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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kenny Coogan: Licking bees and pulping trees: The reign of a wasp queen | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

firewood

n. wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes

synonym : fire logs, fire sticks, kindling

(1) chop **firewood**, (2) stacks of **firewood**

My neighbor gave me some extra **firewood** from their own supply.

wasp

n. a flying insect with a narrow waist and a sting, typically feeding on nectar and known for its aggressive behavior towards other insects and animals

synonym : insect, hornet, yellow jacket

(1) **wasp** nest, (2) **wasp** sting

A giant **wasp** flew into the room, and everyone panicked.

hibernate

v. to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den

synonym : sleep, slumber, nap

(1) **hibernate** in the adult stage, (2) **hibernate** for months

Bears usually **hibernate** during the winter months to conserve energy and stay warm.

compost

n. a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is

used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil

synonym : fertilizer, humus, manure

(1) organic **compost**, (2) **compost** pile

You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your **compost** to improve the pH balance.

burrow

v. to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal

synonym : tunnel, dig, excavate

(1) **burrow** through the forest, (2) **burrow** into a mystery

You can't **burrow** through solid metal.

carnivorous

adj. feeding on the flesh of other animals

synonym : meat-eating, predatory, flesh-eating

(1) **carnivorous** cell, (2) aquatic **carnivorous** mammal

The **carnivorous** dinosaur preyed on other animals.

human-made

adj. created or produced by humans; artificial

synonym : artificial, unnatural, manufactured

(1) **human-made** climate change, (2) the worst **human-made** disaster

The bridge is a **human-made** structure and was built to span the river.

hive

n. a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people

synonym : apiary, swarm, pack

(1) honeybees in **hives**, (2) a **hive** of activity

Bees were buzzing around the **hive**

citrus

n. a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits

synonym : orange, lemon, lime

(1) **citrus** trees, (2) **citrus** scent

Citrus fruits like oranges and lemons are high in vitamin C.

grove

n. a small group of trees growing closely together
synonym : copse, thicket, underbrush

(1) a bamboo **grove**, (2) citrus **grove**

They walked through the **grove** of trees and admired the natural beauty.

honeybee

n. a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers
synonym : apis mellifera

(1) **honeybee** colony, (2) aggressive **honeybee**

The **honeybee** hive is organized into a caste system, with a queen, drones, and workers.

provoke

v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
synonym : stimulate, incite, encourage

(1) **provoke** a disease, (2) **provoke** a reaction

Her behavior **provoked** a quarrel between the couple.

paralyze

v. to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
synonym : immobilize, disable, numb

(1) **paralyze** a city, (2) **paralyze** a person

The venom from the snake bite **paralyzed** his arm.

drip

v. to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops
synonym : drop, drizzle, trickle

(1) **drip** liquid, (2) **drip** from the vicious wound

Water is **dripping** from the faucet.

resourceful

adj. showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
synonym : inventive, imaginative, clever

(1) **resourceful** thinker, (2) **resourceful** cook in town
She was **resourceful** and found a solution to the problem on her own.

energize

v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate

synonym: invigorate, animate, electrify

(1) **energize** the body, (2) **energize** a team

The motivational speaker **energized** the crowd with their words.

predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

synonym: vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

chew

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

synonym: masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

brood

v. to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth

synonym: offspring, hatch, family

(1) **brood** about the defeat, (2) a **brood** of chickens

The terrible result **brooded** over her all day long.

fertilize

v. to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well

synonym: pollinate, inseminate, enrich

(1) **fertilize** the soil, (2) **fertilize** the female egg

The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to **fertilize** a wife.

hatch

v. to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage

synonym : incubate, breed, produce

(1) **hatch** a plan, (2) **hatch** a baby chick

The eggs began to **hatch**, and the small chicks emerged.

larva

n. the immature free-living form of insect or an animal, which at hatching from the egg, is fundamentally unlike its parent and must metamorphose

synonym : caterpillar, grub, maggot

(1) **larva** of a butterfly, (2) a moth **larva**

The butterfly emerged from its **larva** stage.

intruder

n. someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something

synonym : trespasser, intruder, interloper

(1) illegal **intruder**, (2) infrared **intruder** system

The homeowner called the police when they spotted an **intruder** in their backyard.

