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Alex Gendler: The myth of Loki and the master builder | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

realm

n. a domain of activity, interest, or knowledge

synonym: domain, empire, kingdom

(1) public **realm**, (2) beyond the **realm** of possibility

Her passions are in the **realm** of real-world political affairs.

tower

n. a structure that is exceptionally high in proportion to its width and either forms part of a building or stands alone

synonym: building, belfry, edifice

(1) a bell **tower**, (2) the **tower** on a cliff

She is a **tower** of strength for our team in trouble.

rainbow

n. an arch of colors in the sky caused by the refraction and dispersion of sunlight through rain

synonym: spectrum, iridescence, prism

(1) marine **rainbow**, (2) **rainbow** after a storm

She was mesmerized by the **rainbow's** colors.

anchor

n. a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability

synonym: mainstay, ballast, backbone

(1) **anchor** bolt, (2) **anchor** weight

The ship dropped **anchor** in the bay.

domain

n. a specific sphere of influence or control; a specific field of knowledge or expertise

synonym : territory, realm, sphere

(1) **domain** of use, (2) a dependent **domain**

The company's **domain** in the market was expanding to new territories.

magnificent

adj. extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed

synonym : splendid, brilliant, exquisite

(1) a **magnificent** plan, (2) a **magnificent** mountain

The **magnificent** scene of the glacier is awe-inspiring.

defend

v. to protect someone or something from attack, criticism, danger, etc.

synonym : protect, guard, support

(1) **defend** my country, (2) **defend** against a threat

International law allows each nation to **defend** itself when its rights and interests are illegally violated.

giant

adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are

synonym : big, gigantic, huge

(1) **giant** trees, (2) **giant** tech company

The **giant** jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.

troll

n. a person who makes inflammatory or off-topic posts on the internet; a supernatural creature often portrayed as a giant or dwarf that lives in isolated areas; (verb) to fish by dragging a baited line through the water behind a boat

synonym : provocateur, antagonist, troublemaker

(1) feed a **troll**, (2) copyright **troll**

He was banned from the online forum for being a **troll** and causing trouble.

despise

v. to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something

synonym : hate, loathe, detest

(1) **despise** a particular food, (2) secretly **despise**

I **despise** injustice and those who perpetrate it.

destroy

v. to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely

synonym : demolish, ruin, obliterate

(1) **destroy** the ecosystem, (2) **destroyed** evidence

The building was **destroyed** in the fire and had to be rebuilt.

foe

n. an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another

synonym : enemy, adversary, opponent

(1) a political **foe**, (2) bitter **foe**

The superhero's arch- **foe** was an evil mastermind who always got away.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym : surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

goddess

n. a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored

synonym : deity, divinity, idol

(1) a **goddess** of beauty, (2) winged **goddess** of victory

The festival was held in honor of the harvest **goddess**.

balk

v. to hesitate or stop abruptly before completing an action, often due to fear, uncertainty, or opposition; to refuse to comply with or agree to something

synonym : hesitate, recoil, shy away

(1) **balk** at extra work, (2) **balk** in fear

After her first attempt to bake a cake failed, she didn't **balk** at trying again.

trickster

n. a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology

synonym: swindler, cheat, deceiver

(1) **trickster** character, (2) cunning **trickster**

The con artist was known as a notorious **trickster** who scammed people out of their money.

concoct

v. to make something, especially food, by mixing or adding different things; to invent a story or plan, especially for a dishonest purpose

synonym: conceive, invent, cook up

(1) **concoct** a conspiracy, (2) **concoct** herbal medicines

They **concocted** a plot to discredit the local politician.

devious

adj. cunning and deceitful; not straightforward; tricky

synonym: cunning, deceitful, tricky

(1) **devious** plot, (2) use **devious** methods

The **devious** plan to cheat on the test was foiled by the teacher.

strict

adj. strongly limiting someone's freedom; allowing no deviation from a standard, rule, belief, etc.

synonym: rigorous, inflexible, relentless

(1) **strict** compliance regime, (2) in **strict** secrecy

Too **strict** a regulation for the private sector will stifle innovation.

