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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Marc Bamuthi Joseph: "You Have the Rite" | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

totem

n. a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice

synonym: emblem, symbol, mascot

(1) tribal **totem**, (2) animal **totem**

The **totem** pole symbolized the tribe's culture and history, depicting important figures and events.

outrun

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

synonym: outpace, outrank, outdistance

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

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

vandal

n. a person who deliberately damages or destroys public or private property, often out of a sense of malicious or mischievous intent

synonym: destroyer, defacer, hooligan

(1) teenage **vandal**, (2) graffiti **vandal**

The city installed security cameras to deter **vandals** from

damaging public property.

artsy

adj. (also arty) relating to or characteristic of artists, especially those who are experimental, unconventional, avant-garde, or eclectic; having an interest in art, craft, or design, often in a creative, whimsical, or fanciful way

synonym: creative, artistic, imaginative

(1) **artsy** film, (2) **artsy** décor

The art exhibit showcased many different **artsy** pieces from local artists.

steward

n. a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

synonym: caretaker, manager, custodian

(1) **steward** duties, (2) **steward** service

The **steward** on the flight was very helpful in assisting passengers with their needs.

semaphore

n. a system of sending signals by means of two hand-held flags or lights whose positions indicate letters, words, or phrases; a signaling system that uses flags, lights, or mechanical arms to transmit coded information

synonym: flag, signal, beacon

(1) **semaphore** signal, (2) electronic **semaphore**

The sailor communicated with **semaphore** flags to signal the other ship.

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.

instinct

n. an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

synonym : intuition, aptitude, feeling

(1) **instinct** for self-preservation, (2) aggressive **instinct**
When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial **instinct** was to flee.

laconic

adj. using very few words to say something, especially in speech

synonym : terse, concise, pithy

(1) **laconic** humor, (2) in a dry **laconic** manner
He was known for his **laconic** responses to questions.

gazelle

n. a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia

synonym : antelope, springbok, impala

(1) **gazelle** hunting, (2) graceful **gazelle**
The zookeeper carefully monitored the **gazelle's** diet to ensure it received proper nutrition.

strut

v. to walk with a proud, stiff, and often exaggerated gait; to bulge or protrude outward, especially in a decorative or showy manner; (noun) a structural component designed to resist pressure or tension

synonym : swagger, strut, parade

(1) **strut** for support, (2) **strut** around the girls
She **strutted** out of the meeting after being challenged on her ideas.

calibrate

v. to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

synonym : adjust, fine-tune

(1) **calibrate** machinery, (2) **calibrate** measurements
It's important to **calibrate** the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict
Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

salvage

n. the act of saving or rescuing something from potential loss or destruction; the property or items that are saved or rescued in this way; (verb) to save, recover, or rescue something from a dangerous, damaged, or deteriorating situation

synonym: rescue, recovery

(1) **salvage** operation, (2) **salvage** a sunken ship
The **salvage** yard was full of old cars waiting to be scrapped.

handcuff

n. a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process

synonym: shackle, bind, restraint

(1) **handcuff** his wrists, (2) break free from **handcuffs**
The police officer put **handcuffs** on the suspect before placing them in the squad car.

shuck

v. to remove the shell or outer covering of something, such as a corn or an oyster; to discard or get rid of something, particularly something that is seen as useless or unwanted

synonym: peel, husk, shell

(1) **shuck** peas, (2) **shuck** oysters
I had to **shuck** the corn before I could cook it for dinner.

earnest

adj. characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment

synonym: sincere, serious, genuine

(1) **earnest** attempt, (2) **earnest** conversation

He spoke in an **earnest** tone, expressing his genuine concern for the safety of everyone involved.

shackle

n. a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind

synonym: chains, fetters, handcuffs

(1) **shackle** chains, (2) metal **shackle**

The prisoner wore heavy **shackles** on his wrists and ankles.

humiliate

v. to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information

synonym: shame, embarrass, degrade

(1) **humiliate** him publicly, (2) **humiliate** the heckler in the audience

The boss **humiliated** her employee by belittling her in front of her colleagues.

gasp

v. to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise

synonym: breathe, pant, heave

(1) **gasp** for air, (2) **gasp** in shock

The audience **gasped** when the magician made the rabbit disappear from the hat.