grub

n. the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously

synonym : larva, food, chow

(1) cook up some **grubs**, (2) **grub** for potatoes

The garden was infested with beetle **grubs**, causing damage to the plant roots.

sugary

adj. having the taste, texture, or appearance of sugar; excessively sweet or cloying; overly sentimental or flattering in a way that seems insincere

synonym :

sweet, syrupy, saccharine

(1) **sugary** treat, (2) excessively **sugary**

I avoid eating **sugary** foods to maintain a healthy diet.

spoil

v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

synonym: rot, decay, deteriorate

(1) **spoil** a person's sport, (2) **spoil** the surprise

If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will **spoil**.

swell

v. to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important

synonym: expand, increase, inflate

(1) **swell** at room temperature, (2) **swell** a population

His arm was **swelling** from the insect bite.

veritable

adj. authentic or genuine, often used to emphasize the degree or extent of something

synonym: genuine, authentic, bona fide

(1) **veritable** treasure, (2) a **veritable** explosion of colors

She is a **veritable** expert on the subject and has published many papers.

swarm

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

synonym: horde, hive, throng

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

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

descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

synonym: dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

swat

v. to strike or hit someone or something with a quick, sharp blow, usually with the hand or a flat object; (noun, an acronym that stands for "Special Weapons And Tactics") specialized groups within police departments that are trained to handle high-risk operations that regular officers are not equipped to deal with

synonym : slap, smack, hit

(1) expertly **swat** back the ball, (2) **SWAT** operation

I had to **swat** away a fly that was buzzing around my head.

purposeful

adj. having a specific aim or purpose; determined

synonym : determined, resolved, resolute

(1) **purposeful** series of actions, (2) at a **purposeful** pace

She had a **purposeful** look and was determined to complete the task.

inadvertently

adv. unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent

synonym : unknowingly, unintentionally, accidentally

(1) **inadvertently** deleted, (2) **inadvertently** omitted

I **inadvertently** left my phone at home this morning and felt lost.

invertebrate

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

synonym : animal, mollusk, worm

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

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

mite

n. a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals

synonym : speck, insect

(1) house dust **mite**, (2) a **mite** of evidence

The **mite** infestation in the old house was a serious problem for the residents.

centipede

n. a long, many-legged arthropod of a group of species that are mostly nocturnal predators and typically feed on insects

synonym : hundred-legger, myriapod, arthropod

(1) the venom of a **centipede**, (2) tropical **centipede**

I saw a **centipede** crawling across my bedroom floor, which gave me chills.

pollinate

v. to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others

synonym : fertilize, propagate

(1) **pollinate** plants, (2) **pollinate** fruit trees

Without bees to **pollinate** the flowers, many crops would not exist.

winery

n. a facility where grapes are processed, and wine is made and stored, often includes areas for tasting, tours, and sales

synonym : vineyard, wine cellar

(1) **winery** tour, (2) boutique **winery**

She works as a sommelier at a prestigious **winery** in Napa Valley.

fermentation

n. the chemical breakdown of a substance by bacteria, yeasts, or other microorganisms, typically involving effervescence and the giving off of the heat

synonym : brewing, culturing, pickling

(1) oxidative **fermentation**, (2) **fermentation** tank

The process of **fermentation** is used to make beer, wine, and many other products.

groom

v. to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat

synonym : brush, comb, neatened

(1) **groom** duties, (2) **groom** a horse

I need to **groom** my dog before his fur gets too long.

drone

n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

synonym: hum, whirr, idler

(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**

He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.

deteriorate

v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate

synonym: decline, degenerate, regress

(1) **deteriorate** at a slow pace, (2) **deteriorate** condition

The patient's health **deteriorated** rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.

scavenger

n. an animal or bird that feeds on carrion, dead animals, or other scavenged material; a person who searches for and collects discarded or unwanted items, often to sell or reuse them

synonym: vulture, hyena, magpie

(1) **scavenger** bird, (2) marine **scavenger**

Crows are common **scavengers** in urban areas and will eat almost anything.

fertile

adj. capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive

synonym: fruitful, productive, rich

(1) **fertile** ground, (2) **fertile** market

Herbs require **fertile** soil in a sunny, sheltered location.

starve

v. to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

synonym: famish, hunger

(1) **starve** for a victory, (2) **starve** to death

If you don't eat soon, you're going to **starve**.

lifespan

n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

synonym: duration, lifetime, continuance

(1) **lifespan** extension, (2) **lifespan** retrieval curve

Generally speaking, men have a shorter **lifespan** than women.

