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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kelsey Johnson: The problem of light pollution -- and 5 ridiculously easy ways to fix it | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/kelsey_johnson_the_problem_of_light_pollution_and_5_ridiculously_easy_ways_to_fix_it

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

photogenic

adj. having an attractive appearance or quality when photographed; appearing well in photographs or on film
synonym: photographic, camera-friendly, picturesque

(1) **photogenic** face, (2) **photogenic** nature

The actress was extremely **photogenic**, making her a sought-after model for many beauty brands.

illuminating

adj. making something clear or easy to understand; providing light

synonym: enlightening, informative, clarifying

(1) **illuminating** light, (2) an **illuminating** answer

The lecture was **illuminating** and gave me a new perspective on the topic.

catastrophe

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
synonym: disaster, calamity, cataclysm

(1) **catastrophe** risk management, (2) avoid climate **catastrophe**

The lack of funds has resulted in a **catastrophe** for our university system.

astronomer

n. a physicist who studies astronomy

synonym: stargazer, cosmologist, astrophysicist

(1) amateur **astronomer**, (2) solar **astronomer**

This question has fascinated solar **astronomers** for decades.

cliche

n. a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement

synonym: truism, platitude, stereotype

(1) **cliche** plot, (2) age-old **cliche**

Using the same **cliche** phrase in every conversation can take time and effort.

swarm

n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

synonym: horde, hive, throng

(1) a **swarm** of mosquitoes, (2) locust **swarm**

A **swarm** of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.

mosquito

n. a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria

synonym: insect, bug, flea

(1) **mosquito** bite, (2) **mosquito** repellent

A stagnant water area are breeding ground for **mosquitos**.

fleeting

adj. brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

synonym: temporary, brief, transitory

(1) for a **fleeting** moment, (2) **fleeting** opportunity

She savored the **fleeting** happiness she felt during the vacation.

vertigo

n. a feeling of dizziness or disorientation often caused by a disturbance in the inner ear; a sensation or feeling of being unsteady or losing one's balance

synonym: dizziness, lightheadedness, unsteadiness

(1) **vertigo** symptoms, (2) suffer from **vertigo**

The sudden drop on the rollercoaster gave me a wave of **vertigo**.

fathomable

adj. able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth

synonym: understandable, comprehensible, intelligible

(1) **fathomable** explanation, (2) **fathomable** solution

The scientific theories presented in the book were **fathomable** even to non-experts.

insignificant

adj. of little importance, influence, or power

synonym: unimportant, trivial, irrelevant

(1) **insignificant** amount, (2) an **insignificant** mistake

He made me feel small and **insignificant**.

constellation

n. a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people

synonym: asterism, array, pattern

(1) the stars of the Scorpion **constellation**, (2) northern **constellation**

Navigators still use the Little Bear **constellation** at sea.

coincident

adj. happening or operating in the same place or at the same time

synonym: concurrent, accompanying, coextensive

(1) **coincident** indicators, (2) a series of **coincident** events

Coincident with the negotiation, the bank was permitted to open a Beijing branch.

majesty

n. regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness

synonym: grandeur, royalty, eminence

(1) morning **majesty**, (2) **majesty** of nature

The king's **majesty** was apparent in his elegant attire and powerful presence.

unremarkable

adj. ordinary and not particularly interesting
synonym : commonplace, unmemorable, mundane

- (1) completely ordinary and **unremarkable**,
(2) **unremarkable** in looks

He was very busy at work but otherwise led an **unremarkable** life.

featureless

adj. lacking distinctive qualities, characteristics, or features;
plain, unremarkable, or nondescript

synonym : blank, plain, feature-free

- (1) **featureless** landscape, (2) **featureless** interior

The wall was **featureless**, with no patterns or designs to break up its dullness.

smog

n. a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas

synonym : smog, haze, pollution

- (1) **smog** alert, (2) toxic **smog**

The heavy **smog** in the city was causing health issues for the residents.

cosmos

n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system

synonym : universe, macrocosm

- (1) exploration of **cosmos**, (2) origin of the **cosmos**

Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the **cosmos**.

whimsical

adj. unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason

synonym : capricious, impulsive, flighty

- (1) **whimsical** reasons, (2) a **whimsical** person

Much of his painting has a **whimsical** quality.

pollinator

n. an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds

synonym: fertilizer, pollenizer, pollen carrier

(1) **pollinator** species, (2) beneficial **pollinator**

Bees are important **pollinators** for many crops and plants.

