warm smile and a hug.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. a structural b__m of a building | <i>n.</i> a long, sturdy piece of timber, metal, or other material used to support a structure or span a distance; a ray or stream of light emitted by a source |
| 2. ra____t smile | <i>adj.</i> emitting light or heat; shining brightly |
| 3. co____ry evidence | <i>n.</i> acting in opposition to what is expected or desired |
| 4. we____rd expansion | <i>adj.</i> directed or going towards the west; located in the west; moving or facing towards the west |
| 5. pl____t against other major currencies | <i>v.</i> to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply |
| 6. d_m and distant past | <i>adj.</i> poorly lit; not bright |
| 7. st____le against discrimination | <i>v.</i> to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction |
| 8. de____t basin | <i>n.</i> arid land with little or no vegetation often covered with sand or rocks |
| 9. bridle my te____r | <i>n.</i> a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object |
| 10. f__e abroad | <i>v.</i> to leave by running away, especially out of fear or danger |

ANSWERS: 1. beam, 2. radiant, 3. contrary, 4. westward, 5. plummet, 6. dim, 7. struggle, 8. desert, 9. temper, 10. flee

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 11. oasis in the de___t | <i>n.</i> arid land with little or no vegetation often covered with sand or rocks |
| 12. ch_____t builder | <i>n.</i> a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing |
| 13. di___l baseless rumors | <i>v.</i> to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea |
| 14. di___e intervention | <i>adj.</i> of, from, or like a god; holy or sacred |
| 15. wa___r alone in a strange country | <i>v.</i> to walk around slowly or to a place, often without any clear purpose or direction |
| 16. water ny__h | <i>n.</i> (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform |
| 17. st_____le to get the job | <i>v.</i> to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction |
| 18. se_____te cream from milk | <i>v.</i> to force, take, or pull apart; mark as different |
| 19. sh_____y questioned | <i>adv.</i> suddenly and to a great degree; in an aggressive manner |
| 20. ny__h of the woods | <i>n.</i> (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform |
| 21. an in_____re future | <i>adj.</i> not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety |

ANSWERS: 11. desert, 12. chariot, 13. dispel, 14. divine, 15. wander, 16. nymph, 17. struggle, 18. separate, 19. sharply, 20. nymph, 21. insecure

22. gr__t an idea *v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
23. avoid climate cat_____he *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
24. tr_____rm an education system *v.* to change in outward structure or looks;
25. w__p for joy *v.* to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
26. ascend to he___n *n.* (of various religious and mythological traditions) a place or state of existence considered to be the abode of the divine, the afterlife, or a higher realm of being; a state of great happiness, contentment, or beauty
27. su_____d a decision *v.* to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely
28. gr__t a new license *v.* to agree to give or allow somebody
29. walk along the ri_____nk *n.* the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes
30. ta__t him with cowardice *v.* to tease or ridicule in a challenging manner
31. brazen ar_____ce *n.* excessive self-confidence or self-importance
32. rec_____er the determination *v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
33. a co_____nt remark *adj.* feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future

ANSWERS: 22. greet, 23. catastrophe, 24. transform, 25. weep, 26. heaven, 27. suspend, 28. grant, 29. riverbank, 30. taunt, 31. arrogance, 32. reconsider, 33. confident

34. ab___e with passion *adj.* on fire; burning brightly
35. b__m of light *n.* a long, sturdy piece of timber, metal, or other material used to support a structure or span a distance; a ray or stream of light emitted by a source
36. cr__k an eggshell *v.* to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking
37. g__w a pale orange *v.* to give out a steady, strong light
38. scorpion pi____s *n.* a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing
39. rec_____er my transfer *v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
40. re_____ce more than once *v.* to restore or repair the surface of something, particularly a road, pavement, or sports field; to come to the surface or become visible again after a period of obscurity or concealment
41. be de_____ed to become a great artist *v.* to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome

ANSWERS: 34. ablaze, 35. beam, 36. crack, 37. glow, 38. pincers, 39. reconsider, 40. resurface, 41. destine

42. crack of d__n *n.* the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky
43. di___e grace *adj.* of, from, or like a god; holy or sacred
44. pos_____ty of a major earthquake *n.* a chance that something may happen or be true
45. co_____nt a global warming *v.* to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person
46. the cr_____e of the thunder *v.* to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (noun) a series of sharp, popping sounds that are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity
47. wa___r far from home *v.* to walk around slowly or to a place, often without any clear purpose or direction
48. a geometric pr__f *n.* a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
49. un_____h her anger *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
50. a lot of gr__f *n.* a very great sadness, especially when somebody dies
51. ad___t a schedule *v.* to make a minor modification to something to make it more suited for a new set of conditions or to make it function better.