Session 2: Spelling

1. aquatic car_____us mammal *adj.* feeding on the flesh of other animals
2. hi_____te in the adult stage *v.* to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den
3. pa_____ze a person *v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
4. a m__e of evidence *n.* a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals
5. gr__m a horse *v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat
6. illegal in_____er *n.* someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something
7. de_____d by elevator *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
8. the speaker's dr__e *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
9. apex pr_____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

ANSWERS: 1. carnivorous, 2. hibernate, 3. paralyze, 4. mite, 5. groom, 6. intruder, 7. descend, 8. drone, 9. predator

10. det_____te at a slow pace *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
11. ha__h a plan *v.* to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage
12. excessively su___y *adj.* having the taste, texture, or appearance of sugar; excessively sweet or cloying; overly sentimental or flattering in a way that seems insincere
13. hum_____de climate change *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
14. fe_____ze the soil *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
15. li_____an retrieval curve *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
16. sw__l at room temperature *v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important
17. ina_____tly deleted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
18. a br__d of chickens *v.* to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth
19. ha__h a baby chick *v.* to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage

ANSWERS: 10. deteriorate, 11. hatch, 12. sugary, 13. human-made, 14. fertilize, 15. lifespan, 16. swell, 17. inadvertently, 18. brood, 19. hatch

20. sp__l a person's sport *v.* to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
21. expertly s__t back the ball *v.* to strike or hit someone or something with a quick, sharp blow, usually with the hand or a flat object; (noun, an acronym that stands for "Special Weapons And Tactics") specialized groups within police departments that are trained to handle high-risk operations that regular officers are not equipped to deal with
22. bu___w into a mystery *v.* to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal
23. c__w a stick of gum *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
24. chop fi____od *n.* wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes
25. wi___y tour *n.* a facility where grapes are processed, and wine is made and stored, often includes areas for tasting, tours, and sales
26. fe____e ground *adj.* capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
27. w__p sting *n.* a flying insect with a narrow waist and a sting, typically feeding on nectar and known for its aggressive behavior towards other insects and animals

ANSWERS: 20. spoil, 21. swat, 22. burrow, 23. chew, 24. firewood, 25. winery, 26. fertile, 27. wasp

34. aggressive ho_____ee *n.* a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers
35. res_____ul cook in town *adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
36. ci____s trees *n.* a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits
37. fe_____e market *adj.* capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
38. det_____te condition *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
39. honeybees in h__es *n.* a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people
40. pa_____ze a city *v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
41. pr_____e a reaction *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
42. a ve_____le explosion of colors *adj.* authentic or genuine, often used to emphasize the degree or extent of something
43. po_____te fruit trees *v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others

ANSWERS: 34. honeybee, 35. resourceful, 36. citrus, 37. fertile, 38. deteriorate, 39. hive, 40. paralyze, 41. provoke, 42. veritable, 43. pollinate

44. br__d about the defeat *v.* to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth
45. oxidative fer_____ion *n.* the chemical breakdown of a substance by bacteria, yeasts, or other microorganisms, typically involving effervescence and the giving off of the heat
46. cook up some g__bs *n.* the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously
47. hi_____te for months *v.* to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den
48. ve_____le treasure *adj.* authentic or genuine, often used to emphasize the degree or extent of something
49. a h__e of activity *n.* a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people
50. the venom of a ce_____de *n.* a long, many-legged arthropod of a group of species that are mostly nocturnal predators and typically feed on insects
51. la__a of a butterfly *n.* the immature free-living form of insect or an animal, which at hatching from the egg, is fundamentally unlike its parent and must metamorphose

ANSWERS: 44. brood, 45. fermentation, 46. grub, 47. hibernate, 48. veritable, 49. hive, 50. centipede, 51. larva

