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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kate Bowler: "Everything happens for a reason" --
and other lies I've loved | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sweetheart

n. an affectionate term for a person, often a romantic partner, who is loved or cherished

synonym: darling, beloved, love

(1) **sweetheart** deal, (2) **sweetheart** romance

I can always rely on my **sweetheart** to lift my mood when feeling down.

infertile

adj. unable to grow crops or sustain life; not able to produce offspring or offspring that are viable

synonym: barren, sterile, unproductive

(1) **infertile** woman, (2) **infertile** land

The soil in the desert is **infertile**, making it difficult to grow crops.

ironic

adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

synonym: sarcastic, wry, sardonic

(1) **ironic** result, (2) an **ironic** turn of events

It was **ironic** that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

prosper

v. to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish

synonym: thrive, flourish, succeed

(1) **prosper** in the long run, (2) **prosper** as a trading hub

With careful planning and hard work, she was able to **prosper** in her new business venture.

boundless

adj. having no limits; limitless

synonym: limitless, indefinite, bottomless

(1) **boundless** imagination, (2) **boundless** energy

The **boundless** ocean stretched before them as far as the eye could see.

boomerang

n. a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it

synonym: bouncing bomb, comeback, backfire

(1) **boomerang** effect, (2) throw a **boomerang**

The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up **boomeranging** on himself.

posit

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

synonym: assert, declare, assume

(1) **posit** the existence of life after death, (2) **posit** the premise

We should **posit** several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

televangelist

n. a Christian minister who uses television to broadcast religious teachings and services to a broader audience

synonym: TV preacher, religious broadcaster, faith leader

(1) **televangelist's** program, (2) a controversial **televangelist**

The avid **televangelist** was known for his over-the-top preaching style and use of technology in his broadcasts.

auditorium

n. a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances

synonym: hall, theater, amphitheater

(1) open-air **auditorium**, (2) **auditorium** annex

The **auditorium** seating was filled with people waiting for the concert to begin.

cliche

n. a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement

synonym: truism, platitude, stereotype

(1) **cliche** plot, (2) age-old **cliche**

Using the same **cliche** phrase in every conversation can take time and effort.

hashtag

n. a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic

(1) marked with a **hashtag**, (2) trending **hashtag**

Our brand's campaign uses a unique **hashtag** to track engagement and reach.

transcendent

adj. going beyond the limits of ordinary experience or knowledge; surpassing the usual or expected; exalted or sublime

synonym: beyond human experience, divine, spiritual

(1) **transcendent** wisdom, (2) **transcendent** joy

The **transcendent** beauty of the Grand Canyon took his breath away.

deify

v. to worship or regard someone or something as divine or almost perfect; to idealize or elevate someone or something to a godlike status

synonym: worship, idolize, revere

(1) **deify** a hero, (2) **deify** a political figure

Some cultures **deify** their rulers, considering them godlike and infallible.

optimism

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

synonym: positiveness, sanguinity, bullishness

(1) sense of **optimism**, (2) political **optimism**

There is considerable **optimism** that the economy will recover soon.

homicide

n. the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings

synonym: murder, killing, manslaughter

(1) mass **homicide**, (2) serial **homicide**

The detective was called to investigate a **homicide** in the city.

detour

n. a route that deviates from the main or direct one, usually taken to avoid something such as traffic or construction; a diversion from the usual or expected course of action

synonym: diversion, deviation, bypass

(1) **detour** sign, (2) unnecessary **detour**

We had to take a **detour because** of the road construction ahead.

mindset

n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

synonym: attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

retrospect

n. a review or analysis of past events, particularly to gain insight or understanding; a consideration of something that has already occurred or been accomplished

synonym: review, hindsight, contemplation

(1) **retrospect** review, (2) with hindsight **retrospect**

In **retrospect**, I wish I had made a different decision.

simmer

v. to cook food over low heat in a liquid, maintaining a temperature just below boiling point; to be filled with a low level of intense emotion; to be on the verge of expressing strong feelings

synonym: stew, boil slowly, cook gently

(1) **simmer** until water evaporates, (2) **simmer** in her mind for years

The soup must **simmer** for at least an hour for all the flavors to blend.

reassure

v. to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence

synonym: comfort, soothe, bolster

(1) **reassure** anxious patients, (2) **reassure** market

The pilot tried to **reassure** the customers that the planes were safe.

