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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kenny Coogan: Vultures: The acid-puking, plague-busting heroes of the ecosystem | TED Talk
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

grassland

n. a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
synonym : meadow, plain, savanna

(1) endangered **grassland**, (2) vast **grassland**

Meadows and pastures are examples of smaller-scale **grasslands** in many parts of the world.

gazelle

n. a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia
synonym : antelope, springbok, impala

(1) **gazelle** hunting, (2) graceful **gazelle**

The zookeeper carefully monitored the **gazelle's** diet to ensure it received proper nutrition.

corpse

n. the dead body of a human being
synonym : body, remains, cadaver

(1) desiccated **corpse**, (2) the **corpse** of an animal

The police found the **corpse** in the abandoned building.

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.

wingspan

n. the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures

synonym: reach, spread, extent

(1) bird **wingspan**, (2) airplane **wingspan**

The bald eagle has an impressive **wingspan** of over 7 feet.

lappet

n. a small, decorative flap or fold typically found on a garment or headdress

synonym: flap, fold, tuck

(1) **lappet** weaving, (2) **lappet-faced** vulture

The painting depicted a woman wearing a **lappet** headdress common in the 17th century.

vulture

n. a large bird of prey with a bald head, sharp beak, and keen eyesight, feeding mainly on carrion (the flesh of dead animals)

synonym: buzzard, scavenger, carrion bird

(1) **vulture** colony, (2) scavenging **vulture**

The **vulture's** sharp eyesight allows it to spot carrion from great distances.

carcass

n. the dead body of an animal, especially one that has been killed for food

synonym: corpse, remains, body

(1) examine a **carcass**, (2) **carcass** disposal

The animal's **carcass** was found in the forest, most likely killed by a predator.

beak

n. the hard and pointed or curved mouth of a bird

synonym: nib, pecker, snout

(1) sharp **beak**, (2) a tip of the **beak**

The bird's **beak** evolves according to the type of prey it can take on the area.

colossal

adj. extremely large and impressive

synonym : gigantic, huge, enormous

(1) **colossal** statue, (2) a **colossal** success

The new building is truly **colossal**, towering over the surrounding buildings.

centimeter

n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

(1) **centimeter** measurement, (2) thirty **centimeters** tall

The room was only one **centimeter** wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.

updraft

n. a rising current of air in the atmosphere, often producing clouds or precipitation; an upward current in a body of water

synonym : upward draft, thermal, upwelling

(1) **updraft** wind, (2) thermal **updraft**

The pilot had to navigate through a strong **updraft** to land the plane safely.

aloft

adv. in the air; at a high place

synonym : elevated, high, soaring

(1) go **aloft**, (2) carried **aloft** by police

The hot air balloon rose **aloft** into the sky, giving the passengers a breathtaking countryside view.

peck

v. to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble

synonym : beak, nibble, pick

(1) **peck** on the cheek, (2) **peck** at feed

The wood **pecker** would peck at the tree high up in the branches.

unguarded

adj. not protected or defended against potential threats or dangers; unrestrained or candid in speech or behavior, often resulting in unintended consequences or negative outcomes

synonym : unprotected, exposed, vulnerable

(1) **unguarded** moment, (2) **unguarded** entrance

His **unguarded** comments in the meeting revealed his true feelings about the project.

ostrich

n. a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill

synonym : bird, flightless bird

(1) **ostrich** eggs, (2) **ostrich** feathers

The farmers raise **ostriches** for their meat, eggs, and feathers.

impenetrable

adj. not able to be passed through, entered, or understood

synonym : impassable, insurmountable, impregnable

(1) **impenetrable** fortress, (2) through an **impenetrable** fog

The jungle was so dense and **impenetrable** that it was almost impossible to find a way through.

smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

synonym : great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results

The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

commotion

n. a state of confused and noisy disturbance

synonym : disturbance, fuss, uproar

(1) a few minutes of **commotion**, (2) make **commotion**

The **commotion** in the classroom made it hard for the teacher to teach.

soar

v. to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease

synonym : fly, rise, ascend

(1) **soar** in popularity, (2) **soar** to new heights

The bird **soared** through the sky, and its wings spread wide.

featherless

adj. devoid of feathers, or with few or inadequate feathers; often used metaphorically to describe something or someone that lacks the usual characteristics or qualities associated with it

synonym : bald, naked, unfeathered

(1) **featherless** bird, (2) **featherless** chicken

The bald eagle's **featherless** head distinguishes it from other birds of prey.

descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

synonym : dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym : perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

gastric

adj. relating to the stomach or the digestive system; characterized by or causing discomfort or pain in the stomach or upper abdomen

synonym : stomachic, digestive, belly

(1) **gastric** issues, (2) **gastric** cancer

After eating spicy food, some people experience **gastric** distress like heartburn and indigestion.

beard

n. hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin

synonym : facial hair, whiskers, stubble

(1) a black **beard**, (2) shave my **beard**

He grew a thick **beard** to change his appearance.

acidic

adj. having a pH lower than 7; having characteristics of an acid, such as tasting sour or corroding metal

synonym : sour, tart, acrid

(1) **acidic** solution, (2) **acidic** taste

The soil in this region is too **acidic** for most crops to grow well.

dung

n. solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement

synonym : excrement, droppings, manure

(1) ball of **dung**, (2) **dung** the land

You can see the horse **dung** on the country road.

rancid

adj. having a bad taste or smell because it is old and no longer fresh

synonym : spoiled, stale, putrid

(1) turn **rancid**, (2) **rancid** oil

The food had a **rancid** smell and was inedible.

vomit

v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

synonym : puke, throw up, spew

(1) **vomit** abuse, (2) **vomit** after ingesting

She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to **vomit**.

predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

synonym : vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

pathogen

n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease

synonym : germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) plant **pathogen**, (2) the **pathogen** in the air
mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated **pathogens**.

cholera

n. a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes

synonym : infectious disease, epidemic, plague

(1) **cholera** toxin, (2) **cholera** epidemic

The outbreak of **cholera** was a major health crisis in the 19th century.

anthrax

n. a serious bacterial infection caused by *Bacillus anthracis* that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated

synonym : fever, splenic fever, wool sorters' disease

(1) **anthrax** infection, (2) **anthrax** vaccine

Scientists are currently researching new treatments for **anthrax** that could improve survival rates in infected individuals

rabies

n. a viral disease that affects the nervous system of mammals, including humans; transmitted through the saliva of infected animals, most often through a bite, which can lead to paralysis, seizures, and death if left untreated

synonym : hydrophobia, lyssa

(1) contract **rabies**, (2) **rabies** virus infection

Pet owners need to keep their animals vaccinated against **rabies**.

human-made

adj. created or produced by humans; artificial

synonym : artificial, unnatural, manufactured

(1) **human-made** climate change, (2) the worst

human-made disaster

The bridge is a **human-made** structure and was built to span the river.

scavenger

n. an animal or bird that feeds on carrion, dead animals, or other scavenged material; a person who searches for and collects discarded or unwanted items, often to sell or reuse them

synonym : vulture, hyena, magpie

(1) **scavenger** bird, (2) marine **scavenger**

Crows are common **scavengers** in urban areas and will eat almost anything.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

pylon

n. a tall, vertical structure used to support cables or wires, typically made of metal or concrete

synonym : tower, pillar, column

(1) **pylon** installation, (2) engine **pylon**

The transmission of electricity over long distances often requires the use of **pylons** to maintain the electrical cables.

poacher

n. a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally

(1) crackdown on **poachers**, (2) a suspected **poacher**

An old **poacher** makes the best keeper.

extinct

adj. no longer in existence

synonym : dead, obsolete, abolished

(1) **extinct** by human activity, (2) long- **extinct** volcano
Many species have become **extinct** due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

contaminate

v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

synonym: defile, pollute, adulterate

(1) **contaminate** with a disease, (2) **contaminate** his ego
We strive not to **contaminate** the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

feral

adj. wild, untamed, or having returned to a wild or untamed state after being domesticated; characteristic of an animal that lives and reproduces freely in its natural habitat

synonym: untamed, savage, wild

(1) **feral** cat, (2) **feral** behavior

The teenagers vandalized the abandoned building and turned it into a **feral** hangout spot.

conservationist

n. a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

synonym: environmentalist

(1) wildlife **conservationist**, (2) dedicated **conservationist**

The extinction of this species has been a significant concern for **conservationists**.

populate

v. to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information

synonym: inhabit, occupy, dwell

(1) **populate** the countryside, (2) **populate** the spreadsheet

Deer, squirrels, and birds primarily **populate** the forest.

conserve

v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

synonym : preserve, save, maintain

(1) means to **conserve** energy, (2) **conserve** coal resources

Children must be taught to **conserve** our natural environment.