52. fe_____ze the female egg *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
53. a moth la__a *n.* the immature free-living form of insect or an animal, which at hatching from the egg, is fundamentally unlike its parent and must metamorphose
54. ina_____tly omitted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
55. pur_____ul series of actions *adj.* having a specific aim or purpose; determined
56. c__w each word *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
57. sexual pr_____ors *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
58. de_____d a steep hill *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
59. locust sw__m *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
60. the worst hum_____de disaster *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
61. citrus gr__e *n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
62. en_____ze a team *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate

ANSWERS: 52. fertilize, 53. larva, 54. inadvertently, 55. purposeful, 56. chew, 57. predator, 58. descend, 59. swarm, 60. human-made, 61. grove, 62. energize

63. at a pur_____ul pace *adj.* having a specific aim or purpose; determined
64. dr__e flight *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
65. marine sc_____er *n.* an animal or bird that feeds on carrion, dead animals, or other scavenged material; a person who searches for and collects discarded or unwanted items, often to sell or reuse them
66. en_____ze the body *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
67. li_____an extension *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
68. pr_____e a disease *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
69. sw__l a population *v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important
70. gr__m duties *v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat
71. w__p nest *n.* a flying insect with a narrow waist and a sting, typically feeding on nectar and known for its aggressive behavior towards other insects and animals
72. house dust m__e *n.* a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals

ANSWERS: 63. purposeful, 64. drone, 65. scavenger, 66. energize, 67. lifespan, 68. provoke, 69. swell, 70. groom, 71. wasp, 72. mite

73. ho____ee colony *n.* a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers
74. boutique wi____y *n.* a facility where grapes are processed, and wine is made and stored, often includes areas for tasting, tours, and sales
75. g__b for potatoes *n.* the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously
76. inv____ate species *n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
77. study of inv____ates *n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
78. a sw__m of mosquitoes *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
79. tropical ce____de *n.* a long, many-legged arthropod of a group of species that are mostly nocturnal predators and typically feed on insects
80. ci____s scent *n.* a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits
81. sp__l the surprise *v.* to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

ANSWERS: 73. honeybee, 74. winery, 75. grub, 76. invertebrate, 77. invertebrate, 78. swarm, 79. centipede, 80. citrus, 81. spoil

82. bu___w through the forest *v.* to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal
83. organic co____t *n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
84. po_____te plants *v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
85. fer_____ion tank *n.* the chemical breakdown of a substance by bacteria, yeasts, or other microorganisms, typically involving effervescence and the giving off of the heat
86. su___y treat *adj.* having the taste, texture, or appearance of sugar; excessively sweet or cloying; overly sentimental or flattering in a way that seems insincere
87. infrared in_____er system *n.* someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something
88. a bamboo gr___e *n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
89. co____t pile *n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil

ANSWERS: 82. burrow, 83. compost, 84. pollinate, 85. fermentation, 86. sugary, 87. intruder, 88. grove, 89. compost

90. stacks of fi____od

n. wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes

91. car_____us cell

adj. feeding on the flesh of other animals

92. res_____ul thinker

adj. showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems

ANSWERS: 90. firewood, 91. carnivorous, 92. resourceful

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your _____ to improve the pH balance.
 - n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil

2. She works as a sommelier at a prestigious _____ in Napa Valley.
 - n.* a facility where grapes are processed, and wine is made and stored, often includes areas for tasting, tours, and sales

3. Without bees to _____ the flowers, many crops would not exist.
 - v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others

4. The bridge is a _____ structure and was built to span the river.
 - adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial

5. The butterfly emerged from its _____ stage.
 - n.* the immature free-living form of insect or an animal, which at hatching from the egg, is fundamentally unlike its parent and must metamorphose

6. My neighbor gave me some extra _____ from their own supply.
 - n.* wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes

7. The _____ dinosaur preyed on other animals.
 - adj.* feeding on the flesh of other animals

ANSWERS: 1. compost, 2. winery, 3. pollinate, 4. human-made, 5. larva, 6. firewood, 7. carnivorous

