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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

WorkLife with Adam Grant: How to Rethink a Bad Decision | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

downhill

adv. in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner

synonym : downslope

(1) ski **downhill**, (2) walk **downhill** to the beach

The family's finances have been going **downhill** since they lost their main source of income.

sparse

adj. only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area

synonym : scarce, exiguous, infrequent

(1) a **sparse** population, (2) **sparse** snowfall

There is a **sparse** area between galaxies.

uneasy

adj. causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort

synonym : anxious, troubled, nervous

(1) have **uneasy** eyes, (2) **uneasy** relationship

He was **uneasy** about the situation and didn't know what to do.

obsess

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

synonym : torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

escalate

v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

synonym: increase, intensify, expand

(1) **escalate** into a major international incident, (2) to **escalate**

The situation quickly **escalated** and turned violent.

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.

unstick

v. to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else

synonym: detach, remove, free

(1) **unstick** the door, (2) **unstick** the pages of a book

I had to use a knife to **unstick** the envelope from the table.

barista

n. a person who works in a coffee shop or café, typically making and serving coffee and other hot beverages

synonym: coffee maker, coffee expert, espresso artist

(1) **barista** skills, (2) professional **barista**

The **barista** at my favorite coffee shop always makes the perfect latte.

undercut

v. to sell goods or services at a lower price than a competitor; to cut away the underpart of something

synonym: undermine, weaken, sabotage

(1) **undercut** a vein of ore, (2) **undercut** his effort

The company **undercut** its competitors by offering lower prices.

indelible

adj. cannot be removed, erased, or forgot

synonym : enduring, lasting, unforgettable

(1) an **indelible** ink, (2) an **indelible** disgrace

She left an **indelible** mark on our country's literature.

engrave

v. to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner

synonym : carve, inscribe, etch

(1) **engrave** initials, (2) **engrave** metal

He wanted to **engrave** his wedding ring with their initials as a lasting symbol of their love.

psyche

n. the human soul, mind, or spirit

synonym : mind, soul, spirit

(1) deep **psyche**, (2) **psyche** healing

The therapist helped her understand the workings of her **psyche** and how to cope with her anxiety.

rectify

v. to correct or make right something that is wrong, mistaken, or defective; to remedy or fix a problem or error

synonym : fix, correct, amend

(1) **rectify** a breach of the rules, (2) **rectify** the situation

We need to **rectify** the errors before submitting the report.

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.

rebound

v. to spring back into a former shape or position after being compressed or stretched

synonym: spring back, resile, recover

(1) **rebound** from a setback, (2) **rebound** back into positive growth

The basketball bounced off the rim and **rebounded** to the player.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

opportune

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

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

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

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

hesitant

adj. unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision

synonym: indecisive, uncertain, reluctant

(1) **hesitant** response, (2) **hesitant** to take action

She was **hesitant** to speak in public but eventually overcame her fear.

grit

n. very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles

synonym: determination, fortitude, courage

(1) **grit** determination, (2) **grit** washer

She has a lot of **grit** and determination to succeed.

antidote

n. a chemical substance or remedy that stops or controls the effects of a poison or disease

synonym : remedy, treatment, restorative

(1) the **antidote** to the poison, (2) the **antidote** for aging
Knowledge is the **antidote** to fear.

zap

v. to strike, destroy, get rid of, or kill something or someone suddenly and with force

synonym : destroy, kill, exterminate

(1) **zap** a huge target, (2) **zap** bar code

They provided allies with powerful weapons that could **zap** the enemy from thousands of miles away.

perk

n. an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job

synonym : extra, bonus, benefit

(1) **perks** for repeat guests, (2) worker **perk**

A yacht cruise is our company's ultimate **perk**.

broaden

v. to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.

synonym : expand, widen, enlarge

(1) **broaden** students' knowledge, (2) **broaden** their horizon

The company **broadened** its product line to include more customer options.

confer

v. to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

synonym : consult, meet, discuss

(1) **confer** degree, (2) **confer** honor

The leaders of the two countries met to **confer** on the issue.

