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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Katie Mack: The death of the universe -- and what it means for life | TED Talk

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

All Words

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Session 1: Word List

universe

n. everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

synonym : cosmos, macrocosm

(1) theory of the **universe**, (2) expansion of the **universe**

The **universe** is about 13.8 billion years old.

vastness

n. the extent or size of something, often describing an ample space or area; the quality of being immense or immense in scale

synonym : immensity, enormity, vastitude

(1) limitless **vastness**, (2) scenic **vastness**

The **vastness** of the ocean was awe-inspiring and humbling.

mystery

n. something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle

synonym : enigma, puzzle, secret

(1) **mystery** novel, (2) unsolved **mystery**

The **mystery** surrounding the disappearance of the traveler has yet to be solved by authorities.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym: surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains
The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

devote

v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

synonym: commit, dedicate, apply

(1) **devote** all of my energies, (2) **devote** my own life
He **devoted** himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.

atom

n. the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus

synonym: particle, element, fraction

(1) oxygen **atom**, (2) neutral hydrogen **atoms**

The outermost electron shell of an **atom** determines its chemical characteristics.

galaxy

n. an independent group of stars, interstellar gas, dark matter, etc., in the universe, bound together by gravity

synonym: star cluster, nebula, star system

(1) elliptic **galaxy**, (2) a **galaxy** of famous actors

The Milky Way **galaxy** has numerous water-bearing planets.

stick

v. to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material

synonym: pierce, adhere, stay

(1) **stick** a key in a lock, (2) fire **stick**

You **stick** a bill in the change machine, and the coins pop out.

shock

n. a strong feeling or physical reaction to a sudden and unexpected event or experience, especially something unpleasant

synonym : amazement, surprise, stunner

(1) death from **shock**, (2) **shock-resistant**

He got an electric **shock** at work.

suppose

v. to think that something is likely to be actual or possible

synonym : guess, assume, presume

(1) **suppose** you're right, (2) **suppose** beforehand

What do you **suppose** the culprit's motive was?

eternal

adj. being without beginning or end; lasting forever

synonym : endless, everlasting, undying

(1) the hope of **eternal** life, (2) **eternal** quarreling

In every civilization, rulers have tried everything possible to obtain **eternal** life.

cosmos

n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system

synonym : universe, macrocosm

(1) exploration of **cosmos**, (2) origin of the **cosmos**

Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the **cosmos**.

background

n. the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem

synonym : ground, experience, backdrop

(1) a **background** color, (2) a criminal **background**

The company's hiring criteria emphasize personality, not a person's **background**.

radiation

n. the energy that comes from a nuclear reaction in the form of rays, waves, or particles and that can be hazardous to health

synonym : dissemination, emission, irradiation

(1) exposure to **radiation**, (2) electromagnetic **radiation**
He tried every possible treatment, including chemotherapy and **radiation** therapy.

encompass

v. to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
synonym: surround, encircle, include

(1) **encompass** a broad range, (2) **encompass** the enemy
The optimal solution that would **encompass** all these elements has yet to be proposed.

inferno

n. a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs

synonym: hell, fiery pit, furnace

(1) a raging **inferno**, (2) devastating **inferno**

The building was consumed by an **inferno**, reducing it to ashes.

churning

n. the process of mixing or stirring something vigorously, often to create a frothy or creamy texture; a state of upheaval or turbulence, often referring to the stock market or economy

synonym: agitation, turmoil, commotion

(1) butter **churning**, (2) **churning** emotions

The **churning** of the waves on the beach made it difficult to swim.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym: buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

plasma

n. (biology) the yellow-colored liquid component of blood, in which blood cells are suspended; (physics) one of the four fundamental states of matter consisting of positive

ions and free electrons

(1) **plasma** membrane, (2) high-temperature **plasma**

Blood **plasma** makes up about half of the volume of blood.

dense

adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

synonym : heavy, thick, idiotic

(1) nutrient- **dense** foods, (2) **dense** forests

The entire mountain is covered in **dense** rainforest.

expand

v. to increase or to make something greater in size, number, or importance

synonym : extend, grow, boost

(1) **expand** a lineup, (2) **expand** agricultural output

They hope to **expand** their business worldwide.

dissipated

adj. dispersed or scattered in different directions; wasted or squandered on excessive or extravagant pleasures such as drinking, partying, or gambling; characterized by a lack of focus or discipline

synonym : debauched, dissolute, decadent

(1) **dissipated** lifestyle, (2) **dissipated** energy

His **dissipated** behavior at the party concerned his friends, who wondered if he had a substance abuse problem.

gravity

n. the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn

synonym : heaviness, attraction, weight

(1) the attraction of **gravity**, (2) preserve my **gravity**

The astronaut felt weightless in space due to the absence of **gravity**.

planet

n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

synonym : earth, world, globe

(1) **planet** like the Earth, (2) save the **planet**
Mercury is the closest **planet** to the sun.

astronomer

n. a physicist who studies astronomy

synonym: stargazer, cosmologist, astrophysicist

(1) amateur **astronomer**, (2) solar **astronomer**

This question has fascinated solar **astronomers** for decades.

microwave

n. a form of electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths ranging from about one millimeter to one meter and frequencies between 300 MHz (0.3 GHz) and 300 GHz; an electric oven that cooks food by exposing it to high-frequency electromagnetic radiation, which causes the food molecules to vibrate and heat up quickly

synonym: oven, waveguide, radar range

(1) **microwave** radiation, (2) **microwave** popcorn

I heated my leftover food in the **microwave** oven, which tasted just as good as freshly cooked.

receiver

n. the part of a phone that you hold close to your ear and mouth; a person who receives something

synonym: acceptor, recipient, collector

(1) a GPS **receiver**, (2) aid **receiver**

Delivery companies often require the **receiver's** signature to certify the completion of package delivery.