Session 2: Spelling

1. thirty cen_____ers tall
n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
2. de_____d by elevator
v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
3. s__r to new heights
v. to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease
4. endangered gr_____nd
n. a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
5. plant pa_____en
n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
6. co_____ve coal resources
v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
7. contract ra____s
n. a viral disease that affects the nervous system of mammals, including humans; transmitted through the saliva of infected animals, most often through a bite, which can lead to paralysis, seizures, and death if left untreated
8. ac____c taste
adj. having a pH lower than 7; having characteristics of an acid, such as tasting sour or corroding metal
9. co_____al statue
adj. extremely large and impressive

ANSWERS: 1. centimeter, 2. descend, 3. soar, 4. grassland, 5. pathogen, 6. conserve, 7. rabies, 8. acidic, 9. colossal

10. up____t wind *n.* a rising current of air in the atmosphere, often producing clouds or precipitation; an upward current in a body of water
11. make co_____on *n.* a state of confused and noisy disturbance
12. in____t other animal species *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
13. engine py__n *n.* a tall, vertical structure used to support cables or wires, typically made of metal or concrete
14. hum_____de climate change *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
15. fea_____ss bird *adj.* devoid of feathers, or with few or inadequate feathers; often used metaphorically to describe something or someone that lacks the usual characteristics or qualities associated with it
16. an____x infection *n.* a serious bacterial infection caused by *Bacillus anthracis* that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated
17. py__n installation *n.* a tall, vertical structure used to support cables or wires, typically made of metal or concrete
18. means to co_____ve energy *v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

ANSWERS: 10. updraft, 11. commotion, 12. infect, 13. pylon, 14. human-made, 15. featherless, 16. anthrax, 17. pylon, 18. conserve

19. go al__t *adv.* in the air; at a high place
20. marine sc_____er *n.* an animal or bird that feeds on carrion, dead animals, or other scavenged material; a person who searches for and collects discarded or unwanted items, often to sell or reuse them
21. ex_____t by human activity *adj.* no longer in existence
22. vo__t abuse *v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth
23. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
24. a black be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
25. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
26. con_____te his ego *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
27. ga_____e hunting *n.* a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia
28. wildlife con_____ist *n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

ANSWERS: 19. aloft, 20. scavenger, 21. extinct, 22. vomit, 23. electrify, 24. beard, 25. electrify, 26. contaminate, 27. gazelle, 28. conservationist

29. a suspected po_____r *n.* a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally
30. desiccated co____e *n.* the dead body of a human being
31. ac____c solution *adj.* having a pH lower than 7; having characteristics of an acid, such as tasting sour or corroding metal
32. p__k at feed *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
33. s__r in popularity *v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease
34. shave my be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
35. ch_____a toxin *n.* a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes
36. give sm_____ng results *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
37. an_____x vaccine *n.* a serious bacterial infection caused by *Bacillus anthracis* that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated
38. a few minutes of co_____on *n.* a state of confused and noisy disturbance
39. vu_____e colony *n.* a large bird of prey with a bald head, sharp beak, and keen eyesight, feeding mainly on carrion (the flesh of dead animals)

ANSWERS: 29. poacher, 30. corpse, 31. acidic, 32. peck, 33. soar, 34. beard, 35. cholera, 36. smashing, 37. anthrax, 38. commotion, 39. vulture

40. a sm_____ng blow *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
41. de_____d a steep hill *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
42. la____t weaving *n.* a small, decorative flap or fold typically found on a garment or headdress
43. the pa_____en in the air *n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
44. p__k on the cheek *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
45. os_____h feathers *n.* a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill
46. the co____e of an animal *n.* the dead body of a human being
47. a tip of the b__k *n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird
48. sexual pr_____ors *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
49. cen_____er measurement *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
50. imp_____ble fortress *adj.* not able to be passed through, entered, or understood
51. dedicated con_____ist *n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife
52. bird wi_____an *n.* the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures

ANSWERS: 40. smashing, 41. descend, 42. lappet, 43. pathogen, 44. peck, 45. ostrich, 46. corpse, 47. beak, 48. predator, 49. centimeter, 50. impenetrable, 51. conservationist, 52. wingspan