stammer

v. to speak with involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, often caused by nervousness or uncertainty

synonym: stutter, falter, hesitate

(1) **stammer** a response, (2) **stammer** in front of the audience

I tend to **stammer** when I'm nervous or anxious.

surreal

adj. strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality

synonym: dreamlike, fantastical, unreal

(1) **surreal** number, (2) **surreal** art

The dreamlike quality of the painting gave it a **surreal** feel.

humming

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

synonym: buzzing, droning, vibrating

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

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

embroider

v. to decorate or embellish a fabric or piece of clothing with ornamental or colorful designs using needlework; to add fictitious or exaggerated details to a story or account

synonym : decorate, adorn, embellish

(1) **embroider** a dress, (2) **embroider** a cushion

She chose to **embroider** her initials onto the scarf as a personal touch.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

synonym : bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

entitle

v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

synonym : allow, permit, enable

(1) **entitle** him to a pension, (2) **entitle** the company to use the logo

The employee was **entitled** to a week of vacation time.

theologian

n. an expert or student who studies theology

synonym : clergyperson, philosopher, scholar

(1) Swedish **theologian**, (2) great **theologians**

Death gets more than its share of attention from **theologians**.

nun

n. a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community

synonym : sister, religious, monastic

(1) **nun** habit, (2) meditating **nun**

The cloistered **nun** devoted her life to serving the poor and marginalized.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym : Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

reassurance

n. the act of giving advice or help to make someone feel less worried; the act of giving someone confidence

synonym : encouragement, comfort, support

(1) give **reassurance**, (2) **reassurance** of my commitment

He needed **reassurance** that everything would be alright.

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.

recede

v. to pull back or move away or backward

synonym : move back, retreat, downsize

(1) **recede** from view, (2) **recede** in the darkness

The king's political power **receded** even further.

imprint

v. to make a mark or impression on a surface; to leave a lasting impression or influence on someone or something; (noun) a mark or impression made by pressing or stamping something onto a surface; a distinctive feature or characteristic that is left by something or someone

synonym : impress, stamp, engrave

(1) DNA **imprint**, (2) **imprint** a memory

He wanted to **imprint** his brand logo on the product.

boast

v. to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction

synonym: show off, brag, bluster

(1) **boast** of his success, (2) **boast** a long history

This town **boasts** a national park.

jolt

v. to move or cause to move with a sudden jerky motion; to disturb someone's composure); (noun) a sudden, sharp movement or shock

synonym: shock, jar, bump

(1) **jolt** entire social systems, (2) **jolt** of excitement

The news of the unexpected announcement **jolted** the stock market.

reconcile

v. to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist

synonym: harmonize, moderate, conciliate

(1) **reconcile** these differences, (2) **reconcile** a dispute

Sometimes it is challenging to **reconcile** science and religion.

embarrass

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

Session 2: Spelling

1. great the _____ans *n.* an expert or student who studies theology
2. de__y a hero *v.* to worship or regard someone or something as divine or almost perfect; to idealize or elevate someone or something to a godlike status
3. re_____re market *v.* to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
4. em_____ss my project *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
5. in_____le land *adj.* unable to grow crops or sustain life; not able to produce offspring or offspring that are viable
6. re___e in the darkness *v.* to pull back or move away or backward
7. im_____t a memory *v.* to make a mark or impression on a surface; to leave a lasting impression or influence on someone or something; (noun) a mark or impression made by pressing or stamping something onto a surface; a distinctive feature or characteristic that is left by something or someone
8. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 1. theologian, 2. deify, 3. reassure, 4. embarrass, 5. infertile, 6. recede, 7. imprint, 8. rev

9. DNA im____t
- v. to make a mark or impression on a surface; to leave a lasting impression or influence on someone or something; (noun) a mark or impression made by pressing or stamping something onto a surface; a distinctive feature or characteristic that is left by something or someone
10. ret_____ct review
- n. a review or analysis of past events, particularly to gain insight or understanding; a consideration of something that has already occurred or been accomplished
11. po__t the premise
- v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
12. mass ho_____de
- n. the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings
13. j__t entire social systems
- v. to move or cause to move with a sudden jerky motion; to disturb someone's composure); (noun) a sudden, sharp movement or shock
14. throw a bo_____ng
- n. a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
15. an ir___c turn of events
- adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

ANSWERS: 9. imprint, 10. retrospect, 11. posit, 12. homicide, 13. jolt, 14. boomerang, 15. ironic

