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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Sinan Aral: How we can protect truth in the age of misinformation | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

tweet

n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym: peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**

We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

infiltrate

v. to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly

synonym: penetrate, sneak in, invade

(1) **infiltrate** the bloodstream, (2) **infiltrate** a community

The spy was able to **infiltrate** the enemy's headquarters undetected.

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.

seize

v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

synonym : grab, grasp, capture

(1) **seize** a person's property, (2) **seize** the day

He has the superpower to **seize** a business opportunity.

sentimental

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

synonym : bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage

Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

indict

v. to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them

synonym : accuse, charge, prosecute

(1) **indict** a suspect, (2) **indict** him of injuries

The FBI worked tirelessly to gather enough evidence to **indict** the corrupt politician.

defraud

v. to cheat or deceive someone to gain a financial or personal advantage; to violate someone's trust for personal gain

synonym : cheat, swindle, deceive

(1) **defraud** the investors, (2) **defraud** the government

The accused was charged with attempting to **defraud** his elderly neighbor out of her life savings.

meddle

v. to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own

synonym : interfere, intrude, tamper

(1) **meddle** in relationships, (2) **meddle** with the evidence

She always tries to **meddle** in other people's affairs, and it's starting to get annoying.

shadowy

adj. dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain

synonym : dim, dark, obscure

(1) **shadowy** doorway, (2) **shadowy** past

The **shadowy** figure in the corner of the room made me uneasy.

misinformation

n. information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately

synonym : falsity, misreport, misstatement

(1) **misinformation** about a vaccine, (2) combat **misinformation** on social media

The government called for caution against pseudoscientific **misinformation** about vaccines.

sow

v. to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion

synonym : plant, scatter, seed

(1) **sow** wheat in a field, (2) **sow** discord

She carefully **sowed** the seeds in the garden.

discord

n. lack of agreement or harmony between people or things; a disagreement or dispute; a harsh, unpleasant sound or noise

synonym : disharmony, disagreement, strife

(1) in **discord** with my friend, (2) **discord** between team members

Political **discord** has led to a lot of tension at family gatherings lately.

entangle

v. to become twisted or knotted together, especially in a way that makes it difficult to separate them; to involve in something complicated or difficult to escape

synonym : ensnare, entrap, involve

(1) **entangle** in wires, (2) emotionally **entangle**

The vines of the plant **entangled** themselves around the trellis.

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.

diffuse

adj. spread out widely; not concentrated in one place

synonym: spread, scatter

(1) **diffuse** bleeding, (2) **diffuse** cloud

Direct lighting is preferable to **diffuse** lighting when reading.

spreader

n. a person or thing that spreads something, such as a disease, rumor, or substance

synonym: distributor, carrier, transmitter

(1) fertilizer **spreader**, (2) **spreader** of germs

The person who attended the party while having COVID-19 became a virus **spreader**.

devise

v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

synonym: create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

disgust

n. a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval

synonym: nauseate, hate, dislike

(1) public **disgust**, (2) show **disgust** at his actions

He was filled with **disgust** and fear for the threat of war.

corroborate

v. to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony

synonym: confirm, substantiate, authenticate

(1) **corroborate** evidence, (2) **corroborate** story

The eyewitness testimony **corroborated** the suspect's alibi.

falsify

v. to alter or manipulate information, data, or evidence to deceive or mislead; to prove to be false or incorrect

synonym: fudge, distort, manipulate

(1) **falsify** data, (2) **falsify** documents

The scientist was caught attempting to **falsify** the results of the study.

abdicate

v. to give up, renounce, or relinquish a throne, right, or responsibility

synonym: relinquish, renounce, abandon

(1) **abdicate** his duties, (2) **abdicate** from the crown

The king **abdicated** his throne in favor of his son.

adversary

n. a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent

synonym: opponent, enemy, foe

(1) **adversary** team, (2) political **adversary**

The boxer's toughest **adversary** was his fear of losing.

machine-learning

n. the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data

(1) **machine-learning** method, (2) **machine-learning** processor

Many software engineers are developing applications to build **machine-learning** algorithms more quickly.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and

a strong work ethic.

intern

v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

synonym : apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

punchy

adj. having a powerful impact; strongly and vividly expressed; of or relating to writing or speech that is memorable or attention-grabbing

synonym : dazed, groggy, disoriented

(1) **punchy** dialogue, (2) **punchy** guitar riffs

The advertisement's **punchy** slogan stayed in the viewer's mind long after it ended.

videography

n. the art or practice of filming or recording videos, often for commercial or artistic purposes

synonym : filmmaking, cinematography

(1) **videography** equipment, (2) **videography** skills

The quality of **videography** in this film is exceptional.

stuntman

n. a professional performer who performs dangerous and often physically demanding tasks or stunts in place of an actor in a film or television show

synonym : stunt double, body double, stand-in

(1) **stuntman** performance, (2) skilled **stuntman**

The professional **stuntman** jumped from the burning building and landed safely on the airbag below.

choppy

adj. having a rough, uneven, or irregular motion or flow; characterized by short or sudden movements or changes in direction

synonym : rough, uneven, occasional

(1) **choppy** market conditions, (2) **choppy** haircut

The **choppy** waters made it difficult for the fisherman to navigate his boat safely.

revoke

v. to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted

synonym: annul, cancel, repeal

(1) **revoke** a license, (2) **revoke** a contract

The company decided to **revoke** their offer of employment after discovering the applicant's criminal background.

reinstate

v. to restore or bring back to a previous position, status, or condition; to return someone to a former job or position which they previously held

synonym: restore, bring back, revive

(1) **reinstate** a policy, (2) **reinstate** a team member

The boss decided to **reinstate** the recently fired employee after realizing their mistake.

garner

v. to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention

synonym: acquire, collect, obtain

(1) **garner** good reviews, (2) **garner** attention

He used his charm and charisma to **garner** support for his campaign.

eyeball

n. the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen

(1) **eyeball** motion, (2) redness of the **eyeball**

Increased **eyeball** pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.

depress

v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active

synonym: sadden, discourage, deflate

(1) **depress** their spirits, (2) **depress** crop prices

The economic recession **depressed** the housing market.

authoritarian

adj. characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights

synonym : dictatorial, totalitarian, despotic

(1) **authoritarian** practice, (2) **authoritarian** government
The **authoritarian** leadership style left no room for dissent or alternative opinions.

repress

v. to restrain or control by force; to suppress feelings or memories

synonym : suppress, control, curb

(1) cannot **repress** laughter, (2) **repress** gene expression
He **repressed** the memories of his traumatic childhood.

kimono

n. a traditional Japanese garment worn by women, consisting of a T-shaped robe with wide sleeves and a wraparound obi sash

synonym : robe, gown, dress

(1) silk **kimono**, (2) wear a **kimono**
She looked stunning in her traditional Japanese **kimono** dress.

paradox

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

synonym : incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap
There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

peril

n. serious and great danger or risk

synonym : hazard, danger, threat

(1) the **peril** of the sea, (2) environmental **peril**
Due to hunger, the lives of the refugees were in **peril**.

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.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym : buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

teeter

v. to move or balance unsteadily, often in a way that suggests instability or danger; to waver or vacillate between two positions, opinions, or attitudes

synonym : wobble, totter, sway

(1) **teeter** on the edge, (2) **teeter** on the brink

The drunk man tried to **teeter** along the narrow bridge, almost falling into the river.

brink

n. the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

synonym : edge, verge, threshold

(1) **brink** of war, (2) on the **brink**

We were on the **brink** of a financial crisis.

vigilant

adj. keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties

synonym : watchful, attentive, alert

(1) **vigilant** watch, (2) **vigilant** about hand-washing

The guards had to remain **vigilant** to ensure the safety of the high-security facility.