unassuming

adj. not arrogant, bold, or forward

synonym: diffident, humble, modest

(1) **unassuming** appearance, (2) an **unassuming** fashion

His **unassuming** manner concealed his ambition.

whelk

n. a type of marine snail with a spiral shell and a large foot used for movement and capturing prey, often used for food or as bait for fishing

(1) **whelk** meat, (2) **whelk** fishery

The **whelk** shells on the beach were a sign of the thriving ecosystem in the area.

brisk

adj. lively and energetic

synonym: energetic, lively, fast-moving

(1) **brisk** argument, (2) **brisk** autumn weather

She walked with a **brisk** pace, eager to reach her destination.

barnacle

n. a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object

synonym: cirripede, shellfish, crustacean

(1) **barnacle** growth, (2) **barnacle** removal

The bottom of the boat was covered in **barnacles**, slowing its speed in the water.

invertebrate

n. a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks

synonym : animal, mollusk, worm

(1) **invertebrate** species, (2) study of **invertebrates**

Many species of marine **invertebrates**, such as corals and sponges, are important components of ocean ecosystems.

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.

snail

n. a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body

synonym : escargot, slug, whelk

(1) **snail** mail, (2) **snail** pace

The gardener found a **snail** slowly making its way through the lettuce patch.

precarious

adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions

synonym : precariousness, instability, uncertainty

(1) **precarious** job, (2) **precarious** financial situation

She had a **precarious** hold on the ladder and was afraid to move.

replenish

v. to fill something that had previously been emptied

synonym : refill, reload, restock

(1) **replenish** a reserve fund, (2) **replenish** my spirit

Please **replenish** my glass with some more wine.

slimy

adj. covered with or having a slippery, viscous coating; repulsively slippery or oozy; containing or resembling slime

synonym : slippery, mucky, mucous

(1) **slimy** substance, (2) **slimy** green algae

The **slimy** texture of the seafood dish made me feel queasy.

unleash

v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

synonym: discharge, free, release

(1) **unleash** a hound, (2) **unleash** her anger

The general was still reluctant to **unleash** his troops in pursuit of an enemy.

cascade

n. a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units

synonym: waterfall, watercourse, step

(1) **cascade** connection, (2) transistor **cascade**

The **cascade** of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.

correlate

v. to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another

synonym: associate, liken, connect

(1) **correlate** closely with the quality, (2) **correlate** to the size

We may frequently **correlate** age with the frequency of disease.

melatonin

n. a hormone that is produced by the pineal gland in the brain and that helps to regulate sleep-wake cycles

synonym: pineal hormone, sleep hormone, chronobiotic

(1) disrupt **melatonin** production, (2) **melatonin** receptor

A **melatonin** supplement can help regulate sleep-wake cycles in people with insomnia.

circadian

adj. relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones

synonym: daily, diurnal, day-to-day

(1) **circadian** clock, (2) **circadian** disruption

Having a consistent sleep schedule is important for maintaining a healthy **circadian** rhythm.

retina

n. the innermost light-sensitive membrane covering the back wall of the eyeball

(1) **retinal** cells, (2) **retina** scanner

Damage to the **retina** may play a role in the development of glaucoma.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

whack

v. to hit someone or something hard or noisily

synonym: hit, strike, bash

(1) **whack** him with a stick, (2) **whack** up the volume

He **whacked** the ball out of the park with his home run.

carcinogenic

adj. capable of causing cancer or promoting tumor growth; cancer-causing

synonym: cancer-causing, cancerous, malignant

(1) **carcinogenic** chemicals, (2) **carcinogenic** air pollution

Long-term exposure to **carcinogenic** materials can result in serious health problems.

windmill

n. a machine that uses wind power to generate mechanical energy or electricity

synonym: wind turbine, aerogenerator

(1) **windmill** blades, (2) **windmill** energy

The countryside was dotted with picturesque **windmills**.

creditor

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

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

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

perpetual

adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted

synonym : enduring, unchanging, incessant

(1) **perpetual** motion machine, (2) **perpetual** struggle

The company employs a **perpetual** inventory system.

twilight

n. the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset

synonym : dusk, sunset, gloaming

(1) **twilight** sky, (2) **twilight** of an era

The sky was a beautiful pink and orange color at **twilight**.

swamp

n. an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation

synonym : marsh, mire, bog

(1) muddy **swamp**, (2) **swamp** tour

The lowland **swamp** was full of dangerous animals and poisonous plants.

exceedingly

adv. to an extreme degree

synonym : enormously, especially, exceptionally

(1) **exceedingly** common, (2) an **exceedingly** difficult book

Fear is **exceedingly** infectious, and children catch it from their elders.

