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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Danielle Citron: How deepfakes undermine truth and threaten democracy | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

vitriolic

adj. bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)

synonym : acerbic, caustic, biting

(1) **vitriolic** assault, (2) **vitriolic** discussion

Her **vitriolic** remarks caused much tension in the workplace.

demean

v. to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated

synonym : lower, degrade, humiliate

(1) **demean** the value, (2) **demean** the reputation

You shouldn't **demean** yourself by taking on tasks beneath your skill level.

sham

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

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

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

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

screenshot

n. a digital photograph or image of what is displayed on a computer or electronic screen, often used for capturing and sharing information or documenting an issue or problem

synonym : capture, screen dump

(1) **screenshot** function, (2) send a **screenshot**

I took a **screenshot** of the error message to show the tech support team.

slur

v. to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory statements

synonym : defame, slander, denigrate

(1) **slur** a drink, (2) **slur** his reputation

He shouldn't be allowed to **slur** people based on race or sexuality.

doxing

n. the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent

synonym : cyberstalking, cyberbullying

(1) the potential risk of **doxing**, (2) laws against **doxing**

The celebrity became a victim of **doxing**, resulting in her personal details being publicly revealed.

deepfake

n. a manipulated video or audio recording that uses advanced computer technology to create a realistic portrayal of a person saying or doing something they did not actually say or do, often used for deceptive or malicious purposes

synonym : AI-generated media, manipulated media

(1) **deepfake** technology, (2) **deepfake** video

The use of **deepfakes** in political campaigns is a growing concern.

machine-learning

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

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

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

falsehood

n. a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading

synonym: lie, untruth, deception

(1) spread **falsehoods**, (2) palpable **falsehood**

The media exposed the politician's **falsehoods**.

sophistication

n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined

synonym: refinement, culture, elegance

(1) cultural **sophistication**, (2) linguistic **sophistication**

The new technology added a level of **sophistication** to the manufacturing process.

cascade

n. a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units

synonym: waterfall, watercourse, step

(1) **cascade** connection, (2) transistor **cascade**

The **cascade** of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.

frailty

n. the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality

synonym: weakness, fragility, delicacy

(1) cognitive **frailty**, (2) **frailty** syndrome

The doctor warned us about the human body's **frailty** and the dangers of neglecting our health.

visceral

adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

synonym : instinctive, intuitive, gut

(1) **visceral** organ, (2) **visceral** fear

After watching the horror movie, she had a **visceral** reaction and couldn't sleep all night.

salacious

adj. characterized by or describing inappropriate, often sexually suggestive content or behavior; excessively erotic or lustful in nature

synonym : provocative, suggestive, titillating

(1) **salacious** gossip, (2) a **salacious** novel

The tabloids publish **salacious** stories to attract more readers.

provocative

adj. arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately

synonym : instigating, provoking, inciting

(1) **provocative** questions, (2) a **provocative** smile

His **provocative** style frequently sparked controversies.

hoax

n. a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank

synonym : deception, fraud, trick

(1) suspect a **hoax**, (2) **hoax** email

The newspaper article was revealed to be a **hoax**.

supercharge

v. to increase the power or energy of something

synonym : boost, enhance, power up

(1) **supercharge** economic growth, (2) **supercharge** the battery

They **supercharged** the engine to get more power.

societal

adj. relating to society or social relationships

synonym : social, communal, cultural

(1) **societal** norms, (2) **societal** expectations
The **societal** pressure to conform is strong in this community.

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.

imam

n. a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community

synonym: leader, cleric, spiritual guide

(1) **imam** of mosque, (2) spiritual **imam**

In some Muslim countries, the **imam's** position is appointed by the government.

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.

corrode

v. to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time

synonym: erode, rust, eat away

(1) **corrode** steel drums, (2) **corrode** pipes

The saltwater can **corrode** metal over time if not properly maintained.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym: formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

spout

n. a tube or chute through which something, particularly a liquid, can be poured or discharged in a continuous stream; a projecting tube or pipe that transfers fluids from one container to another; (verb) to send out a stream of liquid or gas, typically in a forceful way

synonym: spigot, nozzle, faucet

(1) **spout** out an opinion, (2) fountain **spout**

The water **spout** in the garden provides a refreshing mist on hot days.

magnify

v. to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder

synonym: enlarge, elaborate, intensify

(1) **magnify** the danger, (2) **magnify** the image for display

Terrorists often attempt to **magnify** the economic impact of their acts of destruction.