8. The patient's health _____ rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.
- v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
9. A _____ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.
- n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
10. Her behavior _____ a quarrel between the couple.
- v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
11. The eggs began to _____ and the small chicks emerged.
- v. to cause an egg to break to allow a young animal to come out; to produce and expand something that is in an early stage
12. The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to _____ a wife.
- v. to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
13. Bears usually _____ during the winter months to conserve energy and stay warm.
- v. to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den
14. The venom from the snake bite _____ his arm.
- v. to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
15. The _____ infestation in the old house was a serious problem for the residents.
- n. a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals

ANSWERS: 8. deteriorated, 9. swarm, 10. provoked, 11. hatch, 12. fertilize, 13. hibernate, 14. paralyzed, 15. mite

16. She was _____ from an old Italian noble family.

- v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

17. She is a _____ expert on the subject and has published many papers.

- adj.* authentic or genuine, often used to emphasize the degree or extent of something

18. Herbs require _____ soil in a sunny, sheltered location.

- adj.* capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive

19. Generally speaking, men have a shorter _____ than women.

- n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

20. The _____ hive is organized into a caste system, with a queen, drones, and workers.

- n.* a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers

21. You can't _____ through solid metal.

- v.* to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal

22. I need to _____ my dog before his fur gets too long.

- v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat

23. Bees were buzzing around the _____

- n.* a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people

ANSWERS: 16. descended, 17. veritable, 18. fertile, 19. lifespan, 20. honeybee, 21. burrow, 22. groom, 23. hive

24. My dog loves to _____ on bones.

- v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

25. If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will _____.

- v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

26. _____ fruits like oranges and lemons are high in vitamin C.

- n. a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits

27. If you don't eat soon, you're going to _____.

- v. to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

28. The process of _____ is used to make beer, wine, and many other products.

- n. the chemical breakdown of a substance by bacteria, yeasts, or other microorganisms, typically involving effervescence and the giving off of the heat

29. I had to _____ away a fly that was buzzing around my head.

- v. to strike or hit someone or something with a quick, sharp blow, usually with the hand or a flat object; (noun, an acronym that stands for "Special Weapons And Tactics") specialized groups within police departments that are trained to handle high-risk operations that regular officers are not equipped to deal with

30. His arm was _____ from the insect bite.

- v. to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important

ANSWERS: 24. chew, 25. spoil, 26. Citrus, 27. starve, 28. fermentation, 29. swat, 30. swelling

31. Crows are common _____ in urban areas and will eat almost anything.
n. an animal or bird that feeds on carrion, dead animals, or other scavenged material; a person who searches for and collects discarded or unwanted items, often to sell or reuse them
32. Water is _____ from the faucet.
v. to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops
33. She was _____ and found a solution to the problem on her own.
adj. showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
34. I _____ left my phone at home this morning and felt lost.
adv. unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
35. I avoid eating _____ foods to maintain a healthy diet.
adj. having the taste, texture, or appearance of sugar; excessively sweet or cloying; overly sentimental or flattering in a way that seems insincere
36. The homeowner called the police when they spotted an _____ in their backyard.
n. someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something
37. Many species of marine _____ such as corals and sponges, are important components of ocean ecosystems.
n. a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
38. They walked through the _____ of trees and admired the natural beauty.
n. a small group of trees growing closely together

ANSWERS: 31. scavengers, 32. dripping, 33. resourceful, 34. inadvertently, 35. sugary, 36. intruder, 37. invertebrates, 38. grove

39. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
- n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
40. The motivational speaker _____ the crowd with their words.
- v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
41. The terrible result _____ over her all day long.
- v.* to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth
42. The garden was infested with beetle _____ causing damage to the plant roots.
- n.* the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously
43. A giant _____ flew into the room, and everyone panicked.
- n.* a flying insect with a narrow waist and a sting, typically feeding on nectar and known for its aggressive behavior towards other insects and animals
44. I saw a _____ crawling across my bedroom floor, which gave me chills.
- n.* a long, many-legged arthropod of a group of species that are mostly nocturnal predators and typically feed on insects
45. He heard a _____ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
- n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
46. She had a _____ look and was determined to complete the task.
- adj.* having a specific aim or purpose; determined

ANSWERS: 39. predator's, 40. energized, 41. brooded, 42. grubs, 43. wasp, 44. centipede, 45. drone, 46. purposeful

ANSWERS: