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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jennifer Petriglieri: How working couples can best support each other | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

mad

adj. insane, especially due to a mental illness; very angry

synonym : crazy, insane, furious

(1) a **mad** person, (2) gets **mad** easily

He was **mad** with joy to see the results.

zero-sum

adj. referring to a situation in which an equal loss offsets each gain; describing a condition in which the total gains and losses balance to zero

synonym : equivalent, balanced, even-handed

(1) **zero-sum** economics, (2) **zero-sum** mentality

In some sports, such as tennis, the competition is a **zero-sum** game, with only one player able to win each match.

childcare

n. a service involving care for other people's children

synonym : babysitting

(1) **childcare** allowance, (2) allow **childcare** leave

Our company offers a full range of **childcare** facilities as part of our benefits package.

pursue

v. to do something or attempt to attain something over time; to follow or seek someone or something, especially in trying to catch them

synonym : seek, hunt, chase

(1) **pursue** a goal, (2) **pursue** freedoms

She intends to **pursue** a political career.

exciting

adj. causing a lot of interest or excitement

synonym : exhilarating, stimulating, thrilling

(1) **exciting** football player, (2) **exciting** news

The findings of the experiment were both **exciting** and unexpected.

promote

v. to encourage or persuade people to like, buy, use, do, or support something; to raise someone to a higher position or rank

synonym : boost, raise, advertise

(1) **promote** a better relationship, (2) **promote** bad behavior

The government should do more to **promote** sustainable agribusiness.

satisfy

v. to make somebody pleased by giving them what they want or need

synonym : please, amuse, meet

(1) **satisfy** a desire, (2) **satisfy** a user's needs

Did this response **satisfy** your request?

regret

v. to feel sad, repentant, or disappointed over something you have done or something you have not been able to do

synonym : apologize, deplore, lament

(1) **regret** a decision, (2) **regret** being so careless

I **regret** to say that you did not gain admission to the university.

circumstance

n. the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence

synonym : condition, context, environment

(1) **circumstance** of birth, (2) **circumstance** of injury

She explained the **circumstances** surrounding the accident.

limitless

adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

synonym : boundless, infinite, unrestricted

(1) for a **limitless** time, (2) **limitless** potential

The possibilities for scientific discovery are **limitless**.

decide

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

synonym : choose, determine, settle

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

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

risky

adj. involving the possibility of danger, failure, or loss

synonym : dangerous, perilous, scary

(1) change **risky** behavior, (2) a **risky** enterprise

It is extremely **risky** to sail in such a storm.

aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

synonym : ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

extended

adj. longer than usual or anticipated

synonym : extensive, prolonged, elongated

(1) **extended** vacation, (2) **extended** payment

The **extended** airport runways may accommodate larger jets.

gap

n. a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.

synonym : opening, lacuna, spread

(1) the **gap** between ideal and reality, (2) distance **gap**

Many people are working together to close the gender **gap**.

blame

v. to think or say that someone or something did something wrong or is responsible for something bad

synonym: condemn, rebuke, find fault with

(1) **blame** circumstances for the failure, (2) **blame** the lack of knowledge

We **blamed** our impeded progress on lack of money.

discuss

v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic

synonym: talk about, converse, debate

(1) **discuss** options, (2) **discuss** solutions

We need to **discuss** the next steps for the project during our meeting tomorrow.

fan

n. a person who admires and supports a person, group, sport, sports team, etc.; a device for creating a current of air by the movement of a surface or surfaces

synonym: lover, devotee, blade

(1) a film **fan**, (2) engine cooling **fan**

I'm a big **fan** of French food.

conversation

n. an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.

synonym: chat, discussion, dialogue

(1) **conversation** in English, (2) a friendly **conversation**

Your **conversation** reflects your thoughts.

eliminate

v. to remove or get rid of someone or something

synonym: wipe out, destroy, eradicate

(1) **eliminate** contestants, (2) **eliminate** sexual barriers

We can **eliminate** this possibility from those consumptions.

boundary

n. a real or imaginary line that marks the limit or extent of something and separates it from other things or places

synonym: border, frontier, limitation

(1) geographical **boundary**, (2) the **boundary** between

reality and fantasy

He wandered the **boundary** between life and death by gunfire.

geography

n. a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth
synonym: landscape, terrain, topography

(1) **geography** class, (2) economic **geography**

She did well on her **geography** exam.