ANSWERS: 42. dawn, 43. divine, 44. possibility, 45. confront, 46. crackle, 47. wander, 48. proof, 49. unleash, 50. grief, 51. adjust

52. l__k a classified memo *v.* to allow liquid or gas to get in or out from a hole or crack in a pipe or container
53. lu__h back and forth *v.* to make a sudden, abrupt movement; to stagger or sway unsteadily; to experience a sudden change or reversal; (noun) a sudden, unsteady, or awkward movement or motion, often to one side or another
54. the stars of the Scorpion
con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
55. met_____ose in appearance *v.* to undergo a dramatic change in form, structure, or substance; to transform or alter in appearance or nature
56. ra_____t light *adj.* emitting light or heat; shining brightly
57. ri_____nk erosion *n.* the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes
58. delicate fe_____ry *adj.* having or resembling the soft and delicate feathers of a bird, typically in texture or appearance
59. a hasty te____r *n.* a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object
60. r__n in costs *n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control

ANSWERS: 52. leak, 53. lurch, 54. constellation, 55. metamorphose, 56. radiant, 57. riverbank, 58. feathery, 59. temper, 60. rein

61. 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
62. cr____e on the gravel road *v.* to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (*n.*) a series of sharp, popping sounds that are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity
63. estimate pr____e costs *adj.* sharply exact or accurate or delimited
64. st__r a conversation *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
65. st__r a steady course *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
66. cat____he risk management *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
67. gr__t a land *v.* to agree to give or allow somebody
68. w__p bitter tears *v.* to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
69. po____r trees *n.* a type of deciduous tree with soft, light-colored wood and large, flat leaves that tremble in the wind, often used for plywood, furniture, or paper pulp

ANSWERS: 61. startle, 62. crackle, 63. precise, 64. steer, 65. steer, 66. catastrophe, 67. grant, 68. weep, 69. poplar

70. ce_____al navigation *adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
71. po___r wood *n.* a type of deciduous tree with soft, light-colored wood and large, flat leaves that tremble in the wind, often used for plywood, furniture, or paper pulp
72. ce_____al bliss *adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
73. ar__w diagram *n.* a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow
74. documentary pr__f *n.* a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
75. nev_____ess, she persevered *adv.* in spite of that; yet
76. pa__c buying *n.* a sudden strong feeling of fear that cannot be controlled and prevents reasonable thought and action
77. gl__m in eyes *v.* to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
78. re_____ce a tennis court *v.* to restore or repair the surface of something, particularly a road, pavement, or sports field; to come to the surface or become visible again after a period of obscurity or concealment
79. su_____d fruits from the ceiling *v.* to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely

ANSWERS: 70. celestial, 71. poplar, 72. celestial, 73. arrow, 74. proof, 75. nevertheless, 76. panic, 77. gleam, 78. resurface, 79. suspend

80. tr_____rm heat into power *v.* to change in outward structure or looks;
81. keep working nev_____ess *adv.* in spite of that; yet
82. ab_____te loyalty *adj.* perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
83. ov_____me all difficulties *v.* to succeed in controlling or dealing with something, such as a problem or difficulty; to defeat or overwhelm someone
84. career tra_____ry *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
85. ancestral pa_____e *n.* the residence of a high-ranking official such as a king, queen, etc.
86. struck a mi_____y blow *adj.* very large, powerful, or strong
87. a tra_____ry missile *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
88. a gr_____l process *adj.* happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt
89. a pa__c reaction *n.* a sudden strong feeling of fear that cannot be controlled and prevents reasonable thought and action
90. a gr_____l change *adj.* happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt
91. bl__m in autumn *n.* a flower, especially one having showy or colorful parts; the best time of youth
92. co_____nt the issue *v.* to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person
93. st__w the room with balloons *v.* to scatter or spread things over an area; to scatter something in an untidy way