16. trending ha____g *n.* a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic
17. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
18. swe_____rt deal *n.* an affectionate term for a person, often a romantic partner, who is loved or cherished
19. bo_____ss energy *adj.* having no limits; limitless
20. teaching of Ch____t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
21. a controversial tel_____ist *n.* a Christian minister who uses television to broadcast religious teachings and services to a broader audience
22. en_____e the company to use the logo *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
23. hu_____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
24. give rea_____ce *n.* the act of giving advice or help to make someone feel less worried; the act of giving someone confidence
25. de__y a political figure *v.* to worship or regard someone or something as divine or almost perfect; to idealize or elevate someone or something to a godlike status

ANSWERS: 16. hashtag, 17. rev, 18. sweetheart, 19. boundless, 20. Christ, 21. televangelist, 22. entitle, 23. humming, 24. reassurance, 25. deify

34. re_____le a dispute *v.* to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist
35. bo_____ng effect *n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
36. marked with a ha_____g *n.* a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic
37. sense of op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
38. serial ho_____de *n.* the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings
39. tel_____ist's program *n.* a Christian minister who uses television to broadcast religious teachings and services to a broader audience
40. political op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
41. re___e from view *v.* to pull back or move away or backward
42. ir___c result *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

ANSWERS: 34. reconcile, 35. boomerang, 36. hashtag, 37. optimism, 38. homicide, 39. televangelist, 40. optimism, 41. recede, 42. ironic

43. n_n habit *n.* a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community
44. aud_____um annex *n.* a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances
45. si___r in her mind for years *v.* to cook food over low heat in a liquid, maintaining a temperature just below boiling point; to be filled with a low level of intense emotion; to be on the verge of expressing strong feelings
46. si___r until water evaporates *v.* to cook food over low heat in a liquid, maintaining a temperature just below boiling point; to be filled with a low level of intense emotion; to be on the verge of expressing strong feelings
47. bo_____ss imagination *adj.* having no limits; limitless
48. cl__g tightly to the skin *v.* to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
49. hu_____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
50. su_____l number *adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
51. in_____le woman *adj.* unable to grow crops or sustain life; not able to produce offspring or offspring that are viable
52. rea_____ce of my commitment *n.* the act of giving advice or help to make someone feel less worried; the act of giving someone confidence

ANSWERS: 43. nun, 44. auditorium, 45. simmer, 46. simmer, 47. boundless, 48. cling, 49. humming, 50. surreal, 51. infertile, 52. reassurance

53. po__t the existence of life after death
v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
54. em_____ss political enemy
v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
55. su_____l art
adj. strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
56. bo__t of his success
v. to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction
57. age-old cl___e
n. a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
58. st_____r in front of the audience
v. to speak with involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, often caused by nervousness or uncertainty
59. pr_____r as a trading hub
v. to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish
60. bo__t a long history
v. to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction
61. flexible mi_____t
n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
62. Swedish the_____an
n. an expert or student who studies theology

ANSWERS: 53. posit, 54. embarrass, 55. surreal, 56. boast, 57. cliché, 58. stammer, 59. prosper, 60. boast, 61. mindset, 62. theologian

63. tra_____ent joy *adj.* going beyond the limits of ordinary experience or knowledge; surpassing the usual or expected; exalted or sublime
64. meditating n_n *n.* a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community
65. de___r sign *n.* a route that deviates from the main or direct one, usually taken to avoid something such as traffic or construction; a diversion from the usual or expected course of action
66. open-air aud_____um *n.* a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances
67. st_____r a response *v.* to speak with involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, often caused by nervousness or uncertainty
68. before Ch___t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
69. pr_____r in the long run *v.* to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish
70. cl___e plot *n.* a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
71. the mi_____t in an education system *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

ANSWERS: 63. transcendent, 64. nun, 65. detour, 66. auditorium, 67. stammer, 68. Christ, 69. prosper, 70. cliché, 71. mindset

72. em_____er a cushion
- v. to decorate or embellish a fabric or piece of clothing with ornamental or colorful designs using needlework; to add fictitious or exaggerated details to a story or account
73. tra_____ent wisdom
- adj.* going beyond the limits of ordinary experience or knowledge; surpassing the usual or expected; exalted or sublime
74. re_____re anxious patients
- v. to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
75. re_____le these differences
- v. to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist
76. st_____e financially
- v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

ANSWERS: 72. embroider, 73. transcendent, 74. reassure, 75. reconcile, 76. stumble

