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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Thomas Lloyd: Why am I "so gay?" | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

dime

n. an American or Canadian coin worth one-tenth of a dollar

(1) **dime** store, (2) behind a **dime**

He never received a **dime**, even from the company of a close friend.

creditor

n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym: bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

offend

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

synonym: insult, hurt, anger

(1) **offend** his sensibilities, (2) **offend** a customer

His rude comments **offended** many people at the party.

pageant

n. a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition

synonym : parade, spectacle, show

(1) **pageant** queen, (2) national **pageant**

The beauty **pageant** contestants all looked stunning in their gowns.

horrify

v. to shock or disgust greatly

synonym : shock, dismay, terrify

(1) **horrify** audience, (2) **horrify** victims

The series of terrorist attacks **horrify** the entire nation.

scar

n. a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed

synonym : blemish, imperfection, blotch

(1) burn **scar**, (2) carry a **scar**

Even after the wound has healed, a **scar** remains.

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.

rumor

n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth

synonym : gossip, whisper, talk

(1) a false **rumor**, (2) **rumor** mill

There was a baseless **rumor** that the company was going bankrupt.

slur

v. to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory

statements

synonym : defame, slander, denigrate

(1) **slur** a drink, (2) **slur** his reputation

He shouldn't be allowed to **slur** people based on race or sexuality.

expend

v. to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.

synonym : disburse, spend, pay

(1) **expend** a great deal of energy, (2) **expend** time and resources

Billionaires tend to **expend** private funds on a public undertaking.

apologetic

adj. feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something

synonym : sorry, regretful, remorseful

(1) **apologetic** tone, (2) **apologetic** letter

He was **apologetic** for being late to the meeting.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym : consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

Jewish

adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism

synonym : Judaic

(1) **Jewish** history, (2) **Jewish** culture

My friend is a **Jewish** woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.

methamphetamine

n. (commonly known as "meth" or "crystal meth") a powerful and highly addictive stimulant drug that affects the central nervous system

synonym : meth, crystal

(1) **methamphetamine** addiction, (2) fatal

methamphetamine overdose

The use of **methamphetamine** has been linked to several mental health disorders.

addict

n. a person who cannot stop using or doing something as a habit, especially something harmful

synonym : devotee, buff, freak

(1) a drug **addict**, (2) Internet **addict**

We have become TV **addicts** due to video streaming services.

stonewall

v. to refuse to answer questions or provide information; to delay discussion or decision

synonym : obstruct, block, impede

(1) **stonewall** the investigation, (2) **stonewall** their attempts

The government **stonewalled** the opposition party's efforts to access information about the project.

effeminate

adj. having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness

synonym : unmanly, delicate, soft

(1) **effeminate** gestures, (2) **effeminate** voice

His **effeminate** mannerisms made others question his masculinity.

queer

adj. strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way

synonym : strange, odd, unusual

(1) **queer** money, (2) **queer** fashion

The behavior of the clown at the party was quite **queer**.

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.

homophobia

n. a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity

synonym: prejudice, discrimination, bigotry

(1) **homophobia** awareness, (2) **homophobia** in sports
The politician's remarks about same-sex marriage revealed his deep-seated **homophobia**.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym: sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me
She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

revolve

v. to rotate around a central point

synonym: rotate, spin, orbit

(1) **revolve** at high speed, (2) **revolve** around a central axis
The Earth **revolves** around the Sun in an elliptical orbit.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym: pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus
Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church
Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

contend

v. to struggle to win or surmount something

synonym: compete, oppose, argue

(1) **contend** that tobacco is nonaddictive, (2) **contend** for a championship

Tobacco companies have long **contended** that their product is not addictive.

assimilate

v. to take in and understand information or ideas; to integrate

synonym: absorb, incorporate, integrate

(1) **assimilate** into society, (2) **assimilate** a language

The immigrant struggled to **assimilate** into the new culture.

jean

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

synonym: denim, cotton, pants

(1) a **jean** skirt, (2) **jean** denim

She wore her favorite pair of **jeans** to the party.

acronym

n. a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

synonym: abbreviation, initialism, shortcut

(1) **acronym** definition, (2) use an **acronym**

RADAR is an **acronym** for radio detection and ranging.

anguish

n. severe physical or emotional pain or suffering; distress or mental agony

synonym: distress, torment, agony

(1) **anguish** and pain, (2) emotional **anguish**

She suffered from a deep sense of **anguish** following the loss of her loved one.

baptize

v. to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)

synonym: purify, immerse

(1) **baptize** a baby, (2) **baptize** with water

The priest **baptized** my father on his deathbed.