disinvestment

n. the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector

synonym : divestment, withdrawal, pullout

(1) **disinvestment** strategy, (2) **disinvestment** plan

The company's decision to engage in **disinvestment** led to a

reduction in its overall portfolio.

detach

v. to separate or disjoin something from something else; to disengage

synonym: separate, disengage, disconnect

(1) **detach** a ticket from its stub, (2) **detach** you from the matter

She **detached** the trailer from the truck before driving away.

disbeliever

n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

synonym: non-believer, skeptic, doubter

(1) persuade a **disbeliever**, (2) stubborn **disbeliever**

Despite the evidence, she remained a **disbeliever** in the theory of evolution.

ancestor

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

synonym: forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

grandparent

n. a parent of one's father or mother

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

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

adversity

n. difficulties or hardships that someone faces

synonym: hardship, difficulty, trial

(1) environmental **adversity**, (2) struggling with **adversity**

The team demonstrated great resilience in the face of **adversity** and won the game.

intern

v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill

qualification criteria

synonym : apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

superpower

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym : great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

mobilize

v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

synonym : activate, rally, marshal

(1) **mobilize** cooperation, (2) **mobilize** a stiff joint

The military **mobilized** troops to the border.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

irrespective

adv. without taking something into account; regardless of

synonym : heedless, inattentive, regardless

(1) **irrespective** of age, (2) **irrespective** of his will

Our company hires **irrespective** of national origin.

godfather

n. a male godparent who witnesses a child's baptism and accepts a spiritual responsibility for their upbringing; a

trusted mentor or advisor who has significant influence and offers support and guidance in personal or professional matters

synonym : sponsor, mentor, protector

(1) political **godfather**, (2) be my **godfather** at my christening

The wealthy businessman acted as a **godfather** to his protege, helping him to succeed in his career.

dotcom

n. a company or business that primarily operates on the Internet or has a web-based presence, particularly during the late 1990s and early 2000s when the Internet was a new and rapidly growing industry

synonym : website, online business, e-commerce

(1) successful **dotcom**, (2) **dotcom** millionaire

The **dotcom** boom of the late 1990s changed the landscape of the tech industry forever.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

shelve

v. to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently

synonym : defer, postpone, freeze

(1) **shelve** a book, (2) **shelve** a bill

Considering the recent increase in interest rates, we must **shelve** our plans to buy a new house.

propel

v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

synonym : drive, push, move

(1) **propel** growth, (2) **propel** the ship

An increase in employment helps **propel** economic growth.

moonshot

n. an ambitious, risky, and innovative project or goal, especially one that is intended to bring about radical change or breakthroughs in a particular field or industry, often inspired by the lunar landing mission of Apollo 11 in 1969

synonym: initiative, endeavor, pursuit

(1) AI **moonshot**, (2) **moonshot** idea

The company's **moonshot** project aims to develop a revolutionary new technology within a tight deadline.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

commercialize

v. to make something available for sale or use on a large scale

synonym: monetize, capitalize, marketize

(1) **commercialize** my patents, (2) **commercialize** idea

The company is trying to **commercialize** its new product.

hydrocarbon

n. an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon

(1) **hydrocarbon** production, (2) **hydrocarbon** molecules in crude oil

Burning **hydrocarbons** releases water vapor and carbon dioxide.

seawater

n. water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

synonym: saltwater, brine, ocean water

(1) **seawater** pollution, (2) **seawater** bacteria

The desalination plant turned **seawater** into drinking water through a complex process.

shorthand

n. a system of rapid handwriting or abbreviation that uses symbols, abbreviations, or other devices to represent words or phrases; a short and simple way of expressing or describing something

synonym: stenography, speedwriting, tachygraphy

(1) learn **shorthand**, (2) write in **shorthand**

The secretary's **shorthand** was so good that she could type up meeting minutes within minutes.

foghorn

n. a loud, deep horn or whistle used to signal to warn or to guide ships through foggy waters

synonym: horn, signal, whistle

(1) blaring **foghorn**, (2) coastal **foghorn**

The ship's captain ordered the **foghorn** to be sounded every 15 minutes in the dense fog.