convinced

adj. completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion

synonym: confident, positive, indoctrinated

(1) **convinced** of the idea, (2) **convinced** criminal

The public is **convinced** that the prime minister has

committed fraud.

sealed

adj. closed or secured with

synonym : closed, impenetrable

(1) **sealed** orders, (2) **sealed** jar

We packed and shipped the product in **sealed** containers.

solemn

adj. formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor

synonym : serious, grave, somber

(1) **solemn** vow, (2) **solemn** ceremony

The priest led the **solemn** procession through the church.

oath

n. a solemn promise or affirmation, often made in a formal public setting, to do something or adhere to certain principles or beliefs; a formal declaration of one's commitment to a particular course of action, organization, or duty

synonym : pledge, vow, promise

(1) **oath** of allegiance, (2) promise an **oath**

He took an **oath** to uphold the law as a police officer.

swear

v. to make a solemn promise or vow; to use rude or offensive language

synonym : declare, assert, curse

(1) **swear** an oath, (2) **swear** a blue streak

I **swear** I didn't mean to break your vase.

mason

n. a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

synonym : bricklayer, stonemason, masonry worker

(1) **mason** jar, (2) the craft of a **mason**

The accomplished **mason** expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.

nightfall

n. the time of day when the sun has set, also known as dusk or twilight

synonym: dusk, twilight, sundown

(1) early **nightfall**, (2) romantic **nightfall**

It is dangerous to walk alone through the forest after **nightfall**.

obtain

v. to get something, especially by making a great effort

synonym: accept, acquire, receive

(1) **obtain** a license, (2) **obtain** a bid

Where can I **obtain** the application form?

haul

v. to physically drag or pull someone or something with effort

synonym: drag, pull, tug

(1) **haul** on a rope, (2) **haul** truck

They had to **haul** the boat out of the water for repairs.

massive

adj. enormous amount; very heavy and solid

synonym: enormous, giant, immense

(1) **massive** amounts, (2) **massive** stars

The recent economic downturn has resulted in **massive** layoffs.

trench

n. a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

synonym: aqueduct, ditch, channel

(1) deep-sea **trench**, (2) **trench** excavator

A **trench** was being dug alongside the road by workers.

progression

n. the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward

synonym: advancement, development, evolution

(1) **progression** of civilization, (2) **progression** of disease

The company has made great strides in its **progression** toward sustainability.

impenetrable

adj. not able to be passed through, entered, or understood
synonym: impassable, insurmountable, impregnable

(1) **impenetrable** fortress, (2) through an **impenetrable** fog
The jungle was so dense and **impenetrable** that it was almost impossible to find a way through.

horrify

v. to shock or disgust greatly
synonym: shock, dismay, terrify

(1) **horrify** audience, (2) **horrify** victims
The series of terrorist attacks **horrify** the entire nation.

fertility

n. the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants
synonym: richness, pregnancy, productivity

(1) soil **fertility**, (2) **fertility** above replacement
The sperm count is used as an indicator of male **fertility**.

plunge

v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
synonym: dive, drop, thrust

(1) **plunge** into the water, (2) **plunge** a dagger through his heart
The company's profits **plunged** after the recall of their new product.

eternal

adj. being without beginning or end; lasting forever
synonym: endless, everlasting, undying

(1) the hope of **eternal** life, (2) **eternal** quarreling
In every civilization, rulers have tried everything possible to obtain **eternal** life.

wager

n. a bet or gamble, typically involving a sum of money, on the outcome of an event or situation
synonym: bet, stake, gamble

(1) friendly **wager**, (2) make a **wager**
I placed a **wager** with my friend who would win the basketball

game.

suddenly

adv. quickly and unexpectedly

synonym : abruptly, unexpectedly, unawares

(1) **suddenly** attacked by an enemy, (2) die **suddenly**

Who answers **suddenly** knows little.

fellow

adj. someone who has the same job or interests as you, or is in the same class, profession, or situation as you

synonym : buddy, mate, affiliate

(1) junior **fellow**, (2) nice **fellow**

He is the kind of **fellow** who only works for his success.

threaten

v. to utter intentions of injury or punishment against someone

synonym : endanger, terrorize, intimidate

(1) **threaten** a healthy relationship, (2) **threaten** national security

Various artificially induced causes are **threatening** our ecosystem.