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.

superlative

adj. of the highest degree, quality, or intensity; surpassing all others, used to describe comparisons that are extreme or the highest in a particular category

synonym: excellent, exceptional, supreme

(1) **superlative** quality, (2) **superlative** achievement

The restaurant's exotic dishes received **superlative** reviews from food critics.

interrogate

v. to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

synonym: question, examine, probe

(1) **interrogate** an enemy soldier, (2) **interrogated** by police

The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately **interrogate** the witness.

irreconcilable

adj. unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts

synonym: irresolvable, intractable, uncompromising

(1) **irreconcilable** differences, (2) **irreconcilable** conflict

The opposing sides in the debate held **irreconcilable** views.

trailblazing

adj. pioneering; innovative; the action of blazing a trail or creating a path for others to follow

synonym: pioneering, innovative, groundbreaking

(1) **trailblazing** technology, (2) **trailblazing** approach

The **trailblazing** scientist paved the way for future research in the field.

complacency

n. a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems

synonym: self-satisfaction, smugness, satisfaction

(1) dangerous **complacency**, (2) avoid **complacency**

The team's **complacency** led to their defeat, as they didn't put in the effort needed to win the game.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. burn s__r | <i>n.</i> a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed |
| 2. a drug ad___t | <i>n.</i> a person who cannot stop using or doing something as a habit, especially something harmful |
| 3. st_____ll the investigation | <i>v.</i> to refuse to answer questions or provide information; to delay discussion or decision |
| 4. co_____d for a championship | <i>v.</i> to struggle to win or surmount something |
| 5. Je___h history | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism |
| 6. co_____d that tobacco is nonaddictive | <i>v.</i> to struggle to win or surmount something |
| 7. behind a d__e | <i>n.</i> an American or Canadian coin worth one-tenth of a dollar |
| 8. in___t other animal species | <i>v.</i> to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism |
| 9. avoid com_____cy | <i>n.</i> a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems |
| 10. d__m socially responsible | <i>v.</i> to consider or decide something in a particular way |
| 11. of___d a customer | <i>v.</i> to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed |

ANSWERS: 1. scar, 2. addict, 3. stonewall, 4. contend, 5. Jewish, 6. contend, 7. dime, 8. infect, 9. complacency, 10. deem, 11. offend

12. d__m wrong or inappropriate *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
13. irr_____ble conflict *adj.* unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts
14. int_____ted by police *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
15. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
16. of___d his sensibilities *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
17. ac_____m definition *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
18. an_____h and pain *n.* severe physical or emotional pain or suffering; distress or mental agony
19. Internet ad____t *n.* a person who cannot stop using or doing something as a habit, especially something harmful
20. dangerous com_____cy *n.* a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems

ANSWERS: 12. deem, 13. irreconcilable, 14. interrogate, 15. sham, 16. offend, 17. acronym, 18. anguish, 19. addict, 20. complacency

21. s__r a drink
v. to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory statements
22. j__n denim
n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
23. sup_____ve achievement
adj. of the highest degree, quality, or intensity; surpassing all others, used to describe comparisons that are extreme or the highest in a particular category
24. national pa_____t
n. a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition
25. apo_____ic tone
adj. feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something
26. de_____te a chapter to the subject
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
27. ho_____y victims
v. to shock or disgust greatly
28. ca_____ic in his tastes
adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

ANSWERS: 21. slur, 22. jean, 23. superlative, 24. pageant, 25. apologetic, 26. dedicate, 27. horrify, 28. Catholic

29. ex___d time and resources *v.* to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.
30. irr_____ble differences *adj.* unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts
31. sup_____ve quality *adj.* of the highest degree, quality, or intensity; surpassing all others, used to describe comparisons that are extreme or the highest in a particular category
32. hom_____ia in sports *n.* a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity
33. apo_____ic letter *adj.* feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something
34. hom_____ia awareness *n.* a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity

ANSWERS: 29. expend, 30. irreconcilable, 31. superlative, 32. homophobia, 33. apologetic, 34. homophobia

35. eff_____te voice *adj.* having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness
36. bankrupt cr_____or *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
37. use an ac_____m *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
38. qu__r money *adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
39. eff_____te gestures *adj.* having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness
40. the cr_____or's claims *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
41. the Ca_____ic Church *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
42. fatal met_____ine overdose *n.* (commonly known as "meth" or "crystal meth") a powerful and highly addictive stimulant drug that affects the central nervous system
43. st_____ll their attempts *v.* to refuse to answer questions or provide information; to delay discussion or decision

ANSWERS: 35. effeminate, 36. creditor, 37. acronym, 38. queer, 39. effeminate, 40. creditor, 41. Catholic, 42. methamphetamine, 43. stonewall

44. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
45. a false ru__r *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
46. in___t a computer with a virus *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
47. tra_____ing technology *adj.* pioneering; innovative; the action of blazing a trail or creating a path for others to follow
48. tra_____ing approach *adj.* pioneering; innovative; the action of blazing a trail or creating a path for others to follow
49. re_____e at high speed *v.* to rotate around a central point
50. ass_____te into society *v.* to take in and understand information or ideas; to integrate
51. ru__r mill *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
52. a j__n skirt *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
53. Je___h culture *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
54. ho_____y audience *v.* to shock or disgust greatly
55. carry a s__r *n.* a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed

ANSWERS: 44. sham, 45. rumor, 46. infect, 47. trailblazing, 48. trailblazing, 49. revolve, 50. assimilate, 51. rumor, 52. jean, 53. Jewish, 54. horrify, 55. scar

56. ex___d a great deal of energy *v.* to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.
57. pa_____t queen *n.* a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition
58. 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
59. ba_____e with water *v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
60. v_w allegiance to the new king *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
61. qu__r fashion *adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
62. re_____e around a central axis *v.* to rotate around a central point
63. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
64. s__r his reputation *v.* to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory statements
65. ba_____e a baby *v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)

ANSWERS: 56. expend, 57. pageant, 58. whisper, 59. baptize, 60. vow, 61. queer, 62. revolve, 63. disappoint, 64. slur, 65. baptize

66. ass_____te a language *v.* to take in and understand information or ideas; to integrate
67. v_w never to give up *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
68. int_____te an enemy soldier *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
69. d__e store *n.* an American or Canadian coin worth one-tenth of a dollar
70. don't dis_____nt me *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
71. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
72. emotional an_____h *n.* severe physical or emotional pain or suffering; distress or mental agony
73. 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
74. met_____ine addiction *n.* (commonly known as "meth" or "crystal meth") a powerful and highly addictive stimulant drug that affects the central nervous system

ANSWERS: 66. assimilate, 67. vow, 68. interrogate, 69. dime, 70. disappoint, 71. dedicate, 72. anguish, 73. whisper, 74. methamphetamine

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The use of _____ has been linked to several mental health disorders.
 - n.* (commonly known as "meth" or "crystal meth") a powerful and highly addictive stimulant drug that affects the central nervous system
2. 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
3. Billionaires tend to _____ private funds on a public undertaking.
 - v.* to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.
4. RADAR is an _____ for radio detection and ranging.
 - n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
5. The opposing sides in the debate held _____ views.
 - adj.* unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts
6. The team's _____ led to their defeat, as they didn't put in the effort needed to win the game.
 - n.* a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems
7. He never received a _____ even from the company of a close friend.
 - n.* an American or Canadian coin worth one-tenth of a dollar

ANSWERS: 1. methamphetamine, 2. whispered, 3. expend, 4. acronym, 5. irreconcilable, 6. complacency, 7. dime,

8. The behavior of the clown at the party was quite _____.
adj. strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
9. The _____ scientist paved the way for future research in the field.
adj. pioneering; innovative; the action of blazing a trail or creating a path for others to follow
10. We have become TV _____ due to video streaming services.
n. a person who cannot stop using or doing something as a habit, especially something harmful
11. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.
n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
12. The immigrant struggled to _____ into the new culture.
v. to take in and understand information or ideas; to integrate
13. He was _____ for being late to the meeting.
adj. feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something
14. The series of terrorist attacks _____ the entire nation.
v. to shock or disgust greatly
15. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
16. He shouldn't be allowed to _____ people based on race or sexuality.
v. to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory statements

ANSWERS: 8. queer, 9. trailblazing, 10. addicts, 11. jeans, 12. assimilate, 13. apologetic, 14. horrify, 15. disappoint, 16. slur

17. They _____ to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.
v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
18. The priest _____ my father on his deathbed.
v. to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
19. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.
v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
20. I asked the lawyer to initiate _____ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.
n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
21. The Earth _____ around the Sun in an elliptical orbit.
v. to rotate around a central point
22. Even after the wound has healed, a _____ remains.
n. a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed
23. My friend is a _____ woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.
adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
24. The politician's remarks about same-sex marriage revealed his deep-seated _____.
n. a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity

ANSWERS: 17. vowed, 18. baptized, 19. offended, 20. creditor, 21. revolves, 22. scar, 23. Jewish, 24. homophobia

25. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

26. There was a baseless _____ that the company was going bankrupt.

n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth

27. He _____ his life to helping others.

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

28. The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately _____ the witness.

v. to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

29. The beauty _____ contestants all looked stunning in their gowns.

n. a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition

30. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

31. Tobacco companies have long _____ that their product is not addictive.

v. to struggle to win or surmount something

32. She suffered from a deep sense of _____ following the loss of her loved one.

n. severe physical or emotional pain or suffering; distress or mental agony

ANSWERS: 25. infect, 26. rumor, 27. dedicated, 28. interrogate, 29. pageant, 30. catholic, 31. contended, 32. anguish

33. The data he prepared was completely _____.
- n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
34. Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were _____ unsafe.
- v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
35. His _____ mannerisms made others question his masculinity.
- adj.* having qualities or characteristics traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy, softness, and a lack of strength or assertiveness
36. The government _____ the opposition party's efforts to access information about the project.
- v.* to refuse to answer questions or provide information; to delay discussion or decision
37. The restaurant's exotic dishes received _____ reviews from food critics.
- adj.* of the highest degree, quality, or intensity; surpassing all others, used to describe comparisons that are extreme or the highest in a particular category

ANSWERS: 33. sham, 34. deemed, 35. effeminate, 36. stonewalled, 37. superlative