outnumber

v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number

synonym : surpass, exceed

(1) **outnumber** our opponents, (2) **outnumber** males

The number of tourists in the city now **outnumbers** the locals.

intractable

adj. difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate

synonym : obstinate, stubborn, unyielding

(1) **intractable** pain, (2) **intractable** situation

The **intractable** problem defied a solution.

politely

adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others

synonym: courteously, respectfully, graciously

(1) **politely** ask, (2) nodded **politely**

She **politely** declined the invitation to the party, saying she had other plans.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

synonym: contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread

We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

Session 2: Spelling

1. un_____h her anger *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
2. tw_____ht sky *n.* the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset
3. pho_____ic face *adj.* having an attractive appearance or quality when photographed; appearing well in photographs or on film
4. cat_____he risk management *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
5. ill_____ing light *adj.* making something clear or easy to understand; providing light
6. fat_____le explanation *adj.* able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth
7. pre_____us financial situation *adj.* not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions
8. for a fl_____ng moment *adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
9. exploration of co_____s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
10. transistor ca_____e *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units

ANSWERS: 1. unleash, 2. twilight, 3. photogenic, 4. catastrophe, 5. illuminating, 6. fathomable, 7. precarious, 8. fleeting, 9. cosmos, 10. cascade

11. ci_____an disruption *adj.* relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones
12. an exc_____ly difficult book *adv.* to an extreme degree
13. fea_____ss interior *adj.* lacking distinctive qualities, characteristics, or features; plain, unremarkable, or nondescript
14. solar ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
15. br__k autumn weather *adj.* lively and energetic
16. int_____le pain *adj.* difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
17. wi_____ll energy *n.* a machine that uses wind power to generate mechanical energy or electricity
18. wh__k meat *n.* a type of marine snail with a spiral shell and a large foot used for movement and capturing prey, often used for food or as bait for fishing
19. me_____in receptor *n.* a hormone that is produced by the pineal gland in the brain and that helps to regulate sleep-wake cycles
20. po_____e the thread *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

ANSWERS: 11. circadian, 12. exceedingly, 13. featureless, 14. astronomer, 15. brisk, 16. intractable, 17. windmill, 18. whelk, 19. melatonin, 20. pollute

21. inv_____ate species *n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
22. ma_____y of nature *n.* regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness
23. fat_____le solution *adj.* able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth
24. amateur ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
25. un_____h a hound *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
26. age-old cl_____e *n.* a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
27. an ins_____ant mistake *adj.* of little importance, influence, or power
28. morning ma_____y *n.* regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness
29. ci_____an clock *adj.* relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones
30. disrupt me_____in production *n.* a hormone that is produced by the pineal gland in the brain and that helps to regulate sleep-wake cycles
31. mo_____to bite *n.* a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria

ANSWERS: 21. invertebrate, 22. majesty, 23. fathomable, 24. astronomer, 25. unleash, 26. cliché, 27. insignificant, 28. majesty, 29. circadian, 30. melatonin, 31. mosquito

32. fea_____ss landscape *adj.* lacking distinctive qualities, characteristics, or features; plain, unremarkable, or nondescript
33. wi_____ll blades *n.* a machine that uses wind power to generate mechanical energy or electricity
34. bankrupt cr_____or *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
35. unr_____ble in looks *adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting
36. re_____sh my spirit *v.* to fill something that had previously been emptied
37. wh__k up the volume *v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily
38. wh_____al reasons *adj.* unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
39. ou_____er our opponents *v.* to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
40. re_____sh a reserve fund *v.* to fill something that had previously been emptied
41. po_____ly ask *adv.* in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
42. an una_____ng fashion *adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward
43. the cr_____or's claims *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

ANSWERS: 32. featureless, 33. windmill, 34. creditor, 35. unremarkable, 36. replenish, 37. whack, 38. whimsical, 39. outnumber, 40. replenish, 41. politely, 42. unassuming, 43. creditor

44. sl__y green algae *adj.* covered with or having a slippery, viscous coating; repulsively slippery or oozy; containing or resembling slime
45. ba_____le removal *n.* a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object
46. pe_____al motion machine *adj.* continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
47. origin of the co___s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
48. s__g alert *n.* a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas
49. ou_____er males *v.* to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
50. co_____te to the size *v.* to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another
51. muddy sw__p *n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation
52. nodded po_____ly *adv.* in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others

ANSWERS: 44. slimy, 45. barnacle, 46. perpetual, 47. cosmos, 48. smog, 49. outnumber, 50. correlate, 51. swamp, 52. politely