Session 2: Spelling

1. me___e with the evidence v. to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
2. 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
3. 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
4. me___e in relationships v. to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
5. re___e a contract v. to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted
6. mac_____ing method n. the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data
7. inf_____te a community v. to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly

ANSWERS: 1. meddle, 2. disrupt, 3. dampen, 4. meddle, 5. revoke, 6. machine-learning, 7. infiltrate

8. br__k of war *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
9. hu____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
10. ga___r attention *v.* to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention
11. ga___r good reviews *v.* to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention
12. skilled st____an *n.* a professional performer who performs dangerous and often physically demanding tasks or stunts in place of an actor in a film or television show
13. environmental det____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
14. aut____ian government *adj.* characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights
15. de___e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
16. st____an performance *n.* a professional performer who performs dangerous and often physically demanding tasks or stunts in place of an actor in a film or television show
17. his latest tw__ts *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

ANSWERS: 8. brink, 9. humming, 10. garner, 11. garner, 12. stuntman, 13. determinant, 14. authoritarian, 15. devise, 16. stuntman, 17. tweet

18. de____s their spirits *v.* to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active
19. ab____te from the crown *v.* to give up, renounce, or relinquish a throne, right, or responsibility
20. se__e the day *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
21. environmental pe__l *n.* serious and great danger or risk
22. sen_____al damage *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
23. cor_____te story *v.* to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony
24. sh____y doorway *adj.* dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain
25. in a sen_____al mood *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
26. 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
27. ch____y haircut *adj.* having a rough, uneven, or irregular motion or flow; characterized by short or sudden movements or changes in direction

ANSWERS: 18. depress, 19. abdicate, 20. seize, 21. peril, 22. sentimental, 23. corroborate, 24. shadowy, 25. sentimental, 26. disrupt, 27. choppy

28. in___t a suspect *v.* to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them
29. aut_____ian practice *adj.* characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights
30. transistor ca_____e *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
31. de_____s crop prices *v.* to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active
32. ey_____l motion *n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
33. pu_____y dialogue *adj.* having a powerful impact; strongly and vividly expressed; of or relating to writing or speech that is memorable or attention-grabbing
34. sp_____er of germs *n.* a person or thing that spreads something, such as a disease, rumor, or substance
35. on the br__k *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
36. s_w wheat in a field *v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion

ANSWERS: 28. indict, 29. authoritarian, 30. cascade, 31. depress, 32. eyeball, 33. punchy, 34. spreader, 35. brink, 36. sow

37. mis_____ion about a vaccine *n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
38. vi_____nt about hand-washing *adj.* keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties
39. 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
40. show di_____t at his actions *n.* a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval
41. de____e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
42. emotionally en_____le *v.* to become twisted or knotted together, especially in a way that makes it difficult to separate them; to involve in something complicated or difficult to escape
43. public di_____t *n.* a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval
44. inf_____te the bloodstream *v.* to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly
45. the pe__l of the sea *n.* serious and great danger or risk
46. fa_____y documents *v.* to alter or manipulate information, data, or evidence to deceive or mislead; to prove to be false or incorrect

ANSWERS: 37. misinformation, 38. vigilant, 39. dampen, 40. disgust, 41. devise, 42. entangle, 43. disgust, 44. infiltrate, 45. peril, 46. falsify

47. cor_____te evidence *v.* to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony
48. re___e a license *v.* to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted
49. a chick's tw__t *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
50. redness of the ey_____l *n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
51. in___n civilians *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
52. fertilizer sp_____er *n.* a person or thing that spreads something, such as a disease, rumor, or substance
53. te___r on the edge *v.* to move or balance unsteadily, often in a way that suggests instability or danger; to waver or vacillate between two positions, opinions, or attitudes
54. in___t him of injuries *v.* to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them

ANSWERS: 47. corroborate, 48. revoke, 49. tweet, 50. eyeball, 51. intern, 52. spreader, 53. teeter, 54. indict

55. sh____y past *adj.* dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain
56. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
57. di_____e bleeding *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
58. ch____y market conditions *adj.* having a rough, uneven, or irregular motion or flow; characterized by short or sudden movements or changes in direction
59. combat mis_____ion on social media *n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
60. re_____te a team member *v.* to restore or bring back to a previous position, status, or condition; to return someone to a former job or position which they previously held
61. te____r on the brink *v.* to move or balance unsteadily, often in a way that suggests instability or danger; to waver or vacillate between two positions, opinions, or attitudes
62. political ad_____ry *n.* a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent
63. re_____te a policy *v.* to restore or bring back to a previous position, status, or condition; to return someone to a former job or position which they previously held