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He wanted to _____ his brand logo on the product.
 - v. to make a mark or impression on a surface; to leave a lasting impression or influence on someone or something; (noun) a mark or impression made by pressing or stamping something onto a surface; a distinctive feature or characteristic that is left by something or someone

2. The detective was called to investigate a _____ in the city.
 - n. the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings

3. The news of the unexpected announcement _____ the stock market.
 - v. to move or cause to move with a sudden jerky motion; to disturb someone's composure); (noun) a sudden, sharp movement or shock

4. The avid _____ was known for his over-the-top preaching style and use of technology in his broadcasts.
 - n. a Christian minister who uses television to broadcast religious teachings and services to a broader audience

5. The employee was _____ to a week of vacation time.
 - v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

6. The _____ ocean stretched before them as far as the eye could see.
 - adj. having no limits; limitless

7. Sometimes it is challenging to _____ science and religion.
 - v. to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist

ANSWERS: 1. imprint, 2. homicide, 3. jolted, 4. televangelist, 5. entitled, 6. boundless, 7. reconcile

8. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.
v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
9. There is considerable _____ that the economy will recover soon.
n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
10. We had to take a _____ of the road construction ahead.
n. a route that deviates from the main or direct one, usually taken to avoid something such as traffic or construction; a diversion from the usual or expected course of action
11. Our brand's campaign uses a unique _____ to track engagement and reach.
n. a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic
12. The _____ seating was filled with people waiting for the concert to begin.
n. a room or building used for concerts, plays, or other public performances
13. The soil in the desert is _____ making it difficult to grow crops.
adj. unable to grow crops or sustain life; not able to produce offspring or offspring that are viable
14. She _____ over the tree root.
v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
15. The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up _____ on himself.
n. a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it

ANSWERS: 8. embarrass, 9. optimism, 10. detour because, 11. hashtag, 12. auditorium, 13. infertile, 14. stumbled, 15. boomeranging

16. In _____ I wish I had made a different decision.

- n.* a review or analysis of past events, particularly to gain insight or understanding; a consideration of something that has already occurred or been accomplished

17. He needed _____ that everything would be alright.

- n.* the act of giving advice or help to make someone feel less worried; the act of giving someone confidence

18. 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

19. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

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

20. Using the same _____ phrase in every conversation can take time and effort.

- n.* a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement

21. With careful planning and hard work, she was able to _____ in her new business venture.

- v.* to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish

22. The king's political power _____ even further.

- v.* to pull back or move away or backward

23. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

- v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

ANSWERS: 16. retrospect, 17. reassurance, 18. clings, 19. humming, 20. cliché, 21. prosper, 22. receded, 23. posit

24. The soup must _____ for at least an hour for all the flavors to blend.
- v. to cook food over low heat in a liquid, maintaining a temperature just below boiling point; to be filled with a low level of intense emotion; to be on the verge of expressing strong feelings
25. The _____ beauty of the Grand Canyon took his breath away.
- adj. going beyond the limits of ordinary experience or knowledge; surpassing the usual or expected; exalted or sublime
26. The pilot tried to _____ the customers that the planes were safe.
- v. to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
27. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.
- n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
28. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.
- n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
29. The dreamlike quality of the painting gave it a _____ feel.
- adj. strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
30. I can always rely on my _____ to lift my mood when feeling down.
- n. an affectionate term for a person, often a romantic partner, who is loved or cherished
31. Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial _____ in each individual.
- n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

ANSWERS: 24. simmer, 25. transcendent, 26. reassure, 27. Christmas, 28. rev, 29. surreal, 30. sweetheart, 31. mindset

32. This town _____ a national park.

- v.* to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction

33. Some cultures _____ their rulers, considering them godlike and infallible.

- v.* to worship or regard someone or something as divine or almost perfect; to idealize or elevate someone or something to a godlike status

34. It was _____ that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

- adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

35. The cloistered ____ devoted her life to serving the poor and marginalized.

- n.* a woman who has taken religious vows and is a member of a monastic community

36. Death gets more than its share of attention from _____.

- n.* an expert or student who studies theology

37. She chose to _____ her initials onto the scarf as a personal touch.

- v.* to decorate or embellish a fabric or piece of clothing with ornamental or colorful designs using needlework; to add fictitious or exaggerated details to a story or account

38. I tend to _____ when I'm nervous or anxious.

- v.* to speak with involuntary pauses or repetitions of sounds, often caused by nervousness or uncertainty

ANSWERS: 32. boasts, 33. deify, 34. ironic, 35. nun, 36. theologians, 37. embroider, 38. stammer