detect

v. to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc.

synonym: catch, observe, notice

(1) **detect** a bad event, (2) **detect** smuggling across borders

The security camera has **detected** four intruders.

static

adj. not moving or not capable of moving, not changing or not capable of changing

synonym: immobile, unchanging, fixed

(1) **static** electricity, (2) **static** website

The **static** image on the screen took a lot of work to make

out.

leftover

adj. not consumed or used at the end of something

synonym : extra, residual, unused

(1) **leftover** from a party, (2) **leftover** goods

The chef will make soup with the **leftover** ham bone.

primordial

adj. existing from the beginning of time or the start of a particular process; relating to the earliest stage of the universe

synonym : ancient, original, primary

(1) **primordial** forms of life, (2) **primordial** gas

The discovery of the **primordial** soup was a crucial step in understanding the origins of life on Earth.

observable

adj. that can be noticed or seen

synonym : visible, perceptible, detectable

(1) **observable** change, (2) experimentally **observable**

Any theorem relies on both **observable** fact and assumption.

distant

adj. far away in space, time, or where you are; far apart in relevance, relationship, or kinship

synonym : far, isolated, remote

(1) a **distant** memory, (2) **distant** ancestors

The sun set over the crest of **distant** hills.

expansion

n. the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process

synonym : growth, enlargement, development

(1) industrial **expansion**, (2) **expansion** project

The company is undergoing an **expansion**, opening new locations in several states.

phase

n. any stage in a series of events, change, or development

synonym : degree, stage, step

(1) enter on the last **phase**, (2) two- **phase** structure

The era of the industrial revolution was a crucial **phase** of history.

collision

n. an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict

synonym: crash, impact, smash

(1) **collision** detection, (2) come into **collision** with my friend

The **collision** of tectonic plates can result in new mountain ranges, such as the Himalayas or the Alps.

conflagration

n. a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war

synonym: blaze, holocaust, firestorm

(1) **conflagration** aftermath, (2) urban **conflagration**

The **conflagration** in the forest destroyed many homes and caused much damage.

cosmic

adj. relating to the universe or cosmos; vast or limitless

synonym: astronomical, celestial, outer-space

(1) second **cosmic** velocity, (2) **cosmic** background radiation

Cosmic rays are high-energy particles that originate from outside the solar system.

hydrogen

n. the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water

(1) **hydrogen** gas, (2) heavy **hydrogen**

The **hydrogen** and the oxygen react and then form water.

calculate

v. to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics

synonym: compute, figure, estimate

(1) **calculate** the distance, (2) **calculate** his credit score

He couldn't **calculate** the actual value of the artwork.

shocking

adj. extremely or surprisingly bad, or causing a strong emotional response such as surprise or disgust

synonym : startling, surprising, astounding

(1) **shocking** response, (2) **shocking** revelation

The news of the accident was **shocking** and left many in shock.

agonize

v. to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying

synonym : disturb, excruciate, lament

(1) **agonize** pain, (2) **agonize** about financing

He **agonized** over whether to accept the job offer.

languish

v. (of a person, animal, or plant) to lose vigor, health, or flesh; to be forced to exist in an unpleasant or unwanted situation or place, often for a long time

synonym : flag, wane, wither

(1) **languish** for lack of funding, (2) **languish** under illness

He continues to **languish** in prison.

smolder

v. to burn slowly and without a flame, often with the production of smoke and heat; to exist or persist in a suppressed or hidden state, particularly anger or resentment

synonym : burn, smoke, simmer

(1) **smolder** in resentment for many years, (2) **smolder** beneath the surface

The fire continued to **smolder** long after the firefighters had left.

ash

n. the powdery residue left after the burning of a substance, typically containing minerals and other impurities; the solid remains of a dead person after cremation

synonym :

cinder, soot, dust

(1) **ash** tree, (2) soda **ash**

The volcanic **ash** covered the island after the eruption.

increasingly

adv. more and more

synonym: more and more, progressively

(1) **increasingly** become common, (2) face **increasingly** complicated challenges

Our company found it **increasingly** difficult to keep up with the competition.

isolate

v. to physically or socially separate someone or something from other people or things

synonym: separate, sequester, insulate

(1) **isolate** a compound, (2) **isolate** a patient

You should not **isolate** them from the community.

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.

decay

n. the process or state of rotting or decomposition by natural causes such as the action of bacteria and fungi;
(verb) to rot or decompose through natural causes

synonym: corrosion, decomposition, deterioration

(1) radioactive **decay**, (2) prevent tooth **decay**

The dead body was in an advanced state of **decay**.

evaporate

v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually

synonym: vaporize, disappear, vanish

(1) **evaporate** the water, (2) **evaporate** almost overnight

The sun will **evaporate** the mist.

void

n. an empty space; a feeling of emptiness; (adjective) lacking any legal or binding force

synonym: emptiness, vacuity, (adjective) null

(1) **void** of expression, (2) **void** contract

The **void** in her heart was filled with the love of her family.

faint

adj. not strong, clear, or vigorous; slight or weak

synonym: slight, vague, soft

(1) **faint** memory, (2) **faint** aroma of roses

She heard a **faint**, nearly invisible scream.

trace

v. to find or discover someone or something that was lost

synonym: seek, follow, depict

(1) **trace** a telephone call, (2) **trace** back to medieval times

Let's **trace** the origins of some familiar foreign words.

bang

v. to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise

synonym: crash, hit, smash

(1) **bang** his fist on a desk, (2) **bang** a phone down

My father tried to **bang** mathematics into my head since childhood.

