

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Benjamin Seibold: What is phantom traffic and why is it ruining your life? | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

cruise

n. a voyage on a large ship for pleasure; driving or traveling at a leisurely pace

synonym : sail, voyage, journey

(1) the **cruise** line, (2) adaptive **cruise** control

The family took a **cruise** to the Caribbean for their vacation.

highway

n. a main road, especially one connecting major towns or cities

synonym : road, expressway, freeway

(1) **highway** system, (2) an interstate **highway**

I'm going to take the **highway** to get to my destination faster.

endless

adj. having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount

synonym : infinite, ceaseless, boundless

(1) **endless** possibilities, (2) **endless** hours

He looked out the window at the **endless** stream of people.

row

n. an arrangement of objects or people side by side in a line

synonym : line, sequence, layer

(1) criminal on death **row**, (2) a **row** of cherry trees

He was the leader of the demonstrators and spoke out

against the war in the front **row**.

brake

n. a device used to slow or stop a moving vehicle, typically by applying pressure to the wheels

synonym: damper, restraint, check

(1) apply the **brake**, (2) **brake** pedal

The results of that election put a **brake** on political reform.

accident

n. an unfortunate event, especially one causing damage or injury

synonym: calamity, casualty, chance

(1) cause an **accident**, (2) injury in a car **accident**

The **accident** partially destroyed my vehicle.

traffic

n. the movement of vehicles, people, or goods along a route or through a transport system; the amount of such movement in a particular place or at a particular time

synonym: congestion, jam, flow

(1) **traffic** jam, (2) heavy **traffic**

We decided to take a detour to avoid the construction **traffic** on the main road.

standstill

n. a complete halt in movement or activity, especially due to an obstruction or lack of resources

synonym: halt, deadlock, impasse

(1) transportation **standstill**, (2) economic **standstill**

The traffic accident caused a **standstill** on the highway for several hours.

apparent

adj. able to see or understand easily or clearly

synonym: obvious, clear, conspicuous

(1) heir **apparent**, (2) **apparent** contradiction

This star is **apparent** to the naked eye.

phantom

n. a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception

synonym: ghost, spirit, apparition

(1) a **phantom** company, (2) **phantom** limb pain
The police frantically searched for clues to the **phantom** killer.

jam *n.* a situation in which something becomes stuck because of a dense crowd of people, vehicles, etc.; a preserve of crushed fruit
synonym: difficulty, mess, preserve

(1) a traffic **jam**, (2) a jar of **jam**
The shredder in the print room often has paper **jams**.

emergent *adj.* starting to exist or view, or to become known
synonym: coming, appearing, developing
(1) **emergent** repair of an aorta, (2) an **emergent** republic
Extensive areas of **emergent** plants are usually called marsh.

phenomenon *n.* something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood
synonym: marvel, wonder, splendor
(1) natural **phenomenon**, (2) historical **phenomenon**
A rainbow is a natural **phenomenon**.

spite *n.* feelings of anger and resentment; (in spite of, also despite) a phrase that is used to indicate that something happened or exists even though there is a particular obstacle or difficulty
synonym: malice, ill will, vindictiveness
(1) bear **spite** against him, (2) die in **spite** of intensive care
He did it out of **spite**, to annoy me.

principle *n.* a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works
synonym: rule, creed, code
(1) **principle** of treatment, (2) **principle** in business
Efficiency isn't an essential **principle** here; fairness is.

necessarily

adv. in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise

synonym : inevitable, certainly, automatically

(1) not **necessarily** a problem, (2) **necessarily** true

This accident was something that happened **necessarily**.

stretch

v. to make or be capable of making anything longer or broader without hurting or breaking

synonym : lengthen, prolong, extend

(1) **stretch** along the coast, (2) **stretch** a story

Some herds have been observed to **stretch** hundreds of kilometers.

roadway

n. the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders

synonym : highway, street, thoroughfare

(1) busy **roadway**, (2) **roadway** asphalt

Cyclists are not allowed on the highway **roadway** for safety reasons.

maintain

v. to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true

synonym : preserve, uphold, sustain

(1) **maintain** order, (2) **maintain** good health

I need to **maintain** my car regularly to prevent any major mechanical issues.

consistent

adj. always behaving or happening in the same way, or having the same thoughts, standards, etc.

synonym : coherent, constant, compatible

(1) do on a **consistent** basis, (2) get **consistent** results

You are not **consistent** in your behavior.

dense

adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

synonym : heavy, thick, idiotic

(1) nutrient- **dense** foods, (2) **dense** forests

The entire mountain is covered in **dense** rainforest.

disturbance

n. something that interrupts a settled and peaceful condition or that makes someone feel nervous or worried

synonym : disorder, upset, annoyance

(1) a nervous **disturbance**, (2) a **disturbance** caused by a terrorist

This building construction causes serious **disturbance** to residents.

