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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Abigail Disney: Dignity isn't a privilege. It's a worker's right | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

nerd

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

synonym: geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck

He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

puppet

n. a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else

synonym: marionette, dummy, mannequin

(1) **puppet** theater, (2) corporate **puppet**

The politician was merely a **puppet** for the wealthy elite.

cuddle

v. to hold close and lovingly in one's arms, often for comfort or affection; to snuggle or nestle against someone or something

synonym: embrace, snuggle, hug

(1) **cuddle** buddy, (2) **cuddle** up with a book

I love to **cuddle** with my dog on the couch after a long day.

upbringing

n. the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and

social development

synonym: childhood, background, nurturing

(1) Catholic **upbringing**, (2) family **upbringing**

His strict **upbringing** instilled in him a strong sense of responsibility.

stern

adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude

synonym: severe, harsh, strict

(1) **stern** warning, (2) a **stern** look

The students' antics did not amuse the **stern** teacher.

sass

n. impudent or disrespectful talk or behavior; back talk;
(verb) to speak or behave in a disrespectful or impudent manner, often characterized by cheekiness, insolence, or backtalk

synonym: lip, impertinence, back talk

(1) bold **sass**, (2) a delightful touch of **sass**

Despite her petite stature, her fiery **sass** and fearless demeanor commanded respect.

paternalism

n. the practice or belief of governing or managing individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy

synonym: guardianship, fatherliness

(1) **paternalism** in healthcare, (2) critique of **paternalism**

The CEO's leadership style was characterized by **paternalism** towards his employees.

mindset

n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

synonym: attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

primacy

n. the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority

synonym: supremacy, dominance, leadership

(1) military **primacy**, (2) **primacy** of economics

New competitors threatened the company's **primacy** in the market.

prioritize

v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

synonym: rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

pivotal

adj. relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something

synonym: crucial, essential, important

(1) **pivotal** moment, (2) **pivotal** role

The CEO's decision was **pivotal** in the success of the company's expansion plans.

concerted

adj. involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.

synonym: coordinated, planned, united

(1) **concerted** effort, (2) apply **concerted** pressure

The NGO launched a **concerted** campaign to raise awareness about the issue.

kneecap

n. a small flat bone in the front of the knee that protects the knee joint

synonym: patella, knee, joint

(1) broken **kneecap**, (2) **kneecap** bone

He fell and injured his knee, causing pain in his **kneecap**.

machete

n. a large, heavy knife with a broad blade used for cutting vegetation or, in some cultures, as a weapon

synonym: panga, chopper, sword

(1) sharp **machete**, (2) rusty **machete**

The farmer used a steel **machete** to clear away the dense underbrush in the field.

livelihood

n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.

synonym: occupation, living, income

(1) a means of **livelihood**, (2) **livelihood** assistance

I could no longer earn my own **livelihood**.

bloat

v. to become swollen, distended, or inflated, especially in an unpleasant way; (noun) a condition in which the abdomen becomes swollen or distended with gas or fluid

synonym: swell, blow up, inflate

(1) **bloat** with pride, (2) **bloat** government spending

He noticed that the snack food bag was **bloating** near the top of the mountain.

scrooge

n. a miserly, stingy, or ungenerous person; someone who is excessively careful with their money and is unwilling to spend it

synonym: miser, skinflint, penny-pincher

(1) **scrooge** character, (2) a real **scrooge**

Don't be such a **scrooge** and share some of your wealth with those in need.

backstroke

n. a swimming stroke performed on one's back, in which the arms are alternately raised over the head and pulled through the water while the legs move in a flutter kick

synonym: back crawl, reverse stroke, dorsal swim

(1) win with **backstroke**, (2) perfect **backstroke**

I swam the **backstroke** for the entire length of the pool.

culpable

adj. deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing

synonym: guilty, blameworthy, accountable

(1) **culpable** negligence, (2) partially **culpable**

The CEO was held **culpable** for the company's financial losses.

pundit

n. an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue

synonym: expert, commentator, punditry

(1) conservative **pundit**, (2) sports **pundit**

The political **pundit** provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.