imaginable

adj. capable of being imagined

synonym : conceivable, plausible, possible

(1) easily **imaginable**, (2) worst **imaginable** case

This is the only **imaginable** strategy.

retrieve

v. to find or get something back

synonym : recover, fetch, regain

(1) **retrieve** the lost wallet, (2) send and **retrieve** e-mail

She **retrieved** the book from the shelf.

mare

n. an adult female horse, specifically used to distinguish adult female horses from their male counterparts, which are called "stallions" or "geldings"; nightmare (= a distressing or frightening dream)

synonym : female horse

(1) well-trained **mare**, (2) the **mare's** owner

They decided to breed their prized stallion with a magnificent Arabian **mare**.

ignore

v. to intentionally not listen or pay attention to

synonym: neglect, disregard, shun

(1) **ignore** her advice, (2) **ignore** a ban

Since independence, the area has been completely **ignored**.

rein

n. a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control

synonym: strap, harness, headstall

(1) tight **rein**, (2) **rein** in costs

The new driver struggled to keep a firm grip on the **rein** as the horse bolted.

furious

adj. extremely angry; full of rage

synonym: angry, rageful, livid

(1) **furious** anger, (2) a **furious** sea

The coach was **furious** with the players for their lack of effort during the game.

confront

v. to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person

synonym: engage, encounter, contend

(1) **confront** a global warming, (2) **confront** the issue

He finally decided to **confront** problems directly.

mannered

adj. behaving artificially or exaggeratedly, often to appear more sophisticated or cultured than one is; marked by artificiality or affected behavior

synonym: affected, artificial, pretentious

(1) **mannered** conversation, (2) **mannered** tone

Her overly **mannered** behavior made her seem insincere and artificial.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym : frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

midst

n. the middle part of people or things

synonym : middle, core, bosom

(1) in the **midst** of the crowd, (2) in the **midst** of a scandal

He remained serene in the **midst** of turbulence.

disregard

v. to pay no attention to or to ignore someone or something

synonym : ignore, pay no attention to, overlook

(1) **disregard** for human rights, (2) **disregard** the rules

She **disregarded** all the warnings and proceeded with her dangerous plan.

mighty

adj. very large, powerful, or strong

synonym : potent, powerful, robust

(1) **mighty** works, (2) struck a **mighty** blow

Only the **mighty** God has the power to brighten this dark land.

celebrated

adj. renowned for possessing admirable attributes

synonym : acclaimed, notable, prominent

(1) **celebrated** artist, (2) **celebrated** paper

Three **celebrated** tenors performed during the president's inauguration.

victory

n. success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won

synonym : win, triumph, success

(1) **victory** in the law court, (2) **victory** over terrorism

We are optimistic about our final **victory**.

sever

v. to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly

synonym: cut apart, separate, detach

(1) **sever** a rope, (2) **sever** a positive relationship

He **severed** a branch from a tree quickly.

foal

n. a young horse, typically under one year of age

(1) newborn **foal**, (2) train a **foal**

The mare gave birth to a healthy **foal** during the night.

steed

n. a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle

synonym: horse, mount, charger

(1) a matchless **steed**, (2) black **steed**

The knight rode his trusty **steed** into battle.

mount

v. to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone

synonym: climb, increase, get on

(1) **mount** a hill, (2) **mount** a counterattack

They **mounted** pictures on the paper in preparation for the birthday card.

outrun

v. to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit

synonym: outpace, outrank, outdistance

(1) **outrun** competitors, (2) **outrun** the cops

I'll need to **outrun** the rainstorm to make it home without getting soaked.

prefer

v. to like, choose, or want one thing or person better than another

synonym : choose, like, favor

(1) **prefer** physics to chemistry, (2) **prefer** a window seat
The birds **prefer** open water areas with reeds around them.

discuss

v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic

synonym : talk about, converse, debate

(1) **discuss** options, (2) **discuss** solutions

We need to **discuss** the next steps for the project during our meeting tomorrow.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
2. ob____n a bid *v.* to get something, especially by making a great effort
3. tr____h excavator *n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water
4. an____r bolt *n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability
5. mo__t a counterattack *v.* to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
6. re____ve the lost wallet *v.* to find or get something back
7. h__l on a rope *v.* to physically drag or pull someone or something with effort
8. tr____er character *n.* a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology
9. pr____r a window seat *v.* to like, choose, or want one thing or person better than another