53. car_____nic chemicals *adj.* capable of causing cancer or promoting tumor growth; cancer-causing
54. beneficial pol_____or *n.* an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds
55. sn__l mail *n.* a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
56. mo_____to repellent *n.* a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria
57. ca_____e connection *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
58. co_____te closely with the quality *v.* to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another
59. fl_____ng opportunity *adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
60. sexual pr_____ors *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
61. a series of coi_____nt events *adj.* happening or operating in the same place or at the same time
62. car_____nic air pollution *adj.* capable of causing cancer or promoting tumor growth; cancer-causing
63. re___al cells *n.* the innermost light-sensitive membrane covering the back wall of the eyeball

ANSWERS: 53. carcinogenic, 54. pollinator, 55. snail, 56. mosquito, 57. cascade, 58. correlate, 59. fleeting, 60. predator, 61. coincident, 62. carcinogenic, 63. retina

64. locust sw__m *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
65. avoid climate cat_____he *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
66. exc_____ly common *adv.* to an extreme degree
67. ve_____o symptoms *n.* a feeling of dizziness or disorientation often caused by a disturbance in the inner ear; a sensation or feeling of being unsteady or losing one's balance
68. wh__k him with a stick *v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily
69. northern con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
70. toxic s__g *n.* a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas
71. the stars of the Scorpion
con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
72. ba_____le growth *n.* a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object

ANSWERS: 64. swarm, 65. catastrophe, 66. exceedingly, 67. vertigo, 68. whack, 69. constellation, 70. smog, 71. constellation, 72. barnacle

73. po_____e the air
v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
74. int_____le situation
adj. difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
75. suffer from ve_____o
n. a feeling of dizziness or disorientation often caused by a disturbance in the inner ear; a sensation or feeling of being unsteady or losing one's balance
76. sl__y substance
adj. covered with or having a slippery, viscous coating; repulsively slippery or oozy; containing or resembling slime
77. study of inv_____ates
n. a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
78. pe_____al struggle
adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
79. br__k argument
adj. lively and energetic
80. di_____t a well-ordered condition
v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
81. sn__l pace
n. a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
82. apex pr_____or
n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
83. an ill_____ing answer
adj. making something clear or easy to understand; providing light

ANSWERS: 73. pollute, 74. intractable, 75. vertigo, 76. slimy, 77. invertebrate, 78. perpetual, 79. brisk, 80. disrupt, 81. snail, 82. predator, 83. illuminating

84. sw__p tour *n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation
85. a sw__m of mosquitoes *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
86. wh__k fishery *n.* a type of marine snail with a spiral shell and a large foot used for movement and capturing prey, often used for food or as bait for fishing
87. pho_____ic nature *adj.* having an attractive appearance or quality when photographed; appearing well in photographs or on film
88. pol_____or species *n.* an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds
89. pre_____us job *adj.* not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions
90. completely ordinary and unr_____ble *adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting
91. una_____ng appearance *adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward
92. re___a scanner *n.* the innermost light-sensitive membrane covering the back wall of the eyeball
93. tw_____ht of an era *n.* the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset

ANSWERS: 84. swamp, 85. swarm, 86. whelk, 87. photogenic, 88. pollinator, 89. precarious, 90. unremarkable, 91. unassuming, 92. retina, 93. twilight

94. ins_____ant amount *adj.* of little importance, influence, or power
95. cl___e plot *n.* a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
96. di____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
97. a wh_____al person *adj.* unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
98. coi_____nt indicators *adj.* happening or operating in the same place or at the same time

ANSWERS: 94. insignificant, 95. cliché, 96. disrupt, 97. whimsical, 98. coincident

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The sky was a beautiful pink and orange color at _____.
n. the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset
2. A stagnant water area are breeding ground for _____.
n. a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria
3. Having a consistent sleep schedule is important for maintaining a healthy _____ rhythm.
adj. relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones
4. Many species of marine _____ such as corals and sponges, are important components of ocean ecosystems.
n. a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
5. Using the same _____ phrase in every conversation can take time and effort.
n. a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
6. The _____ problem defied a solution.
adj. difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
7. The general was still reluctant to _____ his troops in pursuit of an enemy.
v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

ANSWERS: 1. twilight, 2. mosquitos, 3. circadian, 4. invertebrates, 5. cliché, 6. intractable, 7. unleash

