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Eden Girma: The mysterious life and death of Rasputin | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

monarchy

n. a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority

synonym : kingdom, realm, empire

(1) **monarchy** system, (2) abolish **monarchy**

The **monarchy** government had been in power for centuries.

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.

aristocrat

n. a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth

synonym : noble, blue blood, patrician

(1) **aristocrat** family, (2) **aristocrat** society

The **aristocrat's** grand estate was sprawling and impressive, with lush gardens and fountains.

monk

n. a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience

synonym : friar, cleric, brother

(1) **monk** lifestyle, (2) cloistered **monk**

The ascetic **monk** spent his days in prayer and contemplation in the monastery.

peasant

n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society

synonym : farmer, laborer, rustic

(1) **peasant** class, (2) exploited **peasant**

Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a **peasant**, but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.

obscurity

n. the state of being hard to see or understand; lack of clarity or distinction

synonym : vagueness, ambiguity, uncertainty

(1) sink into **obscurity**, (2) **obscurity** of expression

The **obscurity** of the author's writing style made it difficult to understand the book.

orthodox

adj. following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church

synonym : traditional, conventional, established

(1) an **orthodox** doctrine, (2) **orthodox** thought

He challenged the **orthodox** views on business.

endlessly

adv. in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

synonym : ceaselessly, interminably, unceasingly

(1) repeat **endlessly**, (2) worry **endlessly** about our future

The procession of demonstrators was **endlessly** continuing.

pilgrim

n. a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion

synonym : traveler, wayfarer, sojourner

(1) shrine for **pilgrims**, (2) **pilgrim** site

The group of **pilgrims** walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.

captivate

v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of

synonym : enchant, charm, fascinate

(1) **captivate** public sentiment, (2) **captivate** the mind

The magician **captivated** the audience with his illusions.

mystical

adj. relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding

synonym : occult, esoteric, enigmatic

(1) **mystical** intuition, (2) **mystical** belief

While meditating, he had a **mystical** experience and felt a sense of unity with the universe.

petty

adj. of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters

synonym : minor, insignificant, trivial

(1) **petty** crime, (2) **petty** cash

The **petty** arguments between coworkers were causing a toxic work environment.

promiscuous

adj. having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person

synonym : indiscriminate, loose, promiscuous

(1) **promiscuous** bathing, (2) **promiscuous** lifestyle

He was known for his **promiscuous** behavior.

layperson

n. a person who is not trained or skilled in a specific profession or field; a non-expert or amateur

synonym : novice, amateur, non-expert

(1) **layperson** perspective, (2) in **layperson's** terms

The instructions should be clear enough for the **layperson** to understand.

clergyman

n. a man who is a member of the clergy (= religious leader), especially a minister or priest in the Christian Church

synonym : minister, pastor, priest

(1) unfrocked **clergyman**, (2) **clergyman's** duty

The Catholic **clergyman** led the congregation in prayer.

charisma

n. a compelling charm or attractiveness that can inspire devotion and admiration from others, often associated with leadership or celebrity status

synonym : magnetism, allure, charm

(1) crowd-pulling **charisma**, (2) natural **charisma**

The politician's **charisma** won over the crowd at the rally.

czar

n. (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder

synonym : ruler, sovereign, autocrat

(1) technology **czar**, (2) economic **czar**

The **czar** of healthcare is responsible for improving the quality and accessibility of healthcare for all citizens.

devout

adj. deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety

synonym : pious, religious, faithful

(1) **devout** Buddhist, (2) act in a **devout** manner

The **devout** monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.

mystic

adj. having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension

synonym : secret, mystical, supernatural

(1) **mystic** teaching, (2) medieval **mystic**

He is interested in the **mystic** rites of that religion.

supernatural

adj. of or relating to existence outside the natural world; not able to be explained by natural laws

synonym : paranormal, otherworldly, preternatural

(1) **supernatural** beings, (2) **supernatural** intuition

The **supernatural** powers of the witch were the stuff of legends.