ANSWERS: 55. shadowy, 56. determinant, 57. diffuse, 58. choppy, 59. misinformation, 60. reinstate, 61. teeter, 62. adversary, 63. reinstate

64. vi_____nt watch *adj.* keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties
65. ca_____e connection *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
66. di_____d between team members *n.* lack of agreement or harmony between people or things; a disagreement or dispute; a harsh, unpleasant sound or noise
67. the pa_____x of the heap *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
68. cannot re_____s laughter *v.* to restrain or control by force; to suppress feelings or memories
69. ab_____te his duties *v.* to give up, renounce, or relinquish a throne, right, or responsibility
70. pu____y guitar riffs *adj.* having a powerful impact; strongly and vividly expressed; of or relating to writing or speech that is memorable or attention-grabbing
71. de_____d the government *v.* to cheat or deceive someone to gain a financial or personal advantage; to violate someone's trust for personal gain
72. hu_____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
73. mac_____ing processor *n.* the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data

ANSWERS: 64. vigilant, 65. cascade, 66. discord, 67. paradox, 68. repress, 69. abdicate, 70. punchy, 71. defraud, 72. humming, 73. machine-learning

74. se__e a person's property *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
75. French pa____x *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
76. fa____y data *v.* to alter or manipulate information, data, or evidence to deceive or mislead; to prove to be false or incorrect
77. silk ki____o *n.* a traditional Japanese garment worn by women, consisting of a T-shaped robe with wide sleeves and a wraparound obi sash
78. re____s gene expression *v.* to restrain or control by force; to suppress feelings or memories
79. s_w discord *v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
80. vid____hy equipment *n.* the art or practice of filming or recording videos, often for commercial or artistic purposes
81. wear a ki____o *n.* a traditional Japanese garment worn by women, consisting of a T-shaped robe with wide sleeves and a wraparound obi sash
82. de____d the investors *v.* to cheat or deceive someone to gain a financial or personal advantage; to violate someone's trust for personal gain

ANSWERS: 74. seize, 75. paradox, 76. falsify, 77. kimono, 78. repress, 79. sow, 80. videography, 81. kimono, 82. defraud

83. ad_____ry team *n.* a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent
84. in di_____d with my friend *n.* lack of agreement or harmony between people or things; a disagreement or dispute; a harsh, unpleasant sound or noise
85. di_____e cloud *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
86. vid_____hy skills *n.* the art or practice of filming or recording videos, often for commercial or artistic purposes
87. medical in____n *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
88. en_____le in wires *v.* to become twisted or knotted together, especially in a way that makes it difficult to separate them; to involve in something complicated or difficult to escape

ANSWERS: 83. adversary, 84. discord, 85. diffuse, 86. videography, 87. intern, 88. entangle

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She carefully _____ the seeds in the garden.
v. to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
2. He has the superpower to _____ a business opportunity.
v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
3. She looked stunning in her traditional Japanese _____ dress.
n. a traditional Japanese garment worn by women, consisting of a T-shaped robe with wide sleeves and a wraparound obi sash
4. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
5. The economic recession _____ the housing market.
v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active
6. Due to hunger, the lives of the refugees were in _____.
n. serious and great danger or risk
7. The boss decided to _____ the recently fired employee after realizing their mistake.
v. to restore or bring back to a previous position, status, or condition; to return someone to a former job or position which they previously held

ANSWERS: 1. sowed, 2. seize, 3. kimono, 4. humming, 5. depressed, 6. peril, 7. reinstate

8. 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
9. 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
10. The person who attended the party while having COVID-19 became a virus _____.
- n.* a person or thing that spreads something, such as a disease, rumor, or substance
11. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.
- n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
12. We were on the _____ of a financial crisis.
- n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
13. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
14. Stop being _____ and always speak the truth.
- adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
15. The boxer's toughest _____ was his fear of losing.
- n.* a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent

ANSWERS: 8. disrupt, 9. cascade, 10. spreader, 11. tweet, 12. brink, 13. determinant, 14. sentimental, 15. adversary

16. The company decided to _____ their offer of employment after discovering the applicant's criminal background.
- v. to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted
17. The spy was able to _____ the enemy's headquarters undetected.
- v. to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly
18. The FBI worked tirelessly to gather enough evidence to _____ the corrupt politician.
- v. to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them
19. He used his charm and charisma to _____ support for his campaign.
- v. to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention
20. The drunk man tried to _____ along the narrow bridge, almost falling into the river.
- v. to move or balance unsteadily, often in a way that suggests instability or danger; to waver or vacillate between two positions, opinions, or attitudes
21. The guards had to remain _____ to ensure the safety of the high-security facility.
- adj. keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties
22. There are many theories to explain this _____.
- n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

ANSWERS: 16. revoke, 17. infiltrate, 18. indict, 19. garner, 20. teeter, 21. vigilant, 22. paradox

23. 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
24. The quality of _____ in this film is exceptional.
- n. the art or practice of filming or recording videos, often for commercial or artistic purposes
25. They had to _____ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
- v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
26. She always tries to _____ in other people's affairs, and it's starting to get annoying.
- v. to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
27. The vines of the plant _____ themselves around the trellis.
- v. to become twisted or knotted together, especially in a way that makes it difficult to separate them; to involve in something complicated or difficult to escape
28. The _____ figure in the corner of the room made me uneasy.
- adj. dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain
29. The government called for caution against pseudoscientific _____ about vaccines.
- n. information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
30. The scientist was caught attempting to _____ the results of the study.
- v. to alter or manipulate information, data, or evidence to deceive or mislead; to prove to be false or incorrect

ANSWERS: 23. dampen, 24. videography, 25. devise, 26. meddle, 27. entangled, 28. shadowy, 29. misinformation, 30. falsify

31. He _____ the memories of his traumatic childhood.

v. to restrain or control by force; to suppress feelings or memories

32. Political _____ has led to a lot of tension at family gatherings lately.

n. lack of agreement or harmony between people or things; a disagreement or dispute; a harsh, unpleasant sound or noise

33. He was filled with _____ and fear for the threat of war.

n. a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval

34. The _____ waters made it difficult for the fisherman to navigate his boat safely.

adj. having a rough, uneven, or irregular motion or flow; characterized by short or sudden movements or changes in direction

35. The advertisement's _____ slogan stayed in the viewer's mind long after it ended.

adj. having a powerful impact; strongly and vividly expressed; of or relating to writing or speech that is memorable or attention-grabbing

36. The eyewitness testimony _____ the suspect's alibi.

v. to confirm or support something that has already been suggested, particularly by providing evidence or witness testimony

37. Increased _____ pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.

n. the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen

38. The accused was charged with attempting to _____ his elderly neighbor out of her life savings.

v. to cheat or deceive someone to gain a financial or personal advantage; to violate someone's trust for personal gain

ANSWERS: 31. repressed, 32. discord, 33. disgust, 34. choppy, 35. punchy, 36. corroborated, 37. eyeball, 38. defraud

39. Many software engineers are developing applications to build _____ algorithms more quickly.
- n.* the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data
40. The professional _____ jumped from the burning building and landed safely on the airbag below.
- n.* a professional performer who performs dangerous and often physically demanding tasks or stunts in place of an actor in a film or television show
41. The king _____ his throne in favor of his son.
- v.* to give up, renounce, or relinquish a throne, right, or responsibility
42. Direct lighting is preferable to _____ lighting when reading.
- adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
43. The navy _____ ships of defeated nations.
- v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
44. The _____ leadership style left no room for dissent or alternative opinions.
- adj.* characterized by strict, absolute control and obedience to authority or rules; dictatorial and lacking in personal freedoms or individual rights

ANSWERS: 39. machine-learning, 40. stuntman, 41. abdicated, 42. diffuse, 43. interned, 44. authoritarian