ANSWERS: 1. terrifying, 2. obtain, 3. trench, 4. anchor, 5. mount, 6. retrieve, 7. haul, 8. trickster, 9. prefer

10. early ni_____ll
n. the time of day when the sun has set, also known as dusk or twilight
11. in the mi__t of a scandal
n. the middle part of people or things
12. di_____s options
v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
13. gi__t trees
adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
14. ma_____ed tone
adj. behaving artificially or exaggeratedly, often to appear more sophisticated or cultured than one is; marked by artificiality or affected behavior
15. ho_____y audience
v. to shock or disgust greatly
16. so_____n ceremony
adj. formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor
17. di_____s solutions
v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
18. se__r a rope
v. to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly
19. in the mi__t of the crowd
n. the middle part of people or things
20. de_____s plot
adj. cunning and deceitful; not straightforward; tricky

ANSWERS: 10. nightfall, 11. midst, 12. discuss, 13. giant, 14. mannered, 15. horrify, 16. solemn, 17. discuss, 18. sever, 19. midst, 20. devious

21. h__l truck *v.* to physically drag or pull someone or something with effort
22. a fu____s sea *adj.* extremely angry; full of rage
23. gi__t tech company *adj.* enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
24. th____en a healthy relationship *v.* to utter intentions of injury or punishment against someone
25. pl___e into the water *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
26. pr___r physics to chemistry *v.* to like, choose, or want one thing or person better than another
27. bitter f_e *n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
28. o__h of allegiance *n.* a solemn promise or affirmation, often made in a formal public setting, to do something or adhere to certain principles or beliefs; a formal declaration of one's commitment to a particular course of action, organization, or duty
29. make a wa__r *n.* a bet or gamble, typically involving a sum of money, on the outcome of an event or situation
30. public re__m *n.* a domain of activity, interest, or knowledge
31. the craft of a ma__n *n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

ANSWERS: 21. haul, 22. furious, 23. giant, 24. threaten, 25. plunge, 26. prefer, 27. foe, 28. oath, 29. wager, 30. realm, 31. mason

32. ig___e a ban *v.* to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
33. th_____en national security *v.* to utter intentions of injury or punishment against someone
34. a matchless st__d *n.* a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle
35. ra_____w after a storm *n.* an arch of colors in the sky caused by the refraction and dispersion of sunlight through rain
36. die su_____ly *adv.* quickly and unexpectedly
37. pl___e a dagger through his heart *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
38. se___d orders *adj.* closed or secured with
39. newborn f__l *n.* a young horse, typically under one year of age
40. friendly wa__r *n.* a bet or gamble, typically involving a sum of money, on the outcome of an event or situation
41. train a f__l *n.* a young horse, typically under one year of age
42. ob___n a license *v.* to get something, especially by making a great effort
43. ou___n competitors *v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit

ANSWERS: 32. ignore, 33. threaten, 34. steed, 35. rainbow, 36. suddenly, 37. plunge, 38. sealed, 39. foal, 40. wager, 41. foal, 42. obtain, 43. outrun

54. so___n vow *adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor
55. ig___e her advice *v.* to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
56. fu____s anger *adj.* extremely angry; full of rage
57. beyond the re__m of possibility *n.* a domain of activity, interest, or knowledge
58. romantic ni_____ll *n.* the time of day when the sun has set, also known as dusk or twilight
59. pro_____on of civilization *n.* the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward
60. co_____ed of the idea *adj.* completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion
61. b__k at extra work *v.* to hesitate or stop abruptly before completing an action, often due to fear, uncertainty, or opposition; to refuse to comply with or agree to something
62. winged go____s of victory *n.* a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored
63. through an imp_____ble fog *adj.* not able to be passed through, entered, or understood
64. use de____s methods *adj.* cunning and deceitful; not straightforward; tricky

ANSWERS: 54. solemn, 55. ignore, 56. furious, 57. realm, 58. nightfall, 59. progression, 60. convinced, 61. balk, 62. goddess, 63. impenetrable, 64. devious

