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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

humming

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

synonym : buzzing, droning, vibrating

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

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

pluck

v. to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers

synonym : grab, pull out, pick

(1) **pluck** a gray hair, (2) **pluck** out weeds

She **plucked** the flowers off the bush.

gorge

n. a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it

synonym : canyon, gully, ravine

(1) cast the **gorge**, (2) the **gorges** of the Yangtse River

We must pass through the narrow **gorge** with a stream running through it.

carve

v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

synonym : sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

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.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym: braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story
The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

chop

v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife

synonym: cut, hack, slice

(1) **chop** wood, (2) **chop** a meet with a knife
The cook **chopped** the vegetables for the soup.

obstruct

v. to block or interfere with the passage, movement, or action of something or someone

synonym: block, impede, hinder

(1) **obstruct** an airway, (2) **obstruct** a bill
The road was blocked by a fallen tree, **obstructing** the path for all vehicles.

cork

n. a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper

synonym: stopper, bung, plug

(1) **cork** a bottle, (2) **cork** flooring
She used a **cork** board to display her favorite photographs.

chew

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

synonym : masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

rustic

adj. relating to the countryside or rural life; lacking in refinement or sophistication; characterized by a simple and natural charm

synonym : rural, pastoral, bucolic

(1) **rustic** cuisine, (2) **rustic** farmhouse

The bed and breakfast had a **rustic** charm that appealed to visitors.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

synonym : entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

coffin

n. a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin

synonym : casket, box, chest

(1) **coffin** lid, (2) wooden **coffin**

The priest prayed over the **coffin** before it was lowered into the ground.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym : narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

disempower

v. to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective

synonym : disenfranchise, weaken, undermine

(1) **disempower** the employees, (2) **disempower** the

opposition

The politician's efforts to **disempower** marginalized communities were met with widespread criticism.

periphery

n. the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people

synonym: edge, border, margin

(1) around the **periphery**, (2) **periphery** countries

The factory was located on the city's **periphery**, away from residential areas.

unheard

adj. not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention

synonym: unknown, obscure

(1) an **unheard** story, (2) previously **unheard-of** economic development

The **unheard** melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

demagoguery

n. the practice of gaining power or influence through impassioned appeals to the emotions and prejudices of a group rather than through rational or factual argument; the use of manipulative or inflammatory rhetoric to sway public opinion

synonym: charisma, manipulation, exploitation

(1) racial **demagoguery**, (2) rise of **demagoguery**

The politician's **demagoguery** was met with skepticism by many voters.

apathy

n. lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm

synonym: affectlessness, dispassion, indifference

(1) **apathy** in the election, (2) political **apathy**

The global economic crisis has led to pervasive **apathy** and powerlessness.

untold

adj. not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured

synonym: countless, immeasurable, innumerable

(1) **untold** riches, (2) an **untold** number of people

The **untold** stories of the disaster victims need to be heard to understand the impact fully.

entrenched

adj. established firmly and securely

synonym: deep-rooted, confirmed, ingrained

(1) **entrenched** ideas, (2) **entrenched** positions

The monarch exploited the peasants using its **entrenched** power.

numb

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

synonym: dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

sensitize

v. to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation

synonym: acclimate, sensitize, alert

(1) **sensitize** the immune system, (2) **sensitize** cells to radiation

We need to **sensitize** our staff to the needs of customers with disabilities.

indifferent

adj. having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral

synonym: apathetic, disinterested, unmoved

(1) an **indifferent** glance, (2) emotionally **indifferent**

Despite the good news, she remained **indifferent** to the situation.

deem

v. to consider or decide something in a particular way

synonym: believe, consider, suppose

(1) **deem** socially responsible, (2) **deem** wrong or inappropriate

Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were **deemed** unsafe.

pristine

adj. new and completely free from dirt or contamination

synonym: chaste, pure, immaculate

(1) **pristine** beach, (2) maintain the **pristine** condition

It is terrific to camp in **pristine** nature.

untouched

adj. not touched or disturbed by anyone or anything; not having been altered, changed, or affected in any way

synonym: untarnished, pristine, intact

(1) **untouched** wilderness, (2) **untouched** landscape

The abandoned house was **untouched** for years, with vines growing all over it.

whisper

v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

synonym: murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves

He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|--|
| 1. c__w a stick of gum | v. | to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it |
| 2. v_w never to give up | v. | to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn |
| 3. c__k flooring | n. | a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper |
| 4. b__y emotion | v. | to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb |
| 5. ob_____ct a bill | v. | to block or interfere with the passage, movement, or action of something or someone |
| 6. a n__b mind | adj. | unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity |
| 7. ap___y in the election | n. | lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm |
| 8. sto_____ing performance | n. | the act or art of narrating or writing stories |
| 9. c__p a meet with a knife | v. | to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife |
| 10. ca__e a statue | v. | to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply |
| 11. we__e on a loom | v. | to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them |

ANSWERS: 1. chew, 2. vow, 3. cork, 4. bury, 5. obstruct, 6. numb, 7. apathy, 8. storytelling, 9. chop, 10. carve, 11. weave

12. un_____ed landscape *adj.* not touched or disturbed by anyone or anything; not having been altered, changed, or affected in any way
13. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
14. emotionally ind_____nt *adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral
15. em_____y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
16. d__m socially responsible *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
17. wooden co____n *n.* a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
18. pr_____ne beach *adj.* new and completely free from dirt or contamination
19. an un____d number of people *adj.* not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured
20. the wh_____r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
21. co____n lid *n.* a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
22. previously un_____d-of economic development *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention

ANSWERS: 12. untouched, 13. storytelling, 14. indifferent, 15. empathy, 16. deem, 17. coffin, 18. pristine, 19. untold, 20. whisper, 21. coffin, 22. unheard

23. c__w each word *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
24. an ind_____nt glance *adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral
25. ru___c farmhouse *adj.* relating to the countryside or rural life; lacking in refinement or sophistication; characterized by a simple and natural charm
26. ob_____ct an airway *v.* to block or interfere with the passage, movement, or action of something or someone
27. dis_____er the opposition *v.* to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective
28. ent_____ed ideas *adj.* established firmly and securely
29. pl__k a gray hair *v.* to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers
30. pl__k out weeds *v.* to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers
31. dis_____er the employees *v.* to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective
32. c__k a bottle *n.* a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper

ANSWERS: 23. chew, 24. indifferent, 25. rustic, 26. obstruct, 27. disempower, 28. entrenched, 29. pluck, 30. pluck, 31. disempower, 32. cork

33. we__e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
34. maintain the pr_____ne condition *adj.* new and completely free from dirt or contamination
35. un___d riches *adj.* not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured
36. un_____ed wilderness *adj.* not touched or disturbed by anyone or anything; not having been altered, changed, or affected in any way
37. se_____ze the immune system *v.* to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation
38. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
39. hu_____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
40. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
41. v_w allegiance to the new king *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
42. rise of dem_____ry *n.* the practice of gaining power or influence through impassioned appeals to the emotions and prejudices of a group rather than through rational or factual argument; the use of manipulative or inflammatory rhetoric to sway public opinion

ANSWERS: 33. weave, 34. pristine, 35. untold, 36. untouched, 37. sensitize, 38. numb, 39. humming, 40. bury, 41. vow, 42. demagoguery

43. an un____d story *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
44. ca__e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
45. the go__es of the Yangtse River *n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
46. ru___c cuisine *adj.* relating to the countryside or rural life; lacking in refinement or sophistication; characterized by a simple and natural charm
47. political ap___y *n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
48. answer in a wh____r *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
49. pe_____ry countries *n.* the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people
50. ent_____ed positions *adj.* established firmly and securely
51. se_____ze cells to radiation *v.* to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation
52. cast the go__e *n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
53. full of em____y *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

ANSWERS: 43. unheard, 44. carve, 45. gorge, 46. rustic, 47. apathy, 48. whisper, 49. periphery, 50. entrenched, 51. sensitize, 52. gorge, 53. empathy

54. c__p wood *v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
55. d__m wrong or inappropriate *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
56. racial dem_____ry *n.* the practice of gaining power or influence through impassioned appeals to the emotions and prejudices of a group rather than through rational or factual argument; the use of manipulative or inflammatory rhetoric to sway public opinion
57. hu_____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
58. around the pe_____ry *n.* the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people

ANSWERS: 54. chop, 55. deem, 56. demagoguery, 57. humming, 58. periphery

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.
adj. not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
2. My left arm became _____.
adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
3. Despite the good news, she remained _____ to the situation.
adj. having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral
4. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
5. We need to _____ our staff to the needs of customers with disabilities.
v. to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation
6. The global economic crisis has led to pervasive _____ and powerlessness.
n. lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
7. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.
v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
8. The politician's _____ was met with skepticism by many voters.
n. the practice of gaining power or influence through impassioned appeals to the emotions and prejudices of a group rather than through rational or factual argument; the use of manipulative or inflammatory rhetoric to sway public opinion

ANSWERS: 1. unheard, 2. numb, 3. indifferent, 4. humming, 5. sensitize, 6. apathy, 7. weaves, 8. demagoguery

9. This statue is _____ from a single tree trunk.
v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
10. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
11. The _____ stories of the disaster victims need to be heard to understand the impact fully.
adj. not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured
12. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.
v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
13. We must pass through the narrow _____ with a stream running through it.
n. a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
14. It is terrific to camp in _____ nature.
adj. new and completely free from dirt or contamination
15. The priest prayed over the _____ before it was lowered into the ground.
n. a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
16. The road was blocked by a fallen tree, _____ the path for all vehicles.
v. to block or interfere with the passage, movement, or action of something or someone

ANSWERS: 9. carved, 10. Empathy, 11. untold, 12. bury, 13. gorge, 14. pristine, 15. coffin, 16. obstructing

17. The cook _____ the vegetables for the soup.

v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife

18. The monarch exploited the peasants using its _____ power.

adj. established firmly and securely

19. She used a _____ board to display her favorite photographs.

n. a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper

20. They _____ to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.

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

21. The politician's efforts to _____ marginalized communities were met with widespread criticism.

v. to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective

22. The bed and breakfast had a _____ charm that appealed to visitors.

adj. relating to the countryside or rural life; lacking in refinement or sophistication; characterized by a simple and natural charm

23. The abandoned house was _____ for years, with vines growing all over it.

adj. not touched or disturbed by anyone or anything; not having been altered, changed, or affected in any way

24. She _____ the flowers off the bush.

v. to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers

ANSWERS: 17. chopped, 18. entrenched, 19. cork, 20. vowed, 21. disempower, 22. rustic, 23. untouched, 24. plucked

25. Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were _____ unsafe.
- v. to consider or decide something in a particular way
26. He took me aside and _____ in my ear.
- v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
27. My dog loves to _____ on bones.
- v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
28. The factory was located on the city's _____ away from residential areas.
- n. the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people
29. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
- n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 25. deemed, 26. whispered, 27. chew, 28. periphery, 29. storytelling