ANSWERS: 80. transform, 81. nevertheless, 82. absolute, 83. overcome, 84. trajectory, 85. palace, 86. mighty, 87. trajectory, 88. gradual, 89. panic, 90. gradual, 91. bloom, 92. confront, 93. strew

94. mi___y works *adj.* very large, powerful, or strong
95. st_____st commitment *adj.* firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges
96. the wan light of d__n *n.* the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky
97. wh__l in the washing machine *v.* to spin or turn rapidly; to move or be moved quickly in a circular manner; (noun) a spinning or rotating movement, often rapid or chaotic in nature
98. black-and-white bl__ms *n.* a flower, especially one having showy or colorful parts; the best time of youth
99. no do__t about the news *n.* a feeling of being uncertain about something, especially about how good or accurate it is
100. h__l a brickbat *v.* to throw something with great force
101. grip with pi_____s *n.* a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing
102. eve_____ng love *adj.* lasting forever or indefinitely; eternal or infinite in duration, also used to describe something unchanging, constant, or enduring
103. de_____e us to meet again *v.* to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome

ANSWERS: 94. mighty, 95. steadfast, 96. dawn, 97. whirl, 98. bloom, 99. doubt, 100. hurl, 101. pincers, 102. everlasting, 103. destine

104. a fairy t__e *n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
105. gl__m like honey *v.* to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
106. se__e the day *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
107. p__r group *n.* a person who has the same age, status, or ability
108. me____al address *n.* a structure or monument to commemorate a person or event
109. tight r__n *n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control
110. st__w garbage *v.* to scatter or spread things over an area; to scatter something in an untidy way
111. sl____n pace *v.* to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance
112. di___l a painful feeling *v.* to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea

ANSWERS: 104. tale, 105. gleam, 106. seize, 107. peer, 108. memorial, 109. rein, 110. strew, 111. slacken, 112. dispel

113. h__l a cup out of the window *v.* to throw something with great force
114. a pa___e garden *n.* the residence of a high-ranking official such as a king, queen, etc.
115. ad___t the rearview mirror *v.* to make a minor modification to something to make it more suited for a new set of conditions or to make it function better.
116. pr__e of a company *n.* a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements
117. met_____ose over time *v.* to undergo a dramatic change in form, structure, or substance; to transform or alter in appearance or nature
118. thu_____lt out of the blue *n.* a powerful and loud electrical discharge in the atmosphere, usually accompanied by lightning; a sudden and unexpected event or experience that is shocking or overwhelming
119. ta__t the losing team *v.* to tease or ridicule in a challenging manner
120. fiscal st_____ty pact *n.* the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast
121. se__e a person's property *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
122. l__k data *v.* to allow liquid or gas to get in or out from a hole or crack in a pipe or container

ANSWERS: 113. hurl, 114. palace, 115. adjust, 116. pride, 117. metamorphose, 118. thunderbolt, 119. taunt, 120. stability, 121. seize, 122. leak

123. st_____ty pact *n.* the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast
124. an ab_____te must *adj.* perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
125. fe_____ry fronds *adj.* having or resembling the soft and delicate feathers of a bird, typically in texture or appearance
126. se_____te video into chapter *v.* to force, take, or pull apart; mark as different
127. ske_____sm toward bureaucracy *n.* an attitude of doubting or questioning that claims or statements are true or valuable or that something will happen; the disbelief in any claims of ultimate knowledge
128. pl_____e a dagger through his heart *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
129. mo__t a counterattack *v.* to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
130. never sl_____n on implementing reforms *v.* to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance
131. in__t on a clear answer *v.* to say something clearly or demand something forcefully, especially when other people disagree with or oppose what you say

ANSWERS: 123. stability, 124. absolute, 125. feathery, 126. separate, 127. skepticism, 128. plunge, 129. mount, 130. slacken, 131. insist