fade

v. to vanish; to fade away; to lose color; to lose freshness

synonym: languish, wither

(1) **fade** away almost completely, (2) **fade** in importance

My memory will **fade**, but my heart will live on.

trillion

n. the number 1,000,000,000,000; a million million

(1) **trillion** cubic feet, (2) many **trillions** of dollars

One light year is nearly 6 **trillion** miles.

disconnect

v. to unfasten or disjoin something, especially to break the connection between a supply of gas, water, or electricity and a piece of equipment

synonym: unplug, detach, take apart

(1) **disconnect** a plug, (2) **disconnect** the water supply
She finally decided to **disconnect** herself from the company.

profound

adj. extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly;
displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension
synonym : deep, unsounded, far-reaching

(1) a **profound** book, (2) the **profound** depths of the sea
My mother's illness had a **profound** impact on us all.

strategy

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

synonym : approach, procedure, scenario

(1) military **strategy**, (2) develop a **strategy**
Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing **strategy**.

inevitable

adj. certain to happen and unavoidable
synonym : inescapable, unavoidable, sure

(1) **inevitable** changes of the seasons, (2) **inevitable** result
In times of recession, an increase in unemployment is
inevitable.

genetic

adj. of or relating to genes (= parts of the DNA in cells) or the
science of genes

synonym : hereditary, genetical, inborn

(1) have **genetic** testing, (2) a **genetic** disorder
Understanding protein folding is a vital step in deciphering the
genetic code.

outlook

n. the likely future situation for someone or something; a
habitual or characteristic mental attitude to life and the
world of a particular person, group, or culture

synonym : perspective, view, overlook

(1) the **outlook** of the townsite, (2) a positive **outlook** on life
Our company's business **outlook** for next year is bright.

humanity

n. all people living on the earth; the quality or state of being
human rather than an animal, a machine, etc.

synonym : humankind, society, human race

(1) **humanity** at large, (2) mass of **humanity**

They donated large sums of money for the development of **humanity**.

venture

n. a business project or activity that is risky or daring

synonym : enterprise, undertaking, adventure

(1) **venture** capital, (2) a joint **venture**

The **venture** into the new market was risky, but it paid off.

evolve

v. to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually

synonym : develop, mature, grow

(1) **evolve**, (2) **evolve** over the past decade

Eyeless fish **evolved** in dark caves.

survive

v. to live or exist despite a dangerous event or period

synonym : endure, persist, stay

(1) **survive** a blizzard, (2) **survive** a plane crash

These birds can only **survive** in temperate climates.

slate

n. a flat piece of rock or stone that is typically used as a roofing or flooring material; a list of candidates for an election arranged in a specific order

synonym : chalkboard, blackboard, tablet

(1) **slate** tile, (2) **slate** roof

We need to add more names to the **slate** of candidates for the upcoming election.

wipe

v. to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid

synonym : clean, brush, swab

(1) **Wipe** off dirt, (2) **wipe** with water

Please **wipe** your sweat with this towel.

ultimate

adj. furthest or highest in degree or order

synonym : highest, maximum, foremost

(1) the **ultimate** goal in life, (2) the **ultimate** luxury

Management must take **ultimate** responsibility for the accident.

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.

castle

n. a large building, typically of the medieval period, fortified against attack with thick walls, battlements, towers, and often a moat

synonym : fortress, palace, citadel

(1) the ruins of a **castle**, (2) **castle** moat

The medieval **castle** was surrounded by a moat and had high walls for protection.

tide

n. the cyclical rise and fall of sea level caused by the moon's gravitational pull

synonym : ripple, surge, swell

(1) **tide** cycle, (2) ride the **tide** of change

Red **tide** is often harmful to the local ecosystem.

cosmology

n. the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe

synonym : cosmogony

(1) physical **cosmology**, (2) modern **cosmology**

Cosmology evolved from people's philosophical questions about the natural world.

temporary

adj. not lasting or be used for a very long

synonym : provisional, short-term, interim

(1) a **temporary** permit, (2) **temporary** housing
He managed to get **temporary** jobs during the recession.

blip *n.* a sudden and small, and typically temporary, change or deviation from a general trend

(1) temporary **blip**, (2) minor **blip**
The stock market had one bad **blip** today.

motivate *v.* to make someone want to do something, especially something that requires tremendous work and effort
synonym: boost, encourage, inspire

(1) **motivate** the students, (2) all ability to **motivate**
The ability to **motivate** people is a priceless asset.

alternative *n.* one of two or more available possibilities or choice
synonym: choice, option

(1) an **alternative** plan, (2) there is no other **alternative**
Doctors are gradually coming around to the idea of using **alternative** medicines.

comfort *n.* a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint
synonym: ease, solace, coziness

(1) words of **comfort**, (2) **comfort** level
He found **comfort** in the warm embrace of his loved ones.

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.

multiverse *n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them

(1) the **multiverse** hypothesis, (2) the concept of the

multiverse

The various universes within the **multiverse** are sometimes called parallel universes.

insignificant

adj. of little importance, influence, or power

synonym: unimportant, trivial, irrelevant

(1) **insignificant** amount, (2) an **insignificant** mistake

He made me feel small and **insignificant**.

immense

adj. extremely large or great

synonym: enormous, giant, huge

(1) **immense** amount, (2) **immense** pressure

He left his wife an **immense** fortune.

contemplate

v. to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

synonym: think over, ponder, consider

(1) **contemplate** a marriage, (2) **contemplated** leaving school

I recently **contemplated** dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.

luxury

n. a state of great comfort or sophistication, mainly provided by expensive and beautiful things

synonym: extravagance, indulgence, opulence

(1) get into the **luxury** car market, (2) **luxury** hotel

His anti- **luxury** practices were quite strict.