transfix

v. to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object

synonym : pierce, impale, stab

(1) **transfix** with horror, (2) **transfix** me with its vibrant colors

The athlete's incredible skill on the field **transfixed** the spectators, who were amazed by his talent.

tumult

n. a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting

synonym : commotion, disturbance, upheaval

(1) **tumult** of voices, (2) in the midst of the **tumult**

The political turmoil caused great **tumult** in the country.

cling

v. to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something

synonym : stick, adhere, attach

(1) **cling** onto power, (2) **cling** tightly to the skin

He **clings** to the hope that he will find a job soon.

intensify

v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength

synonym : amplify, boost, strengthen

(1) **intensify** diplomatic efforts, (2) **intensify** a good relationship

Rebels have pledged to **intensify** the armed struggle against the dictatorship.

turmoil

n. a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions

synonym: chaos, confusion, disorder

(1) political **turmoil**, (2) the **turmoil** of the war

The company experienced financial **turmoil** after the CEO was arrested.

heir

n. a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies

synonym: successor, inheritor, beneficiary

(1) an imperial **heir**, (2) **heir** at law

She recognized me as her lawful **heir**.

hemophilia

n. a genetic disorder in which the ability of the blood to clot is severely reduced, resulting in excessive bleeding and bruising

synonym: bleeding disorder, clotting disorder

(1) **hemophilia** treatment, (2) **hemophilia** diagnosis

He inherited **hemophilia** from his mother and suffers from frequent bleeding.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

aspirin

n. a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation

(1) prescribe **aspirin**, (2) **aspirin** sensitivity

She took a tablet of **aspirin** to soothe the fever.

worsen

v. to become or make something worse

synonym: languish, degenerate, degrade

(1) **worsen** a relation, (2) **worsen** the food problem

Unilateral import bans have **worsened** that country's terms of trade.

prophecy

n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

synonym: prediction, foretelling, divination

(1) **prophecy** fulfillment, (2) **prophecy** of doom

The fortune teller's **prophecy** that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.

deserted

adj. empty or abandoned; lacking inhabitants or visitors; left alone or left behind

synonym: abandoned, empty, vacated

(1) **deserted** city, (2) **deserted** island

The **deserted** street was quiet and eerie, with no signs of life.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym: intensify, boost, argument

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

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

unheard

adj. not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention

synonym: unknown, obscure

(1) an **unheard** story, (2) previously **unheard-of** economic development

The **unheard** melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.

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.

scandalous

adj. causing public outrage or offense by being morally or socially unacceptable; involving shameful or improper behavior

synonym : disgraceful, shocking, shameful

(1) **scandalous** behavior, (2) **scandalous** revelations

The media exposed the **scandalous** affair between the politician and his assistant.

skeptical

adj. doubting that something is accurate or useful

synonym : doubtful, distrustful, suspicious

(1) a **skeptical** attitude, (2) **skeptical** scientists

His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly **skeptical**.

corruptible

adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

synonym : bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

assassination

n. the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives

synonym : murder, killing, execution

(1) failed **assassination** attempt, (2) **assassination** plot

The **assassination** of the president sent shockwaves through the nation.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym : open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

memoir

n. a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events

synonym : bio, biography

(1) family **memoir**, (2) publish a **memoir**

He wrote his **memoirs** while awaiting trial.

pastry

n. a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes

synonym : bakery, baked goods, sweet treats

(1) **pastry** chef, (2) fruit **pastry**

The chef's specialty is a savory **pastry** with spinach and feta cheese.

cyanide

n. a highly toxic compound consisting of a carbon atom triple-bonded to a nitrogen atom, most often encountered as hydrogen cyanide or one of its salts, often used in industrial processes, insecticides, and as a lethal poison

synonym : nitrile, poison, toxin

(1) **cyanide** poisoning, (2) hydrogen **cyanide**

The use of **cyanide** as a chemical weapon is prohibited under international law.