132. pl____ting sales *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
133. am__r ale *n.* a hard, translucent, yellow-orange or brownish-yellow fossil resin that is used in jewelry and ornamentation and often contains insects or other small organisms that were trapped inside when the resin was sticky; also used to describe the color that resembles this type of resin
134. eve_____ng memories *adj.* lasting forever or indefinitely; eternal or infinite in duration, also used to describe something unchanging, constant, or enduring
135. 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
136. a profit ma____n *n.* the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold
137. b_g for help *v.* to ask for something urgently or earnestly; to appeal to someone to do something
138. wh__l around the dance floor *v.* to spin or turn rapidly; to move or be moved quickly in a circular manner; (noun) a spinning or rotating movement, often rapid or chaotic in nature
139. gr__t a customer *v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone

ANSWERS: 132. plummet, 133. amber, 134. everlasting, 135. startle, 136. margin, 137. beg, 138. whirl, 139. greet

140. we_____rd migration *adj.* directed or going towards the west; located in the west; moving or facing towards the west
141. drop sh_____y *adv.* suddenly and to a great degree; in an aggressive manner
142. have gr__f and sorrow *n.* a very great sadness, especially when somebody dies
143. un_____h a hound *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
144. ov_____me opponents *v.* to succeed in controlling or dealing with something, such as a problem or difficulty; to defeat or overwhelm someone
145. price of pr_____us metals *adj.* uncommon and extremely valuable
146. hide his pr__e *n.* a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements
147. ch_____t race *n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
148. this mo___l life *adj.* subject to death; unrelenting and deadly
149. pl___e into the water *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
150. pr_____e analyses *adj.* sharply exact or accurate or delimited
151. g__w gold in the light *v.* to give out a steady, strong light
152. p__r review *n.* a person who has the same age, status, or ability

ANSWERS: 140. westward, 141. sharply, 142. grief, 143. unleash, 144. overcome, 145. precious, 146. pride, 147. chariot, 148. mortal, 149. plunge, 150. precise, 151. glow, 152. peer

153. put a ha_____s on my pet
154. st_____st determination
155. am__r resin
156. in___t over and over
157. thu_____lt strike
158. hold your br___h
- v.* to control and exploit the power of something, especially natural resources that produce energy; (noun) a set of narrow pieces of leather and metal that are used to control or hold in place a person, animal, or object
- adj.* firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges
- n.* a hard, translucent, yellow-orange or brownish-yellow fossil resin that is used in jewelry and ornamentation and often contains insects or other small organisms that were trapped inside when the resin was sticky; also used to describe the color that resembles this type of resin
- v.* to say something clearly or demand something forcefully, especially when other people disagree with or oppose what you say
- n.* a powerful and loud electrical discharge in the atmosphere, usually accompanied by lightning; a sudden and unexpected event or experience that is shocking or overwhelming
- n.* the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs

ANSWERS: 153. harness, 154. steadfast, 155. amber, 156. insist, 157. thunderbolt, 158. breath

159. br___h of wind *n.* the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs
160. he___n on earth *n.* (of various religious and mythological traditions) a place or state of existence considered to be the abode of the divine, the afterlife, or a higher realm of being; a state of great happiness, contentment, or beauty
161. eve_____ly succeed *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
162. ar__w pointing *n.* a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow
163. ma___n error *n.* the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold
164. pos_____ty for growth *n.* a chance that something may happen or be true
165. b_g the question *v.* to ask for something urgently or earnestly; to appeal to someone to do something
166. mo__t a hill *v.* to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
167. dispel do__ts *n.* a feeling of being uncertain about something, especially about how good or accurate it is

ANSWERS: 159. breath, 160. heaven, 161. eventually, 162. arrow, 163. margin, 164. possibility, 165. beg, 166. mount, 167. doubt

168. d_m memory *adj.* poorly lit; not bright
169. eve_____ly become obsolete *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
170. pr_____us information *adj.* uncommon and extremely valuable
171. f__e their homes *v.* to leave by running away, especially out of fear or danger
172. ar_____ce of power *n.* excessive self-confidence or self-importance
173. ha_____s a horse to a carriage *v.* to control and exploit the power of something, especially natural resources that produce energy; (noun) a set of narrow pieces of leather and metal that are used to control or hold in place a person, animal, or object
174. sky ab___e with stars *adj.* on fire; burning brightly
175. me_____al park *n.* a structure or monument to commemorate a person or event
176. t__e of horror *n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
177. a cr__k in a board *v.* to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking
178. a lu__h in the stock market *v.* to make a sudden, abrupt movement; to stagger or sway unsteadily; to experience a sudden change or reversal; (noun) a sudden, unsteady, or awkward movement or motion, often to one side or another

