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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Iseult Gillespie: The myth of Loki and the deadly mistletoe | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

soothe

v. to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable

synonym: calm, relax, comfort

(1) **soothe** anxiety, (2) **soothe** a baby to sleep

She applied aloe vera to **soothe** her sunburn.

woe

n. significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness

synonym: anguish, despair, suffering

(1) economic **woe**, (2) full of **woe**

Recurrent financial **woes** hampered his subsequent career.

gruesome

adj. causing horror or disgust

synonym: appalling, horrific, terrible

(1) hear **gruesome** details, (2) **gruesome** accident

The **gruesome** crime scene was difficult for the detectives to stomach.

foretell

v. to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future

synonym: predict, prophesy, forecast

(1) **foretell** the attack, (2) **foretell** the end of the world

The fortune teller was able to **foretell** the future by reading

tarot cards.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

prophecy

n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

synonym: prediction, foretelling, divination

(1) **prophecy** fulfillment, (2) **prophecy** of doom

The fortune teller's **prophecy** that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.

trickster

n. a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology

synonym: swindler, cheat, deceiver

(1) **trickster** character, (2) cunning **trickster**

The con artist was known as a notorious **trickster** who scammed people out of their money.

profoundly

adv. to a great or complete degree; deeply

synonym: deeply, greatly, completely

(1) **profoundly** insightful, (2) sleep **profoundly**

The novel affected her **profoundly**, causing her to question her beliefs and values.

irritating

adj. causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation

synonym: annoying, bothersome, vexing

(1) **irritating** noise, (2) **irritating** behavior

The garbage can in the kitchen has been producing an **irritating** smell for days.

creep

v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

synonym: crawl, glide, encroach

(1) **creep** along the leaf, (2) **creep** toward the mouse

Aging **creeps** up slowly with time.

feign

v. to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone

synonym: pretend, simulate, falsify

(1) **feign** a stomachache, (2) **feign** a false laugh

Some animals **feign** death when in danger.

vow

v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn

synonym: promise, pledge, swear

(1) **vow** allegiance to the new king, (2) **vow** never to give up

They **vowed** to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.

shrug

v. to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

(1) **shrug** off the importance, (2) **shrug** his shoulders sadly
I respect her ability to **shrug** off harsh criticism.

mistletoe

n. a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it

(1) hang the **mistletoe**, (2) **mistletoe** decoration

According to tradition, kissing under the **mistletoe** during the holidays brings good luck.

trifling

adj. of little importance or value; insignificant

synonym: insignificant, negligible, minimal

(1) **trifling** accident, (2) **trifling** amount

The argument between the two coworkers was just a **trifling** matter that should have been easily resolved.

sprig

n. a small stem or shoot of a plant, usually with leaves or flowers attached

synonym: twig, shoot, branchlet

(1) **sprig** of rosemary, (2) mint **sprig**

I picked a **sprig** of lavender from my garden to freshen up my room.

festive

adj. relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful

synonym: festal, celebratory, jovial

(1) **festive** clothing, (2) **festive** atmosphere

The city is decorated with **festive** lights and decorations for the holiday season.

rowdy

n. a person who behaves in a loud, rough, or disorderly manner, causing a disturbance or annoyance to others

synonym: hooligan, troublemaker, ruffian

(1) **rowdy** behavior, (2) **rowdy** fans

The **rowdy** crowd at the concert caused a disturbance and had to be escorted out by security.

dejected

adj. feeling or showing sadness, lack of hope, or confidence; disheartened; depressed

synonym: downcast, disheartened, depressed

(1) look **dejected**, (2) a **dejected** expression

After receiving a rejection letter from the job interview, she felt **dejected** and hopeless.