unbeknownst

adv. without the knowledge or awareness of someone; without someone's knowledge or participation

synonym : secretly, covertly

(1) **unbeknownst** to me, (2) **unbeknownst** to any of us

Unbeknownst to the family, the treasure had been hidden in the attic for years.

conspirator

n. a person who is involved in a conspiracy (= a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something), especially to commit a crime or an illegal act

synonym: accomplice, confederate, partner in crime

(1) unmask a **conspirator**, (2) co- **conspirator**

The police arrested several **conspirators** involved in the plot to overthrow the government.

accomplice

n. a person who helps someone else commit a crime or wrongdoing; a partner or associate in a questionable or immoral activity

synonym: confederate, partner, collaborator

(1) **accomplice** in crime, (2) secret **accomplice**

The detectives found evidence that suggested the suspect acted as an **accomplice** in the murder.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym: brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

enrage

v. to make someone extremely angry

synonym: anger, incense, infuriate

(1) **enrage** the international community, (2) **enrage** critics

The news of the betrayal **enraged** him.

prophecy

v. to predict or foretell a future event or outcome, often through divine or supernatural means; to make a prediction or forecast based on present trends or patterns

synonym: predict, foretell, prophesize

(1) **prophecy** doom, (2) **prophecy** success

The famous author was able to **prophecy** technological advancements that were beyond the imagination of his time.

downfall

n. a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure

synonym: demise, collapse, ruin

(1) a **downfall** earthquake, (2) **downfall** government

The company's financial mismanagement was the **downfall** of the once-successful business.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sk_____al scientists *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful
2. cor_____le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
3. an imperial h__r *n.* a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies
4. on the br__k *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
5. fruit pa___y *n.* a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes
6. my_____al belief *adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
7. cy_____e poisoning *n.* a highly toxic compound consisting of a carbon atom triple-bonded to a nitrogen atom, most often encountered as hydrogen cyanide or one of its salts, often used in industrial processes, insecticides, and as a lethal poison
8. in_____fy diplomatic efforts *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
9. ari_____at society *n.* a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth

ANSWERS: 1. skeptical, 2. corruptible, 3. heir, 4. brink, 5. pastry, 6. mystical, 7. cyanide, 8. intensify, 9. aristocrat

10. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
11. co-con_____or *n.* a person who is involved in a conspiracy (= a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something), especially to commit a crime or an illegal act
12. medieval my____c *adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension
13. in la_____on's terms *n.* a person who is not trained or skilled in a specific profession or field; a non-expert or amateur
14. ca_____te public sentiment *v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of
15. abolish mo____hy *n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
16. ob_____ty of expression *n.* the state of being hard to see or understand; lack of clarity or distinction
17. my____al intuition *adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
18. cl__g tightly to the skin *v.* to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
19. tr_____ix with horror *v.* to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object

ANSWERS: 10. improvisation, 11. conspirator, 12. mystic, 13. layperson, 14. captivate, 15. monarchy, 16. obscurity, 17. mystical, 18. cling, 19. transfix

20. st_____ze blood sugar levels *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
21. secret acc_____ce *n.* a person who helps someone else commit a crime or wrongdoing; a partner or associate in a questionable or immoral activity
22. wo____n a relation *v.* to become or make something worse
23. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
24. pr_____cy fulfillment *n.* a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader
25. unb_____st to me *adv.* without the knowledge or awareness of someone; without someone's knowledge or participation
26. a do_____ll earthquake *n.* a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure
27. wo____n the food problem *v.* to become or make something worse
28. pro_____us bathing *adj.* having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person
29. in_____fy a good relationship *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
30. pa____y chef *n.* a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes

ANSWERS: 20. stabilize, 21. accomplice, 22. worsen, 23. improvisation, 24. prophecy, 25. unbeknownst, 26. downfall, 27. worsen, 28. promiscuous, 29. intensify, 30. pastry