wary

adj. cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience

synonym: cautious, suspicious, leery

(1) a **wary** statesman, (2) **wary** of marriage

She was **wary** of meeting new people because of past experiences.

outset

n. the beginning of something

synonym: beginning, start, initiation

(1) month's **outset**, (2) the **outset** of the crisis

At the **outset** of the project, we encountered several obstacles.

workaround

n. a temporary or unconventional solution to a problem or issue that enables progress or completion of a task despite obstacles or limitations

synonym : alternative, temporary fix, quick-fix

(1) **workaround** solution, (2) software **workaround**

When the software crashed, I had to devise a quick **workaround** to save my progress.

conscientious

adj. characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions

synonym : diligent, thorough, meticulous

(1) **conscientious** worker, (2) **conscientious** objection

Conscientious student always turned in their assignments on time.

popcorn

n. a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack

synonym : popped corn, puffed corn, corn kernels

(1) a **popcorn** vendor, (2) **popcorn** kernels

We popped some **popcorn** and settled in to watch a movie.

fraught

adj. causing, accompanied by, or full of anxiety, tension, or stress

synonym : tense, anxious, stressed

(1) become increasingly **fraught**, (2) **fraught** with danger

The negotiations were **fraught** with challenges and setbacks.

astronomical

adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

synonym : huge, vast, enormous

(1) **astronomical** observation, (2) **astronomical** numbers

The cost of the new equipment was **astronomical** and beyond the company's budget.

sliver

n. a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or

thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

synonym : splinter, shard, fragment

(1) **sliver** of wood, (2) **sliver** of metal

I had to be careful not to step on a **sliver** of glass on the floor.

diligent

adj. showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties

synonym : active, engaged, assiduous

(1) a **diligent** person, (2) a **diligent** search of the files

The **diligent** detective investigated all clues.

stigma

n. a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

synonym : mark, blemish, disgrace

(1) social **stigma**, (2) **stigma** against obesity

The mental health **stigma** often prevents people from seeking treatment.

pun

n. a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay

synonym : joke, quip, wordplay

(1) witty **pun**, (2) silly **pun**

The comedian's **pun** had the audience laughing out loud.

misrepresent

v. to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone

synonym : distort, misinterpret, falsify

(1) **misrepresent** a company's policies, (2) **misrepresent** the situation

The article **misrepresents** the true intentions of the author's argument.

plunge

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

synonym : dive, drop, thrust

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

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

mediocre

adj. of only average quality; not very good

synonym : average, ordinary, unimpressive

(1) **mediocre** performance, (2) a **mediocre** talent

He was considered a **mediocre** artist compared to others in his field.

dandelion

n. a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine

synonym : blowball

(1) **dandelion** root, (2) **dandelion** tea

In the summer, fields are filled with yellow **dandelion** flowers.

geothermal

adj. relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth

synonym : underground, thermal, subterranean

(1) **geothermal** activity, (2) **geothermal** drilling

The town is exploring using **geothermal** energy to power its homes and buildings.

heroic

adj. courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring

synonym : brave, courageous, daring

(1) a **heroic** poem, (2) **heroic** explorers

The **heroic** actions of individuals are now easily spread

worldwide by SNS.

protagonist

n. the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories

synonym: hero, central figure, leading character

(1) **protagonist** of drama, (2) play a **protagonist**

The **protagonist's** triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.

setback

n. an unfortunate happening that hinders or impedes; a reversal or check in progress

synonym: obstacle, hindrance, difficulty

(1) major **setback**, (2) suffer a **setback**

The team experienced a **setback** when their star player was injured during the game.

wile

n. a trick or cunning stratagem used to deceive or manipulate someone; cleverness or ingenuity used to achieve a goal or advantage

synonym: trickery, deceit, cunning

(1) cunning **wiles**, (2) deceptive **wile**

The criminal used his **wiles** to escape from the police several times.

turbulence

n. a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often accompanied by violent or disruptive activity or behavior, such as air turbulence during a flight

synonym: choppiness, tumult, agitation

(1) financial **turbulence**, (2) emotional **turbulence**

The ride on the rollercoaster was full of dips and turns, creating a feeling of **turbulence**.

recession

n. a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases

synonym: downturn, slump, contraction

(1) **recession** period, (2) recover from a **recession**

The country is facing a **recession**, with high unemployment and low GDP.

jeopardize

v. to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone

synonym: endanger, imperil, risk

(1) **jeopardize** safety, (2) **jeopardize** reputation

His reckless behavior could **jeopardize** his chances of getting hired for the job.

pineapple

n. tropical fruit with a rough, spiky exterior and sweet, juicy flesh inside, often used in cooking, baking, or as a snack

synonym: ananas, tropical fruit, bromeliad

(1) ripe **pineapple**, (2) canned **pineapple**

I love to eat fresh **pineapple** in my fruit salad.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pro_____st of drama *n.* the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories
2. financial tur_____ce *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often accompanied by violent or disruptive activity or behavior, such as air turbulence during a flight
3. pr____l the ship *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
4. learn sh_____nd *n.* a system of rapid handwriting or abbreviation that uses symbols, abbreviations, or other devices to represent words or phrases; a short and simple way of expressing or describing something
5. g__t determination *n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
6. di_____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
7. re_____d back into positive growth *v.* to spring back into a former shape or position after being compressed or stretched
8. pl____e a dagger through his heart *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall

ANSWERS: 1. protagonist, 2. turbulence, 3. propel, 4. shorthand, 5. grit, 6. disrupt, 7. rebound, 8. plunge

9. con_____ous worker *adj.* characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions
10. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
11. sl____r of wood *n.* a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something
12. pr____l growth *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
13. worker p__k *n.* an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job
14. walk do_____ll to the beach *adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner
15. ski do_____ll *adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner
16. mo_____ze cooperation *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 9. conscientious, 10. superpower, 11. sliver, 12. propel, 13. perk, 14. downhill, 15. downhill, 16. mobilize

17. struggling with ad_____ty *n.* difficulties or hardships that someone faces
18. deceptive w__e *n.* a trick or cunning stratagem used to deceive or manipulate someone; cleverness or ingenuity used to achieve a goal or advantage
19. witty p_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
20. he is ob___sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
21. un_____ut a vein of ore *v.* to sell goods or services at a lower price than a competitor; to cut away the underpart of something
22. mis_____ent a company's policies *v.* to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone
23. social st___a *n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
24. re_____y a breach of the rules *v.* to correct or make right something that is wrong, mistaken, or defective; to remedy or fix a problem or error
25. great-gra_____nt *n.* a parent of one's father or mother
26. political go_____er *n.* a male godparent who witnesses a child's baptism and accepts a spiritual responsibility for their upbringing; a trusted mentor or advisor who has significant influence and offers support and guidance in personal or professional matters

ANSWERS: 17. adversity, 18. wile, 19. pun, 20. obsess, 21. undercut, 22. misrepresent, 23. stigma, 24. rectify, 25. grandparent, 26. godfather

27. do___m millionaire *n.* a company or business that primarily operates on the Internet or has a web-based presence, particularly during the late 1990s and early 2000s when the Internet was a new and rapidly growing industry
28. en_____e initials *v.* to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner
29. po_____n kernels *n.* a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack
30. p__ks for repeat guests *n.* an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job
31. blaring fo_____n *n.* a loud, deep horn or whistle used to signal to warn or to guide ships through foggy waters
32. da_____on root *n.* a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine
33. fr_____t with danger *adj.* causing, accompanied by, or full of anxiety, tension, or stress
34. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 27. dotcom, 28. engrave, 29. popcorn, 30. perk, 31. foghorn, 32. dandelion, 33. fraught, 34. opportune

35. en_____e metal *v.* to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner
36. be my go_____er at my christening *n.* a male godparent who witnesses a child's baptism and accepts a spiritual responsibility for their upbringing; a trusted mentor or advisor who has significant influence and offers support and guidance in personal or professional matters
37. geo_____al activity *adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
38. an in_____le ink *adj.* cannot be removed, erased, or forgot
39. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
40. com_____ize my patents *v.* to make something available for sale or use on a large scale
41. mo_____ze a stiff joint *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
42. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 35. engrave, 36. godfather, 37. geothermal, 38. indelible, 39. superpower, 40. commercialize, 41. mobilize, 42. industrious

43. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
44. co___r honor *v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
45. month's ou___t *n.* the beginning of something
46. se_____er pollution *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
47. jeo_____ze safety *v.* to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone
48. environmental ad_____ty *n.* difficulties or hardships that someone faces
49. stubborn dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
50. mis_____ent the situation *v.* to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone
51. a sp___e population *adj.* only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area
52. br_____n students' knowledge *v.* to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.
53. hyd_____on production *n.* an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon

ANSWERS: 43. rev, 44. confer, 45. outset, 46. seawater, 47. jeopardize, 48. adversity, 49. disbeliever, 50. misrepresent, 51. sparse, 52. broaden, 53. hydrocarbon

54. re_____on period *n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases
55. Al mo_____ot *n.* an ambitious, risky, and innovative project or goal, especially one that is intended to bring about radical change or breakthroughs in a particular field or industry, often inspired by the lunar landing mission of Apollo 11 in 1969
56. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
57. dis_____ent strategy *n.* the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector
58. re_____y the situation *v.* to correct or make right something that is wrong, mistaken, or defective; to remedy or fix a problem or error
59. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
60. es_____te into a major international incident *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
61. z_p bar code *v.* to strike, destroy, get rid of, or kill something or someone suddenly and with force
62. geo_____al drilling *adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth

ANSWERS: 54. recession, 55. moonshot, 56. rev, 57. disinvestment, 58. rectify, 59. industrious, 60. escalate, 61. zap, 62. geothermal

63. recover from a re_____on *n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases
64. re_____k the role of the manager *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
65. w___y of marriage *adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
66. cunning w___es *n.* a trick or cunning stratagem used to deceive or manipulate someone; cleverness or ingenuity used to achieve a goal or advantage
67. sp___e snowfall *adj.* only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area
68. z_p a huge target *v.* to strike, destroy, get rid of, or kill something or someone suddenly and with force
69. a di_____nt search of the files *adj.* showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties
70. com_____ize idea *v.* to make something available for sale or use on a large scale
71. he_____nt to take action *adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
72. become increasingly fr_____t *adj.* causing, accompanied by, or full of anxiety, tension, or stress
73. hyd_____on molecules in crude oil *n.* an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon
74. me_____re performance *adj.* of only average quality; not very good

ANSWERS: 63. recession, 64. rethink, 65. wary, 66. wile, 67. sparse, 68. zap, 69. diligent, 70. commercialize, 71. hesitant, 72. fraught, 73. hydrocarbon, 74. mediocre

75. se_____er bacteria *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
76. suffer a se_____k *n.* an unfortunate happening that hinders or impedes; a reversal or check in progress
77. have un_____y eyes *adj.* causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
78. the an_____te to the poison *n.* a chemical substance or remedy that stops or controls the effects of a poison or disease
79. di_____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
80. un_____k the door *v.* to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else
81. an_____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
82. coastal fo_____n *n.* a loud, deep horn or whistle used to signal to warn or to guide ships through foggy waters
83. person of gra_____nt age *n.* a parent of one's father or mother
84. he_____nt response *adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
85. irr_____ive of his will *adv.* without taking something into account; regardless of
86. to es_____te *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

ANSWERS: 75. seawater, 76. setback, 77. uneasy, 78. antidote, 79. disrupt, 80. unstick, 81. ancestor, 82. foghorn, 83. grandparent, 84. hesitant, 85. irrespective, 86. escalate

87. emotional tur_____ce *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often accompanied by violent or disruptive activity or behavior, such as air turbulence during a flight
88. da_____on tea *n.* a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine
89. re_____d from a setback *v.* to spring back into a former shape or position after being compressed or stretched
90. ast_____cal numbers *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
91. dis_____ent plan *n.* the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector
92. silly p_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
93. un_____k the pages of a book *v.* to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else
94. ag_____e pain *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
95. ripe pi_____le *n.* tropical fruit with a rough, spiky exterior and sweet, juicy flesh inside, often used in cooking, baking, or as a snack