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.

slyly

adv. in a crafty or cunning manner; sneakily or deceptively

synonym: covertly, sneakily, cunningly

(1) whisper **slyly** to her friend, (2) smile **slyly**

He **slyly** slipped the note into her bag when she wasn't looking.

hurl

v. to throw something with great force

synonym: throw, fling, launch

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

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

pierce

v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument

synonym: jab, penetrate, stab

(1) **pierce** the armored shells, (2) **pierce** a mystery

The extreme cold **pierced** our bones.

flicker

v. to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light

synonym: flash, spark, glimmer

(1) **flicker** every two seconds, (2) **flicker** out like a candle

The fireflies **flickered** in the darkness.

weep

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

synonym: cry, sob, mourn

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

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

steed

n. a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle

synonym: horse, mount, charger

(1) a matchless **steed**, (2) black **steed**

The knight rode his trusty **steed** into battle.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel

or use

synonym: surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

underworld

n. the criminal world or the world of organized crime; the realm of the dead in various mythologies

synonym: hell, netherworld, underworld

(1) god of the **underworld**, (2) criminal **underworld**

The story of Orpheus and Eurydice is said to have taken place in the **underworld**, where Orpheus attempted to rescue his wife from the realm of the dead.

mourning

n. the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving

synonym: grieving, sorrow, lamentation

(1) **mourning** period, (2) **mourning** ritual

She wore black clothing as a symbol of **mourning** for her grandmother.

relinquish

v. to give up power, control, or possession

synonym: surrender, give up, abandon

(1) **relinquish** control, (2) **relinquish** all hope

She decided to **relinquish** her role as the leader of the group.

disdain

v. to look down on

synonym: scorn, despise, ridicule

(1) **disdain** the offer of a bribe, (2) **disdain** the policemen
Even in the Middle Ages, people **disdained** forced labor.

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**.

disguise

v. to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others

synonym : mask, misinterpret, cloak

(1) **disguise** my feelings, (2) **disguise** his voice

Later it turned out that the politician **disguised** the fact from the public.

ferocious

adj. very fierce, savage, or cruel

synonym : savage, fierce, brutal

(1) **ferocious** beast, (2) **ferocious** predator

The lion's **ferocious** roar could be heard from miles away.

howl

v. to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness

synonym : wail, scream, shriek

(1) **howl** at the moon, (2) **howl** of anger

The wolves began to **howl** in the distance as the sunset.

craggy

adj. rugged and uneven in appearance; having rough, projecting rocks or cliffs

synonym : rocky, rugged, rough

(1) **craggy** terrain, (2) **craggy** cliffs

The hiker climbed up the **craggy** mountain trail with difficulty.

spew

v. to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts

synonym : vomit, spout, discharge

(1) **spew** carbon dioxide, (2) **spew** insults

The volcano started to **spew** lava and ash, causing panic among residents.

mourn

v. to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone

synonym: grieve, lament, weep

(1) **mourn** with deep grief, (2) **mourn** death

We **mourned** the loss of our dear friend at the memorial service.

sob

v. to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds

synonym: cry, weep, wail

(1) **sob** out a story, (2) **sob** quietly

She **sobbed** uncontrollably after hearing the news.

cackle

v. to laugh in a harsh, loud, and often unpleasant way, especially as a sign of amusement or derision; (noun) a loud, shrill, and often unpleasant laughter that is usually associated with witches, hyenas, or other such stereotypical characters

synonym: chuckle, giggle, snicker

(1) **cackle** loudly, (2) witch **cackle**

The older woman **cackled** with delight as she told us her stories of days gone by.

accost

v. to approach and speak to someone aggressively or insistently

synonym: approach, confront, speak to

(1) **accost** a stranger, (2) **accost** a suspect

The man **accosted** her on the street and asked for money.

wriggle

v. to twist and turn with quick, writhing motions; to move in a twisting or contorting manner

synonym: squirm, jerk, twist

(1) **wriggle** free, (2) **wriggle** in surprise

The child started to **wriggle** out of their seatbelt during the long car ride.

waterfall

n. a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock

synonym: cascade, falls, rapids

(1) scenic **waterfall**, (2) a **waterfall** with a fall of ten feet

Years of river erosion have formed the uniquely shaped **waterfall** basin.