distrust

n. a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something

synonym: suspicion, doubt, misgiving

(1) **distrust** in politics, (2) growing **distrust**

The employee's consistent tardiness and lack of accountability made her coworkers develop **distrust** in her abilities.

disbelief

n. the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real

synonym: doubt, mistrust, incredulity

(1) **disbelief** in the authority, (2) ask in **disbelief**

His reaction was one of complete **disbelief**.

wrongdoing

n. an improper or illegal behavior or action

synonym: misconduct, crime, offense

(1) an accusation of **wrongdoing**, (2) willful **wrongdoing**

The CEO of the company denied any **wrongdoing** while admitting to mismanagement.

disturb

v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
synonym: agitate, bother, intrude

(1) **disturb** the peace, (2) **disturb** his sleep

Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.

lawmaker

n. a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws

synonym: lawgiver, legislator, solon

(1) female **lawmaker**, (2) incumbent **lawmaker**

This company has increased political contributions to federal **lawmakers**.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

impersonation

n. the act of deliberately imitating or pretending to be someone else, often for comedic or deceptive purposes

synonym: imitation, caricature, portrayal

(1) criminal **impersonation**, (2) **impersonation** act

His **impersonation** of the popular actor at the party was spot-on.

satire

n. a literary or artistic work that uses irony, sarcasm, humor, ridicule, or exaggeration to criticize human vices, follies, or shortcomings; a genre of literature or art that uses such techniques

synonym: irony, mockery, ridicule

(1) **satire** magazine, (2) a pungent **satire**

The comedian's **satire** on politics had the audience laughing and thinking.

pun *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
synonym : joke, quip, wordplay
(1) witty **pun**, (2) silly **pun**
The comedian's **pun** had the audience laughing out loud.

perpetrator *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
synonym : culprit, wrongdoer, offender
(1) **perpetrator** identity, (2) culprit **perpetrator**
The police have not yet caught the **perpetrator** of the crime.

invade *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
synonym : intrude, raid, overrun
(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy
I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

commonplace *adj.* occurring very often; lacking originality or interest
synonym : ordinary, routine, mundane
(1) become a **commonplace** sight, (2) **commonplace** event
Forgetting someone's name is a **commonplace** occurrence.

devise *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
synonym : create, concoct, invent
(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot
They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

tantamount *adj.* equivalent in value, significance, or effect to something else; virtually equal to or interchangeable with something else
synonym : equivalent, equal, identical
(1) **tantamount** to impossible, (2) **tantamount** to treason

His behavior is **tantamount** to bullying and will not be tolerated.

impediment

n. a hindrance or obstruction in doing something

synonym: obstacle, hindrance, barrier

(1) have a speech **impediment**, (2) biological **impediment**

The language barrier was an **impediment** to their communication.

proffer

v. to offer or present something for someone's acceptance; to extend or hold out something for someone to take or use

synonym: offer, propose, suggest

(1) **proffer** advice, (2) **proffer** a solution

Can I **proffer** my assistance with your project?

stalk

v. to follow or track someone or something closely and quietly, usually to cause harm or surveillance; to move slowly and quietly to avoid detection; (noun) the main stem of a plant that supports leaves, flowers, and fruit; the stem or main axis of a support structure or framework

synonym: follow, creep up on, (noun) stem

(1) **stalk** of celery, (2) **stalk** from the room

The hunter quietly **stalked** the deer for hours before taking the shot

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym: intensify, boost, argument

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

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

fallout

n. the radioactive dust in the air that settle to the ground after a nuclear explosion

(1) nuclear **fallout**, (2) the **fallout** from the incident

they had no protection from the radioactive **fallout**.

offline

adj. not connected to the internet

synonym: disconnected, not connected, unplugged

(1) **offline** course, (2) **offline** mode

The computer is **offline** and cannot be accessed at the moment.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

Session 2: Spelling

1. h__x email
n. a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank
2. de___n the value
v. to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated
3. vi_____ic assault
adj. bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)
4. willful wro_____ng
n. an improper or illegal behavior or action
5. so_____al expectations
adj. relating to society or social relationships
6. di_____b the peace
v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
7. de___e a literary plot
v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
8. mac_____ing processor
n. the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data