65. marine ra____w *n.* an arch of colors in the sky caused by the refraction and dispersion of sunlight through rain
66. fe_____ty above replacement *n.* the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants
67. de_____y the ecosystem *v.* to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely
68. mo__t a hill *v.* to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
69. ma__n jar *n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete
70. ma_____e amounts *adj.* enormous amount; very heavy and solid
71. sw__r a blue streak *v.* to make a solemn promise or vow; to use rude or offensive language
72. a go_____s of beauty *n.* a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored
73. cunning tr_____er *n.* a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology
74. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
75. a mag_____nt plan *adj.* extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed

ANSWERS: 65. rainbow, 66. fertility, 67. destroy, 68. mount, 69. mason, 70. massive, 71. swear, 72. goddess, 73. trickster, 74. astonishing, 75. magnificent

76. r__n in costs *n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control
77. black st__d *n.* a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle
78. the hope of et_____l life *adj.* being without beginning or end; lasting forever
79. copyright tr__l *n.* a person who makes inflammatory or off-topic posts on the internet; a supernatural creature often portrayed as a giant or dwarf that lives in isolated areas; (verb) to fish by dragging a baited line through the water behind a boat
80. de___d against a threat *v.* to protect someone or something from attack, criticism, danger, etc.
81. junior fe___w *adj.* someone who has the same job or interests as you, or is in the same class, profession, or situation as you
82. soil fe_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants
83. do___n of use *n.* a specific sphere of influence or control; a specific field of knowledge or expertise

ANSWERS: 76. rein, 77. steed, 78. eternal, 79. troll, 80. defend, 81. fellow, 82. fertility, 83. domain

84. pro_____on of disease *n.* the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward
85. de_____yed evidence *v.* to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely
86. a dependent do_____n *n.* a specific sphere of influence or control; a specific field of knowledge or expertise
87. well-trained m____e *n.* an adult female horse, specifically used to distinguish adult female horses from their male counterparts, which are called "stallions" or "geldings"; nightmare (= a distressing or frightening dream)
88. vi_____y in the law court *n.* success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won
89. cel_____ed artist *adj.* renowned for possessing admirable attributes
90. the to____r on a cliff *n.* a structure that is exceptionally high in proportion to its width and either forms part of a building or stands alone
91. vi_____y over terrorism *n.* success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won
92. sw____r an oath *v.* to make a solemn promise or vow; to use rude or offensive language
93. se____r a positive relationship *v.* to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly

ANSWERS: 84. progression, 85. destroy, 86. domain, 87. mare, 88. victory, 89. celebrated, 90. tower, 91. victory, 92. swear, 93. sever

94. cel_____ed paper *adj.* renowned for possessing admirable attributes
95. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
96. secretly de_____e *v.* to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something
97. struck a mi____y blow *adj.* very large, powerful, or strong
98. co_____nt a global warming *v.* to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person
99. worst ima_____le case *adj.* capable of being imagined
100. co_____ed criminal *adj.* completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion
101. di_____rd for human rights *v.* to pay no attention to or to ignore someone or something
102. mi____y works *adj.* very large, powerful, or strong
103. co_____nt the issue *v.* to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person
104. easily ima_____le *adj.* capable of being imagined
105. de_____e a particular food *v.* to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something
106. an____r weight *n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability

ANSWERS: 94. celebrated, 95. terrifying, 96. despise, 97. mighty, 98. confront, 99. imaginable, 100. convinced, 101. disregard, 102. mighty, 103. confront, 104. imaginable, 105. despise, 106. anchor

107. a mag_____nt mountain *adj.* extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed
108. su_____ly attacked by an enemy *adv.* quickly and unexpectedly
109. the m__e's owner *n.* an adult female horse, specifically used to distinguish adult female horses from their male counterparts, which are called "stallions" or "geldings"; nightmare (= a distressing or frightening dream)
110. a bell to__r *n.* a structure that is exceptionally high in proportion to its width and either forms part of a building or stands alone
111. tight r__n *n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control
112. se___d jar *adj.* closed or secured with
113. di_____rd the rules *v.* to pay no attention to or to ignore someone or something
114. co_____t a conspiracy *v.* to make something, especially food, by mixing or adding different things; to invent a story or plan, especially for a dishonest purpose
115. ou___n the cops *v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit

ANSWERS: 107. magnificent, 108. suddenly, 109. mare, 110. tower, 111. rein, 112. sealed, 113. disregard, 114. concoct, 115. outrun

116. in st___t secrecy *adj.* strongly limiting someone's freedom; allowing no deviation from a standard, rule, belief, etc.
117. a political f_e *n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
118. b__k in fear *v.* to hesitate or stop abruptly before completing an action, often due to fear, uncertainty, or opposition; to refuse to comply with or agree to something
119. promise an o__h *n.* a solemn promise or affirmation, often made in a formal public setting, to do something or adhere to certain principles or beliefs; a formal declaration of one's commitment to a particular course of action, organization, or duty
120. nice fe___w *adj.* someone who has the same job or interests as you, or is in the same class, profession, or situation as you
121. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
122. de___d my country *v.* to protect someone or something from attack, criticism, danger, etc.

ANSWERS: 116. strict, 117. foe, 118. balk, 119. oath, 120. fellow, 121. astonishing, 122. defend

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The new driver struggled to keep a firm grip on the _____ as the horse bolted.
n. a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control
2. International law allows each nation to _____ itself when its rights and interests are illegally violated.
v. to protect someone or something from attack, criticism, danger, etc.
3. I placed a _____ with my friend who would win the basketball game.
n. a bet or gamble, typically involving a sum of money, on the outcome of an event or situation
4. The _____ plan to cheat on the test was foiled by the teacher.
adj. cunning and deceitful; not straightforward; tricky
5. We packed and shipped the product in _____ containers.
adj. closed or secured with
6. The coach was _____ with the players for their lack of effort during the game.
adj. extremely angry; full of rage
7. The accomplished _____ expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.
n. a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete
8. The ship dropped _____ in the bay.
n. a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability

ANSWERS: 1. rein, 2. defend, 3. wager, 4. devious, 5. sealed, 6. furious, 7. mason, 8. anchor

9. Three _____ tenors performed during the president's inauguration.
adj. renowned for possessing admirable attributes
10. Since independence, the area has been completely _____.
v. to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
11. She was mesmerized by the _____ colors.
n. an arch of colors in the sky caused by the refraction and dispersion of sunlight through rain
12. I'll need to _____ the rainstorm to make it home without getting soaked.
v. to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit
13. Where can I _____ the application form?
v. to get something, especially by making a great effort
14. They decided to breed their prized stallion with a magnificent Arabian _____.
n. an adult female horse, specifically used to distinguish adult female horses from their male counterparts, which are called "stallions" or "geldings"; nightmare (= a distressing or frightening dream)
15. The recent economic downturn has resulted in _____ layoffs.
adj. enormous amount; very heavy and solid
16. The company has made great strides in its _____ toward sustainability.
n. the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward

ANSWERS: 9. celebrated, 10. ignored, 11. rainbow's, 12. outrun, 13. obtain, 14. mare, 15. massive, 16. progression

17. He remained serene in the _____ of turbulence.
n. the middle part of people or things
18. The mare gave birth to a healthy _____ during the night.
n. a young horse, typically under one year of age
19. I _____ I didn't mean to break your vase.
v. to make a solemn promise or vow; to use rude or offensive language
20. The festival was held in honor of the harvest _____.
n. a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored
21. In every civilization, rulers have tried everything possible to obtain _____ life.
adj. being without beginning or end; lasting forever
22. The building was _____ in the fire and had to be rebuilt.
v. to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely
23. The con artist was known as a notorious _____ who scammed people out of their money.
n. a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology
24. He finally decided to _____ problems directly.
v. to face, meet or deal with a problem or difficult situation or person
25. We are optimistic about our final _____.
n. success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won

ANSWERS: 17. midst, 18. foal, 19. swear, 20. goddess, 21. eternal, 22. destroyed, 23. trickster, 24. confront, 25. victory