ANSWERS: 168. dim, 169. eventually, 170. precious, 171. flee, 172. arrogance, 173. harness, 174. ablaze, 175. memorial, 176. tale, 177. crack, 178. lurch

179. northern con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
180. feel co_____nt *adj.* feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future
181. a mo___l combat *adj.* subject to death; unrelenting and deadly
182. the clear co_____ry *n.* acting in opposition to what is expected or desired
183. natural ske_____sm *n.* an attitude of doubting or questioning that claims or statements are true or valuable or that something will happen; the disbelief in any claims of ultimate knowledge
184. in_____re attachment *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

ANSWERS: 179. constellation, 180. confident, 181. mortal, 182. contrary, 183. skepticism, 184. insecure

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The caterpillar _____ into a butterfly during its life cycle.
 - v. to undergo a dramatic change in form, structure, or substance; to transform or alter in appearance or nature

2. The war _____ stands as a reminder of the sacrifices made by our ancestors.
 - n. a structure or monument to commemorate a person or event

3. 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

4. He that would eat the kernel must _____ the nut.
 - v. to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking

5. The wind _____ the leaves all over the lawn.
 - v. to scatter or spread things over an area; to scatter something in an untidy way

6. Children in an unstructured environment often feel _____.
 - adj. not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

7. The car suddenly _____ forward as we hit a pothole.
 - v. to make a sudden, abrupt movement; to stagger or sway unsteadily; to experience a sudden change or reversal; (noun) a sudden, unsteady, or awkward movement or motion, often to one side or another

ANSWERS: 1. metamorphoses, 2. memorial, 3. startle, 4. crack, 5. strew, 6. insecure, 7. lurched

8. He could not _____ against temptation.
v. to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
9. The two sides argued their points, but the judge ultimately sided with the _____ viewpoint.
n. acting in opposition to what is expected or desired
10. The country experienced a _____ increase in population.
adj. happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt
11. He bated his _____ when talking about this affair.
n. the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs
12. This region is predominantly _____.
n. arid land with little or no vegetation often covered with sand or rocks
13. The view from the mountaintop was truly _____.
adj. of, from, or like a god; holy or sacred
14. The chairperson _____ him the right to speak.
v. to agree to give or allow somebody
15. The value of our house rose _____ last year.
adv. suddenly and to a great degree; in an aggressive manner
16. This program aims to _____ certain misconceptions about the disease.
v. to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea

ANSWERS: 8. struggle, 9. contrary, 10. gradual, 11. breath, 12. desert, 13. divine, 14. granted, 15. sharply, 16. dispel

17. The stock prices have _____ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.
v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
18. The general was still reluctant to _____ his troops in pursuit of an enemy.
v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
19. The lack of funds has resulted in a _____ for our university system.
n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
20. He tried to _____ a bad reputation and win the election.
v. to succeed in controlling or dealing with something, such as a problem or difficulty; to defeat or overwhelm someone
21. Unfortunately, the book's _____ was too small to make notes.
n. the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold
22. She looked _____ on her wedding day.
adj. emitting light or heat; shining brightly
23. She angrily _____ the book across the room.
v. to throw something with great force
24. The policy should increase the country's monetary _____.
n. the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast
25. People have been exploring ways to _____ natural forces and resources since ancient times.
v. to control and exploit the power of something, especially natural resources that produce energy; (noun) a set of narrow pieces of leather and metal that are used to control or hold in place a person, animal, or object

ANSWERS: 17. plummeted, 18. unleash, 19. catastrophe, 20. overcome, 21. margin, 22. radiant, 23. hurled, 24. stability, 25. harness