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.

visceral

adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

synonym: instinctive, intuitive, gut

(1) **visceral** organ, (2) **visceral** fear

After watching the horror movie, she had a **visceral** reaction and couldn't sleep all night.

ephemeral

adj. lasting or used for only a short time

synonym: temporary, momentary, brief

(1) **ephemeral** joys, (2) **ephemeral** materials

His success as a famous actor was **ephemeral**.

quantifiable

adj. able to be measured, expressed, or quantified in numerical or statistical terms

synonym: measurable, calculable

(1) non- **quantifiable** risk, (2) **quantifiable** results

The impact of the new policy will be **quantifiable** through measurable data.

superpower

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

synonym: great power, empire, hegemony

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

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

greedy

adj. having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food

synonym: avaricious, covetous, grasping

(1) **greedy** person, (2) **greedy** for money

His **greedy** behavior led him to steal from the company.

bootstrap

n. a loop or strap on a boot that is used to pull it on; a self-starting process, often in IT or business, that is designed for beginning or continuing without external assistance

synonym: boot, self-starting, load

(1) **bootstrap** method, (2) **bootstrap** framework

Many startups use **bootstrap** funding to get their businesses off the ground.

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.

segregate

v. to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic

synonym: isolate, separate, divide

(1) **segregate** by race, (2) **segregate** boys and girls

The school board decided to **segregate** students by the ability to meet their needs better.

swank

v. to walk or behave confidently and stylishly, often with the intent of impressing others; to style or dress in an ostentatiously fashionable or luxurious way; (adjective) stylish, luxurious, and fashionable in an ostentatious way

synonym : show off, strut, flaunt

(1) **swank** about his success, (2) **swank** restaurant

I will **swank** up this outfit with some fancy accessories for the party tonight.

dogma

n. a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted

synonym : doctrine, tenet, creed

(1) religious **dogma**, (2) the secret **dogma**

All members strictly followed the **dogma** of the organization.

doe

n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym : rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

stratosphere

n. the second layer of the Earth's atmosphere, extending from about 7 to 50 kilometers above the Earth's surface, containing the ozone layer

synonym : upper atmosphere, ozone layer

(1) **stratosphere** layer, (2) **stratosphere** ozone

The ozone layer, which protects us from harmful UV radiation, is in the **stratosphere**.

frontline

adj. in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy

synonym : battlefield, cutting edge

(1) **frontline** health workers, (2) at the **frontline** of the war

Within days, the new aircraft was in **frontline** service.

redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

synonym: reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

cocreate

v. to create something by working with others

(1) **cocreate** our life, (2) **cocreate** a relationship

We form partnerships to **cocreate** customer value.

cynical

adj. believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity

synonym: skeptical, mistrustful, doubtful

(1) **cynical** remarks, (2) **cynical** worldview

He was very **cynical** and didn't believe anything anyone said unless he saw evidence for himself.

idol

n. an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered

synonym: icon, hero, legend

(1) **idol** worship, (2) **idol** singer

He was an **idol** to his fans, who looked up to him as a role model.

cutthroat

adj. marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others

synonym: ruthless, competitive, aggressive

(1) **cutthroat** business practices, (2) **cutthroat** negotiations

The **cutthroat** competition was intense, with everyone fighting for the position.

unmake

v. to destroy or undo something that has already been made or created; to reverse the effects of something previously done or achieved

synonym : destroy, undo, dismantle

(1) **unmake** a contract, (2) **unmake** a friendship

Sometimes it's better to **unmake** a decision and start over than to continue down the wrong path.