chain

n. a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle

synonym : series, string, link

(1) **chain** reaction, (2) supply **chain**

The **chain** on my bike broke, leaving me stranded.

slightly

adv. in a small degree or extent; a little

synonym : barely, narrowly, scarcely

(1) increase **slightly**, (2) **slightly** alkaline soils

He moved his body **slightly** to the left.

prop

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

synonym : support, buttress, column

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

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

backward

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

synonym : back, rearward, in reverse

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

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

stop-and-go

adj. characterized by frequent starts and stops, interruptions, or pauses; describing a driving style in which a vehicle repeatedly stops and starts, often due to traffic or road conditions

synonym : intermittent, sporadic, halting

(1) **stop-and-go** traffic, (2) **stop-and-go** motion

Traffic on the highway was a frustrating, **stop-and-go** experience.

density

n. the quality of compactness of a substance

synonym : tightness, viscosity

(1) population **density**, (2) higher pixel **density**

Do you know the **density** of the population in Hong Kong?

individual

n. a single person or thing, as distinct from a group

synonym : person, being, self

(1) a private **individual**, (2) **individual** freedom

As an **individual**, he had the right to make his own decisions and live his life as he saw fit.

lane

n. a narrow road in the countryside; a well-defined track or path for someone such as a swimmer or driver

synonym : roadway, street, artery

(1) **lane** change, (2) first **lane**

We walked along a muddy **lane** to reach the farm.

curve

n. a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape

synonym : bend, arc, turn

(1) learning **curve**, (2) yield **curve**

The **curve** in the road was so sharp that I had to slow down to navigate it safely.

absorb

v. to take in a fluid or other substance gradually

synonym : consume, soak, ingest

(1) **absorb** energy, (2) **absorb** a shock

The sponge **absorbs** water well.

adjustment

n. a small change or movement made to something to improve it and achieve the desired result

synonym: alteration, adaptation, modification

(1) **adjustment** by hand, (2) a fine **adjustment**

He assumed the role of the arbitral **adjustment** of the controversy.

excess

n. an amount or quantity beyond what is acceptable, expected, or reasonable

synonym: exuberance, glut, surplus

(1) lose **excess** weight, (2) an **excess** of exports

The road of **excess** leads to the palace of wisdom.

critic

n. someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.

synonym: pundit, analyst, attacker

(1) art **critic**, (2) severe **critic**

Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their **critics**.

dramatically

adv. in a very impressive manner

synonym: greatly, noticeably, suddenly

(1) he confessed **dramatically**, (2) the cabin pressure fell **dramatically**

Life expectancy has grown **dramatically** this century.

display

v. to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value

synonym: show, exhibit, present

(1) **display** merchandise, (2) **display** artwork

We need to **display** our products in an attractive way to attract customers.

dynamic

adj. having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies)

synonym : energetic, active, vital

(1) a **dynamic** market, (2) **dynamic** person

The sprinter has a **dynamic** way of running.

instability

n. the state of being unstable or uncertain and likely to change suddenly

synonym : imbalance, fluctuation, unstableness

(1) political **instability**, (2) **instability** in currency markets

Lack of sleep and overwork often lead to emotional **instability**.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym : intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

responsible

adj. answerable or accountable for something within one's power, control, or management

synonym : accountable, answerable, liable

(1) **responsible** action, (2) **responsible** for a customer service

She's a **responsible** pet owner who ensures her dog gets enough exercise and a healthy diet.

sand

n. finely granulated particles of rock or mineral material typically found along beaches, deserts, or riverbeds; used in construction, landscaping, and other applications requiring drainage or abrasive action

synonym : grit, dust, powder

(1) **sand** dunes, (2) **sand** castle

The **sand** on the beach was warm and golden.

dun *adj.* having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed
synonym : dark, gloomy, somber
(1) **dun** horse, (2) **dun** him for the unpaid bills
The spider was camouflaged on the **dun-colored** rock, waiting for its next prey.

loop *n.* a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself
synonym : circle, curl, spiral
(1) exit from a **loop**, (2) positive feedback **loop**
Many people in this city use the **loop** railway for transportation.

addition *n.* the act or process of adding something to something else; the process of adding numbers
synonym : accumulation, expansion, addendum
(1) chemical **addition**, (2) **addition** of vectors
In **addition**, private corporations provide healthcare services.

pile *n.* a collection of objects positioned one on top of another; a large sum of something, such as money
synonym : accumulation, heap, stack
(1) a sand **pile**, (2) the height of a **pile**
After the party, they had to clean up **piles** of dirty dishes.

sect *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
synonym : group, faction, cult
(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**
The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

eventually

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

synonym: finally, someday, ultimately

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

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

advance

v. to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way

synonym: progress, boost, come along

(1) **advance** the technology, (2) **advance** a cooperative relationship

Scientific knowledge will **advance** significantly with the power of AI.