ANSWERS: 87. turbulence, 88. dandelion, 89. rebound, 90. astronomical, 91. disinvestment, 92. pun, 93. unstick, 94. agonize, 95. pineapple

96. jeo_____ze reputation
v. to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone
97. a he___c poem
adj. courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
98. sl___r of metal
n. a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something
99. an op_____ne remark
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
100. st___a against obesity
n. a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
101. a di_____nt person
adj. showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties
102. ex___e the crowd
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
103. re_____k a marketing plan
v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
104. ast_____cal observation
adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
105. canned pi_____le
n. tropical fruit with a rough, spiky exterior and sweet, juicy flesh inside, often used in cooking, baking, or as a snack

ANSWERS: 96. jeopardize, 97. heroic, 98. sliver, 99. opportune, 100. stigma, 101. diligent, 102. excite, 103. rethink, 104. astronomical, 105. pineapple

106. successful do___m *n.* a company or business that primarily operates on the Internet or has a web-based presence, particularly during the late 1990s and early 2000s when the Internet was a new and rapidly growing industry
107. deep ps___e *n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit
108. de___h a ticket from its stub *v.* to separate or disjoin something from something else; to disengage
109. play a pro_____st *n.* the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories
110. medical in___n *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
111. serial qu____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
112. ba____a skills *n.* a person who works in a coffee shop or café, typically making and serving coffee and other hot beverages
113. br____n their horizon *v.* to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.
114. mo____ot idea *n.* an ambitious, risky, and innovative project or goal, especially one that is intended to bring about radical change or breakthroughs in a particular field or industry, often inspired by the lunar landing mission of Apollo 11 in 1969

ANSWERS: 106. dotcom, 107. psyche, 108. detach, 109. protagonist, 110. intern, 111. quitter, 112. barista, 113. broaden, 114. moonshot

115. sh___e a book *v.* to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently
116. the ou___t of the crisis *n.* the beginning of something
117. de___h you from the matter *v.* to separate or disjoin something from something else; to disengage
118. un___y relationship *adj.* causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
119. persuade a dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
120. irr_____ive of age *adv.* without taking something into account; regardless of
121. a po_____n vendor *n.* a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack
122. sh___e a bill *v.* to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently
123. g__t washer *n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
124. software wor_____nd *n.* a temporary or unconventional solution to a problem or issue that enables progress or completion of a task despite obstacles or limitations
125. con_____ous objection *adj.* characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions

ANSWERS: 115. shelve, 116. outset, 117. detach, 118. uneasy, 119. disbeliever, 120. irrespective, 121. popcorn, 122. shelve, 123. grit, 124. workaround, 125. conscientious

126. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
127. ob___s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
128. he___c explorers *adj.* courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
129. earliest human an____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
130. easy qu____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
131. an in____le disgrace *adj.* cannot be removed, erased, or forgot
132. co___r degree *v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
133. ps___e healing *n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit
134. in___n civilians *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
135. pl___e into the water *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
136. a w__y statesman *adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience

ANSWERS: 126. excite, 127. obsess, 128. heroic, 129. ancestor, 130. quitter, 131. indelible, 132. confer, 133. psyche, 134. intern, 135. plunge, 136. wary

137. wor_____nd solution *n.* a temporary or unconventional solution to a problem or issue that enables progress or completion of a task despite obstacles or limitations
138. a me_____re talent *adj.* of only average quality; not very good
139. write in sh_____nd *n.* a system of rapid handwriting or abbreviation that uses symbols, abbreviations, or other devices to represent words or phrases; a short and simple way of expressing or describing something
140. ag_____e about financing *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
141. major se_____k *n.* an unfortunate happening that hinders or impedes; a reversal or check in progress
142. the an_____te for aging *n.* a chemical substance or remedy that stops or controls the effects of a poison or disease
143. professional ba_____a *n.* a person who works in a coffee shop or café, typically making and serving coffee and other hot beverages
144. un_____ut his effort *v.* to sell goods or services at a lower price than a competitor; to cut away the underpart of something