fragile

adj. delicate or easily broken or damaged

synonym: delicate, brittle, breakable

(1) politically **fragile** nation, (2) **fragile** ecosystem

The vase was made of **fragile** ceramic and easily broke when it was dropped.

doom

n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

synonym : judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

discovery

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

synonym : finding, uncovering, detection

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

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

persist

v. to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable

synonym : endure, continue, carry on

(1) **persist** over time, (2) **persist** in success

Consult your doctor if the symptoms **persist**.

decide

v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

synonym : choose, determine, settle

(1) **decide** a question, (2) **decide** on a course of action

She couldn't **decide** whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ca___e moat *n.* a large building, typically of the medieval period, fortified against attack with thick walls, battlements, towers, and often a moat
2. expansion of the un____se *n.* everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy
3. ins_____ant amount *adj.* of little importance, influence, or power
4. st__k a key in a lock *v.* to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material
5. physical co____gy *n.* the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe
6. W__e off dirt *v.* to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid
7. ex___d agricultural output *v.* to increase or to make something greater in size, number, or importance
8. sl__e roof *n.* a flat piece of rock or stone that is typically used as a roofing or flooring material; a list of candidates for an election arranged in a specific order
9. minor b__p *n.* a sudden and small, and typically temporary, change or deviation from a general trend

ANSWERS: 1. castle, 2. universe, 3. insignificant, 4. stick, 5. cosmology, 6. wipe, 7. expand, 8. slate, 9. blip

10. de___t a bad event *v.* to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc.
11. sm_____r beneath the surface *v.* to burn slowly and without a flame, often with the production of smoke and heat; to exist or persist in a suppressed or hidden state, particularly anger or resentment
12. save the pl___t *n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
13. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
14. a bac_____nd color *n.* the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem
15. pos_____ty for growth *n.* a chance that something may happen or be true
16. pe_____t over time *v.* to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable
17. su_____e a blizzard *v.* to live or exist despite a dangerous event or period
18. st___c website *adj.* not moving or not capable of moving, not changing or not capable of changing

ANSWERS: 10. detect, 11. smolder, 12. planet, 13. astonishing, 14. background, 15. possibility, 16. persist, 17. survive, 18. static

19. et____l quarreling *adj.* being without beginning or end; lasting forever
20. devastating in____o *n.* a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs
21. en____ss the enemy *v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
22. d_m and distant past *adj.* poorly lit; not bright
23. politically fr____e nation *adj.* delicate or easily broken or damaged
24. su____e a plane crash *v.* to live or exist despite a dangerous event or period
25. ex____d a lineup *v.* to increase or to make something greater in size, number, or importance
26. there is no other alt____ve *n.* one of two or more available possibilities or choice
27. the ul____te goal in life *adj.* furthest or highest in degree or order
28. origin of the co____s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
29. sh____ng response *adj.* extremely or surprisingly bad, or causing a strong emotional response such as surprise or disgust
30. radioactive de__y *n.* the process or state of rotting or decomposition by natural causes such as the action of bacteria and fungi; (verb) to rot or decompose through natural causes

ANSWERS: 19. eternal, 20. inferno, 21. encompass, 22. dim, 23. fragile, 24. survive, 25. expand, 26. alternative, 27. ultimate, 28. cosmos, 29. shocking, 30. decay

31. pl___a membrane *n.* (biology) the yellow-colored liquid component of blood, in which blood cells are suspended; (physics) one of the four fundamental states of matter consisting of positive ions and free electrons
32. the ruins of a ca___e *n.* a large building, typically of the medieval period, fortified against attack with thick walls, battlements, towers, and often a moat
33. an ins_____ant mistake *adj.* of little importance, influence, or power
34. pri_____al gas *adj.* existing from the beginning of time or the start of a particular process; relating to the earliest stage of the universe
35. unsolved my_____y *n.* something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle
36. a pr_____nd book *adj.* extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly; displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension
37. exposure to ra_____on *n.* the energy that comes from a nuclear reaction in the form of rays, waves, or particles and that can be hazardous to health
38. an alt_____ve plan *n.* one of two or more available possibilities or choice

ANSWERS: 31. plasma, 32. castle, 33. insignificant, 34. primordial, 35. mystery, 36. profound, 37. radiation, 38. alternative

39. en_____ss a broad range *v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
40. co_____t level *n.* a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint
41. military st_____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
42. hu_____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
43. f___e away almost completely *v.* to vanish; to fade away; to lose color; to lose freshness
44. sh_____ng revelation *adj.* extremely or surprisingly bad, or causing a strong emotional response such as surprise or disgust
45. ca_____te the distance *v.* to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics
46. con_____te a marriage *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
47. get into the lu____y car market *n.* a state of great comfort or sophistication, mainly provided by expensive and beautiful things
48. de___e all of my energies *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
49. the ou_____k of the townsite *n.* the likely future situation for someone or something; a habitual or characteristic mental attitude to life and the world of a particular person, group, or culture

ANSWERS: 39. encompass, 40. comfort, 41. strategy, 42. humming, 43. fade, 44. shocking, 45. calculate, 46. contemplate, 47. luxury, 48. devote, 49. outlook

50. dis_____ed energy *adj.* dispersed or scattered in different directions; wasted or squandered on excessive or extravagant pleasures such as drinking, partying, or gambling; characterized by a lack of focus or discipline
51. ve_____e capital *n.* a business project or activity that is risky or daring
52. a ga____y of famous actors *n.* an independent group of stars, interstellar gas, dark matter, etc., in the universe, bound together by gravity
53. a di_____t memory *adj.* far away in space, time, or where you are; far apart in relevance, relationship, or kinship
54. the hope of et_____l life *adj.* being without beginning or end; lasting forever
55. a joint ve_____e *n.* a business project or activity that is risky or daring
56. theory of the un_____se *n.* everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy
57. hy_____en gas *n.* the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water
58. prophet of d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
59. de__e forests *adj.* containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