collision

n. an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict

synonym: crash, impact, smash

(1) **collision** detection, (2) come into **collision** with my friend

The **collision** of tectonic plates can result in new mountain ranges, such as the Himalayas or the Alps.

strengthen

v. to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective

synonym: reinforce, harden, boost

(1) **strengthen** the immune system, (2) **strengthen** a border patrol

Difficulties **strengthen** the mind, as labor does the body.

accelerate

v. to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly

synonym: speed up, quicken, rev

(1) **accelerate** a chemical reaction, (2) **accelerate** the car

The government tried to **accelerate** the commercialization of this development.

slowdown

n. a reduction or decrease in the rate or pace of something; a delay or interruption in progress

synonym : deceleration, reduction, retardation

(1) **slowdown** in production, (2) abrupt **slowdown**

The economic **slowdown** has affected many businesses in the region.

downstream

adv. in the direction that a stream or river flows; (adjective) in the direction of a stream's current

synonym : lower, below, later

(1) go **downstream** in a boat, (2) **downstream** processing

The boat drifted **downstream** and was carried away by the current.

equip

v. to provide a person or a place with the things that are needed for a particular purpose or activity

synonym : prepare, furnish, provide

(1) **equip** an army, (2) **equip** our children with some special skills

The construction company **equipped** the building with an earthquake-resistant device.

sensor

n. a device that receives a signal or stimulus such as heat, pressure, light, motion, etc. and responds to it in a specific manner

synonym : detector

(1) motion **sensor** lighting, (2) an image **sensor**

This automatic door could no longer be opened due to a **sensor** failure.

counteract

v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

synonym : balance, offset, compensate

(1) **counteract** the effect of poison, (2) **counteract** global warming

Our body's immune system produces antibodies to

counteract disease.

uniform

adj. always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification

synonym : livery, outfit

(1) at a **uniform** temperature, (2) our school **uniform**
This country has a nationally **uniform** culture.

permit

v. to allow for something to happen or be done; (noun) the act of giving a formal, usually written, authorization

synonym : allow, authorize, concede

(1) **permit** application, (2) work **permit**

The teacher will not **permit** any students to leave the classroom early.

automated

adj. carried out by machines or computers to replace or decrease human labor

synonym : computerized, mechanical, laborsaving

(1) **automated** manual transmission, (2) **automated** way

The plant will continue operating through an **automated** system 24 hours a day.

anticipate

v. to expect or predict that something will happen; to tell in advance

synonym : forecast, predict, expect

(1) **anticipate** your kind cooperation, (2) **anticipate** a black future

We **anticipate** heavy snowfall tomorrow.

gradual

adj. happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt

synonym : incremental, gradational, piecemeal

(1) a **gradual** process, (2) a **gradual** change

The country experienced a **gradual** increase in population.

strength

n. the quality or state of being physically, or sometimes mentally, strong

synonym: resilience, power, muscles

(1) **strength** of the economy, (2) muscular **strength**

Health and **strength** are, above all, gold.

experiment

n. the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge

synonym: experimentation, investigation

(1) **experiment** design, (2) series of **experiments**

His **experiments** showed highly positive results.

autonomous

adj. capable of governing or controlling its affairs

synonym: independent, self-governing, self-reliant

(1) development of **autonomous** vehicles, (2) an **autonomous** judiciary

Five of the six provinces will become **autonomous** regions under the new federal system of government.

dampen

v. to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement

synonym: drench, moisten, saturate

(1) **dampen** the sound, (2) **dampen** the enthusiasm

The rain helped **dampen** the flames of the campfire.

planet

n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

synonym: earth, world, globe

(1) **planet** like the Earth, (2) save the **planet**

Mercury is the closest **planet** to the sun.

pollution

n. the introduction of harmful substances or waste into the natural environment that causes adverse change

synonym: corrosion, deterioration, corruption

(1) environmental **pollution**, (2) high levels of air **pollution**

The **pollution** is endangering the local plants and animals.

render

v. to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.

synonym: deliver, give, provide

(1) **render** an assessment, (2) **render** the contract void

The jury must **render** a decision on this complex case.

commute

v. to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work

synonym: travel, journey, trip

(1) **commute** to work, (2) daily **commute**

He had to **commute** two hours each way to get to work.

efficient

adj. performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials

synonym: productive, effective, competent

(1) **efficient** operation, (2) energy- **efficient** appliances

The new washing machine is much more **efficient** than the old one.

stick

v. to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material

synonym: pierce, adhere, stay

(1) **stick** a key in a lock, (2) fire **stick**

You **stick** a bill in the change machine, and the coins pop out.