Session 2: Spelling

1. full of em____y *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
2. bo_____ap method *n.* a loop or strap on a boot that is used to pull it on; a self-starting process, often in IT or business, that is designed for beginning or continuing without external assistance
3. i__l singer *n.* an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered
4. bl__t government spending *v.* to become swollen, distended, or inflated, especially in an unpleasant way; (noun) a condition in which the abdomen becomes swollen or distended with gas or fluid
5. co_____te our life *v.* to create something by working with others
6. apply co_____ed pressure *adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
7. qua_____ble results *adj.* able to be measured, expressed, or quantified in numerical or statistical terms
8. win with bac_____ke *n.* a swimming stroke performed on one's back, in which the arms are alternately raised over the head and pulled through the water while the legs move in a flutter kick

ANSWERS: 1. empathy, 2. bootstrap, 3. idol, 4. bloat, 5. cocreate, 6. concerted, 7. quantifiable, 8. backstroke

9. military pr____y *n.* the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority
10. a st__n look *adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
11. st__n warning *adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
12. the secret do__a *n.* a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted
13. cu_____at negotiations *adj.* marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others
14. un___e a friendship *v.* to destroy or undo something that has already been made or created; to reverse the effects of something previously done or achieved
15. the mi_____t in an education system *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
16. pi_____l moment *adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something
17. co_____te a relationship *v.* to create something by working with others
18. of___d a customer *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
19. cy_____l worldview *adj.* believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity

ANSWERS: 9. primacy, 10. stern, 11. stern, 12. dogma, 13. cutthroat, 14. unmake, 15. mindset, 16. pivotal, 17. cocreate, 18. offend, 19. cynical

20. non-qua_____ble risk *adj.* able to be measured, expressed, or quantified in numerical or statistical terms
21. conservative pu____t *n.* an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
22. vi_____al fear *adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
23. a real sc_____e *n.* a miserly, stingy, or ungenerous person; someone who is excessively careful with their money and is unwilling to spend it
24. cu_____at business practices *adj.* marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others
25. corporate pu____t *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
26. vi_____al organ *adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

ANSWERS: 20. quantifiable, 21. pundit, 22. visceral, 23. scrooge, 24. cutthroat, 25. puppet, 26. visceral

27. a means of liv_____od *n.* a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
28. family upb_____ng *n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development
29. sc_____e character *n.* a miserly, stingy, or ungenerous person; someone who is excessively careful with their money and is unwilling to spend it
30. cu___e up with a book *v.* to hold close and lovingly in one's arms, often for comfort or affection; to snuggle or nestle against someone or something
31. rusty ma_____e *n.* a large, heavy knife with a broad blade used for cutting vegetation or, in some cultures, as a weapon
32. fr_____ne health workers *adj.* in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy
33. at the fr_____ne of the war *adj.* in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy
34. religious do__a *n.* a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted
35. un___e a contract *v.* to destroy or undo something that has already been made or created; to reverse the effects of something previously done or achieved

ANSWERS: 27. livelihood, 28. upbringing, 29. scrooge, 30. cuddle, 31. machete, 32. frontline, 33. frontline, 34. dogma, 35. unmake

36. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
37. cy_____l remarks *adj.* believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity
38. pu____t theater *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
39. critique of pat_____sm *n.* the practice or belief of governing or managing individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy
40. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
41. ep_____al joys *adj.* lasting or used for only a short time
42. perfect bac_____ke *n.* a swimming stroke performed on one's back, in which the arms are alternately raised over the head and pulled through the water while the legs move in a flutter kick

ANSWERS: 36. superpower, 37. cynical, 38. puppet, 39. paternalism, 40. nerd, 41. ephemeral, 42. backstroke

43. cu____le negligence *adj.* deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing
44. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
45. bl__t with pride *v.* to become swollen, distended, or inflated, especially in an unpleasant way; (noun) a condition in which the abdomen becomes swollen or distended with gas or fluid
46. se_____te boys and girls *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
47. str_____ere layer *n.* the second layer of the Earth's atmosphere, extending from about 7 to 50 kilometers above the Earth's surface, containing the ozone layer
48. bo_____ap framework *n.* a loop or strap on a boot that is used to pull it on; a self-starting process, often in IT or business, that is designed for beginning or continuing without external assistance
49. pat_____sm in healthcare *n.* the practice or belief of governing or managing individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy

ANSWERS: 43. culpable, 44. superpower, 45. bloat, 46. segregate, 47. stratosphere, 48. bootstrap, 49. paternalism

50. sw__k about his success *v.* to walk or behave confidently and stylishly, often with the intent of impressing others; to style or dress in an ostentatiously fashionable or luxurious way; (adjective) stylish, luxurious, and fashionable in an ostentatious way
51. se_____te by race *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
52. of___d his sensibilities *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
53. pi_____l role *adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something
54. pri_____ze tasks *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
55. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
56. sharp ma_____e *n.* a large, heavy knife with a broad blade used for cutting vegetation or, in some cultures, as a weapon
57. a delightful touch of s__s *n.* impudent or disrespectful talk or behavior; back talk; (verb) to speak or behave in a disrespectful or impudent manner, often characterized by cheekiness, insolence, or backtalk
58. kn_____p bone *n.* a small flat bone in the front of the knee that protects the knee joint

ANSWERS: 50. swank, 51. segregate, 52. offend, 53. pivotal, 54. prioritize, 55. doe, 56. machete, 57. sass, 58. kneecap

59. sports pu___t *n.* an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
60. gr___y for money *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
61. liv_____od assistance *n.* a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
62. gr___y person *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
63. broken kn_____p *n.* a small flat bone in the front of the knee that protects the knee joint
64. str_____ere ozone *n.* the second layer of the Earth's atmosphere, extending from about 7 to 50 kilometers above the Earth's surface, containing the ozone layer
65. pri_____ze people over cars *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
66. Catholic upb_____ng *n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development
67. bold s__s *n.* impudent or disrespectful talk or behavior; back talk; (verb) to speak or behave in a disrespectful or impudent manner, often characterized by cheekiness, insolence, or backtalk

ANSWERS: 59. pundit, 60. greedy, 61. livelihood, 62. greedy, 63. kneecap, 64. stratosphere, 65. prioritize, 66. upbringing, 67. sass

68. sw__k restaurant *v.* to walk or behave confidently and stylishly, often with the intent of impressing others; to style or dress in an ostentatiously fashionable or luxurious way; (adjective) stylish, luxurious, and fashionable in an ostentatious way
69. flexible mi____t *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
70. cu___e buddy *v.* to hold close and lovingly in one's arms, often for comfort or affection; to snuggle or nestle against someone or something
71. pr____y of economics *n.* the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority
72. i__l worship *n.* an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered
73. ep____al materials *adj.* lasting or used for only a short time
74. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
75. co____ed effort *adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
76. partially cu____le *adj.* deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing
77. re____ne our role *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 68. swank, 69. mindset, 70. cuddle, 71. primacy, 72. idol, 73. ephemeral, 74. nerd, 75. concerted, 76. culpable, 77. redefine

78. re____ne customer experience *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
79. em____y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
80. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

ANSWERS: 78. redefine, 79. empathy, 80. doe

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. After watching the horror movie, she had a _____ reaction and couldn't sleep all night.

adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

2. He was very _____ and didn't believe anything anyone said unless he saw evidence for himself.

adj. believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity

3. His strict _____ instilled in him a strong sense of responsibility.

n. the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development

4. The CEO's leadership style was characterized by _____ towards his employees.

n. the practice or belief of governing or managing individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy

5. He noticed that the snack food bag was _____ near the top of the mountain.

v. to become swollen, distended, or inflated, especially in an unpleasant way; (noun) a condition in which the abdomen becomes swollen or distended with gas or fluid

6. Despite her petite stature, her fiery _____ and fearless demeanor commanded respect.

n. impudent or disrespectful talk or behavior; back talk; (verb) to speak or behave in a disrespectful or impudent manner, often characterized by cheekiness, insolence, or backtalk

ANSWERS: 1. visceral, 2. cynical, 3. upbringing, 4. paternalism, 5. bloating, 6. sass

7. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.
v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
8. I could no longer earn my own _____.
n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
9. His success as a famous actor was _____.
adj. lasting or used for only a short time
10. Sometimes it's better to _____ a decision and start over than to continue down the wrong path.
v. to destroy or undo something that has already been made or created; to reverse the effects of something previously done or achieved
11. The impact of the new policy will be _____ through measurable data.
adj. able to be measured, expressed, or quantified in numerical or statistical terms
12. We form partnerships to _____ customer value.
v. to create something by working with others
13. The _____ competition was intense, with everyone fighting for the position.
adj. marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others
14. Don't be such a _____ and share some of your wealth with those in need.
n. a miserly, stingy, or ungenerous person; someone who is excessively careful with their money and is unwilling to spend it

ANSWERS: 7. offended, 8. livelihood, 9. ephemeral, 10. unmake, 11. quantifiable, 12. cocreate, 13. cutthroat, 14. scrooge

15. I love to _____ with my dog on the couch after a long day.
- v.* to hold close and lovingly in one's arms, often for comfort or affection; to snuggle or nestle against someone or something
16. He was an _____ to his fans, who looked up to him as a role model.
- n.* an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered
17. The NGO launched a _____ campaign to raise awareness about the issue.
- adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
18. His _____ behavior led him to steal from the company.
- adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
19. The CEO's decision was _____ in the success of the company's expansion plans.
- adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something
20. I will _____ up this outfit with some fancy accessories for the party tonight.
- v.* to walk or behave confidently and stylishly, often with the intent of impressing others; to style or dress in an ostentatiously fashionable or luxurious way; (adjective) stylish, luxurious, and fashionable in an ostentatious way
21. The video telephony application has _____ the way we work.
- v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
22. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
- n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

ANSWERS: 15. cuddle, 16. idol, 17. concerted, 18. greedy, 19. pivotal, 20. swank, 21.

redefined, 22. superpower

23. Hunters use a whistle that makes the ____ sound to lure stags.
- n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
24. The politician was merely a _____ for the wealthy elite.
- n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
25. He fell and injured his knee, causing pain in his _____.
- n.* a small flat bone in the front of the knee that protects the knee joint
26. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
- n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
27. The ozone layer, which protects us from harmful UV radiation, is in the _____.
- n.* the second layer of the Earth's atmosphere, extending from about 7 to 50 kilometers above the Earth's surface, containing the ozone layer
28. The CEO was held _____ for the company's financial losses.
- adj.* deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing
29. All members strictly followed the _____ of the organization.
- n.* a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted
30. Many startups use _____ funding to get their businesses off the ground.
- n.* a loop or strap on a boot that is used to pull it on; a self-starting process, often in IT or business, that is designed for beginning or continuing without external assistance

ANSWERS: 23. doe, 24. puppet, 25. kneecap, 26. Empathy, 27. stratosphere, 28. culpable, 29. dogma, 30. bootstrap

31. I swam the _____ for the entire length of the pool.
- n.* a swimming stroke performed on one's back, in which the arms are alternately raised over the head and pulled through the water while the legs move in a flutter kick
32. The farmer used a steel _____ to clear away the dense underbrush in the field.
- n.* a large, heavy knife with a broad blade used for cutting vegetation or, in some cultures, as a weapon
33. The school board decided to _____ students by the ability to meet their needs better.
- v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
34. New competitors threatened the company's _____ in the market.
- n.* the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority
35. The political _____ provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.
- n.* an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
36. The organization _____ the needs of the community in its decision-making.
- v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
37. Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial _____ in each individual.
- n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

ANSWERS: 31. backstroke, 32. machete, 33. segregate, 34. primacy, 35. pundit, 36. prioritized, 37. mindset

38. The students' antics did not amuse the _____ teacher.

adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude

39. He was, by nature, a cyber _____.

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

40. Within days, the new aircraft was in _____ service.

adj. in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy

ANSWERS: 38. stern, 39. nerd, 40. frontline