26. Various artificially induced causes are _____ our ecosystem.
- v. to utter intentions of injury or punishment against someone
27. She _____ all the warnings and proceeded with her dangerous plan.
- v. to pay no attention to or to ignore someone or something
28. The knight rode his trusty _____ into battle.
- n. a horse, especially a riding horse or one used in battle
29. The superhero's arch-____ was an evil mastermind who always got away.
- n. an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
30. They _____ a plot to discredit the local politician.
- v. to make something, especially food, by mixing or adding different things; to invent a story or plan, especially for a dishonest purpose
31. They _____ pictures on the paper in preparation for the birthday card.
- v. to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
32. They had to _____ the boat out of the water for repairs.
- v. to physically drag or pull someone or something with effort
33. He took an _____ to uphold the law as a police officer.
- n. a solemn promise or affirmation, often made in a formal public setting, to do something or adhere to certain principles or beliefs; a formal declaration of one's commitment to a particular course of action, organization, or duty

ANSWERS: 26. threatening, 27. disregarded, 28. steed, 29. foe, 30. concocted, 31. mounted, 32. haul, 33. oath

34. We need to _____ the next steps for the project during our meeting tomorrow.
v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
35. Her passions are in the _____ of real-world political affairs.
n. a domain of activity, interest, or knowledge
36. The company's profits _____ after the recall of their new product.
v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
37. Only the _____ God has the power to brighten this dark land.
adj. very large, powerful, or strong
38. This is the only _____ strategy.
adj. capable of being imagined
39. She _____ the book from the shelf.
v. to find or get something back
40. Her overly _____ behavior made her seem insincere and artificial.
adj. behaving artificially or exaggeratedly, often to appear more sophisticated or cultured than one is; marked by artificiality or affected behavior
41. He was banned from the online forum for being a _____ and causing trouble.
n. a person who makes inflammatory or off-topic posts on the internet; a supernatural creature often portrayed as a giant or dwarf that lives in isolated areas; (verb) to fish by dragging a baited line through the water behind a boat

ANSWERS: 34. discuss, 35. realm, 36. plunged, 37. mighty, 38. imaginable, 39. retrieved, 40. mannered, 41. troll

42. Too _____ a regulation for the private sector will stifle innovation.

adj. strongly limiting someone's freedom; allowing no deviation from a standard, rule, belief, etc.

43. The company's _____ in the market was expanding to new territories.

n. a specific sphere of influence or control; a specific field of knowledge or expertise

44. The series of terrorist attacks _____ the entire nation.

v. to shock or disgust greatly

45. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.

adj. very frightening or intimidating

46. He is the kind of _____ who only works for his success.

adj. someone who has the same job or interests as you, or is in the same class, profession, or situation as you

47. He _____ a branch from a tree quickly.

v. to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly

48. The priest led the _____ procession through the church.

adj. formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor

49. Who answers _____ knows little.

adv. quickly and unexpectedly

ANSWERS: 42. strict, 43. domain, 44. horrify, 45. terrifying, 46. fellow, 47. severed, 48. solemn, 49. suddenly

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

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

51. After her first attempt to bake a cake failed, she didn't _____ at trying again.

v. to hesitate or stop abruptly before completing an action, often due to fear, uncertainty, or opposition; to refuse to comply with or agree to something

52. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

53. It is dangerous to walk alone through the forest after _____.

n. the time of day when the sun has set, also known as dusk or twilight

54. A _____ was being dug alongside the road by workers.

n. a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

55. The sperm count is used as an indicator of male _____.

n. the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants

56. The public is _____ that the prime minister has committed fraud.

adj. completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion

57. The _____ jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.

adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are

ANSWERS: 50. impenetrable, 51. balk, 52. astonishing, 53. nightfall, 54. trench, 55. fertility, 56. convinced, 57. giant

58. The birds _____ open water areas with reeds around them.

v. to like, choose, or want one thing or person better than another

59. I _____ injustice and those who perpetrate it.

v. to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something

60. The _____ scene of the glacier is awe-inspiring.

adj. extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed

61. She is a _____ of strength for our team in trouble.

n. a structure that is exceptionally high in proportion to its width and either forms part of a building or stands alone

ANSWERS: 58. prefer, 59. despise, 60. magnificent, 61. tower