spiteful

adj. having or showing a desire to harm or annoy others

synonym: vindictive, malicious, hateful

(1) **spiteful** remark, (2) **spiteful** words

She had a **spiteful** grin on her face, relishing in the misery of

others.

unaware

adj. not understanding something or having knowledge or idea of something

synonym: incognizant, clueless, ignorant

(1) entirely **unaware** of the danger, (2) **unaware** of the reality

He was **unaware** of the scrutiny.

accord

n. an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have

synonym: alliance, pact, agreement

(1) **accord** with public opinion, (2) binational **accord**

The organization finally signed a peace **accord**.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. ab___b energy | <i>v.</i> to take in a fluid or other substance gradually |
| 2. res_____le for a customer service | <i>adj.</i> answerable or accountable for something within one's power, control, or management |
| 3. an ex___s of exports | <i>n.</i> an amount or quantity beyond what is acceptable, expected, or reasonable |
| 4. d_n horse | <i>adj.</i> having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed |
| 5. ad_____e a cooperative relationship | <i>v.</i> to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way |
| 6. cause an ac_____nt | <i>n.</i> an unfortunate event, especially one causing damage or injury |
| 7. learning cu___e | <i>n.</i> a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape |
| 8. pe___t application | <i>v.</i> to allow for something to happen or be done; (noun) the act of giving a formal, usually written, authorization |
| 9. adj_____nt by hand | <i>n.</i> a small change or movement made to something to improve it and achieve the desired result |

ANSWERS: 1. absorb, 2. responsible, 3. excess, 4. dun, 5. advance, 6. accident, 7. curve, 8. permit, 9. adjustment

10. economic sta_____ll *n.* a complete halt in movement or activity, especially due to an obstruction or lack of resources
11. st_____th of the economy *n.* the quality or state of being physically, or sometimes mentally, strong
12. historical phe_____on *n.* something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood
13. come into co_____on with my friend *n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict
14. tr_____c jam *n.* the movement of vehicles, people, or goods along a route or through a transport system; the amount of such movement in a particular place or at a particular time
15. motion se____r lighting *n.* a device that receives a signal or stimulus such as heat, pressure, light, motion, etc. and responds to it in a specific manner
16. the height of a p__e *n.* a collection of objects positioned one on top of another; a large sum of something, such as money
17. sl_____wn in production *n.* a reduction or decrease in the rate or pace of something; a delay or interruption in progress
18. save the pl____t *n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

ANSWERS: 10. standstill, 11. strength, 12. phenomenon, 13. collision, 14. traffic, 15. sensor, 16. pile, 17. slowdown, 18. planet

19. dy____c person *adj.* having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies)
20. br__e pedal *n.* a device used to slow or stop a moving vehicle, typically by applying pressure to the wheels
21. work pe____t *v.* to allow for something to happen or be done; (noun) the act of giving a formal, usually written, authorization
22. go dow_____am in a boat *adv.* in the direction that a stream or river flows; (adjective) in the direction of a stream's current
23. ro_____y asphalt *n.* the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders
24. ma_____in good health *v.* to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true
25. s__t beliefs *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
26. co_____on detection *n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict
27. a fine adj_____nt *n.* a small change or movement made to something to improve it and achieve the desired result

ANSWERS: 19. dynamic, 20. brake, 21. permit, 22. downstream, 23. roadway, 24. maintain, 25. sect, 26. collision, 27. adjustment

28. a sand p__e *n.* a collection of objects positioned one on top of another; a large sum of something, such as money
29. str_____en the immune system *v.* to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective
30. dow_____am processing *adv.* in the direction that a stream or river flows; (adjective) in the direction of a stream's current
31. adaptive cr___e control *n.* a voyage on a large ship for pleasure; driving or traveling at a leisurely pace
32. a nervous dis_____ce *n.* something that interrupts a settled and peaceful condition or that makes someone feel nervous or worried
33. nec_____ly true *adv.* in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise
34. re___r the contract void *v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
35. heavy tr_____c *n.* the movement of vehicles, people, or goods along a route or through a transport system; the amount of such movement in a particular place or at a particular time
36. energy-ef_____nt appliances *adj.* performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials

ANSWERS: 28. pile, 29. strengthen, 30. downstream, 31. cruise, 32. disturbance, 33. necessarily, 34. render, 35. traffic, 36. efficient

37. st__k a key in a lock
v. to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material
38. get con_____nt results
adj. always behaving or happening in the same way, or having the same thoughts, standards, etc.
39. walk ba_____rd
adv. at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear
40. ind_____al freedom
n. a single person or thing, as distinct from a group
41. ant_____te a black future
v. to expect or predict that something will happen; to tell in advance
42. injury in a car ac_____nt
n. an unfortunate event, especially one causing damage or injury
43. a dy_____c market
adj. having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies)
44. an em_____nt republic
adj. starting to exist or view, or to become known
45. sto_____go traffic
adj. characterized by frequent starts and stops, interruptions, or pauses; describing a driving style in which a vehicle repeatedly stops and starts, often due to traffic or road conditions
46. not nec_____ly a problem
adv. in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise

ANSWERS: 37. stick, 38. consistent, 39. backward, 40. individual, 41. anticipate, 42. accident, 43. dynamic, 44. emergent, 45. stop-and-go, 46. necessarily

47. emotional p__p *n.* a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something
48. d_n him for the unpaid bills *adj.* having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed
49. exit from a l__p *n.* a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself
50. hi____y system *n.* a main road, especially one connecting major towns or cities
51. series of exp_____nts *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
52. development of aut_____us vehicles *adj.* capable of governing or controlling its affairs
53. sp_____ul remark *adj.* having or showing a desire to harm or annoy others
54. pr_____le of treatment *n.* a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works
55. an image se____r *n.* a device that receives a signal or stimulus such as heat, pressure, light, motion, etc. and responds to it in a specific manner

ANSWERS: 47. prop, 48. dun, 49. loop, 50. highway, 51. experiment, 52. autonomous, 53. spiteful, 54. principle, 55. sensor

56. severe cr___c *n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
57. sto_____go motion *adj.* characterized by frequent starts and stops, interruptions, or pauses; describing a driving style in which a vehicle repeatedly stops and starts, often due to traffic or road conditions
58. a dis_____ce caused by a terrorist *n.* something that interrupts a settled and peaceful condition or that makes someone feel nervous or worried
59. an aut_____us judiciary *adj.* capable of governing or controlling its affairs
60. binational ac___d *n.* an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have
61. l__e change *n.* a narrow road in the countryside; a well-defined track or path for someone such as a swimmer or driver
62. pr_____le in business *n.* a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works
63. environmental po_____on *n.* the introduction of harmful substances or waste into the natural environment that causes adverse change
64. da___n the sound *v.* to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement
65. au_____ed manual transmission *adj.* carried out by machines or computers to replace or decrease human labor

ANSWERS: 56. critic, 57. stop-and-go, 58. disturbance, 59. autonomous, 60. accord, 61. lane, 62. principle, 63. pollution, 64. dampen, 65. automated

66. natural phe_____on *n.* something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood
67. higher pixel de_____y *n.* the quality of compactness of a substance
68. st_____h a story *v.* to make or be capable of making anything longer or broader without hurting or breaking
69. the cabin pressure fell dra_____lly *adv.* in a very impressive manner
70. en_____s hours *adj.* having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount
71. ph_____m limb pain *n.* a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception
72. criminal on death r_w *n.* an arrangement of objects or people side by side in a line
73. he confessed dra_____lly *adv.* in a very impressive manner
74. ad_____on of vectors *n.* the act or process of adding something to something else; the process of adding numbers
75. a traffic j_m *n.* a situation in which something becomes stuck because of a dense crowd of people, vehicles, etc.; a preserve of crushed fruit
76. a gr_____l change *adj.* happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt
77. eve_____ly become obsolete *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on

ANSWERS: 66. phenomenon, 67. density, 68. stretch, 69. dramatically, 70. endless, 71. phantom, 72. row, 73. dramatically, 74. addition, 75. jam, 76. gradual, 77. eventually

78. chemical ad____on *n.* the act or process of adding something to something else; the process of adding numbers
79. a gr____l process *adj.* happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt
80. un____e of the reality *adj.* not understanding something or having knowledge or idea of something
81. entirely un____e of the danger *adj.* not understanding something or having knowledge or idea of something
82. at a un____m temperature *adj.* always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification
83. ch__n reaction *n.* a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle
84. positive feedback l__p *n.* a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself
85. art cr____c *n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
86. di____y merchandise *v.* to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value
87. ap____nt contradiction *adj.* able to see or understand easily or clearly
88. daily co____e *v.* to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work

ANSWERS: 78. addition, 79. gradual, 80. unaware, 81. unaware, 82. uniform, 83. chain, 84. loop, 85. critic, 86. display, 87. apparent, 88. commute

89. s__d castle *n.* finely granulated particles of rock or mineral material typically found along beaches, deserts, or riverbeds; used in construction, landscaping, and other applications requiring drainage or abrasive action
90. abrupt sl_____wn *n.* a reduction or decrease in the rate or pace of something; a delay or interruption in progress
91. bear sp__e against him *n.* feelings of anger and resentment; (in spite of, also despite) a phrase that is used to indicate that something happened or exists even though there is a particular obstacle or difficulty
92. ef_____nt operation *adj.* performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials
93. am_____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
94. da____n the enthusiasm *v.* to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement
95. eq__p our children with some special skills *v.* to provide a person or a place with the things that are needed for a particular purpose or activity
96. our school un_____m *adj.* always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification

ANSWERS: 89. sand, 90. slowdown, 91. spite, 92. efficient, 93. amplify, 94. dampen, 95. equip, 96. uniform

97. acc_____te the car *v.* to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly
98. di_____y artwork *v.* to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value
99. do on a con_____nt basis *adj.* always behaving or happening in the same way, or having the same thoughts, standards, etc.
100. nutrient-de___e foods *adj.* containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
101. ad_____e the technology *v.* to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way
102. population de_____y *n.* the quality of compactness of a substance
103. s__d dunes *n.* finely granulated particles of rock or mineral material typically found along beaches, deserts, or riverbeds; used in construction, landscaping, and other applications requiring drainage or abrasive action
104. high levels of air po_____on *n.* the introduction of harmful substances or waste into the natural environment that causes adverse change
105. fire st__k *v.* to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material

ANSWERS: 97. accelerate, 98. display, 99. consistent, 100. dense, 101. advance, 102. density, 103. sand, 104. pollution, 105. stick

106. ab___b a shock *v.* to take in a fluid or other substance gradually
107. au_____ed way *adj.* carried out by machines or computers to replace or decrease human labor
108. apply the br___e *n.* a device used to slow or stop a moving vehicle, typically by applying pressure to the wheels
109. st_____h along the coast *v.* to make or be capable of making anything longer or broader without hurting or breaking
110. die in sp___e of intensive care *n.* feelings of anger and resentment; (in spite of, also despite) a phrase that is used to indicate that something happened or exists even though there is a particular obstacle or difficulty
111. ins_____ty in currency markets *n.* the state of being unstable or uncertain and likely to change suddenly
112. a r_w of cherry trees *n.* an arrangement of objects or people side by side in a line
113. p__p stick *n.* a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something
114. transportation sta_____ll *n.* a complete halt in movement or activity, especially due to an obstruction or lack of resources
115. ac___d with public opinion *n.* an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have

ANSWERS: 106. absorb, 107. automated, 108. brake, 109. stretch, 110. spite, 111. instability, 112. row, 113. prop, 114. standstill, 115. accord

116. ma_____in order *v.* to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true
117. eve_____ly succeed *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
118. res_____le action *adj.* answerable or accountable for something within one's power, control, or management
119. co_____e to work *v.* to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work
120. a private ind_____al *n.* a single person or thing, as distinct from a group
121. increase sl_____ly *adv.* in a small degree or extent; a little
122. cou_____ct the effect of poison *v.* to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
123. de__e forests *adj.* containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
124. a jar of j_m *n.* a situation in which something becomes stuck because of a dense crowd of people, vehicles, etc.; a preserve of crushed fruit
125. em_____nt repair of an aorta *adj.* starting to exist or view, or to become known
126. secret s__t *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

ANSWERS: 116. maintain, 117. eventually, 118. responsible, 119. commute, 120. individual, 121. slightly, 122. counteract, 123. dense, 124. jam, 125. emergent, 126. sect

127. heir ap_____nt *adj.* able to see or understand easily or clearly
128. muscular st_____th *n.* the quality or state of being physically, or sometimes mentally, strong
129. cou_____ct global warming *v.* to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
130. an interstate hi_____y *n.* a main road, especially one connecting major towns or cities
131. acc_____te a chemical reaction *v.* to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly
132. political ins_____ty *n.* the state of being unstable or uncertain and likely to change suddenly
133. supply ch___n *n.* a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle
134. re___r an assessment *v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
135. first l___e *n.* a narrow road in the countryside; a well-defined track or path for someone such as a swimmer or driver
136. exp_____nt design *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
137. busy ro_____y *n.* the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders
138. str_____en a border patrol *v.* to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective

ANSWERS: 127. apparent, 128. strength, 129. counteract, 130. highway, 131. accelerate, 132. instability, 133. chain, 134. render, 135. lane, 136. experiment, 137. roadway, 138. strengthen

139. the cr___e line *n.* a voyage on a large ship for pleasure; driving or traveling at a leisurely pace
140. en____s possibilities *adj.* having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount
141. a ph____m company *n.* a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception
142. lose ex___s weight *n.* an amount or quantity beyond what is acceptable, expected, or reasonable
143. ba____rd angle *adv.* at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear
144. sp____ul words *adj.* having or showing a desire to harm or annoy others
145. sl____ly alkaline soils *adv.* in a small degree or extent; a little
146. ant_____te your kind cooperation *v.* to expect or predict that something will happen; to tell in advance
147. pl___t like the Earth *n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
148. am____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
149. eq__p an army *v.* to provide a person or a place with the things that are needed for a particular purpose or activity
150. yield cu__e *n.* a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape

ANSWERS: 139. cruise, 140. endless, 141. phantom, 142. excess, 143. backward, 144. spiteful, 145. slightly, 146. anticipate, 147. planet, 148. amplify, 149. equip, 150. curve

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. You might need to _____ this point.
v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
2. The sponge _____ water well.
v. to take in a fluid or other substance gradually
3. The shredder in the print room often has paper _____.
n. a situation in which something becomes stuck because of a dense crowd of people, vehicles, etc.; a preserve of crushed fruit
4. I need to _____ my car regularly to prevent any major mechanical issues.
v. to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true
5. She's a _____ pet owner who ensures her dog gets enough exercise and a healthy diet.
adj. answerable or accountable for something within one's power, control, or management
6. His _____ showed highly positive results.
n. the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
7. The boat drifted _____ and was carried away by the current.
adv. in the direction that a stream or river flows; (adjective) in the direction of a stream's current
8. We walked along a muddy _____ to reach the farm.
n. a narrow road in the countryside; a well-defined track or path for someone such as a swimmer or driver

ANSWERS: 1. amplify, 2. absorbs, 3. jams, 4. maintain, 5. responsible, 6. experiments, 7. downstream, 8. lane

9. The sprinter has a _____ way of running.

adj. having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies)

10. The spider was camouflaged on the _____ rock, waiting for its next prey.

adj. having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed

11. The _____ on the beach was warm and golden.

n. finely granulated particles of rock or mineral material typically found along beaches, deserts, or riverbeds; used in construction, landscaping, and other applications requiring drainage or abrasive action

12. Difficulties _____ the mind, as labor does the body.

v. to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective

13. The results of that election put a _____ on political reform.

n. a device used to slow or stop a moving vehicle, typically by applying pressure to the wheels

14. A rainbow is a natural _____.

n. something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood

15. The road of _____ leads to the palace of wisdom.

n. an amount or quantity beyond what is acceptable, expected, or reasonable

ANSWERS: 9. dynamic, 10. dun-colored, 11. sand, 12. strengthen, 13. brake, 14. phenomenon, 15. excess

16. The _____ in the road was so sharp that I had to slow down to navigate it safely.
- n.* a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape
17. This accident was something that happened _____.
- adv.* in an essential manner; in such a way as could not be otherwise
18. The rain helped _____ the flames of the campfire.
- v.* to make something wet or moist; to reduce the intensity or impact of something, such as a feeling, sound, or movement
19. The jury must _____ a decision on this complex case.
- v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
20. He had to _____ two hours each way to get to work.
- v.* to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work
21. Mercury is the closest _____ to the sun.
- n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
22. The police frantically searched for clues to the _____ killer.
- n.* a ghost or a spirit of a dead person; something existing only in your imagination or perception
23. We need to _____ our products in an attractive way to attract customers.
- v.* to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value

ANSWERS: 16. curve, 17. necessarily, 18. dampen, 19. render, 20. commute, 21. planet, 22. phantom, 23. display

24. He moved his body _____ to the left.

adv. in a small degree or extent; a little

25. He assumed the role of the arbitral _____ of the controversy.

n. a small change or movement made to something to improve it and achieve the desired result

26. The traffic accident caused a _____ on the highway for several hours.

n. a complete halt in movement or activity, especially due to an obstruction or lack of resources

27. He was the leader of the demonstrators and spoke out against the war in the front _____.

n. an arrangement of objects or people side by side in a line

28. The family took a _____ to the Caribbean for their vacation.

n. a voyage on a large ship for pleasure; driving or traveling at a leisurely pace

29. The minority _____ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

30. Cyclists are not allowed on the highway _____ for safety reasons.

n. the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders

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

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

ANSWERS: 24. slightly, 25. adjustment, 26. standstill, 27. row, 28. cruise, 29. sect, 30. roadway, 31. backward

32. The organization finally signed a peace _____.
- n.* an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.;
(verb) allow to have
33. The teacher will not _____ any students to leave the classroom early.
- v.* to allow for something to happen or be done; (noun) the act of giving a formal, usually written, authorization
34. Scientific knowledge will _____ significantly with the power of AI.
- v.* to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way
35. She had a _____ grin on her face, relishing in the misery of others.
- adj.* having or showing a desire to harm or annoy others
36. He did it out of _____ to annoy me.
- n.* feelings of anger and resentment; (in spite of, also despite) a phrase that is used to indicate that something happened or exists even though there is a particular obstacle or difficulty
37. Many people in this city use the _____ railway for transportation.
- n.* a shape like a curve or a circle made by something long and thin, such as a piece of string, that bends round and crosses itself
38. The _____ on my bike broke, leaving me stranded.
- n.* a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle
39. The _____ of tectonic plates can result in new mountain ranges, such as the Himalayas or the Alps.
- n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict

ANSWERS: 32. accord, 33. permit, 34. advance, 35. spiteful, 36. spite, 37. loop, 38. chain, 39. collision

40. The _____ is endangering the local plants and animals.
- n.* the introduction of harmful substances or waste into the natural environment that causes adverse change
41. Do you know the _____ of the population in Hong Kong?
- n.* the quality of compactness of a substance
42. Lack of sleep and overwork often lead to emotional _____.
- n.* the state of being unstable or uncertain and likely to change suddenly
43. We decided to take a detour to avoid the construction _____ on the main road.
- n.* the movement of vehicles, people, or goods along a route or through a transport system; the amount of such movement in a particular place or at a particular time
44. The _____ partially destroyed my vehicle.
- n.* an unfortunate event, especially one causing damage or injury
45. This automatic door could no longer be opened due to a _____ failure.
- n.* a device that receives a signal or stimulus such as heat, pressure, light, motion, etc. and responds to it in a specific manner
46. You _____ a bill in the change machine, and the coins pop out.
- v.* to put something, usually a sharp object, into something; to restrict yourself to doing or using one certain thing and not change; (noun) a thin piece of wood or other material
47. In _____ private corporations provide healthcare services.
- n.* the act or process of adding something to something else; the process of adding numbers

ANSWERS: 40. pollution, 41. density, 42. instability, 43. traffic, 44. accident, 45. sensor, 46. stick, 47. addition,

48. As an _____ he had the right to make his own decisions and live his life as he saw fit.

n. a single person or thing, as distinct from a group

49. Extensive areas of _____ plants are usually called marsh.

adj. starting to exist or view, or to become known

50. Traffic on the highway was a frustrating, _____ experience.

adj. characterized by frequent starts and stops, interruptions, or pauses; describing a driving style in which a vehicle repeatedly stops and starts, often due to traffic or road conditions

51. He was _____ of the scrutiny.

adj. not understanding something or having knowledge or idea of something

52. This star is _____ to the naked eye.

adj. able to see or understand easily or clearly

53. The entire mountain is covered in _____ rainforest.

adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

54. The plant will continue operating through an _____ system 24 hours a day.

adj. carried out by machines or computers to replace or decrease human labor

55. The economic _____ has affected many businesses in the region.

n. a reduction or decrease in the rate or pace of something; a delay or interruption in progress

ANSWERS: 48. individual, 49. emergent, 50. stop-and-go, 51. unaware, 52. apparent, 53. dense, 54. automated, 55. slowdown

56. After the party, they had to clean up _____ of dirty dishes.
n. a collection of objects positioned one on top of another; a large sum of something, such as money
57. This country has a nationally _____ culture.
adj. always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification
58. Efficiency isn't an essential _____ here; fairness is.
n. a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works
59. Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their _____.
n. someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
60. The corporation _____ dominated the entire tobacco business.
adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
61. Life expectancy has grown _____ this century.
adv. in a very impressive manner
62. The construction company _____ the building with an earthquake-resistant device.
v. to provide a person or a place with the things that are needed for a particular purpose or activity
63. We have finally lost our last _____.
n. a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something

ANSWERS: 56. piles, 57. uniform, 58. principle, 59. critics, 60. eventually, 61. dramatically, 62. equipped, 63. prop

64. Five of the six provinces will become _____ regions under the new federal system of government.

adj. capable of governing or controlling its affairs

65. This building construction causes serious _____ to residents.

n. something that interrupts a settled and peaceful condition or that makes someone feel nervous or worried

66. Health and _____ are, above all, gold.

n. the quality or state of being physically, or sometimes mentally, strong

67. Some herds have been observed to _____ hundreds of kilometers.

v. to make or be capable of making anything longer or broader without hurting or breaking

68. The country experienced a _____ increase in population.

adj. happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt

69. Our body's immune system produces antibodies to _____ disease.

v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

70. You are not _____ in your behavior.

adj. always behaving or happening in the same way, or having the same thoughts, standards, etc.

71. He looked out the window at the _____ stream of people.

adj. having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount

72. We _____ heavy snowfall tomorrow.

v. to expect or predict that something will happen; to tell in advance

ANSWERS: 64. autonomous, 65. disturbance, 66. strength, 67. stretch, 68. gradual, 69. counteract, 70. consistent, 71. endless, 72. anticipate

73. The new washing machine is much more _____ than the old one.

adj. performing at the highest level of productivity with the least wasted effort or resources; capable of achieving maximum output with minimum wasted effort, time, or materials

74. The government tried to _____ the commercialization of this development.

v. to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly

75. I'm going to take the _____ to get to my destination faster.

n. a main road, especially one connecting major towns or cities

ANSWERS: 73. efficient, 74. accelerate, 75. highway