26. The new driver struggled to keep a firm grip on the _____ as the horse bolted.
- n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control
27. Gandhi had an _____ zeal for nonviolence.
- adj.* perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
28. They _____ pictures on the paper in preparation for the birthday card.
- v.* to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
29. Among young people, _____ pressure can be pretty influential.
- n.* a person who has the same age, status, or ability
30. He _____ serious accounting irregularities that only people in the company's executive could know.
- v.* to allow liquid or gas to get in or out from a hole or crack in a pipe or container
31. Lewis and Clark's _____ journey was an important exploration of the newly acquired Louisiana Territory.
- adj.* directed or going towards the west; located in the west; moving or facing towards the west
32. We enjoyed a picnic on the _____ and watched the boats go by.
- n.* the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes

ANSWERS: 26. rein, 27. absolute, 28. mounted, 29. peer, 30. leaked, 31. westward, 32. riverbank

33. The city plans to _____ the roads downtown to fix potholes and cracks.
- v. to restore or repair the surface of something, particularly a road, pavement, or sports field; to come to the surface or become visible again after a period of obscurity or concealment
34. He humbly _____ his conduct.
- v. to think about a decision or opinion again to
35. The captain told him to _____ the ship north.
- v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
36. My father's death _____ my life completely.
- v. to change in outward structure or looks;
37. The company's profits _____ after the recall of their new product.
- v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
38. The building was _____ with fire.
- adj.* on fire; burning brightly
39. The sun's _____ shone through the window and illuminated the room.
- n. a long, sturdy piece of timber, metal, or other material used to support a structure or span a distance; a ray or stream of light emitted by a source
40. Ghosts in folk _____ are almost always malicious.
- n. a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure

ANSWERS: 33. resurface, 34. reconsidered, 35. steer, 36. transformed, 37. plunged, 38. ablaze, 39. beam, 40. tales

41. The _____ soldier refused to leave his post despite the danger.
adj. firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges
42. The _____ of the steel needs to be just right to ensure the product's durability.
n. a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object
43. The diamond ring _____ in the sunlight, catching everyone's eye.
v. to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
44. _____ is better than argument.
n. a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
45. The archer aimed his _____ carefully at the target.
n. a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow
46. The participation of oil-producing countries in the war caused _____ in the financial markets.
n. a sudden strong feeling of fear that cannot be controlled and prevents reasonable thought and action
47. The _____ of getting the disease will drastically increase.
n. a chance that something may happen or be true
48. He _____ his friends with a warm smile and a hug.
v. to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone

ANSWERS: 41. steadfast, 42. temper, 43. gleamed, 44. Proof, 45. arrow, 46. panic, 47. possibility, 48. greeted

49. The imperial _____ is currently undergoing reforms.
n. the residence of a high-ranking official such as a king, queen, etc.
50. Navigators still use the Little Bear _____ at sea.
n. a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
51. I'm easily moved to tears, so I would _____ in sympathy if I saw that movie.
v. to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
52. It is a basic instinct to _____ from a dangerous situation.
v. to leave by running away, especially out of fear or danger
53. The University _____ the most recalcitrant demonstrators.
v. to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely
54. She _____ her parents to let her go to the concert.
v. to ask for something urgently or earnestly; to appeal to someone to do something
55. The sound of the wind rustling through the leaves of the _____ trees was calming and peaceful.
n. a type of deciduous tree with soft, light-colored wood and large, flat leaves that tremble in the wind, often used for plywood, furniture, or paper pulp
56. She took great _____ in her work, always striving for perfection.
n. a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements

ANSWERS: 49. palace, 50. constellation, 51. weep, 52. flee, 53. suspended, 54. begged, 55. poplar, 56. pride

57. The cherry blossoms in the park were in full _____.

n. a flower, especially one having showy or colorful parts; the best time of youth

58. The corporation _____ dominated the entire tobacco business.

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

59. We cannot afford to squander _____ time.

adj. uncommon and extremely valuable

60. The ___ light made it difficult to read the book.

adj. poorly lit; not bright

61. She _____ him with sarcastic comments about his lack of success.

v. to tease or ridicule in a challenging manner

62. Some people believe that we are all _____ for greatness.

v. to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome

63. _____ is the start, not the end, of intelligence.

n. a feeling of being uncertain about something, especially about how good or accurate it is

64. The handyman used his trusty _____ to remove the rusty nails from the old boards.

n. a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing

ANSWERS: 57. bloom, 58. eventually, 59. precious, 60. dim, 61. taunted, 62. destined, 63. Doubt, 64. pincers

65. The bracelet was made of beautiful _____ stones.
- n.* a hard, translucent, yellow-orange or brownish-yellow fossil resin that is used in jewelry and ornamentation and often contains insects or other small organisms that were trapped inside when the resin was sticky; also used to describe the color that resembles this type of resin
66. She was tired and hungry, but _____ she persevered.
- adv.* in spite of that; yet
67. The driver refused to _____ his speed, despite the dangerous road conditions.
- v.* to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance
68. He has the superpower to _____ a business opportunity.
- v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
69. He finally decided to _____ problems directly.
- v.* to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person
70. Each person has a unique _____ experience.
- n.* a very great sadness, especially when somebody dies
71. The _____ bodies in the night sky were beautiful to behold.
- adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
72. The sudden _____ scared the hikers and made them seek shelter.
- n.* a powerful and loud electrical discharge in the atmosphere, usually accompanied by lightning; a sudden and unexpected event or experience that is shocking or overwhelming

ANSWERS: 65. amber, 66. nevertheless, 67. slacken, 68. seize, 69. confront, 70. grief, 71. celestial, 72. thunderbolt

73. The firewood _____ and popped into the fireplace, sending sparks up the chimney.
- v. to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (noun) a series of sharp, popping sounds that are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity
74. The sun was setting, and the sky _____ with beautiful colors.
- v. to give out a steady, strong light
75. We need to _____ the aspect of his personality from the part of his competence when making an investment decision.
- v. to force, take, or pull apart; mark as different
76. He felt like _____ when he tasted the delicious chocolate cake.
- n. (of various religious and mythological traditions) a place or state of existence considered to be the abode of the divine, the afterlife, or a higher realm of being; a state of great happiness, contentment, or beauty
77. He acted with _____ and was not well-liked by his colleagues.
- n. excessive self-confidence or self-importance
78. He _____ that she pay her debt to the last penny.
- v. to say something clearly or demand something forcefully, especially when other people disagree with or oppose what you say
79. Only the _____ God has the power to brighten this dark land.
- adj. very large, powerful, or strong

ANSWERS: 73. crackled, 74. glowed, 75. separate, 76. heaven, 77. arrogance, 78. insisted, 79. mighty

80. The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating _____ races.
- n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
81. The _____ leaves of the plant gently swayed in the breeze.
- adj.* having or resembling the soft and delicate feathers of a bird, typically in texture or appearance
82. You have to _____ your content to the age of the audience.
- v.* to make a minor modification to something to make it more suited for a new set of conditions or to make it function better.
83. Missile assaults on the capital continued around _____.
- n.* the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky
84. The company has shown an excellent growth _____ over the years.
- n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
85. This party expresses _____ about the efficacy of the health insurance system.
- n.* an attitude of doubting or questioning that claims or statements are true or valuable or that something will happen; the disbelief in any claims of ultimate knowledge
86. All humans are _____ and will eventually die.
- adj.* subject to death; unrelenting and deadly
87. The leaves began to _____ around in the windy weather.
- v.* to spin or turn rapidly; to move or be moved quickly in a circular manner; (noun) a spinning or rotating movement, often rapid or chaotic in nature

ANSWERS: 80. chariot, 81. feathery, 82. adjust, 83. dawn, 84. trajectory, 85. skepticism, 86. mortal, 87. whirl

88. I'm not _____ in our victory.

adj. feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future

89. The sea _____ were said to lure sailors with their seductive voices.

n. (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform

90. The content is _____ and informative for me.

adj. sharply exact or accurate or delimited

91. The writer's words left an _____ impact on his readers.

adj. lasting forever or indefinitely; eternal or infinite in duration, also used to describe something unchanging, constant, or enduring

92. I often _____ around the park for half an hour.

v. to walk around slowly or to a place, often without any clear purpose or direction

ANSWERS: 88. confident, 89. nymphs, 90. precise, 91. everlasting, 92. wander