telepathy

n. the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses

synonym: mind-reading, esp, thought transference

(1) **telepathy** test, (2) **telepathy** experiment

The comic book hero had a **telepathy** power, which allowed him to read and control minds, making him a formidable foe

mushroom

n. a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap

synonym : fungus, toadstool

(1) **mushroom** spores, (2) **mushroom** cultivation

The **mushroom** risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.

moss

n. a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks

synonym : plant, foliage, greenery

(1) green **moss**, (2) **moss** garden

Moss grows in damp, shaded areas and is often found on the forest floor.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym : mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

unarmed

adj. without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons

synonym : defenseless, vulnerable, helpless

(1) **unarmed** combat, (2) **unarmed** robbery

The **unarmed** protesters marched peacefully through the streets.

unrest

n. a state of agitation or disturbance; lack of calm or peace

synonym : disturbance, agitation, turmoil

(1) **unrest** in the city, (2) cause **unrest**

The recent political **unrest** in the country has led to widespread protests and civil disobedience.

falsetto

n. a high-pitched, artificially-tightened singing voice, often used by male singers to reach high notes that are beyond their natural vocal range

synonym : high-pitched, alto, countertenor

(1) sing in **falsetto**, (2) high **falsetto** voice

The singer hit an impressive **falsetto** note during the concert.

sparrow

n. a small, brown bird with a short tail and a chirping call

synonym : bird, finch, warbler

(1) **sparrow** species, (2) **sparrow** population

The **sparrow** was a common bird found in most parts of the world.

magnanimous

adj. having or showing a generous, noble, and forgiving spirit; being unselfish and kind to others, especially those who have wronged or offended you

synonym : generous, benevolent, noble

(1) **magnanimous** forgiveness, (2) **magnanimous** attitude

The company's **magnanimous** donation to the charity helped many people in need.

beard

n. hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin

synonym : facial hair, whiskers, stubble

(1) a black **beard**, (2) shave my **beard**

He grew a thick **beard** to change his appearance.

martyr

n. a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs

synonym : sufferer, saint

(1) X-ray **martyrs**, (2) a Christian **martyr**

He died a **martyr** to science.

freeway

n. a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways

synonym : highway, expressway, motorway

(1) **freeway** exit, (2) expanded **freeway**

We got stuck in a traffic jam on the **freeway** for over an hour.

requiem

n. a musical composition or liturgical celebration honoring the memory of someone who has died; a somber or mournful piece of music or artistic work

synonym: threnody, dirge, funeral song

(1) **requiem** mass, (2) Mozart's **requiem**

The orchestra performed a moving **requiem** for the late conductor.

whiff

n. a brief and faint odor that is detected; a slight gust or puff of air; a hint or a trace of something; (verb) to catch a brief, slight smell of something

synonym: aroma, scent, odor

(1) **whiff** of smoke, (2) catch a **whiff**

The **whiff** of freshly baked bread made my mouth water.

placate

v. to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated

synonym: appease, pacify, soothe

(1) **placate** anger, (2) **placate** my fears

The manager tried to **placate** the angry customer by offering a refund.

skullcap

n. a small close-fitting cap, particularly one worn as part of a uniform or in religious ceremonies; a plant of the mint family, used in herbal medicine for its calming and relaxing properties

synonym: beanie, cap, hat

(1) herbal **skullcap**, (2) surgical **skullcap**

I wore a protective **skullcap** while riding my bike to prevent head injuries.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym: detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity
The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

overrule

v. to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action

synonym: override, countermand, supersede

(1) **overrule** decision, (2) **overrule** judgment

The judge **overruled** the objection and allowed the evidence to be presented.

angelic

adj. resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance

synonym: heavenly, celestial, divine

(1) **angelic** face, (2) **angelic** choir

The singer's **angelic** voice brought tears to the audience's eyes.

restless

adj. unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy

synonym: agitated, anxious, disturbed

(1) a **restless** person, (2) **restless** waves

He felt **restless** and constantly changed his postures.