31. 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
32. do_____ll government n. a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure
33. tr_____ix me with its vibrant colors v. to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object
34. sup_____ral intuition adj. of or relating to existence outside the natural world; not able to be explained by natural laws
35. ca_____te the mind v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of
36. pro_____us lifestyle adj. having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person
37. exploited pe_____t n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
38. pr_____sy success v. to predict or foretell a future event or outcome, often through divine or supernatural means; to make a prediction or forecast based on present trends or patterns
39. act in a de____t manner adj. deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety

ANSWERS: 31. despise, 32. downfall, 33. transfix, 34. supernatural, 35. captivate, 36. promiscuous, 37. peasant, 38. prophesy, 39. devout

40. ari_____at family *n.* a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth
41. or_____ox thought *adj.* following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church
42. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
43. un____d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
44. hem_____ia treatment *n.* a genetic disorder in which the ability of the blood to clot is severely reduced, resulting in excessive bleeding and bruising
45. hydrogen cy_____e *n.* a highly toxic compound consisting of a carbon atom triple-bonded to a nitrogen atom, most often encountered as hydrogen cyanide or one of its salts, often used in industrial processes, insecticides, and as a lethal poison
46. en___e critics *v.* to make someone extremely angry
47. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

ANSWERS: 40. aristocrat, 41. orthodox, 42. sham, 43. unfold, 44. hemophilia, 45. cyanide, 46. enrage, 47. amplify

48. en___e the international community *v.* to make someone extremely angry
49. sink into ob_____ty *n.* the state of being hard to see or understand; lack of clarity or distinction
50. de_____ed city *adj.* empty or abandoned; lacking inhabitants or visitors; left alone or left behind
51. de___t Buddhist *adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
52. publish a me___r *n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
53. a sk_____al attitude *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful
54. prescribe as_____n *n.* a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation
55. cl__g onto power *v.* to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
56. an un_____d story *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
57. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
58. ass_____ion plot *n.* the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives

ANSWERS: 48. enrage, 49. obscurity, 50. deserted, 51. devout, 52. memoir, 53. skeptical, 54. aspirin, 55. cling, 56. unheard, 57. sham, 58. assassination

59. pe__y cash *adj.* of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters
60. st_____ze prices *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
61. pe__y crime *adj.* of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters
62. sca_____us behavior *adj.* causing public outrage or offense by being morally or socially unacceptable; involving shameful or improper behavior
63. pe_____t class *n.* a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
64. worry en_____ly about our future *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
65. family me____r *n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
66. crowd-pulling ch_____ma *n.* a compelling charm or attractiveness that can inspire devotion and admiration from others, often associated with leadership or celebrity status
67. sca_____us revelations *adj.* causing public outrage or offense by being morally or socially unacceptable; involving shameful or improper behavior

ANSWERS: 59. petty, 60. stabilize, 61. petty, 62. scandalous, 63. peasant, 64. endlessly, 65. memoir, 66. charisma, 67. scandalous

68. mo____hy system *n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
69. am____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
70. failed ass_____ion attempt *n.* the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives
71. la_____on perspective *n.* a person who is not trained or skilled in a specific profession or field; a non-expert or amateur
72. an or____ox doctrine *adj.* following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church
73. economic c__r *n.* (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder
74. unb_____st to any of us *adv.* without the knowledge or awareness of someone; without someone's knowledge or participation
75. tu___t of voices *n.* a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting
76. h__r at law *n.* a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies

ANSWERS: 68. monarchy, 69. amplify, 70. assassination, 71. layperson, 72. orthodox, 73. czar, 74. unbeknownst, 75. tumult, 76. heir

77. 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
78. cor_____le judges *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
79. technology c__r *n.* (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder
80. as_____n sensitivity *n.* a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation
81. unmask a con_____or *n.* a person who is involved in a conspiracy (= a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something), especially to commit a crime or an illegal act
82. hem_____ia diagnosis *n.* a genetic disorder in which the ability of the blood to clot is severely reduced, resulting in excessive bleeding and bruising
83. cl_____an's duty *n.* a man who is a member of the clergy (= religious leader), especially a minister or priest in the Christian Church
84. cloistered m__k *n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
85. pr_____cy of doom *n.* a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

ANSWERS: 77. despise, 78. corruptible, 79. czar, 80. aspirin, 81. conspirator, 82. hemophilia, 83. clergyman, 84. monk, 85. prophecy

86. un___d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
87. br__k of war *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
88. the tu_____l of the war *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
89. unfrocked cl_____an *n.* a man who is a member of the clergy (= religious leader), especially a minister or priest in the Christian Church
90. political tu_____l *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
91. shrine for pi_____ms *n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
92. in the midst of the tu____t *n.* a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting
93. acc_____ce in crime *n.* a person who helps someone else commit a crime or wrongdoing; a partner or associate in a questionable or immoral activity
94. natural ch_____ma *n.* a compelling charm or attractiveness that can inspire devotion and admiration from others, often associated with leadership or celebrity status

ANSWERS: 86. unfold, 87. brink, 88. turmoil, 89. clergyman, 90. turmoil, 91. pilgrim, 92. tumult, 93. accomplice, 94. charisma

95. de____ed island *adj.* empty or abandoned; lacking inhabitants or visitors; left alone or left behind
96. pi____m site *n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
97. m__k lifestyle *n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
98. pr____sy doom *v.* to predict or foretell a future event or outcome, often through divine or supernatural means; to make a prediction or forecast based on present trends or patterns
99. repeat en____ly *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
100. my____c teaching *adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension
101. previously un____d-of economic development *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
102. sup____ral beings *adj.* of or relating to existence outside the natural world; not able to be explained by natural laws

ANSWERS: 95. deserted, 96. pilgrim, 97. monk, 98. prophesy, 99. endlessly, 100. mystic, 101. unheard, 102. supernatural

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.
adj. not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
2. The _____ arguments between coworkers were causing a toxic work environment.
adj. of little importance, trivial or insignificant; characterized by an undue concern for small details or rules; mean or spiteful in trivial matters
3. The instructions should be clear enough for the _____ to understand.
n. a person who is not trained or skilled in a specific profession or field; a non-expert or amateur
4. The _____ of the president sent shockwaves through the nation.
n. the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives
5. The _____ powers of the witch were the stuff of legends.
adj. of or relating to existence outside the natural world; not able to be explained by natural laws
6. The _____ street was quiet and eerie, with no signs of life.
adj. empty or abandoned; lacking inhabitants or visitors; left alone or left behind
7. The detectives found evidence that suggested the suspect acted as an _____ in the murder.
n. a person who helps someone else commit a crime or wrongdoing; a partner or associate in a questionable or immoral activity

ANSWERS: 1. unheard, 2. petty, 3. layperson, 4. assassination, 5. supernatural, 6. deserted, 7. accomplice

8. Unilateral import bans have _____ that country's terms of trade.
v. to become or make something worse
9. We were on the _____ of a financial crisis.
n. the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
10. He challenged the _____ views on business.
adj. following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church
11. The data he prepared was completely _____.
n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
12. The athlete's incredible skill on the field _____ the spectators, who were amazed by his talent.
v. to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object
13. The _____ monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.
adj. deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
14. The procession of demonstrators was _____ continuing.
adv. in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
15. The _____ government had been in power for centuries.
n. a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority

ANSWERS: 8. worsened, 9. brink, 10. orthodox, 11. sham, 12. transfixed, 13. devout, 14. endlessly, 15. monarchy

16. The company's financial mismanagement was the _____ of the once-successful business.
- n.* a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure
17. The Catholic _____ led the congregation in prayer.
- n.* a man who is a member of the clergy (= religious leader), especially a minister or priest in the Christian Church
18. The ascetic _____ spent his days in prayer and contemplation in the monastery.
- n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
19. The political turmoil caused great _____ in the country.
- n.* a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting
20. The chef's specialty is a savory _____ with spinach and feta cheese.
- n.* a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes
21. The group of _____ walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.
- n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
22. He wrote his _____ while awaiting trial.
- n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
23. You might need to _____ this point.
- v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

ANSWERS: 16. downfall, 17. clergyman, 18. monk, 19. tumult, 20. pastry, 21. pilgrims, 22. memoirs, 23. amplify

24. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
25. He was known for his _____ behavior.
adj. having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person
26. The _____ of the author's writing style made it difficult to understand the book.
n. the state of being hard to see or understand; lack of clarity or distinction
27. His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly _____.
adj. doubting that something is accurate or useful
28. Rebels have pledged to _____ the armed struggle against the dictatorship.
v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
29. The police arrested several _____ involved in the plot to overthrow the government.
n. a person who is involved in a conspiracy (= a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something), especially to commit a crime or an illegal act
30. She took a tablet of _____ to soothe the fever.
n. a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation
31. The media exposed the _____ affair between the politician and his assistant.
adj. causing public outrage or offense by being morally or socially unacceptable; involving shameful or improper behavior

ANSWERS: 24. unfolded, 25. promiscuous, 26. obscurity, 27. skeptical, 28. intensify, 29. conspirators, 30. aspirin, 31. scandalous

32. He is interested in the _____ rites of that religion.

adj. having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding;
(noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension

33. Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a _____ but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.

n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society

34. _____ to the family, the treasure had been hidden in the attic for years.

adv. without the knowledge or awareness of someone; without someone's knowledge or participation

35. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

36. 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

37. The magician _____ the audience with his illusions.

v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of

38. The fortune teller's _____ that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.

n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

ANSWERS: 32. mystic, 33. peasant, 34. Unbeknownst, 35. improvisation, 36. despise, 37. captivated, 38. prophecy

39. The company experienced financial _____ after the CEO was arrested.
- n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
40. The politician's _____ won over the crowd at the rally.
- n.* a compelling charm or attractiveness that can inspire devotion and admiration from others, often associated with leadership or celebrity status
41. Bureaucracies are more _____ than other systems or organizations.
- adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
42. The use of _____ as a chemical weapon is prohibited under international law.
- n.* a highly toxic compound consisting of a carbon atom triple-bonded to a nitrogen atom, most often encountered as hydrogen cyanide or one of its salts, often used in industrial processes, insecticides, and as a lethal poison
43. While meditating, he had a _____ experience and felt a sense of unity with the universe.
- adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
44. The _____ of healthcare is responsible for improving the quality and accessibility of healthcare for all citizens.
- n.* (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder
45. The _____ grand estate was sprawling and impressive, with lush gardens and fountains.
- n.* a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth

ANSWERS: 39. turmoil, 40. charisma, 41. corruptible, 42. cyanide, 43. mystical, 44. czar, 45. aristocrat's

46. He _____ to the hope that he will find a job soon.
- v. to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
47. She recognized me as her lawful _____.
- n. a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies
48. The famous author was able to _____ technological advancements that were beyond the imagination of his time.
- v. to predict or foretell a future event or outcome, often through divine or supernatural means; to make a prediction or forecast based on present trends or patterns
49. The news of the betrayal _____ him.
- v. to make someone extremely angry
50. He inherited _____ from his mother and suffers from frequent bleeding.
- n. a genetic disorder in which the ability of the blood to clot is severely reduced, resulting in excessive bleeding and bruising
51. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
- v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

ANSWERS: 46. clings, 47. heir, 48. prophesy, 49. enraged, 50. hemophilia, 51. stabilizes