ANSWERS: 50. dissipated, 51. venture, 52. galaxy, 53. distant, 54. eternal, 55. venture, 56. universe, 57. hydrogen, 58. doom, 59. dense

60. a scientific di_____ry *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
61. t__e cycle *n.* the cyclical rise and fall of sea level caused by the moon's gravitational pull
62. mi_____ve popcorn *n.* a form of electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths ranging from about one millimeter to one meter and frequencies between 300 MHz (0.3 GHz) and 300 GHz; an electric oven that cooks food by exposing it to high-frequency electromagnetic radiation, which causes the food molecules to vibrate and heat up quickly
63. di_____t ancestors *adj.* far away in space, time, or where you are; far apart in relevance, relationship, or kinship
64. a ge_____c disorder *adj.* of or relating to genes (= parts of the DNA in cells) or the science of genes
65. fr_____e ecosystem *adj.* delicate or easily broken or damaged
66. le_____er from a party *adj.* not consumed or used at the end of something
67. b__g his fist on a desk *v.* to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise
68. soda a_h *n.* the powdery residue left after the burning of a substance, typically containing minerals and other impurities; the solid remains of a dead person after cremation

ANSWERS: 60. discovery, 61. tide, 62. microwave, 63. distant, 64. genetic, 65. fragile, 66. leftover, 67. bang, 68. ash

69. fa__t memory *adj.* not strong, clear, or vigorous; slight or weak
70. co_____on detection *n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict
71. scenic va_____ss *n.* the extent or size of something, often describing an ample space or area; the quality of being immense or immense in scale
72. many tr_____ons of dollars *n.* the number 1,000,000,000,000; a million million
73. two-ph__e structure *n.* any stage in a series of events, change, or development
74. a raging in_____o *n.* a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs
75. industrial ex_____on *n.* the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process
76. sm_____r in resentment for many years *v.* to burn slowly and without a flame, often with the production of smoke and heat; to exist or persist in a suppressed or hidden state, particularly anger or resentment
77. ag_____e pain *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
78. la_____sh under illness *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to lose vigor, health, or flesh; to be forced to exist in an unpleasant or unwanted situation or place, often for a long time

ANSWERS: 69. faint, 70. collision, 71. vastness, 72. trillion, 73. phase, 74. inferno, 75. expansion, 76. smolder, 77. agonize, 78. languish

79. eve_____ly succeed *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
80. ev_____te almost overnight *v.* to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
81. tr_____on cubic feet *n.* the number 1,000,000,000,000; a million million
82. have ge_____c testing *adj.* of or relating to genes (= parts of the DNA in cells) or the science of genes
83. elliptic ga_____y *n.* an independent group of stars, interstellar gas, dark matter, etc., in the universe, bound together by gravity
84. words of co_____t *n.* a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint
85. nutrient-de___e foods *adj.* containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
86. come into co_____on with my friend *n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict
87. w___e with water *v.* to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid
88. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
89. limitless va_____ss *n.* the extent or size of something, often describing an ample space or area; the quality of being immense or immense in scale
90. ch_____ng emotions *n.* the process of mixing or stirring something vigorously, often to create a frothy or creamy texture; a state of upheaval or turbulence, often referring to the stock market or economy

ANSWERS: 79. eventually, 80. evaporate, 81. trillion, 82. genetic, 83. galaxy, 84. comfort, 85. dense, 86. collision, 87. wipe, 88. astonishing, 89. vastness, 90. churning

91. urban con_____ion *n.* a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war
92. mo_____te the students *v.* to make someone want to do something, especially something that requires tremendous work and effort
93. ex_____on project *n.* the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process
94. modern co_____gy *n.* the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe
95. eve_____ly become obsolete *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
96. all ability to mo_____te *v.* to make someone want to do something, especially something that requires tremendous work and effort
97. the attraction of gr_____y *n.* the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn
98. butter ch_____ng *n.* the process of mixing or stirring something vigorously, often to create a frothy or creamy texture; a state of upheaval or turbulence, often referring to the stock market or economy
99. amateur ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
100. de___e my own life *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

ANSWERS: 91. conflagration, 92. motivate, 93. expansion, 94. cosmology, 95. eventually, 96. motivate, 97. gravity, 98. churning, 99. astronomer, 100. devote

101. pl___t like the Earth *n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
102. neutral hydrogen a__ms *n.* the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus
103. preserve my gr____y *n.* the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn
104. ine_____le result *adj.* certain to happen and unavoidable
105. tr__e back to medieval times *v.* to find or discover someone or something that was lost
106. dis_____ed lifestyle *adj.* dispersed or scattered in different directions; wasted or squandered on excessive or extravagant pleasures such as drinking, partying, or gambling; characterized by a lack of focus or discipline
107. the ul_____te luxury *adj.* furthest or highest in degree or order
108. la_____sh for lack of funding *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to lose vigor, health, or flesh; to be forced to exist in an unpleasant or unwanted situation or place, often for a long time
109. co___c background radiation *adj.* relating to the universe or cosmos; vast or limitless
110. fire st__k *v.* to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material

ANSWERS: 101. planet, 102. atom, 103. gravity, 104. inevitable, 105. trace, 106. dissipated, 107. ultimate, 108. languish, 109. cosmic, 110. stick

111. fa__t aroma of roses *adj.* not strong, clear, or vigorous; slight or weak
112. develop a st____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
113. im____e pressure *adj.* extremely large or great
114. pos_____ty of a major earthquake *n.* a chance that something may happen or be true
115. experimentally obs_____le *adj.* that can be noticed or seen
116. st___c electricity *adj.* not moving or not capable of moving, not changing or not capable of changing
117. inc_____gly become common *adv.* more and more
118. enter on the last ph__e *n.* any stage in a series of events, change, or development
119. le_____er goods *adj.* not consumed or used at the end of something
120. a positive ou_____k on life *n.* the likely future situation for someone or something; a habitual or characteristic mental attitude to life and the world of a particular person, group, or culture
121. sh__k-resistant *n.* a strong feeling or physical reaction to a sudden and unexpected event or experience, especially something unpleasant
122. f__e in importance *v.* to vanish; to fade away; to lose color; to lose freshness
123. ag_____e about financing *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying

ANSWERS: 111. faint, 112. strategy, 113. immense, 114. possibility, 115. observable, 116. static, 117. increasingly, 118. phase, 119. leftover, 120. outlook, 121. shock, 122. fade, 123. agonize

124. ine_____le changes of the seasons *adj.* certain to happen and unavoidable
125. high-temperature pl____a *n.* (biology) the yellow-colored liquid component of blood, in which blood cells are suspended; (physics) one of the four fundamental states of matter consisting of positive ions and free electrons
126. con_____ion aftermath *n.* a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war
127. mi_____ve radiation *n.* a form of electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths ranging from about one millimeter to one meter and frequencies between 300 MHz (0.3 GHz) and 300 GHz; an electric oven that cooks food by exposing it to high-frequency electromagnetic radiation, which causes the food molecules to vibrate and heat up quickly
128. de___e on a course of action *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
129. sl__e tile *n.* a flat piece of rock or stone that is typically used as a roofing or flooring material; a list of candidates for an election arranged in a specific order
130. su_____e beforehand *v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
131. a GPS re_____er *n.* the part of a phone that you hold close to your ear and mouth; a person who receives something

ANSWERS: 124. inevitable, 125. plasma, 126. conflagration, 127. microwave, 128. decide, 129. slate, 130. suppose, 131. receiver

132. dis_____ct the water supply *v.* to unfasten or disjoin something, especially to break the connection between a supply of gas, water, or electricity and a piece of equipment
133. pe_____t in success *v.* to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable
134. de___e a question *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
135. ev_____te the water *v.* to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
136. economic d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
137. tr__e a telephone call *v.* to find or discover someone or something that was lost
138. b__g a phone down *v.* to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise
139. exploration of co___s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
140. v__d contract *n.* an empty space; a feeling of emptiness; (adjective) lacking any legal or binding force
141. solar ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
142. my_____y novel *n.* something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle

ANSWERS: 132. disconnect, 133. persist, 134. decide, 135. evaporate, 136. doom, 137. trace, 138. bang, 139. cosmos, 140. void, 141. astronomer, 142. mystery

143. oxygen a__m *n.* the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus
144. is_____e a patient *v.* to physically or socially separate someone or something from other people or things
145. death from sh__k *n.* a strong feeling or physical reaction to a sudden and unexpected event or experience, especially something unpleasant
146. the mul_____se hypothesis *n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them
147. ca_____te his credit score *v.* to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics
148. dis_____ct a plug *v.* to unfasten or disjoin something, especially to break the connection between a supply of gas, water, or electricity and a piece of equipment
149. temporary b__p *n.* a sudden and small, and typically temporary, change or deviation from a general trend
150. te_____ry housing *adj.* not lasting or be used for a very long
151. su_____e you're right *v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
152. a_h tree *n.* the powdery residue left after the burning of a substance, typically containing minerals and other impurities; the solid remains of a dead person after cremation

ANSWERS: 143. atom, 144. isolate, 145. shock, 146. multiverse, 147. calculate, 148. disconnect, 149. blip, 150. temporary, 151. suppose, 152. ash

153. obs_____le change *adj.* that can be noticed or seen
154. the pr_____nd depths of the sea *adj.* extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly; displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension
155. ev____e *v.* to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually
156. lu____y hotel *n.* a state of great comfort or sophistication, mainly provided by expensive and beautiful things
157. de____t smuggling across borders *v.* to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc.
158. is_____e a compound *v.* to physically or socially separate someone or something from other people or things
159. d_m memory *adj.* poorly lit; not bright
160. second co____c velocity *adj.* relating to the universe or cosmos; vast or limitless
161. face inc_____gly complicated challenges *adv.* more and more
162. a te_____ry permit *adj.* not lasting or be used for a very long
163. pri_____al forms of life *adj.* existing from the beginning of time or the start of a particular process; relating to the earliest stage of the universe
164. electromagnetic ra_____on *n.* the energy that comes from a nuclear reaction in the form of rays, waves, or particles and that can be hazardous to health

ANSWERS: 153. observable, 154. profound, 155. evolve, 156. luxury, 157. detect, 158. isolate, 159. dim, 160. cosmic, 161. increasingly, 162. temporary, 163. primordial, 164. radiation

165. ev___e over the past decade *v.* to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually
166. im_____e amount *adj.* extremely large or great
167. heavy hy_____en *n.* the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water
168. ride the t__e of change *n.* the cyclical rise and fall of sea level caused by the moon's gravitational pull
169. the great di_____ry of the century *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
170. hu_____ty at large *n.* all people living on the earth; the quality or state of being human rather than an animal, a machine, etc.
171. prevent tooth de__y *n.* the process or state of rotting or decomposition by natural causes such as the action of bacteria and fungi; (verb) to rot or decompose through natural causes
172. a criminal bac_____nd *n.* the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem
173. mass of hu_____ty *n.* all people living on the earth; the quality or state of being human rather than an animal, a machine, etc.