ANSWERS: 1. hoax, 2. demean, 3. vitriolic, 4. wrongdoing, 5. societal, 6. disturb, 7. devise, 8. machine-learning

9. pr____r advice *v.* to offer or present something for someone's acceptance; to extend or hold out something for someone to take or use
10. pr____e a reaction *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
11. s__r a drink *v.* to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory statements
12. de____e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
13. sp__t out an opinion *n.* a tube or chute through which something, particularly a liquid, can be poured or discharged in a continuous stream; a projecting tube or pipe that transfers fluids from one container to another; (verb) to send out a stream of liquid or gas, typically in a forceful way
14. spiritual i__m *n.* a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community
15. nuclear fa____t *n.* the radioactive dust in the air that settle to the ground after a nuclear explosion
16. the potential risk of do____g *n.* the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent

ANSWERS: 9. proffer, 10. provoke, 11. slur, 12. devise, 13. spout, 14. imam, 15. fallout, 16. doxing

17. the fa____t from the incident *n.* the radioactive dust in the air that settle to the ground after a nuclear explosion
18. st__k of celery *v.* to follow or track someone or something closely and quietly, usually to cause harm or surveillance; to move slowly and quietly to avoid detection; (noun) the main stem of a plant that supports leaves, flowers, and fruit; the stem or main axis of a support structure or framework
19. transistor ca____e *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
20. scr____ot function *n.* a digital photograph or image of what is displayed on a computer or electronic screen, often used for capturing and sharing information or documenting an issue or problem
21. st__k from the room *v.* to follow or track someone or something closely and quietly, usually to cause harm or surveillance; to move slowly and quietly to avoid detection; (noun) the main stem of a plant that supports leaves, flowers, and fruit; the stem or main axis of a support structure or framework
22. pr____r a solution *v.* to offer or present something for someone's acceptance; to extend or hold out something for someone to take or use

ANSWERS: 17. fallout, 18. stalk, 19. cascade, 20. screenshot, 21. stalk, 22. proffer

23. ma____y the danger *v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
24. mac_____ing method *n.* the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data
25. criminal imp_____ion *n.* the act of deliberately imitating or pretending to be someone else, often for comedic or deceptive purposes
26. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
27. fountain sp__t *n.* a tube or chute through which something, particularly a liquid, can be poured or discharged in a continuous stream; a projecting tube or pipe that transfers fluids from one container to another; (verb) to send out a stream of liquid or gas, typically in a forceful way
28. de_____ke video *n.* a manipulated video or audio recording that uses advanced computer technology to create a realistic portrayal of a person saying or doing something they did not actually say or do, often used for deceptive or malicious purposes

ANSWERS: 23. magnify, 24. machine-learning, 25. impersonation, 26. invade, 27. spout, 28. deepfake

29. a pungent sa___e *n.* a literary or artistic work that uses irony, sarcasm, humor, ridicule, or exaggeration to criticize human vices, follies, or shortcomings; a genre of literature or art that uses such techniques
30. com_____ce event *adj.* occurring very often; lacking originality or interest
31. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
32. ca_____e connection *n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
33. di_____st in politics *n.* a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something
34. per_____or identity *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
35. an accusation of wro_____ng *n.* an improper or illegal behavior or action
36. tan_____nt to treason *adj.* equivalent in value, significance, or effect to something else; virtually equal to or interchangeable with something else
37. sa_____us gossip *adj.* characterized by or describing inappropriate, often sexually suggestive content or behavior; excessively erotic or lustful in nature
38. so_____al norms *adj.* relating to society or social relationships

ANSWERS: 29. satire, 30. commonplace, 31. resilient, 32. cascade, 33. distrust, 34. perpetrator, 35. wrongdoing, 36. tantamount, 37. salacious, 38. societal

39. de___n the reputation *v.* to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated
40. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
41. di_____b his sleep *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
42. silly p_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
43. ma_____y the image for display *v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
44. s__r his reputation *v.* to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory statements
45. culprit per_____or *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
46. cognitive fr_____y *n.* the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality
47. become a com_____ce sight *adj.* occurring very often; lacking originality or interest

ANSWERS: 39. demean, 40. intellect, 41. disturb, 42. pun, 43. magnify, 44. slur, 45. perpetrator, 46. frailty, 47. commonplace