poisonous

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

synonym: toxic, venomous, deadly

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

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

serpent

n. a large snake

synonym: snake, viper, reptile

(1) the feathered **serpent** god, (2) **Serpent** Bearer

That mythical chimera has a lion's body, a bird's wings, and a **serpent's** tail.

drip

v. to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops

synonym: drop, drizzle, trickle

(1) **drip** liquid, (2) **drip** from the vicious wound

Water is **dripping** from the faucet.

venom

n. a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging

synonym: poison, toxin, hating

(1) the **venom** of a lizard, (2) injected **venom**

The snake's **venom** is highly toxic and can be fatal to humans.

brow

n. the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead

synonym: forehead, hilltop, eyebrow

(1) the **brow** of a hill, (2) furrowed **brow**

She wiped the sweat from her **brow** after finishing the marathon.

douse

v. to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner

synonym: drench, soak, saturate

(1) **douse** his anger, (2) **douse** the lights

The firefighters had to **douse** the flames to put out the fire in the building.

Session 2: Spelling

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|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. s__w carbon dioxide | <i>v.</i> to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts |
| 2. sp__g of rosemary | <i>n.</i> a small stem or shoot of a plant, usually with leaves or flowers attached |
| 3. criminal und_____ld | <i>n.</i> the criminal world or the world of organized crime; the realm of the dead in various mythologies |
| 4. h__l a brickbat | <i>v.</i> to throw something with great force |
| 5. black st__d | <i>n.</i> a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle |
| 6. Se_____t Bearer | <i>n.</i> a large snake |
| 7. mo__n death | <i>v.</i> to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone |
| 8. sh__g off the importance | <i>v.</i> to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested |
| 9. god of the und_____ld | <i>n.</i> the criminal world or the world of organized crime; the realm of the dead in various mythologies |
| 10. s__w insults | <i>v.</i> to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts |
| 11. po_____us chemicals | <i>adj.</i> containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction |

ANSWERS: 1. spew, 2. sprig, 3. underworld, 4. hurl, 5. steed, 6. serpent, 7. mourn, 8. shrug, 9. underworld, 10. spew, 11. poisonous

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| 12. pr____cy of doom | <i>n.</i> a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader |
| 13. tr____ng accident | <i>adj.</i> of little importance or value; insignificant |
| 14. witch ca____e | <i>v.</i> to laugh in a harsh, loud, and often unpleasant way, especially as a sign of amusement or derision; (noun) a loud, shrill, and often unpleasant laughter that is usually associated with witches, hyenas, or other such stereotypical characters |
| 15. a wa_____ll with a fall of ten feet | <i>n.</i> a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock |
| 16. rel_____sh control | <i>v.</i> to give up power, control, or possession |
| 17. a det_____nt of crop yields | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 18. r_v up the crowd | <i>n.</i> 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 |
| 19. a de____ed expression | <i>adj.</i> feeling or showing sadness, lack of hope, or confidence; disheartened; depressed |
| 20. an op_____ne remark | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |

ANSWERS: 12. prophecy, 13. trifling, 14. cackle, 15. waterfall, 16. relinquish, 17. determinant, 18. rev, 19. dejected, 20. opportune

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| 21. ac___t a stranger | <i>v.</i> to approach and speak to someone aggressively or insistently |
| 22. so___e a baby to sleep | <i>v.</i> to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable |
| 23. gr_____me accident | <i>adj.</i> causing horror or disgust |
| 24. sleep pro_____ly | <i>adv.</i> to a great or complete degree; deeply |
| 25. injected ve__m | <i>n.</i> a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging |
| 26. ro__y fans | <i>n.</i> a person who behaves in a loud, rough, or disorderly manner, causing a disturbance or annoyance to others |
| 27. ro__y behavior | <i>n.</i> a person who behaves in a loud, rough, or disorderly manner, causing a disturbance or annoyance to others |
| 28. p__e a new path | <i>v.</i> to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use |
| 29. w__p bitter tears | <i>v.</i> to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain |
| 30. the b__w of a hill | <i>n.</i> the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead |
| 31. the feathered se_____t god | <i>n.</i> a large snake |
| 32. fe_____e atmosphere | <i>adj.</i> relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful |

ANSWERS: 21. accost, 22. soothe, 23. gruesome, 24. profoundly, 25. venom, 26. rowdy, 27. rowdy, 28. pave, 29. weep, 30. brow, 31. serpent, 32. festive

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| 33. d__p from the vicious wound | v. | to fall in drops or make it fall in drops;
(noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops |
| 34. sh__g his shoulders sadly | v. | to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested |
| 35. p__e a smoother road | v. | to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use |
| 36. h__l at the moon | v. | to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness |
| 37. whisper sl__y to her friend | adv. | in a crafty or cunning manner; sneakily or deceptively |
| 38. fo_____ll the end of the world | v. | to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future |
| 39. pro_____ly insightful | adv. | to a great or complete degree; deeply |
| 40. tr_____ng amount | adj. | of little importance or value; insignificant |
| 41. the ve__m of a lizard | n. | a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging |

ANSWERS: 33. drip, 34. shrug, 35. pave, 36. howl, 37. slyly, 38. foretell, 39. profoundly, 40. trifling, 41. venom

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| 42. fl____r out like a candle | <i>v.</i> to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light |
| 43. low-r_v engine | <i>n.</i> 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. cunning tr____er | <i>n.</i> a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology |
| 45. rel____sh all hope | <i>v.</i> to give up power, control, or possession |
| 46. look de____ed | <i>adj.</i> feeling or showing sadness, lack of hope, or confidence; disheartened; depressed |
| 47. scenic wa____ll | <i>n.</i> a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock |
| 48. s_b out a story | <i>v.</i> to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds |
| 49. s_b quietly | <i>v.</i> to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds |
| 50. furrowed b__w | <i>n.</i> the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead |
| 51. mi____oe decoration | <i>n.</i> a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it |
| 52. di____n the offer of a bribe | <i>v.</i> to look down on |

ANSWERS: 42. flicker, 43. rev, 44. trickster, 45. relinquish, 46. dejected, 47. waterfall, 48. sob, 49. sob, 50. brow, 51. mistletoe, 52. disdain

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 53. v_w never to give up | v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn |
| 54. mo__n with deep grief | v. to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone |
| 55. cr__p along the leaf | v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard |
| 56. po_____us plants | adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction |
| 57. v_w allegiance to the new king | v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn |
| 58. hang the mi_____oe | n. a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it |
| 59. environmental det_____nt | n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 60. mo_____ng ritual | n. the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving |
| 61. so___e anxiety | v. to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable |

ANSWERS: 53. vow, 54. mourn, 55. creep, 56. poisonous, 57. vow, 58. mistletoe, 59. determinant, 60. mourning, 61. soothe

62. cr___y terrain	<i>adj.</i> rugged and uneven in appearance; having rough, projecting rocks or cliffs
63. cr__p toward the mouse	<i>v.</i> to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
64. fo_____ll the attack	<i>v.</i> to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future
65. hear gr_____me details	<i>adj.</i> causing horror or disgust
66. di_____se his voice	<i>v.</i> to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
67. tr_____er character	<i>n.</i> a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology
68. irr_____ng behavior	<i>adj.</i> causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation
69. pr_____cy fulfillment	<i>n.</i> a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader
70. fe_____e clothing	<i>adj.</i> relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful
71. w__p for joy	<i>v.</i> to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
72. ca___e loudly	<i>v.</i> to laugh in a harsh, loud, and often unpleasant way, especially as a sign of amusement or derision; (noun) a loud, shrill, and often unpleasant laughter that is usually associated with witches, hyenas, or other such stereotypical characters

ANSWERS: 62. craggy, 63. creep, 64. foretell, 65. gruesome, 66. disguise, 67. trickster, 68. irritating, 69. prophecy, 70. festive, 71. weep, 72. cackle

73. fe__n a stomachache	<i>v.</i> to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone
74. pi___e the armored shells	<i>v.</i> to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
75. economic w_e	<i>n.</i> significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness
76. fl____r every two seconds	<i>v.</i> to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light
77. mo____ng period	<i>n.</i> the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving
78. ac___t a suspect	<i>v.</i> to approach and speak to someone aggressively or insistently
79. d__p liquid	<i>v.</i> to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops
80. fe____us beast	<i>adj.</i> very fierce, savage, or cruel
81. smile sl__y	<i>adv.</i> in a crafty or cunning manner; sneakily or deceptively
82. a matchless st__d	<i>n.</i> a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle
83. h__l a cup out of the window	<i>v.</i> to throw something with great force
84. fe____us predator	<i>adj.</i> very fierce, savage, or cruel
85. do__e the lights	<i>v.</i> to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner

ANSWERS: 73. feign, 74. pierce, 75. woe, 76. flicker, 77. mourning, 78. accost, 79. drip, 80. ferocious, 81. slyly, 82. steed, 83. hurl, 84. ferocious, 85. douse

86. h__l of anger
- v. to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness
87. di____se my feelings
- v. to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
88. do__e his anger
- v. to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner
89. op_____ne occasion
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
90. pi___e a mystery
- v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
91. mint sp__g
- n.* a small stem or shoot of a plant, usually with leaves or flowers attached
92. irr_____ng noise
- adj.* causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation
93. wr_____e in surprise
- v. to twist and turn with quick, writhing motions; to move in a twisting or contorting manner
94. wr_____e free
- v. to twist and turn with quick, writhing motions; to move in a twisting or contorting manner

ANSWERS: 86. howl, 87. disguise, 88. douse, 89. opportune, 90. pierce, 91. sprig, 92. irritating, 93. wriggle, 94. wriggle

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|---------------------------|--|
| 95. fe__n a false laugh | <i>v.</i> to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone |
| 96. full of w_e | <i>n.</i> significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness |
| 97. di____n the policemen | <i>v.</i> to look down on |
| 98. cr___y cliffs | <i>adj.</i> rugged and uneven in appearance; having rough, projecting rocks or cliffs |

ANSWERS: 95. feign, 96. woe, 97. disdain, 98. craggy

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Some species of _____ can be deadly to humans if bitten.
adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
2. 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
3. She wiped the sweat from her _____ after finishing the marathon.
n. the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead
4. The _____ crowd at the concert caused a disturbance and had to be escorted out by security.
n. a person who behaves in a loud, rough, or disorderly manner, causing a disturbance or annoyance to others
5. She angrily _____ the book across the room.
v. to throw something with great force
6. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
7. The _____ crime scene was difficult for the detectives to stomach.
adj. causing horror or disgust

ANSWERS: 1. poisonous snakes, 2. rev, 3. brow, 4. rowdy, 5. hurled, 6. opportune, 7. gruesome

8. She applied aloe vera to _____ her sunburn.
v. to calm or comfort someone or something; to make something less painful or uncomfortable
9. The city is decorated with _____ lights and decorations for the holiday season.
adj. relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful
10. Recurrent financial _____ hampered his subsequent career.
n. significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness
11. According to tradition, kissing under the _____ during the holidays brings good luck.
n. a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it
12. Later it turned out that the politician _____ the fact from the public.
v. to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
13. Even in the Middle Ages, people _____ forced labor.
v. to look down on
14. The story of Orpheus and Eurydice is said to have taken place in the _____ where Orpheus attempted to rescue his wife from the realm of the dead.
n. the criminal world or the world of organized crime; the realm of the dead in various mythologies
15. The child started to _____ out of their seatbelt during the long car ride.
v. to twist and turn with quick, writhing motions; to move in a twisting or contorting manner

ANSWERS: 8. soothe, 9. festive, 10. woes, 11. mistletoe, 12. disguised, 13. disdained, 14. underworld, 15. wriggle

16. The con artist was known as a notorious _____ who scammed people out of their money.
- n.* a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology
17. The garbage can in the kitchen has been producing an _____ smell for days.
- adj.* causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation
18. The volcano started to _____ lava and ash, causing panic among residents.
- v.* to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
19. The fortune teller was able to _____ the future by reading tarot cards.
- v.* to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future
20. I'm easily moved to tears, so I would _____ in sympathy if I saw that movie.
- v.* to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
21. She _____ uncontrollably after hearing the news.
- v.* to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds
22. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
- v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
23. That mythical chimera has a lion's body, a bird's wings, and a _____ tail.
- n.* a large snake

ANSWERS: 16. trickster, 17. irritating, 18. spew, 19. foretell, 20. weep, 21. sobbed, 22. paved, 23. serpent's

24. He _____ slipped the note into her bag when she wasn't looking.

adv. in a crafty or cunning manner; sneakily or deceptively

25. The older woman _____ with delight as she told us her stories of days gone by.

v. to laugh in a harsh, loud, and often unpleasant way, especially as a sign of amusement or derision; (noun) a loud, shrill, and often unpleasant laughter that is usually associated with witches, hyenas, or other such stereotypical characters

26. She wore black clothing as a symbol of _____ for her grandmother.

n. the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving

27. The novel affected her _____ causing her to question her beliefs and values.

adv. to a great or complete degree; deeply

28. Years of river erosion have formed the uniquely shaped _____ basin.

n. a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock

29. The hiker climbed up the _____ mountain trail with difficulty.

adj. rugged and uneven in appearance; having rough, projecting rocks or cliffs

30. Water is _____ from the faucet.

v. to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops

31. The fireflies _____ in the darkness.

v. to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light

ANSWERS: 24. slyly, 25. cackled, 26. mourning, 27. profoundly, 28. waterfall, 29. craggy, 30. dripping, 31. flickered

32. The firefighters had to _____ the flames to put out the fire in the building.
- v.* to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner
33. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
34. They _____ to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.
- v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
35. The argument between the two coworkers was just a _____ matter that should have been easily resolved.
- adj.* of little importance or value; insignificant
36. The wolves began to _____ in the distance as the sunset.
- v.* to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness
37. The man _____ her on the street and asked for money.
- v.* to approach and speak to someone aggressively or insistently
38. The snake's _____ is highly toxic and can be fatal to humans.
- n.* a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging

ANSWERS: 32. douse, 33. determinant, 34. vowed, 35. trifling, 36. howl, 37. accosted, 38. venom

39. I picked a _____ of lavender from my garden to freshen up my room.
n. a small stem or shoot of a plant, usually with leaves or flowers attached
40. She decided to _____ her role as the leader of the group.
v. to give up power, control, or possession
41. We _____ the loss of our dear friend at the memorial service.
v. to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone
42. Some animals _____ death when in danger.
v. to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone
43. The fortune teller's _____ that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.
n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader
44. The knight rode his trusty _____ into battle.
n. a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle
45. Aging _____ up slowly with time.
v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
46. After receiving a rejection letter from the job interview, she felt _____ and hopeless.
adj. feeling or showing sadness, lack of hope, or confidence; disheartened; depressed

ANSWERS: 39. sprig, 40. relinquish, 41. mourned, 42. feign, 43. prophecy, 44. steed, 45. creeps, 46. dejected

47. I respect her ability to _____ off harsh criticism.

- v. to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

48. The lion's _____ roar could be heard from miles away.

- adj.* very fierce, savage, or cruel

49. The extreme cold _____ our bones.

- v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument

ANSWERS: 47. shrug, 48. ferocious, 49. pierced