ANSWERS: 165. evolve, 166. immense, 167. hydrogen, 168. tide, 169. discovery, 170. humanity, 171. decay, 172. background, 173. humanity

174. aid re____er *n.* the part of a phone that you hold close to your ear and mouth; a person who receives something
175. hu____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
176. v__d of expression *n.* an empty space; a feeling of emptiness; (adjective) lacking any legal or binding force
177. con_____ted leaving school *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
178. the concept of the mul_____se *n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them

ANSWERS: 174. receiver, 175. humming, 176. void, 177. contemplate, 178. multiverse

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I heated my leftover food in the _____ oven, which tasted just as good as freshly cooked.
 - n.* a form of electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths ranging from about one millimeter to one meter and frequencies between 300 MHz (0.3 GHz) and 300 GHz; an electric oven that cooks food by exposing it to high-frequency electromagnetic radiation, which causes the food molecules to vibrate and heat up quickly

2. The _____ image on the screen took a lot of work to make out.
 - adj.* not moving or not capable of moving, not changing or not capable of changing

3. She couldn't _____ whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.
 - v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

4. His anti-_____ practices were quite strict.
 - n.* a state of great comfort or sophistication, mainly provided by expensive and beautiful things

5. Mercury is the closest _____ to the sun.
 - n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

6. You should not _____ them from the community.
 - v.* to physically or socially separate someone or something from other people or things

7. These birds can only _____ in temperate climates.
 - v.* to live or exist despite a dangerous event or period

ANSWERS: 1. microwave, 2. static, 3. decide, 4. luxury, 5. planet, 6. isolate, 7. survive

8. The building was consumed by an _____ reducing it to ashes.
- n.* a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs
9. He tried every possible treatment, including chemotherapy and _____ therapy.
- n.* the energy that comes from a nuclear reaction in the form of rays, waves, or particles and that can be hazardous to health
10. Our company found it _____ difficult to keep up with the competition.
- adv.* more and more
11. The _____ in the forest destroyed many homes and caused much damage.
- n.* a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war
12. The _____ in her heart was filled with the love of her family.
- n.* an empty space; a feeling of emptiness; (adjective) lacking any legal or binding force
13. The medieval _____ was surrounded by a moat and had high walls for protection.
- n.* a large building, typically of the medieval period, fortified against attack with thick walls, battlements, towers, and often a moat
14. The _____ of the ocean was awe-inspiring and humbling.
- n.* the extent or size of something, often describing an ample space or area; the quality of being immense or immense in scale

ANSWERS: 8. inferno, 9. radiation, 10. increasingly, 11. conflagration, 12. void, 13. castle, 14. vastness

15. Blood _____ makes up about half of the volume of blood.
- n.* (biology) the yellow-colored liquid component of blood, in which blood cells are suspended; (physics) one of the four fundamental states of matter consisting of positive ions and free electrons
16. The astronaut felt weightless in space due to the absence of _____.
- n.* the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn
17. The company's hiring criteria emphasize personality, not a person's _____.
- n.* the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem
18. Consult your doctor if the symptoms _____.
- v.* to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable
19. Please _____ your sweat with this towel.
- v.* to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid
20. The news of the accident was _____ and left many in shock.
- adj.* extremely or surprisingly bad, or causing a strong emotional response such as surprise or disgust
21. One light year is nearly 6 _____ miles.
- n.* the number 1,000,000,000,000; a million million

ANSWERS: 15. plasma, 16. gravity, 17. background, 18. persist, 19. wipe, 20. shocking, 21. trillion

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

adj. poorly lit; not bright

23. Our company's business _____ for next year is bright.

n. the likely future situation for someone or something; a habitual or characteristic mental attitude to life and the world of a particular person, group, or culture

24. She heard a _____ nearly invisible scream.

adj. not strong, clear, or vigorous; slight or weak

25. He found _____ in the warm embrace of his loved ones.

n. a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint

26. The stock market had one bad _____ today.

n. a sudden and small, and typically temporary, change or deviation from a general trend

27. My memory will _____ but my heart will live on.

v. to vanish; to fade away; to lose color; to lose freshness

28. The _____ is about 13.8 billion years old.

n. everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

29. _____ evolved from people's philosophical questions about the natural world.

n. the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe

30. The optimal solution that would _____ all these elements has yet to be proposed.

v. to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely

ANSWERS: 22. dim, 23. outlook, 24. faint, 25. comfort, 26. blip, 27. fade, 28. universe, 29. Cosmology, 30. encompass

31. The volcanic ____ covered the island after the eruption.
n. the powdery residue left after the burning of a substance, typically containing minerals and other impurities; the solid remains of a dead person after cremation
32. They hope to _____ their business worldwide.
v. to increase or to make something greater in size, number, or importance
33. He couldn't _____ the actual value of the artwork.
v. to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics
34. Eyeless fish _____ in dark caves.
v. to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually
35. He managed to get _____ jobs during the recession.
adj. not lasting or be used for a very long
36. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
37. Management must take _____ responsibility for the accident.
adj. furthest or highest in degree or order
38. The company is undergoing an _____ opening new locations in several states.
n. the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process
39. Understanding protein folding is a vital step in deciphering the _____ code.
adj. of or relating to genes (= parts of the DNA in cells) or the science of genes

ANSWERS: 31. ash, 32. expand, 33. calculate, 34. evolved, 35. temporary, 36. humming, 37. ultimate, 38. expansion, 39. genetic

40. Any theorem relies on both _____ fact and assumption.

adj. that can be noticed or seen

41. In times of recession, an increase in unemployment is _____.

adj. certain to happen and unavoidable

42. He _____ himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.

v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

43. Doctors are gradually coming around to the idea of using _____ medicines.

n. one of two or more available possibilities or choice

44. Her research team made an important _____.

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

45. Everyone was aware of the impending _____ but was unable to prevent it.

n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

46. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

47. He got an electric _____ at work.

n. a strong feeling or physical reaction to a sudden and unexpected event or experience, especially something unpleasant

48. She finally decided to _____ herself from the company.

v. to unfasten or disjoin something, especially to break the connection between a supply of gas, water, or electricity and a piece of equipment

ANSWERS: 40. observable, 41. inevitable, 42. devoted, 43. alternative, 44. discovery, 45. doom, 46. astonishing, 47. shock, 48. disconnect

49. The _____ of the waves on the beach made it difficult to swim.
n. the process of mixing or stirring something vigorously, often to create a frothy or creamy texture; a state of upheaval or turbulence, often referring to the stock market or economy
50. The chef will make soup with the _____ ham bone.
adj. not consumed or used at the end of something
51. The vase was made of _____ ceramic and easily broke when it was dropped.
adj. delicate or easily broken or damaged
52. What do you _____ the culprit's motive was?
v. to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
53. This question has fascinated solar _____ for decades.
n. a physicist who studies astronomy
54. The discovery of the _____ soup was a crucial step in understanding the origins of life on Earth.
adj. existing from the beginning of time or the start of a particular process; relating to the earliest stage of the universe
55. My mother's illness had a _____ impact on us all.
adj. extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly; displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension
56. Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing _____.
n. a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.

ANSWERS: 49. churning, 50. leftover, 51. fragile, 52. suppose, 53. astronomers, 54. primordial, 55. profound, 56. strategy

57. _____ rays are high-energy particles that originate from outside the solar system.

adj. relating to the universe or cosmos; vast or limitless

58. I recently _____ dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.

v. to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

59. He continues to _____ in prison.

v. (of a person, animal, or plant) to lose vigor, health, or flesh; to be forced to exist in an unpleasant or unwanted situation or place, often for a long time

60. We need to add more names to the _____ of candidates for the upcoming election.

n. a flat piece of rock or stone that is typically used as a roofing or flooring material; a list of candidates for an election arranged in a specific order

61. The Milky Way _____ has numerous water-bearing planets.

n. an independent group of stars, interstellar gas, dark matter, etc., in the universe, bound together by gravity

62. He made me feel small and _____.

adj. of little importance, influence, or power

63. You _____ a bill in the change machine, and the coins pop out.

v. to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material

64. The dead body was in an advanced state of _____.

n. the process or state of rotting or decomposition by natural causes such as the action of bacteria and fungi; (verb) to rot or decompose through natural causes

ANSWERS: 57. Cosmic, 58. contemplated, 59. languish, 60. slate, 61. galaxy, 62. insignificant, 63. stick, 64. decay

65. The _____ of tectonic plates can result in new mountain ranges, such as the Himalayas or the Alps.
- n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict
66. The entire mountain is covered in _____ rainforest.
- adj.* containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
67. The _____ into the new market was risky, but it paid off.
- n.* a business project or activity that is risky or daring
68. The corporation _____ dominated the entire tobacco business.
- adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
69. The various universes within the _____ are sometimes called parallel universes.
- n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them
70. The _____ surrounding the disappearance of the traveler has yet to be solved by authorities.
- n.* something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle
71. The security camera has _____ four intruders.
- v.* to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc.

ANSWERS: 65. collision, 66. dense, 67. venture, 68. eventually, 69. multiverse, 70. mystery, 71. detected

72. He left his wife an _____ fortune.

adj. extremely large or great

73. Red _____ is often harmful to the local ecosystem.

n. the cyclical rise and fall of sea level caused by the moon's gravitational pull

74. In every civilization, rulers have tried everything possible to obtain _____ life.

adj. being without beginning or end; lasting forever

75. He _____ over whether to accept the job offer.

v. to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying

76. The outermost electron shell of an _____ determines its chemical characteristics.

n. the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus

77. His _____ behavior at the party concerned his friends, who wondered if he had a substance abuse problem.

adj. dispersed or scattered in different directions; wasted or squandered on excessive or extravagant pleasures such as drinking, partying, or gambling; characterized by a lack of focus or discipline

78. The era of the industrial revolution was a crucial _____ of history.

n. any stage in a series of events, change, or development

79. The fire continued to _____ long after the firefighters had left.

v. to burn slowly and without a flame, often with the production of smoke and heat; to exist or persist in a suppressed or hidden state, particularly anger or resentment

ANSWERS: 72. immense, 73. tide, 74. eternal, 75. agonized, 76. atom, 77. dissipated, 78. phase, 79. smolder

80. The _____ of getting the disease will drastically increase.
n. a chance that something may happen or be true
81. They donated large sums of money for the development of _____.
n. all people living on the earth; the quality or state of being human rather than an animal, a machine, etc.
82. The _____ and the oxygen react and then form water.
n. the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water
83. My father tried to ____ mathematics into my head since childhood.
v. to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise
84. Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the _____.
n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
85. Let's _____ the origins of some familiar foreign words.
v. to find or discover someone or something that was lost
86. The sun will _____ the mist.
v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
87. The sun set over the crest of _____ hills.
adj. far away in space, time, or where you are; far apart in relevance, relationship, or kinship

ANSWERS: 80. possibility, 81. humanity, 82. hydrogen, 83. bang, 84. cosmos, 85. trace, 86. evaporate, 87. distant

88. The ability to _____ people is a priceless asset.

- v. to make someone want to do something, especially something that requires tremendous work and effort

89. Delivery companies often require the _____ signature to certify the completion of package delivery.

- n. the part of a phone that you hold close to your ear and mouth; a person who receives something

ANSWERS: 88. motivate, 89. receiver's