Session 2: Spelling

1. tribal to__m *n.* a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice
2. sp____w population *n.* a small, brown bird with a short tail and a chirping call
3. sh__k peas *v.* to remove the shell or outer covering of something, such as a corn or an oyster; to discard or get rid of something, particularly something that is seen as useless or unwanted
4. electronic se_____re *n.* a system of sending signals by means of two hand-held flags or lights whose positions indicate letters, words, or phrases; a signaling system that uses flags, lights, or mechanical arms to transmit coded information
5. g__p in shock *v.* to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise
6. sa_____e a sunken ship *n.* the act of saving or rescuing something from potential loss or destruction; the property or items that are saved or rescued in this way; (verb) to save, recover, or rescue something from a dangerous, damaged, or deteriorating situation

ANSWERS: 1. totem, 2. sparrow, 3. shuck, 4. semaphore, 5. gasp, 6. salvage

7. graceful ga____e *n.* a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia
8. ea____t conversation *adj.* characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment
9. break free from ha____ffs *n.* a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process
10. graffiti va____l *n.* a person who deliberately damages or destroys public or private property, often out of a sense of malicious or mischievous intent
11. re____ss waves *adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
12. te____hy experiment *n.* the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses
13. hu____te him publicly *v.* to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information

ANSWERS: 7. gazelle, 8. earnest, 9. handcuff, 10. vandal, 11. restless, 12. telepathy, 13. humiliate

14. aggressive in_____ct *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
15. mu_____om spores *n.* a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap
16. green m____s *n.* a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks
17. a black be____d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
18. ou____n competitors *v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit
19. sing in fa_____to *n.* a high-pitched, artificially-tightened singing voice, often used by male singers to reach high notes that are beyond their natural vocal range
20. ha_____ff his wrists *n.* a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process
21. pl_____e my fears *v.* to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated

ANSWERS: 14. instinct, 15. mushroom, 16. moss, 17. beard, 18. outrun, 19. falsetto, 20. handcuff, 21. placate

22. ga____e hunting *n.* a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia
23. un____d combat *adj.* without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons
24. st__t for support *v.* to walk with a proud, stiff, and often exaggerated gait; to bulge or protrude outward, especially in a decorative or showy manner; (noun) a structural component designed to resist pressure or tension
25. ar__y film *adj.* (also arty) relating to or characteristic of artists, especially those who are experimental, unconventional, avant-garde, or eclectic; having an interest in art, craft, or design, often in a creative, whimsical, or fanciful way
26. st____d service *n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
27. ou____n the cops *v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit

ANSWERS: 22. gazelle, 23. unarmed, 24. strut, 25. artsy, 26. steward, 27. outrun

28. wh__f of smoke *n.* a brief and faint odor that is detected; a slight gust or puff of air; a hint or a trace of something; (verb) to catch a brief, slight smell of something
29. mu____om cultivation *n.* a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap
30. herbal sk____ap *n.* a small close-fitting cap, particularly one worn as part of a uniform or in religious ceremonies; a plant of the mint family, used in herbal medicine for its calming and relaxing properties
31. in____ct for self-preservation *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
32. ca____te measurements *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
33. m__s garden *n.* a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks
34. ea____t attempt *adj.* characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment
35. apex pr____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

ANSWERS: 28. whiff, 29. mushroom, 30. skullcap, 31. instinct, 32. calibrate, 33. moss, 34. earnest, 35. predator

36. metal sh____e *n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind
37. fu___s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
38. a Christian ma____r *n.* a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs
39. in a dry la____c manner *adj.* using very few words to say something, especially in speech
40. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
41. shave my be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
42. g__p for air *v.* to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise
43. ex____e in popularity *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
44. animal to__m *n.* a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice

ANSWERS: 36. shackle, 37. fungus, 38. martyr, 39. laconic, 40. smartphone, 41. beard, 42. gasp, 43. explode, 44. totem

45. se_____re signal *n.* a system of sending signals by means of two hand-held flags or lights whose positions indicate letters, words, or phrases; a signaling system that uses flags, lights, or mechanical arms to transmit coded information
46. st__t around the girls *v.* to walk with a proud, stiff, and often exaggerated gait; to bulge or protrude outward, especially in a decorative or showy manner; (noun) a structural component designed to resist pressure or tension
47. un___t in the city *n.* a state of agitation or disturbance; lack of calm or peace
48. st_____d duties *n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
49. re_____m mass *n.* a musical composition or liturgical celebration honoring the memory of someone who has died; a somber or mournful piece of music or artistic work
50. un_____d robbery *adj.* without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons
51. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

ANSWERS: 45. semaphore, 46. strut, 47. unrest, 48. steward, 49. requiem, 50. unarmed, 51. smartphone