48. linguistic sop_____ion *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
49. a pro_____ve smile *adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately
50. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
51. sa____e magazine *n.* a literary or artistic work that uses irony, sarcasm, humor, ridicule, or exaggeration to criticize human vices, follies, or shortcomings; a genre of literature or art that uses such techniques
52. imp_____ion act *n.* the act of deliberately imitating or pretending to be someone else, often for comedic or deceptive purposes
53. spread fa_____ods *n.* a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading
54. of_____e mode *adj.* not connected to the internet
55. female la_____er *n.* a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws
56. pro_____ve questions *adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately
57. palpable fa_____od *n.* a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading

ANSWERS: 48. sophistication, 49. provocative, 50. resilient, 51. satire, 52. impersonation, 53. falsehood, 54. offline, 55. lawmaker, 56. provocative, 57. falsehood

58. a sa_____us novel *adj.* characterized by or describing inappropriate, often sexually suggestive content or behavior; excessively erotic or lustful in nature
59. ask in di_____ef *n.* the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real
60. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
61. growing di_____st *n.* a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something
62. fr_____y syndrome *n.* the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality
63. sup_____ge the battery *v.* to increase the power or energy of something
64. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
65. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
66. send a scr_____ot *n.* a digital photograph or image of what is displayed on a computer or electronic screen, often used for capturing and sharing information or documenting an issue or problem
67. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

ANSWERS: 58. salacious, 59. disbelief, 60. invade, 61. distrust, 62. frailty, 63. supercharge, 64. sham, 65. institutionalize, 66. screenshot, 67. sham

68. co_____e steel drums *v.* to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time
69. cause un____t *n.* a state of agitation or disturbance; lack of calm or peace
70. vi_____ic discussion *adj.* bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)
71. laws against do____g *n.* the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent
72. co_____e pipes *v.* to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time
73. incumbent la_____er *n.* a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws
74. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
75. of_____e course *adj.* not connected to the internet
76. sup_____ge economic growth *v.* to increase the power or energy of something
77. di_____ef in the authority *n.* the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real
78. vi_____al organ *adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

ANSWERS: 68. corrode, 69. unrest, 70. vitriolic, 71. doxing, 72. corrode, 73. lawmaker, 74. amplify, 75. offline, 76. supercharge, 77. disbelief, 78. visceral

79. cultural sop_____ion *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
80. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
81. biological imp_____nt *n.* a hindrance or obstruction in doing something
82. i__m of mosque *n.* a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community
83. pr_____e a disease *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
84. un____t in the city *n.* a state of agitation or disturbance; lack of calm or peace
85. de_____ke technology *n.* a manipulated video or audio recording that uses advanced computer technology to create a realistic portrayal of a person saying or doing something they did not actually say or do, often used for deceptive or malicious purposes
86. tan_____nt to impossible *adj.* equivalent in value, significance, or effect to something else; virtually equal to or interchangeable with something else
87. witty p_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay

ANSWERS: 79. sophistication, 80. institutionalize, 81. impediment, 82. imam, 83. provoke, 84. unrest, 85. deepfake, 86. tantamount, 87. pun

88. have a speech imp_____nt
n. a hindrance or obstruction in doing something
89. vi_____al fear
adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
90. am_____y the effect
v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
91. human in_____ct
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
92. suspect a h__x
n. a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank

ANSWERS: 88. impediment, 89. visceral, 90. amplify, 91. intellect, 92. hoax

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Her _____ remarks caused much tension in the workplace.
adj. bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)
2. Tourists frequently _____ the island's delicate natural balance.
v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
3. Forgetting someone's name is a _____ occurrence.
adj. occurring very often; lacking originality or interest
4. You might need to _____ this point.
v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
5. Her behavior _____ a quarrel between the couple.
v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
6. His reaction was one of complete _____.
n. the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real
7. Many software engineers are developing applications to build _____ algorithms more quickly.
n. the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data
8. The language barrier was an _____ to their communication.
n. a hindrance or obstruction in doing something

ANSWERS: 1. vitriolic, 2. disturb, 3. commonplace, 4. amplify, 5. provoked, 6. disbelief, 7. machine-learning, 8. impediment

9. They had to _____ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
10. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
11. In some Muslim countries, the _____ position is appointed by the government.
n. a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community
12. The comedian's ____ had the audience laughing out loud.
n. a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
13. The tabloids publish _____ stories to attract more readers.
adj. characterized by or describing inappropriate, often sexually suggestive content or behavior; excessively erotic or lustful in nature
14. they had no protection from the radioactive _____.
n. the radioactive dust in the air that settle to the ground after a nuclear explosion
15. The use of _____ in political campaigns is a growing concern.
n. a manipulated video or audio recording that uses advanced computer technology to create a realistic portrayal of a person saying or doing something they did not actually say or do, often used for deceptive or malicious purposes
16. You shouldn't _____ yourself by taking on tasks beneath your skill level.
v. to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated

ANSWERS: 9. devise, 10. intellect, 11. imam's, 12. pun, 13. salacious, 14. fallout, 15. deepfakes, 16. demean

17. The CEO of the company denied any _____ while admitting to mismanagement.
- n.* an improper or illegal behavior or action
18. Can I _____ my assistance with your project?
- v.* to offer or present something for someone's acceptance; to extend or hold out something for someone to take or use
19. The newspaper article was revealed to be a _____.
- n.* a deliberately fabricated deception, often intended to trick or mislead people into believing something that is not true; a practical joke or prank
20. The data he prepared was completely _____.
- n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
21. Terrorists often attempt to _____ the economic impact of their acts of destruction.
- v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
22. The doctor warned us about the human body's _____ and the dangers of neglecting our health.
- n.* the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality
23. 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

ANSWERS: 17. wrongdoing, 18. proffer, 19. hoax, 20. sham, 21. magnify, 22. frailty, 23. unrest

24. They _____ the engine to get more power.
v. to increase the power or energy of something
25. I took a _____ of the error message to show the tech support team.
n. a digital photograph or image of what is displayed on a computer or electronic screen, often used for capturing and sharing information or documenting an issue or problem
26. This company has increased political contributions to federal _____.
n. a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws
27. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
28. The _____ pressure to conform is strong in this community.
adj. relating to society or social relationships
29. The new technology added a level of _____ to the manufacturing process.
n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
30. After watching the horror movie, she had a _____ reaction and couldn't sleep all night.
adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
31. The media exposed the politician's _____.
n. a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading

ANSWERS: 24. supercharged, 25. screenshot, 26. lawmakers, 27. resilient, 28. societal, 29. sophistication, 30. visceral, 31. falsehoods

32. The computer is _____ and cannot be accessed at the moment.
adj. not connected to the internet
33. The comedian's _____ on politics had the audience laughing and thinking.
n. a literary or artistic work that uses irony, sarcasm, humor, ridicule, or exaggeration to criticize human vices, follies, or shortcomings; a genre of literature or art that uses such techniques
34. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
35. His _____ style frequently sparked controversies.
adj. arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately
36. The employee's consistent tardiness and lack of accountability made her coworkers develop _____ in her abilities.
n. a lack of trust or confidence in someone or something
37. The saltwater can _____ metal over time if not properly maintained.
v. to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time
38. He shouldn't be allowed to _____ people based on race or sexuality.
v. to speak about someone or something in a way that is insulting, derogatory, or libelous; to damage or smear a person's reputation by making false or defamatory statements
39. The water _____ in the garden provides a refreshing mist on hot days.
n. a tube or chute through which something, particularly a liquid, can be poured or discharged in a continuous stream; a projecting tube or pipe that transfers fluids from one container to another; (verb) to send out a stream of liquid or gas, typically in a forceful way

ANSWERS: 32. offline, 33. satire, 34. institutionalize, 35. provocative, 36. distrust, 37.

corrode, 38. slur, 39. spout

40. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
- v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
41. The celebrity became a victim of _____ resulting in her personal details being publicly revealed.
- n.* the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent
42. His behavior is _____ to bullying and will not be tolerated.
- adj.* equivalent in value, significance, or effect to something else; virtually equal to or interchangeable with something else
43. The _____ of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.
- n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
44. The hunter quietly _____ the deer for hours before taking the shot
- v.* to follow or track someone or something closely and quietly, usually to cause harm or surveillance; to move slowly and quietly to avoid detection; (noun) the main stem of a plant that supports leaves, flowers, and fruit; the stem or main axis of a support structure or framework
45. The police have not yet caught the _____ of the crime.
- n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
46. His _____ of the popular actor at the party was spot-on.
- n.* the act of deliberately imitating or pretending to be someone else, often for comedic or deceptive purposes

ANSWERS: 40. invade, 41. doxing, 42. tantamount, 43. cascade, 44. stalked, 45. perpetrator, 46. impersonation

ANSWERS: