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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jeffrey A. Lockwood: Are locust plagues
unstoppable? | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jeffrey_a_lockwood_are_lo
cust_plagues_unstoppable](https://www.ted.com/talks/jeffrey_a_lockwood_are_locust_plagues_unstoppable)

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

ravenous

adj. extremely hungry or famished; greedy or voracious in
appetite or desire

synonym : hungry, famished, voracious

(1) **ravenous** hunger, (2) **ravenous** wolf

After running a marathon, I felt **ravenous** and ate an entire
pizza.

swarm

n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in
the air or water or on the ground

synonym : horde, hive, throng

(1) a **swarm** of mosquitoes, (2) locust **swarm**

A **swarm** of angry bees attacked because we had
approached the hive.

relentless

adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties
or setbacks

synonym : unyielding, tireless, unremitting

(1) **relentless** attack, (2) face **relentless** pressure

The athlete's **relentless** training paid off in the end.

wasteland

n. a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left
deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural
disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or

situation that is devoid of life or anything of value

synonym : desert, barren, wild

(1) post-apocalyptic **wasteland**, (2) nuclear **wasteland**

The abandoned industrial site is now a **wasteland** of decaying buildings and rusted machinery.

locust

n. a type of grasshopper that can travel in large swarms and cause extensive damage to crops; can also refer to various other insects such as cicadas or katydid

synonym : grasshopper, cicada, cricket

(1) **locust** army, (2) **locust** plague

The **locust** infestation destroyed the crops, causing widespread famine.

insatiable

adj. impossible to satisfy or content; having a strong desire or craving that is excessive or unquenchable

synonym : voracious, unquenchable, insistent

(1) **insatiable** curiosity, (2) **insatiable** appetite

His **insatiable** hunger for success drove him to work countless hours.

grasshopper

n. large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality

synonym : locust, katydid, cricket

(1) **grasshopper** mice, (2) **grasshopper** species

The **grasshopper** leaped from one blade of grass to another.

arid

adj. lacking in moisture or rainfall; dry and barren; lacking in interest, life, or vitality

synonym : dry, parched, barren

(1) **arid** terrain, (2) semi- **arid** zone

The desert is known for its **arid** climate and lack of rainfall.

solitary

adj. existing, living, or doing without others

synonym : lonely, unsociable, singular

(1) use of **solitary** confinement, (2) a **solitary** traveler

He never uttered a **solitary** word.

startling

adj. extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

synonym: alarming, astonishing, shocking

(1) **startling** earthquake shocks, (2) **startling** discovery

He describes the story with **startling** reality.

hatch

v. to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage

synonym: incubate, breed, produce

(1) **hatch** a plan, (2) **hatch** a baby chick

The eggs began to **hatch**, and the small chicks emerged.

gluttonous

adj. excessively greedy or indulgent, especially regarding food and drink

synonym: greedy, overindulgent, insatiable

(1) **gluttonous** appetite, (2) **gluttonous** feast

He was a **gluttonous** eater, never leaving any food on his plate.

pheromone

n. a chemical substance produced by an animal that is secreted into the environment and that affects the behavior or physiology of others of its species

synonym: scent, odor, aroma

(1) **pheromone** trail, (2) sexual **pheromone**

The perfume industry often uses synthetic **pheromones** to enhance their products' appeal.

alkaloid

n. a class of naturally occurring chemical compounds that are found in plants and contain nitrogen atoms; alkaloids have a wide range of pharmacological effects and include many drugs, such as caffeine, morphine, and cocaine

(1) **alkaloid** compound, (2) **alkaloid** extraction

The medicine contained an important **alkaloid** that helped

treat the patient's illness.

predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
synonym : vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

poisonous

adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
synonym : toxic, venomous, deadly

(1) **poisonous** plants, (2) **poisonous** chemicals

Some species of **poisonous snakes** can be deadly to humans if bitten.

mow

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

synonym : cut, trim, clip

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

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

swath

n. a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something

synonym : strip, band, fodder

(1) a large **swath** of territory, (2) a **swath** of green grass

The charity organization has helped to provide education to a vast **swath** of the population.

exoskeleton

n. a hard, external protective covering or framework that supports and gives shape to the body of an invertebrate animal, such as an insect or crab

synonym : chitin, exocuticle, carapace

(1) **exoskeleton** suit, (2) robotic **exoskeleton**

The **exoskeleton** of the crab protects it from predators and environmental changes.

metamorphosis

n. a profound or dramatic change in form, structure, or condition; a transformation; the process by which an animal or insect undergoes a physical transformation, such as growth, development, or maturation

synonym : transformation, change, evolution

(1) **metamorphosis** process, (2) undergo a **metamorphosis**

The butterfly's **metamorphosis** from a caterpillar to a winged creature is a wonder of nature.

translucent

adj. allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent

synonym : semi-transparent, see-through

(1) **translucent** glass, (2) **translucent** skin

The sunlight shone through the **translucent** curtains, casting a warm glow in the room.

fledged

adj. fully developed or matured; having acquired the feathers necessary for flight, as in the case of a young bird; fully trained or qualified to do something

synonym : fully developed, mature, grown

(1) **fledged** artist, (2) fully- **fledged** adult

The **fledged** bird bravely took its first flight from the nest.

gregarious

adj. fond of company; sociable; living in groups or communities

synonym : sociable, outgoing, friendly

(1) **gregarious** animals, (2) **gregarious** nature

She was a **gregarious** person, always making friends with everyone she met.

overwhelm

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

synonym : conquer, crush, dominate

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

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

tornado

n. a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud

synonym: whirlwind, twister, cyclone

(1) **tornado** alley, (2) **tornado** warning

The deadly **tornado** that hit the town yesterday destroyed many buildings and injured several people.

traverse

v. to cross or move through a land or water area

synonym: cross, pass through, travel over

(1) **traverse** the region, (2) **traverse** a vast extent of sea

Approximately 1000 automobiles **traverse** the bridge every day.

raft

n. a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer

synonym: flatboat, boat, barge

(1) a **raft** for carrying horses, (2) a life **raft**

The rubber **raft** was swept out to sea.

nourishing

adj. providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth

synonym: nutritious, healthy, sustaining

(1) **nourishing** broth, (2) **nourishing** ingredients

My mother always made sure she had a **nourishing** breakfast before school.

kinship

n. the state or fact of being related to someone

synonym: family, relationship, connection

(1) **kinship** ties, (2) **kinship** relations

She felt a sense of **kinship** with her new colleagues.

inhabit

v. to live in a specific location; to reside

synonym: settle, occupy, populate

(1) **inhabit** a cave, (2) **inhabit** the stomach
I have no idea what sort of folks **inhabit** the neighborhood.

endanger

v. to put someone or something in a risky situation

synonym: threaten, imperil, jeopardize

(1) **endanger** my health, (2) **endanger** a close relationship
Their actions **endangered** the lives of innocent people.

hatchling

n. a young bird, reptile, or fish that has emerged from its egg

synonym: nestling, fledgling, chick

(1) **hatchling** turtle, (2) snake **hatchling**

The mother bird fiercely protected her **hatchlings** and kept them safe in their nest.

hotspot

n. a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity

synonym: epicenter, cluster, outbreak

(1) covid-19 **hotspot**, (2) geographic **hotspot**

The airport is a **hotspot** for tourists and travelers from around the world.

insecticide

n. a substance used to kill insects

synonym: pesticide, bug-killer, rodenticide

(1) **insecticide** spray, (2) **insecticide** residue

The farmer sprayed the crop with **insecticide** to protect it from pests.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym: mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

exacerbate

v. to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse

synonym: worsen, aggravate, escalate

(1) **exacerbate** the situation, (2) **exacerbate** symptoms
The heat wave **exacerbated** the drought conditions.

erratic

adj. characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality

synonym: unpredictable, irregular, unstable

(1) **erratic** behavior, (2) **erratic** movements

The stock market has been behaving in an **erratic** manner, making it difficult for investors to predict future trends.

discourage

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

synonym: dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth
His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

catastrophic

adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

synonym: fatal, disastrous, destructive

(1) victim of **catastrophic** injuries, (2) **catastrophic** climate change

The extinction rate of aquatic animals was **catastrophic**.

rethink

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. rel_____ss attack *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
2. lo___t army *n.* a type of grasshopper that can travel in large swarms and cause extensive damage to crops; can also refer to various other insects such as cicadas or katydids
3. victim of cat_____hic injuries *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
4. nuclear wa_____nd *n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value
5. gra_____er mice *n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
6. covid-19 ho_____t *n.* a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity
7. rec_____er the determination *v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
8. ins_____de spray *n.* a substance used to kill insects
9. a large sw__h of territory *n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something

ANSWERS: 1. relentless, 2. locust, 3. catastrophic, 4. wasteland, 5. grasshopper, 6. hotspot, 7. reconsider, 8. insecticide, 9. swath

10. gre_____us nature *adj.* fond of company; sociable; living in groups or communities
11. gre_____us animals *adj.* fond of company; sociable; living in groups or communities
12. exa_____te symptoms *v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
13. ra_____us hunger *adj.* extremely hungry or famished; greedy or voracious in appetite or desire
14. po_____us plants *adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
15. glu_____us appetite *adj.* excessively greedy or indulgent, especially regarding food and drink
16. a life r__t *n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
17. ins_____de residue *n.* a substance used to kill insects
18. ha__h a baby chick *v.* to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage
19. a sw__h of green grass *n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something
20. fu___s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

ANSWERS: 10. gregarious, 11. gregarious, 12. exacerbate, 13. ravenous, 14. poisonous, 15. gluttonous, 16. raft, 17. insecticide, 18. hatch, 19. swath, 20. fungus

21. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
22. to_____o alley *n.* a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud
23. ph_____ne trail *n.* a chemical substance produced by an animal that is secreted into the environment and that affects the behavior or physiology of others of its species
24. tra_____nt skin *adj.* allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent
25. rec_____er my transfer *v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
26. undergo a met_____sis *n.* a profound or dramatic change in form, structure, or condition; a transformation; the process by which an animal or insect undergoes a physical transformation, such as growth, development, or maturation
27. sexual ph_____ne *n.* a chemical substance produced by an animal that is secreted into the environment and that affects the behavior or physiology of others of its species

ANSWERS: 21. overwhelm, 22. tornado, 23. pheromone, 24. translucent, 25. reconsider, 26. metamorphosis, 27. pheromone

28. m_w a yard *v.* to cut down and trim grass or other vegetation, usually with a machine such as a lawnmower; to cut down or harvest crops
29. semi-a_d zone *adj.* lacking in moisture or rainfall; dry and barren; lacking in interest, life, or vitality
30. tr____se the region *v.* to cross or move through a land or water area
31. ra____us wolf *adj.* extremely hungry or famished; greedy or voracious in appetite or desire
32. ki____p relations *n.* the state or fact of being related to someone
33. apex pr____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
34. he was ov____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
35. exa____te the situation *v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
36. a r__t for carrying horses *n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
37. snake ha____ng *n.* a young bird, reptile, or fish that has emerged from its egg
38. po____us chemicals *adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

ANSWERS: 28. mow, 29. arid, 30. traverse, 31. ravenous, 32. kinship, 33. predator, 34. overwhelm, 35. exacerbate, 36. raft, 37. hatchling, 38. poisonous

39. face rel_____ss pressure *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
40. geographic ho_____t *n.* a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity
41. en_____er a close relationship *v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
42. dis_____ge bacterial growth *v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
43. exo_____on suit *n.* a hard, external protective covering or framework that supports and gives shape to the body of an invertebrate animal, such as an insect or crab
44. fl_____d artist *adj.* fully developed or matured; having acquired the feathers necessary for flight, as in the case of a young bird; fully trained or qualified to do something
45. m_w the field *v.* to cut down and trim grass or other vegetation, usually with a machine such as a lawnmower; to cut down or harvest crops
46. robotic exo_____on *n.* a hard, external protective covering or framework that supports and gives shape to the body of an invertebrate animal, such as an insect or crab
47. re_____k the role of the manager *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

ANSWERS: 39. relentless, 40. hotspot, 41. endanger, 42. discourage, 43. exoskeleton, 44. fledged, 45. mow, 46. exoskeleton, 47. rethink

48. ha_____ng turtle *n.* a young bird, reptile, or fish that has emerged from its egg
49. gra_____er species *n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
50. a sw__m of mosquitoes *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
51. met_____sis process *n.* a profound or dramatic change in form, structure, or condition; a transformation; the process by which an animal or insect undergoes a physical transformation, such as growth, development, or maturation
52. in_____t the stomach *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
53. en_____er my health *v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
54. al_____id compound *n.* a class of naturally occurring chemical compounds that are found in plants and contain nitrogen atoms; alkaloids have a wide range of pharmacological effects and include many drugs, such as caffeine, morphine, and cocaine
55. post-apocalyptic wa_____nd *n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value
56. a so_____ry traveler *adj.* existing, living, or doing without others

ANSWERS: 48. hatchling, 49. grasshopper, 50. swarm, 51. metamorphosis, 52. inhabit, 53. endanger, 54. alkaloid, 55. wasteland, 56. solitary

57. to_____o warning *n.* a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud
58. tra_____nt glass *adj.* allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent
59. sexual pr_____ors *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
60. cat_____hic climate change *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
61. ki_____p ties *n.* the state or fact of being related to someone
62. in_____t a cave *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
63. dis_____ge customers *v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
64. a__d terrain *adj.* lacking in moisture or rainfall; dry and barren; lacking in interest, life, or vitality
65. glu_____us feast *adj.* excessively greedy or indulgent, especially regarding food and drink
66. st_____ng discovery *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
67. ha__h a plan *v.* to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage

ANSWERS: 57. tornado, 58. translucent, 59. predator, 60. catastrophic, 61. kinship, 62. inhabit, 63. discourage, 64. arid, 65. gluttonous, 66. startling, 67. hatch

68. er____c behavior *adj.* characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality
69. locust sw__m *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
70. fully-fl____d adult *adj.* fully developed or matured; having acquired the feathers necessary for flight, as in the case of a young bird; fully trained or qualified to do something
71. nou____ng broth *adj.* providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
72. st____ng earthquake shocks *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
73. use of so____ry confinement *adj.* existing, living, or doing without others
74. lo___t plague *n.* a type of grasshopper that can travel in large swarms and cause extensive damage to crops; can also refer to various other insects such as cicadas or katydids
75. nou____ng ingredients *adj.* providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
76. symbiotic fu___s *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

ANSWERS: 68. erratic, 69. swarm, 70. fledged, 71. nourishing, 72. startling, 73. solitary, 74. locust, 75. nourishing, 76. fungus

77. tr____se a vast extent of sea *v.* to cross or move through a land or water area
78. ins_____le appetite *adj.* impossible to satisfy or content; having a strong desire or craving that is excessive or unquenchable
79. al____id extraction *n.* a class of naturally occurring chemical compounds that are found in plants and contain nitrogen atoms; alkaloids have a wide range of pharmacological effects and include many drugs, such as caffeine, morphine, and cocaine
80. er____c movements *adj.* characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality
81. ins_____le curiosity *adj.* impossible to satisfy or content; having a strong desire or craving that is excessive or unquenchable
82. re____k a marketing plan *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

ANSWERS: 77. traverse, 78. insatiable, 79. alkaloid, 80. erratic, 81. insatiable, 82. rethink

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I have no idea what sort of folks _____ the neighborhood.
v. to live in a specific location; to reside
2. Their actions _____ the lives of innocent people.
v. to put someone or something in a risky situation
3. The deadly _____ that hit the town yesterday destroyed many buildings and injured several people.
n. a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud
4. My father likes to ____ the lawn early on Saturday mornings.
v. to cut down and trim grass or other vegetation, usually with a machine such as a lawnmower; to cut down or harvest crops
5. A _____ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.
n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
6. The mother bird fiercely protected her _____ and kept them safe in their nest.
n. a young bird, reptile, or fish that has emerged from its egg
7. The _____ bird bravely took its first flight from the nest.
adj. fully developed or matured; having acquired the feathers necessary for flight, as in the case of a young bird; fully trained or qualified to do something

ANSWERS: 1. inhabit, 2. endangered, 3. tornado, 4. mow, 5. swarm, 6. hatchlings, 7. fledged

8. The _____ infestation destroyed the crops, causing widespread famine.
n. a type of grasshopper that can travel in large swarms and cause extensive damage to crops; can also refer to various other insects such as cicadas or katydids
9. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was _____.
adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
10. He was a _____ eater, never leaving any food on his plate.
adj. excessively greedy or indulgent, especially regarding food and drink
11. His _____ hunger for success drove him to work countless hours.
adj. impossible to satisfy or content; having a strong desire or craving that is excessive or unquenchable
12. The abandoned industrial site is now a _____ of decaying buildings and rusted machinery.
n. a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value
13. After running a marathon, I felt _____ and ate an entire pizza.
adj. extremely hungry or famished; greedy or voracious in appetite or desire
14. The _____ leaped from one blade of grass to another.
n. large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
15. The perfume industry often uses synthetic _____ to enhance their products' appeal.
n. a chemical substance produced by an animal that is secreted into the environment and that affects the behavior or physiology of others of its species

ANSWERS: 8. locust, 9. catastrophic, 10. gluttonous, 11. insatiable, 12. wasteland, 13. ravenous, 14. grasshopper, 15. pheromones

16. My mother always made sure she had a _____ breakfast before school.
adj. providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
17. He describes the story with _____ reality.
adj. extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
18. He never uttered a _____ word.
adj. existing, living, or doing without others
19. Some species of _____ can be deadly to humans if bitten.
adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
20. Approximately 1000 automobiles _____ the bridge every day.
v. to cross or move through a land or water area
21. She felt a sense of _____ with her new colleagues.
n. the state or fact of being related to someone
22. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
23. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
24. The farmer sprayed the crop with _____ to protect it from pests.
n. a substance used to kill insects

ANSWERS: 16. nourishing, 17. startling, 18. solitary, 19. poisonous snakes, 20. traverse, 21. kinship, 22. predator's, 23. overwhelm, 24. insecticide

25. The stock market has been behaving in an _____ manner, making it difficult for investors to predict future trends.
adj. characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality
26. The athlete's _____ training paid off in the end.
adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
27. The butterfly's _____ from a caterpillar to a winged creature is a wonder of nature.
n. a profound or dramatic change in form, structure, or condition; a transformation; the process by which an animal or insect undergoes a physical transformation, such as growth, development, or maturation
28. The airport is a _____ for tourists and travelers from around the world.
n. a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity
29. The heat wave _____ the drought conditions.
v. to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
30. The medicine contained an important _____ that helped treat the patient's illness.
n. a class of naturally occurring chemical compounds that are found in plants and contain nitrogen atoms; alkaloids have a wide range of pharmacological effects and include many drugs, such as caffeine, morphine, and cocaine
31. The rubber _____ was swept out to sea.
n. a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer

ANSWERS: 25. erratic, 26. relentless, 27. metamorphosis, 28. hotspot, 29. exacerbated, 30. alkaloid, 31. raft

32. The eggs began to _____ and the small chicks emerged.
- v.* to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage
33. He humbly _____ his conduct.
- v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
34. The _____ of the crab protects it from predators and environmental changes.
- n.* a hard, external protective covering or framework that supports and gives shape to the body of an invertebrate animal, such as an insect or crab
35. The charity organization has helped to provide education to a vast _____ of the population.
- n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something
36. We have to _____ our company's product lineup for further growth.
- v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
37. She was a _____ person, always making friends with everyone she met.
- adj.* fond of company; sociable; living in groups or communities
38. The desert is known for its _____ climate and lack of rainfall.
- adj.* lacking in moisture or rainfall; dry and barren; lacking in interest, life, or vitality
39. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
- n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

ANSWERS: 32. hatch, 33. reconsidered, 34. exoskeleton, 35. swath, 36. rethink, 37. gregarious, 38. arid, 39. fungus

40. His parents tried to _____ him from becoming an artist.

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

41. The sunlight shone through the _____ curtains, casting a warm glow in the room.

adj. allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent

ANSWERS: 40. discourage, 41. translucent