52. Mozart's re____m *n.* a musical composition or liturgical celebration honoring the memory of someone who has died; a somber or mournful piece of music or artistic work
53. catch a wh__f *n.* a brief and faint odor that is detected; a slight gust or puff of air; a hint or a trace of something; (verb) to catch a brief, slight smell of something
54. surgical sk____ap *n.* a small close-fitting cap, particularly one worn as part of a uniform or in religious ceremonies; a plant of the mint family, used in herbal medicine for its calming and relaxing properties
55. sh__k oysters *v.* to remove the shell or outer covering of something, such as a corn or an oyster; to discard or get rid of something, particularly something that is seen as useless or unwanted
56. an____c face *adj.* resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance
57. mag____us attitude *adj.* having or showing a generous, noble, and forgiving spirit; being unselfish and kind to others, especially those who have wronged or offended you
58. symbiotic fu____s *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

ANSWERS: 52. requiem, 53. whiff, 54. skullcap, 55. shuck, 56. angelic, 57. magnanimous, 58. fungus

59. cause un___t *n.* a state of agitation or disturbance; lack of calm or peace
60. X-ray ma___rs *n.* a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs
61. te_____hy test *n.* the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses
62. a re_____ss person *adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
63. sexual pr_____ors *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
64. hu_____te the heckler in the audience *v.* to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information
65. sa_____e operation *n.* the act of saving or rescuing something from potential loss or destruction; the property or items that are saved or rescued in this way; (verb) to save, recover, or rescue something from a dangerous, damaged, or deteriorating situation
66. ca_____te machinery *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

ANSWERS: 59. unrest, 60. martyr, 61. telepathy, 62. restless, 63. predator, 64. humiliate, 65. salvage, 66. calibrate

67. la____c humor *adj.* using very few words to say something, especially in speech
68. ar__y d□cor *adj.* (also arty) relating to or characteristic of artists, especially those who are experimental, unconventional, avant-garde, or eclectic; having an interest in art, craft, or design, often in a creative, whimsical, or fanciful way
69. high fa____to voice *n.* a high-pitched, artificially-tightened singing voice, often used by male singers to reach high notes that are beyond their natural vocal range
70. ex____e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
71. ov____le judgment *v.* to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action
72. teenage va____l *n.* a person who deliberately damages or destroys public or private property, often out of a sense of malicious or mischievous intent
73. pl____e anger *v.* to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated
74. expanded fr____y *n.* a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways

ANSWERS: 67. laconic, 68. artsy, 69. falsetto, 70. explode, 71. overrule, 72. vandal, 73. placate, 74. freeway

75. sh____e chains *n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind
76. sp____w species *n.* a small, brown bird with a short tail and a chirping call
77. mag____us forgiveness *adj.* having or showing a generous, noble, and forgiving spirit; being unselfish and kind to others, especially those who have wronged or offended you
78. fr____y exit *n.* a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways
79. ov____le decision *v.* to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action
80. an____c choir *adj.* resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance

ANSWERS: 75. shackle, 76. sparrow, 77. magnanimous, 78. freeway, 79. overrule, 80. angelic

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The zookeeper carefully monitored the _____ diet to ensure it received proper nutrition.
 - n.* a slender, graceful antelope with long, slender legs and curved horns, native to Africa and parts of Asia
2. The art exhibit showcased many different _____ pieces from local artists.
 - adj.* (also arty) relating to or characteristic of artists, especially those who are experimental, unconventional, avant-garde, or eclectic; having an interest in art, craft, or design, often in a creative, whimsical, or fanciful way
3. The company's _____ donation to the charity helped many people in need.
 - adj.* having or showing a generous, noble, and forgiving spirit; being unselfish and kind to others, especially those who have wronged or offended you
4. The singer's _____ voice brought tears to the audience's eyes.
 - adj.* resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance
5. The _____ yard was full of old cars waiting to be scrapped.
 - n.* the act of saving or rescuing something from potential loss or destruction; the property or items that are saved or rescued in this way; (verb) to save, recover, or rescue something from a dangerous, damaged, or deteriorating situation
6. The _____ protesters marched peacefully through the streets.
 - adj.* without weapons or arms; not carrying any form of weapon or ammunition, or engaging in physical conflict with weapons

ANSWERS: 1. gazelle's, 2. artsy, 3. magnanimous, 4. angelic, 5. salvage, 6. unarmed

7. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
- n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
8. When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial _____ was to flee.
- n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
9. The audience _____ when the magician made the rabbit disappear from the hat.
- v.* to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise
10. He grew a thick _____ to change his appearance.
- n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
11. The orchestra performed a moving _____ for the late conductor.
- n.* a musical composition or liturgical celebration honoring the memory of someone who has died; a somber or mournful piece of music or artistic work
12. He died a _____ to science.
- n.* a person who suffers very much or is killed for the sake of their religious or political beliefs
13. The boss _____ her employee by belittling her in front of her colleagues.
- v.* to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information

ANSWERS: 7. fungus, 8. instinct, 9. gasped, 10. beard, 11. requiem, 12. martyr, 13. humiliated

14. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
- n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
15. The city installed security cameras to deter _____ from damaging public property.
- n.* a person who deliberately damages or destroys public or private property, often out of a sense of malicious or mischievous intent
16. The police officer put _____ on the suspect before placing them in the squad car.
- n.* a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process
17. The singer hit an impressive _____ note during the concert.
- n.* a high-pitched, artificially-tightened singing voice, often used by male singers to reach high notes that are beyond their natural vocal range
18. The _____ was a common bird found in most parts of the world.
- n.* a small, brown bird with a short tail and a chirping call
19. The _____ pole symbolized the tribe's culture and history, depicting important figures and events.
- n.* a sacred object or symbol that represents a person, family, clan, or community, often used in indigenous cultures as part of a belief system or religious practice
20. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.
- v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

ANSWERS: 14. smartphones, 15. vandals, 16. handcuffs, 17. falsetto, 18. sparrow, 19. totem, 20. exploded

21. The manager tried to _____ the angry customer by offering a refund.
- v.* to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated
22. We got stuck in a traffic jam on the _____ for over an hour.
- n.* a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways
23. I wore a protective _____ while riding my bike to prevent head injuries.
- n.* a small close-fitting cap, particularly one worn as part of a uniform or in religious ceremonies; a plant of the mint family, used in herbal medicine for its calming and relaxing properties
24. He spoke in an _____ tone, expressing his genuine concern for the safety of everyone involved.
- adj.* characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment
25. The prisoner wore heavy _____ on his wrists and ankles.
- n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind
26. It's important to _____ the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.
- v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
27. The comic book hero had a _____ power, which allowed him to read and control minds, making him a formidable foe
- n.* the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses

ANSWERS: 21. placate, 22. freeway, 23. skullcap, 24. earnest, 25. shackles, 26. calibrate, 27. telepathy

28. The _____ of freshly baked bread made my mouth water.
- n.* a brief and faint odor that is detected; a slight gust or puff of air; a hint or a trace of something; (verb) to catch a brief, slight smell of something
29. The _____ on the flight was very helpful in assisting passengers with their needs.
- n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
30. I'll need to _____ the rainstorm to make it home without getting soaked.
- v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit
31. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
- n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
32. _____ grows in damp, shaded areas and is often found on the forest floor.
- n.* a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks
33. The recent political _____ in the country has led to widespread protests and civil disobedience.
- n.* a state of agitation or disturbance; lack of calm or peace
34. He felt _____ and constantly changed his postures.
- adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy

ANSWERS: 28. whiff, 29. steward, 30. outrun, 31. predator's, 32. Moss, 33. unrest, 34. restless

35. He was known for his _____ responses to questions.

adj. using very few words to say something, especially in speech

36. The _____ risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.

n. a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap

37. The sailor communicated with _____ flags to signal the other ship.

n. a system of sending signals by means of two hand-held flags or lights whose positions indicate letters, words, or phrases; a signaling system that uses flags, lights, or mechanical arms to transmit coded information

38. The judge _____ the objection and allowed the evidence to be presented.

v. to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action

39. I had to _____ the corn before I could cook it for dinner.

v. to remove the shell or outer covering of something, such as a corn or an oyster; to discard or get rid of something, particularly something that is seen as useless or unwanted

40. She _____ out of the meeting after being challenged on her ideas.

v. to walk with a proud, stiff, and often exaggerated gait; to bulge or protrude outward, especially in a decorative or showy manner; (noun) a structural component designed to resist pressure or tension

ANSWERS: 35. laconic, 36. mushroom, 37. semaphore, 38. overruled, 39. shuck, 40. strutted