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.

overtime

n. time worked beyond the regular or agreed-upon hours of work, often resulting in additional pay or compensation for the employee

synonym: overtime pay, time and a half, extra pay

(1) **overtime** hours, (2) **overtime** work

The company's policy on **overtime** states that employees will be compensated for any additional hours worked.

essential

adj. indispensable; fundamental

synonym: critical, crucial, basic

(1) **essential** amino acid, (2) **essential** commodities of life

Trial and error is an **essential** part of education.

commit

v. to do something illegal or wrong

synonym: engage, carry out, execute

(1) **commit** suicide, (2) **commit** mistakes

The military has **committed** an abuse of human rights.

attractive

adj. immensely appealing in look or sound; having characteristics or qualities that make something appealing and valuable

synonym : beautiful, fetching, alluring

(1) **attractive** men, (2) **attractive** opportunity

The growth of the "sharing economy" is **attractive** for tech companies.

balance

n. a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away

synonym : equilibrium, counterpoise, remainder

(1) the **balance** of power, (2) asset on the company's **balance** sheet

Try to keep a **balance** between work and off.

align

v. to put or arrange two or more things in a straight line or to form a straight line

synonym : coordinate, regulate, adjust

(1) **align** the economic interest of each other, (2) **align** with a historical trend

Both parties are now entirely ideologically **aligned**.

imbalance

n. a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated

synonym : inequality, asymmetry, instability

(1) trade **imbalance**, (2) symptoms of hormonal **imbalance**

An **imbalance** in certain substances causes problems with brain function.

develop

v. to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created

synonym : evolve, progress, advance

(1) **develop** a strategy, (2) **develop** a skill

We must **develop** a new system to streamline our workflow and increase efficiency.

eventually

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

synonym : finally, someday, ultimately

(1) **eventually** become obsolete, (2) **eventually** succeed

The corporation **eventually** dominated the entire tobacco business.

prop

n. a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something

synonym : support, buttress, column

(1) emotional **prop**, (2) **prop** stick

We have finally lost our last **prop**.

decision

n. the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options

synonym : choice, determination, judgment

(1) **decision** authority, (2) a selfish **decision**

She was struggling to make a **decision** between two job offers.

misunderstand

v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

synonym : misinterpret, misperceive, misapprehend

(1) **misunderstand** each other, (2) **misunderstand** entirely about her

You should not **misunderstand** the meaning of freedom.

hindsight

n. understanding or knowledge that comes after an event has occurred; the ability to perceive or understand events with greater clarity or accuracy in retrospect

synonym : retrospect, afterthought

(1) **hindsight** bias, (2) 20/20 **hindsight**

With **hindsight**, we can see that investing in that company was a mistake.

judge

n. a person who makes decisions in a court of law; (verb) to determine the result of or form a critical opinion of something

synonym: arbiter, justice, (verb) deduce

(1) **judge** a competition, (2) an associate **judge**

The strict **judge** ruled in favor of the plaintiff in the case.

backward

adv. at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear

synonym: back, rearward, in reverse

(1) walk **backward**, (2) **backward** angle

She falls over **backward** when she sees her mother-in-law.

outcome

n. the result or effect of an action, event, etc.

synonym: result, consequence, effect

(1) improved student **outcomes**, (2) a desirable **outcome**

They awaited news of the **outcome** of the election.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

synonym: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

individually

adv. separately or apart from others

synonym: separately, one by one, independently

(1) answer questions **individually**, (2) **individually** designed product

Each department has done its product costing **individually**.