ANSWERS: 137. workaround, 138. mediocre, 139. shorthand, 140. agonize, 141. setback, 142. antidote, 143. barista, 144. undercut

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. There is a _____ area between galaxies.
adj. only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area
2. A yacht cruise is our company's ultimate _____.
n. an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job
3. Our company hires _____ of national origin.
adv. without taking something into account; regardless of
4. Despite the evidence, she remained a _____ in the theory of evolution.
n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
5. We need to _____ the errors before submitting the report.
v. to correct or make right something that is wrong, mistaken, or defective; to remedy or fix a problem or error
6. The company is trying to _____ its new product.
v. to make something available for sale or use on a large scale
7. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
8. The company _____ its product line to include more customer options.
v. to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.

ANSWERS: 1. sparse, 2. perk, 3. irrespective, 4. disbeliever, 5. rectify, 6. commercialize, 7. quitter, 8. broadened

9. The mental health _____ often prevents people from seeking treatment.
- n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
10. She _____ the trailer from the truck before driving away.
- v.* to separate or disjoin something from something else; to disengage
11. The wealthy businessman acted as a _____ to his protege, helping him to succeed in his career.
- n.* a male godparent who witnesses a child's baptism and accepts a spiritual responsibility for their upbringing; a trusted mentor or advisor who has significant influence and offers support and guidance in personal or professional matters
12. His reckless behavior could _____ his chances of getting hired for the job.
- v.* to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone
13. I had to be careful not to step on a _____ of glass on the floor.
- n.* a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something
14. The _____ at my favorite coffee shop always makes the perfect latte.
- n.* a person who works in a coffee shop or café, typically making and serving coffee and other hot beverages
15. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.
- v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

ANSWERS: 9. stigma, 10. detached, 11. godfather, 12. jeopardize, 13. sliver, 14. barista, 15. obsessed

16. The cost of the new equipment was _____ and beyond the company's budget.

adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

17. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

18. I love to eat fresh _____ in my fruit salad.

n. tropical fruit with a rough, spiky exterior and sweet, juicy flesh inside, often used in cooking, baking, or as a snack

19. The company's decision to engage in _____ led to a reduction in its overall portfolio.

n. the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector

20. The family's finances have been going _____ since they lost their main source of income.

adv. in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner

21. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

22. They provided allies with powerful weapons that could ____ the enemy from thousands of miles away.

v. to strike, destroy, get rid of, or kill something or someone suddenly and with force

ANSWERS: 16. astronomical, 17. opportune, 18. pineapple, 19. disinvestment, 20. downhill, 21. ancestor, 22. zap

23. In the summer, fields are filled with yellow _____ flowers.
- n.* a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine
24. She was _____ to speak in public but eventually overcame her fear.
- adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
25. The desalination plant turned _____ into drinking water through a complex process.
- n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
26. The _____ detective investigated all clues.
- adj.* showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties
27. She left an _____ mark on our country's literature.
- adj.* cannot be removed, erased, or forgot
28. When the software crashed, I had to devise a quick _____ to save my progress.
- n.* a temporary or unconventional solution to a problem or issue that enables progress or completion of a task despite obstacles or limitations
29. Knowledge is the _____ to fear.
- n.* a chemical substance or remedy that stops or controls the effects of a poison or disease
30. He was considered a _____ artist compared to others in his field.
- adj.* of only average quality; not very good

ANSWERS: 23. dandelion, 24. hesitant, 25. seawater, 26. diligent, 27. indelible, 28. workaround, 29. antidote, 30. mediocre

31. The ship's captain ordered the _____ to be sounded every 15 minutes in the dense fog.
- n.* a loud, deep horn or whistle used to signal to warn or to guide ships through foggy waters
32. The criminal used his _____ to escape from the police several times.
- n.* a trick or cunning stratagem used to deceive or manipulate someone; cleverness or ingenuity used to achieve a goal or advantage
33. The news of her promotion _____ her.
- v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
34. An increase in employment helps _____ economic growth.
- v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
35. The basketball bounced off the rim and _____ to the player.
- v.* to spring back into a former shape or position after being compressed or stretched
36. The navy _____ ships of defeated nations.
- v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
37. The company _____ its competitors by offering lower prices.
- v.* to sell goods or services at a lower price than a competitor; to cut away the underpart of something
38. He wanted to _____ his wedding ring with their initials as a lasting symbol of their love.
- v.* to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner

ANSWERS: 31. foghorn, 32. wiles, 33. excited, 34. propel, 35. rebounded, 36.

interned, 37. undercut, 38. engrave

39. The ride on the rollercoaster was full of dips and turns, creating a feeling of _____.
- n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often accompanied by violent or disruptive activity or behavior, such as air turbulence during a flight
40. The negotiations were _____ with challenges and setbacks.
- adj.* causing, accompanied by, or full of anxiety, tension, or stress
41. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
42. We have to _____ our company's product lineup for further growth.
- v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
43. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
- n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
44. The military _____ troops to the border.
- v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
45. The company's _____ project aims to develop a revolutionary new technology within a tight deadline.
- n.* an ambitious, risky, and innovative project or goal, especially one that is intended to bring about radical change or breakthroughs in a particular field or industry, often inspired by the lunar landing mission of Apollo 11 in 1969

ANSWERS: 39. turbulence, 40. fraught, 41. disrupt, 42. rethink, 43. superpower, 44. mobilized, 45. moonshot

46. Burning _____ releases water vapor and carbon dioxide.
n. an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon
47. The _____ triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.
n. the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories
48. The country is facing a _____ with high unemployment and low GDP.
n. a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases
49. The secretary's _____ was so good that she could type up meeting minutes within minutes.
n. a system of rapid handwriting or abbreviation that uses symbols, abbreviations, or other devices to represent words or phrases; a short and simple way of expressing or describing something
50. He was _____ about the situation and didn't know what to do.
adj. causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
51. The comedian's _____ had the audience laughing out loud.
n. a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
52. I had to use a knife to _____ the envelope from the table.
v. to free something that is stuck or adhering to something else
53. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 46. hydrocarbons, 47. protagonist's, 48. recession, 49. shorthand, 50. uneasy, 51. pun, 52. unstick, 53. industrious

54. She was _____ of meeting new people because of past experiences.
adj. cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
55. The _____ boom of the late 1990s changed the landscape of the tech industry forever.
n. a company or business that primarily operates on the Internet or has a web-based presence, particularly during the late 1990s and early 2000s when the Internet was a new and rapidly growing industry
56. We popped some _____ and settled in to watch a movie.
n. a type of corn that expands and puffs up when heated, often used for making a snack
57. At the _____ of the project, we encountered several obstacles.
n. the beginning of something
58. The therapist helped her understand the workings of her _____ and how to cope with her anxiety.
n. the human soul, mind, or spirit
59. _____ student always turned in their assignments on time.
adj. characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions
60. The article _____ the true intentions of the author's argument.
v. to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone
61. The situation quickly _____ and turned violent.
v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

ANSWERS: 54. wary, 55. dotcom, 56. popcorn, 57. outset, 58. psyche, 59. Conscientious, 60. misrepresents, 61. escalated

62. The leaders of the two countries met to _____ on the issue.
- v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
63. The town is exploring using _____ energy to power its homes and buildings.
- adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
64. She was close to her paternal _____ and often spent summers with them.
- n.* a parent of one's father or mother
65. The team demonstrated great resilience in the face of _____ and won the game.
- n.* difficulties or hardships that someone faces
66. The _____ actions of individuals are now easily spread worldwide by SNS.
- adj.* courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
67. She has a lot of _____ and determination to succeed.
- n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
68. 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
69. The company's profits _____ after the recall of their new product.
- v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall

ANSWERS: 62. confer, 63. geothermal, 64. grandparents, 65. adversity, 66. heroic, 67. grit, 68. agonized, 69. plunged

70. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.
- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
71. The team experienced a _____ when their star player was injured during the game.
- n.* an unfortunate happening that hinders or impedes; a reversal or check in progress
72. Considering the recent increase in interest rates, we must _____ our plans to buy a new house.
- v.* to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently

ANSWERS: 70. rev, 71. setback, 72. shelve