8. Please _____ my glass with some more wine.
v. to fill something that had previously been emptied
9. He made me feel small and _____.
adj. of little importance, influence, or power
10. She _____ declined the invitation to the party, saying she had other plans.
adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
11. The gardener found a _____ slowly making its way through the lettuce patch.
n. a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
12. Much of his painting has a _____ quality.
adj. unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
13. _____ with the negotiation, the bank was permitted to open a Beijing branch.
adj. happening or operating in the same place or at the same time
14. She walked with a _____ pace, eager to reach her destination.
adj. lively and energetic
15. The _____ of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.
n. a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
16. The lecture was _____ and gave me a new perspective on the topic.
adj. making something clear or easy to understand; providing light

ANSWERS: 8. replenish, 9. insignificant, 10. politely, 11. snail, 12. whimsical, 13. Coincident, 14. brisk, 15. cascade, 16. illuminating

17. The _____ shells on the beach were a sign of the thriving ecosystem in the area.
- n.* a type of marine snail with a spiral shell and a large foot used for movement and capturing prey, often used for food or as bait for fishing
18. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
- n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
19. Navigators still use the Little Bear _____ at sea.
- n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
20. A _____ supplement can help regulate sleep-wake cycles in people with insomnia.
- n.* a hormone that is produced by the pineal gland in the brain and that helps to regulate sleep-wake cycles
21. The sudden drop on the rollercoaster gave me a wave of _____.
- n.* a feeling of dizziness or disorientation often caused by a disturbance in the inner ear; a sensation or feeling of being unsteady or losing one's balance
22. The wall was _____ with no patterns or designs to break up its dullness.
- adj.* lacking distinctive qualities, characteristics, or features; plain, unremarkable, or nondescript
23. Bees are important _____ for many crops and plants.
- n.* an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds

ANSWERS: 17. whelk, 18. predator's, 19. constellation, 20. melatonin, 21. vertigo, 22. featureless, 23. pollinators

24. This question has fascinated solar _____ for decades.

n. a physicist who studies astronomy

25. The company employs a _____ inventory system.

adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted

26. Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the _____.

n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system

27. We may frequently _____ age with the frequency of disease.

v. to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another

28. The heavy _____ in the city was causing health issues for the residents.

n. a type of air pollution that forms a mixture of smoke and fog resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels, industrial activity, and motor vehicle emissions in urban areas

29. The bottom of the boat was covered in _____ slowing its speed in the water.

n. a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object

30. I asked the lawyer to initiate _____ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

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

ANSWERS: 24. astronomers, 25. perpetual, 26. cosmos, 27. correlate, 28. smog, 29. barnacles, 30. creditor

31. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.

- v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

32. A _____ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.

- n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

33. The king's _____ was apparent in his elegant attire and powerful presence.

- n.* regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness

34. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.

- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

35. The _____ texture of the seafood dish made me feel queasy.

- adj.* covered with or having a slippery, viscous coating; repulsively slippery or oozy; containing or resembling slime

36. His _____ manner concealed his ambition.

- adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward

37. The countryside was dotted with picturesque _____.

- n.* a machine that uses wind power to generate mechanical energy or electricity

38. She savored the _____ happiness she felt during the vacation.

- adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

39. He was very busy at work but otherwise led an _____ life.

- adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting

ANSWERS: 31. pollute, 32. swarm, 33. majesty, 34. disrupt, 35. slimy, 36. unassuming, 37. windmills, 38. fleeting, 39. unremarkable

40. The actress was extremely _____ making her a sought-after model for many beauty brands.
adj. having an attractive appearance or quality when photographed; appearing well in photographs or on film
41. The lack of funds has resulted in a _____ for our university system.
n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
42. She had a _____ hold on the ladder and was afraid to move.
adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions
43. Fear is _____ infectious, and children catch it from their elders.
adv. to an extreme degree
44. The lowland _____ was full of dangerous animals and poisonous plants.
n. an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation
45. Damage to the _____ may play a role in the development of glaucoma.
n. the innermost light-sensitive membrane covering the back wall of the eyeball
46. He _____ the ball out of the park with his home run.
v. to hit someone or something hard or noisily
47. The scientific theories presented in the book were _____ even to non-experts.
adj. able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth

ANSWERS: 40. photogenic, 41. catastrophe, 42. precarious, 43. exceedingly, 44. swamp, 45. retina, 46. whacked, 47. fathomable

48. Long-term exposure to _____ materials can result in serious health problems.

adj. capable of causing cancer or promoting tumor growth; cancer-causing

49. The number of tourists in the city now _____ the locals.

v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number

ANSWERS: 48. carcinogenic, 49. outnumber