deliberately

adv. done in an intentional or slow and careful manner

synonym: intentionally, knowingly, willfully

(1) **deliberately** amateurish, (2) commit a crime **deliberately**

He **deliberately** misleads others.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. co___t mistakes | <i>v.</i> to do something illegal or wrong |
| 2. con_____ion in English | <i>n.</i> an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc. |
| 3. cir_____nce of injury | <i>n.</i> the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence |
| 4. es_____al commodities of life | <i>adj.</i> indispensable; fundamental |
| 5. el_____te contestants | <i>v.</i> to remove or get rid of someone or something |
| 6. ov_____me hours | <i>n.</i> time worked beyond the regular or agreed-upon hours of work, often resulting in additional pay or compensation for the employee |
| 7. a friendly con_____ion | <i>n.</i> an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc. |
| 8. a desirable ou_____e | <i>n.</i> the result or effect of an action, event, etc. |
| 9. de___e on a course of action | <i>v.</i> to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options |
| 10. ze_____um mentality | <i>adj.</i> referring to a situation in which an equal loss offsets each gain; describing a condition in which the total gains and losses balance to zero |

ANSWERS: 1. commit, 2. conversation, 3. circumstance, 4. essential, 5. eliminate, 6. overtime, 7. conversation, 8. outcome, 9. decide, 10. zero-sum

11. asset on the company's ba____e sheet *n.* a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away
12. re____t being so careless *v.* to feel sad, repentant, or disappointed over something you have done or something you have not been able to do
13. pu____e a goal *v.* to do something or attempt to attain something over time; to follow or seek someone or something, especially in trying to catch them
14. ze____um economics *adj.* referring to a situation in which an equal loss offsets each gain; describing a condition in which the total gains and losses balance to zero
15. mis____and each other *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
16. el____te sexual barriers *v.* to remove or get rid of someone or something
17. the ba____e of power *n.* a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away
18. p__p stick *n.* a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something
19. a film f_n *n.* a person who admires and supports a person, group, sport, sports team, etc.; a device for creating a current of air by the movement of a surface or surfaces

ANSWERS: 11. balance, 12. regret, 13. pursue, 14. zero-sum, 15. misunderstand, 16. eliminate, 17. balance, 18. prop, 19. fan

20. the g_p between ideal and reality *n.* a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.
21. pu___e freedoms *v.* to do something or attempt to attain something over time; to follow or seek someone or something, especially in trying to catch them
22. del_____ely amateurish *adv.* done in an intentional or slow and careful manner
23. commit a crime del_____ely *adv.* done in an intentional or slow and careful manner
24. ju__e a competition *n.* a person who makes decisions in a court of law; (verb) to determine the result of or form a critical opinion of something
25. an associate ju__e *n.* a person who makes decisions in a court of law; (verb) to determine the result of or form a critical opinion of something
26. for a li_____ss time *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
27. bl__e the lack of knowledge *v.* to think or say that someone or something did something wrong or is responsible for something bad
28. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
29. de___e a question *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
30. economic ge_____hy *n.* a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth

ANSWERS: 20. gap, 21. pursue, 22. deliberately, 23. deliberately, 24. judge, 25. judge, 26. limitless, 27. blame, 28. empower, 29. decide, 30. geography

31. att_____ve men *adj.* immensely appealing in look or sound; having characteristics or qualities that make something appealing and valuable
32. bl__e circumstances for the failure *v.* to think or say that someone or something did something wrong or is responsible for something bad
33. eve_____ly succeed *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
34. de_____p a skill *v.* to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created
35. ch_____re allowance *n.* a service involving care for other people's children
36. di_____s solutions *v.* to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
37. al__n with a historical trend *v.* to put or arrange two or more things in a straight line or to form a straight line
38. asp_____on into the lungs *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
39. allow ch_____re leave *n.* a service involving care for other people's children
40. mis_____and entirely about her *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

ANSWERS: 31. attractive, 32. blame, 33. eventually, 34. develop, 35. childcare, 36. discuss, 37. align, 38. aspiration, 39. childcare, 40. misunderstand

41. att____ve opportunity *adj.* immensely appealing in look or sound; having characteristics or qualities that make something appealing and valuable
42. no asp_____on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
43. de_____p a strategy *v.* to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created
44. co____t suicide *v.* to do something illegal or wrong
45. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
46. al__n the economic interest of each other *v.* to put or arrange two or more things in a straight line or to form a straight line
47. change ri__y behavior *adj.* involving the possibility of danger, failure, or loss
48. hi_____ht bias *n.* understanding or knowledge that comes after an event has occurred; the ability to perceive or understand events with greater clarity or accuracy in retrospect
49. the bo_____ry between reality and fantasy *n.* a real or imaginary line that marks the limit or extent of something and separates it from other things or places
50. li_____ss potential *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

ANSWERS: 41. attractive, 42. aspiration, 43. develop, 44. commit, 45. opportune, 46. align, 47. risky, 48. hindsight, 49. boundary, 50. limitless

51. engine cooling f_n *n.* a person who admires and supports a person, group, sport, sports team, etc.; a device for creating a current of air by the movement of a surface or surfaces
52. walk ba____rd *adv.* at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear
53. eve____ly become obsolete *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
54. ex____ng football player *adj.* causing a lot of interest or excitement
55. di____s options *v.* to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
56. ex____ed vacation *adj.* longer than usual or anticipated
57. pr____e a better relationship *v.* to encourage or persuade people to like, buy, use, do, or support something; to raise someone to a higher position or rank
58. ex____ng news *adj.* causing a lot of interest or excitement
59. ex____ed payment *adj.* longer than usual or anticipated
60. ge____hy class *n.* a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth
61. trade im____ce *n.* a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated
62. symptoms of hormonal im____ce *n.* a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated

ANSWERS: 51. fan, 52. backward, 53. eventually, 54. exciting, 55. discuss, 56. extended, 57. promote, 58. exciting, 59. extended, 60. geography, 61. imbalance, 62. imbalance

63. improved student ou____es *n.* the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
64. ba____rd angle *adv.* at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear
65. de____on authority *n.* the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options
66. a ri__y enterprise *adj.* involving the possibility of danger, failure, or loss
67. answer questions ind____lly *adv.* separately or apart from others
68. ind____lly designed product *adv.* separately or apart from others
69. 20/20 hi____ht *n.* understanding or knowledge that comes after an event has occurred; the ability to perceive or understand events with greater clarity or accuracy in retrospect
70. gets m_d easily *adj.* insane, especially due to a mental illness; very angry
71. es____al amino acid *adj.* indispensable; fundamental
72. re____t a decision *v.* to feel sad, repentant, or disappointed over something you have done or something you have not been able to do
73. ov____me work *n.* time worked beyond the regular or agreed-upon hours of work, often resulting in additional pay or compensation for the employee
74. sa____y a user's needs *v.* to make somebody pleased by giving them what they want or need

ANSWERS: 63. outcome, 64. backward, 65. decision, 66. risky, 67. individually, 68. individually, 69. hindsight, 70. mad, 71. essential, 72. regret, 73. overtime, 74. satisfy

75. distance g_p *n.* a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.
76. a selfish de_____on *n.* the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options
77. pr_____e bad behavior *v.* to encourage or persuade people to like, buy, use, do, or support something; to raise someone to a higher position or rank
78. sa_____y a desire *v.* to make somebody pleased by giving them what they want or need
79. emotional p__p *n.* a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something
80. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
81. a m_d person *adj.* insane, especially due to a mental illness; very angry
82. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
83. geographical bo_____ry *n.* a real or imaginary line that marks the limit or extent of something and separates it from other things or places

ANSWERS: 75. gap, 76. decision, 77. promote, 78. satisfy, 79. prop, 80. empower, 81. mad, 82. opportune, 83. boundary

84. cir_____nce of birth

n. the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence

ANSWERS: 84. circumstance

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company's policy on _____ states that employees will be compensated for any additional hours worked.
 - n.* time worked beyond the regular or agreed-upon hours of work, often resulting in additional pay or compensation for the employee
2. Our company offers a full range of _____ facilities as part of our benefits package.
 - n.* a service involving care for other people's children
3. With _____ we can see that investing in that company was a mistake.
 - n.* understanding or knowledge that comes after an event has occurred; the ability to perceive or understand events with greater clarity or accuracy in retrospect
4. In some sports, such as tennis, the competition is a _____ game, with only one player able to win each match.
 - adj.* referring to a situation in which an equal loss offsets each gain; describing a condition in which the total gains and losses balance to zero
5. I _____ to say that you did not gain admission to the university.
 - v.* to feel sad, repentant, or disappointed over something you have done or something you have not been able to do
6. You should not _____ the meaning of freedom.
 - v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
7. We _____ our impeded progress on lack of money.
 - v.* to think or say that someone or something did something wrong or is responsible for something bad

ANSWERS: 1. overtime, 2. childcare, 3. hindsight, 4. zero-sum, 5. regret, 6. misunderstand, 7. blamed

8. Each department has done its product costing _____.

adv. separately or apart from others

9. She did well on her _____ exam.

n. a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth

10. I'm a big ___ of French food.

n. a person who admires and supports a person, group, sport, sports team, etc.; a device for creating a current of air by the movement of a surface or surfaces

11. The _____ airport runways may accommodate larger jets.

adj. longer than usual or anticipated

12. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

13. The strict _____ ruled in favor of the plaintiff in the case.

n. a person who makes decisions in a court of law; (verb) to determine the result of or form a critical opinion of something

14. Your _____ reflects your thoughts.

n. an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.

15. Did this response _____ your request?

v. to make somebody pleased by giving them what they want or need

ANSWERS: 8. individually, 9. geography, 10. fan, 11. extended, 12. opportune, 13. judge, 14. conversation, 15. satisfy

16. He _____ misleads others.

adv. done in an intentional or slow and careful manner

17. The corporation _____ dominated the entire tobacco business.

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

18. We can _____ this possibility from those consumptions.

v. to remove or get rid of someone or something

19. He was ____ with joy to see the results.

adj. insane, especially due to a mental illness; very angry

20. Trial and error is an _____ part of education.

adj. indispensable; fundamental

21. She explained the _____ surrounding the accident.

n. the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence

22. We need to _____ the next steps for the project during our meeting tomorrow.

v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic

23. The findings of the experiment were both _____ and unexpected.

adj. causing a lot of interest or excitement

24. She falls over _____ when she sees her mother-in-law.

adv. at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear

ANSWERS: 16. deliberately, 17. eventually, 18. eliminate, 19. mad, 20. essential, 21. circumstances, 22. discuss, 23. exciting, 24. backward

25. Many people are working together to close the gender ____.
- n.* a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.
26. They awaited news of the _____ of the election.
- n.* the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
27. The government should do more to _____ sustainable agribusiness.
- v.* to encourage or persuade people to like, buy, use, do, or support something; to raise someone to a higher position or rank
28. Both parties are now entirely ideologically _____.
- v.* to put or arrange two or more things in a straight line or to form a straight line
29. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
- n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
30. It is extremely _____ to sail in such a storm.
- adj.* involving the possibility of danger, failure, or loss
31. She was struggling to make a _____ between two job offers.
- n.* the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options
32. He wandered the _____ between life and death by gunfire.
- n.* a real or imaginary line that marks the limit or extent of something and separates it from other things or places
33. The possibilities for scientific discovery are _____.
- adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

ANSWERS: 25. gap, 26. outcome, 27. promote, 28. aligned, 29. aspiration, 30. risky, 31. decision, 32. boundary, 33. limitless

34. We must _____ a new system to streamline our workflow and increase efficiency.
- v.* to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created
35. She intends to _____ a political career.
- v.* to do something or attempt to attain something over time; to follow or seek someone or something, especially in trying to catch them
36. The growth of the "sharing economy" is _____ for tech companies.
- adj.* immensely appealing in look or sound; having characteristics or qualities that make something appealing and valuable
37. An _____ in certain substances causes problems with brain function.
- n.* a situation in which two or more things are not equal or equally treated
38. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
- v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
39. She couldn't _____ whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.
- v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
40. Try to keep a _____ between work and off.
- n.* a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away
41. We have finally lost our last _____.
- n.* a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something

ANSWERS: 34. develop, 35. pursue, 36. attractive, 37. imbalance, 38. empowered, 39. decide, 40. balance, 41. prop

42. The military has _____ an abuse of human rights.

v. to do something illegal or wrong

ANSWERS: 42. committed