53. ra___d oil *adj.* having a bad taste or smell because it is old and no longer fresh
54. ga____c cancer *adj.* relating to the stomach or the digestive system; characterized by or causing discomfort or pain in the stomach or upper abdomen
55. examine a ca____s *n.* the dead body of an animal, especially one that has been killed for food
56. crackdown on po____rs *n.* a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally
57. un____ed entrance *adj.* not protected or defended against potential threats or dangers; unrestrained or candid in speech or behavior, often resulting in unintended consequences or negative outcomes
58. long-ex____t volcano *adj.* no longer in existence
59. ch____a epidemic *n.* a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes
60. sc____er bird *n.* an animal or bird that feeds on carrion, dead animals, or other scavenged material; a person who searches for and collects discarded or unwanted items, often to sell or reuse them
61. vo__t after ingesting *v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

ANSWERS: 53. rancid, 54. gastric, 55. carcass, 56. poacher, 57. unguarded, 58. extinct, 59. cholera, 60. scavenger, 61. vomit

62. graceful ga____e
n. a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia
63. thermal up____t
n. a rising current of air in the atmosphere, often producing clouds or precipitation; an upward current in a body of water
64. a co____al success
adj. extremely large and impressive
65. os____h eggs
n. a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill
66. la____t-faced vulture
n. a small, decorative flap or fold typically found on a garment or headdress
67. in____t a computer with a virus
v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
68. un____ed moment
adj. not protected or defended against potential threats or dangers; unrestrained or candid in speech or behavior, often resulting in unintended consequences or negative outcomes
69. begin to r_t
v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
70. the worst hum____de disaster
adj. created or produced by humans; artificial
71. vast gr____nd
n. a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
72. fe__l behavior
adj. wild, untamed, or having returned to a wild or untamed state after being domesticated; characteristic of an animal that lives and reproduces freely in its natural habitat

ANSWERS: 62. gazelle, 63. updraft, 64. colossal, 65. ostrich, 66. lappet, 67. infect, 68. unguarded, 69. rot, 70. human-made, 71. grassland, 72. feral

73. through an imp_____ble fog *adj.* not able to be passed through, entered, or understood
74. ga_____c issues *adj.* relating to the stomach or the digestive system; characterized by or causing discomfort or pain in the stomach or upper abdomen
75. scavenging vu_____e *n.* a large bird of prey with a bald head, sharp beak, and keen eyesight, feeding mainly on carrion (the flesh of dead animals)
76. ca_____s disposal *n.* the dead body of an animal, especially one that has been killed for food
77. po_____te the spreadsheet *v.* to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information
78. ball of d__g *n.* solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement
79. con_____te with a disease *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
80. po_____te the countryside *v.* to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information

ANSWERS: 73. impenetrable, 74. gastric, 75. vulture, 76. carcass, 77. populate, 78. dung, 79. contaminate, 80. populate

81. fe__l cat *adj.* wild, untamed, or having returned to a wild or untamed state after being domesticated; characteristic of an animal that lives and reproduces freely in its natural habitat
82. fea_____ss chicken *adj.* devoid of feathers, or with few or inadequate feathers; often used metaphorically to describe something or someone that lacks the usual characteristics or qualities associated with it
83. turn ra___d *adj.* having a bad taste or smell because it is old and no longer fresh
84. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
85. airplane wi_____an *n.* the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures
86. apex pr_____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
87. carried al__t by police *adv.* in the air; at a high place
88. sharp b__k *n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird
89. d__g the land *n.* solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement

ANSWERS: 81. feral, 82. featherless, 83. rancid, 84. rot, 85. wingspan, 86. predator, 87. aloft, 88. beak, 89. dung

90. ra___s virus infection

n. a viral disease that affects the nervous system of mammals, including humans; transmitted through the saliva of infected animals, most often through a bite, which can lead to paralysis, seizures, and death if left untreated

ANSWERS: 90. rabies

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. You can see the horse _____ on the country road.
n. solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement
2. We strive not to _____ the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.
v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
3. The animal's _____ was found in the forest, most likely killed by a predator.
n. the dead body of an animal, especially one that has been killed for food
4. The teenagers vandalized the abandoned building and turned it into a _____ hangout spot.
adj. wild, untamed, or having returned to a wild or untamed state after being domesticated; characteristic of an animal that lives and reproduces freely in its natural habitat
5. The food had a _____ smell and was inedible.
adj. having a bad taste or smell because it is old and no longer fresh
6. She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to _____.
v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth
7. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.
v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

ANSWERS: 1. dung, 2. contaminate, 3. carcass, 4. feral, 5. rancid, 6. vomit, 7. rot

8. She was _____ from an old Italian noble family.
- v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
9. The outbreak of _____ was a major health crisis in the 19th century.
- n.* a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes
10. The bird's _____ evolves according to the type of prey it can take on the area.
- n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird
11. Meadows and pastures are examples of smaller-scale _____ in many parts of the world.
- n.* a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
12. mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated _____.
- n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
13. The transmission of electricity over long distances often requires the use of _____ to maintain the electrical cables.
- n.* a tall, vertical structure used to support cables or wires, typically made of metal or concrete
14. The soil in this region is too _____ for most crops to grow well.
- adj.* having a pH lower than 7; having characteristics of an acid, such as tasting sour or corroding metal

ANSWERS: 8. descended, 9. cholera, 10. beak, 11. grasslands, 12. pathogens, 13. pylons, 14. acidic

15. The hot air balloon rose _____ into the sky, giving the passengers a breathtaking countryside view.

adv. in the air; at a high place

16. The jungle was so dense and _____ that it was almost impossible to find a way through.

adj. not able to be passed through, entered, or understood

17. Pet owners need to keep their animals vaccinated against _____.

n. a viral disease that affects the nervous system of mammals, including humans; transmitted through the saliva of infected animals, most often through a bite, which can lead to paralysis, seizures, and death if left untreated

18. Scientists are currently researching new treatments for _____ that could improve survival rates in infected individuals

n. a serious bacterial infection caused by *Bacillus anthracis* that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated

19. The farmers raise _____ for their meat, eggs, and feathers.

n. a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill

20. The new building is truly _____ towering over the surrounding buildings.

adj. extremely large and impressive

21. The _____ in the classroom made it hard for the teacher to teach.

n. a state of confused and noisy disturbance

22. Crows are common _____ in urban areas and will eat almost anything.

n. an animal or bird that feeds on carrion, dead animals, or other scavenged material; a person who searches for and collects discarded or unwanted items, often to sell or reuse them

ANSWERS: 15. aloft, 16. impenetrable, 17. rabies, 18. anthrax, 19. ostriches, 20. colossal, 21. commotion, 22. scavengers

23. The bridge is a _____ structure and was built to span the river.

adj. created or produced by humans; artificial

24. The extinction of this species has been a significant concern for _____.

n. a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

25. Many species have become _____ due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

adj. no longer in existence

26. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.

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

27. The police found the _____ in the abandoned building.

n. the dead body of a human being

28. The wood_____ would peck at the tree high up in the branches.

v. to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble

29. The room was only one _____ wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.

n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

30. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

ANSWERS: 23. human-made, 24. conservationists, 25. extinct, 26. infect, 27. corpse, 28. pecker, 29. centimeter, 30. predator's

31. After eating spicy food, some people experience _____ distress like heartburn and indigestion.
adj. relating to the stomach or the digestive system; characterized by or causing discomfort or pain in the stomach or upper abdomen
32. The pilot had to navigate through a strong _____ to land the plane safely.
n. a rising current of air in the atmosphere, often producing clouds or precipitation; an upward current in a body of water
33. An old _____ makes the best keeper.
n. a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally
34. The _____ sharp eyesight allows it to spot carrion from great distances.
n. a large bird of prey with a bald head, sharp beak, and keen eyesight, feeding mainly on carrion (the flesh of dead animals)
35. The bird _____ through the sky, and its wings spread wide.
v. to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease
36. The zookeeper carefully monitored the _____ diet to ensure it received proper nutrition.
n. a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia
37. Children must be taught to _____ our natural environment.
v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
38. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 31. gastric, 32. updraft, 33. poacher, 34. vulture's, 35. soared, 36. gazelle's, 37. conserve, 38. electrify

39. The painting depicted a woman wearing a _____ headdress common in the 17th century.
- n.* a small, decorative flap or fold typically found on a garment or headdress
40. The bald eagle's _____ head distinguishes it from other birds of prey.
- adj.* devoid of feathers, or with few or inadequate feathers; often used metaphorically to describe something or someone that lacks the usual characteristics or qualities associated with it
41. The band's new album was a _____ success, reaching the top of the charts.
- adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
42. He grew a thick _____ to change his appearance.
- n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
43. His _____ comments in the meeting revealed his true feelings about the project.
- adj.* not protected or defended against potential threats or dangers; unrestrained or candid in speech or behavior, often resulting in unintended consequences or negative outcomes
44. The bald eagle has an impressive _____ of over 7 feet.
- n.* the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures
45. Deer, squirrels, and birds primarily _____ the forest.
- v.* to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information

ANSWERS: 39. lappet, 40. featherless, 41. smashing, 42. beard, 43. unguarded, 44. wingspan, 45. populate

ANSWERS: