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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Karissa Sanbonmatsu: *The biology of gender, from DNA to the brain* | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

debunk

v. to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless
synonym: expose, discredit, demystify

(1) **debunk** an urban legend, (2) **debunk** theory

The myth was **debunked** by scientists, who provided evidence to the contrary.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
synonym: nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

patchwork

n. a fabric made by stitching together small pieces of different colored and patterned fabrics; a mixture or grouping of diverse elements or components

synonym : assortment, jumble, mishmash

(1) the **patchwork** of legislation, (2) **patchwork** design
The **patchwork** approach to funding led to an uneven distribution of resources.

transgender

adj. relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth

synonym : non-binary

(1) **transgender** person, (2) **transgender** rights
Many **transgender** individuals face discrimination and marginalization in society.

biomarker

n. a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention

synonym : indicator, measure, signature

(1) diabetes **biomarker**, (2) **biomarker** discovery
The **biomarker** test showed that the patient was responding well to the treatment.

epigenetic

adj. relating to changes in gene expression that are not caused by alterations in the underlying DNA sequence but rather by modifications to the structure of DNA or proteins that regulate gene activity

synonym : environmental, hereditary, inherited

(1) **epigenetic** inheritance, (2) **epigenetic** markers
Epigenetic research has opened up new possibilities for the treatment of certain diseases.

tangle

n. a confused mass of something twisted together

synonym : knot, snarl, entanglement

(1) in a **tangle**, (2) **tangle** wires
The cords behind my computer were a **tangled** mess.

contraption

n. a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual

synonym: device, gadget, machinery

(1) farming **contraption**, (2) complicated **contraption**

The inventor created a **contraption** that could turn salt water into drinking water.

sac

n. a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant

synonym: bag, pouch, knapsack

(1) **sac** contents, (2) abdominal **sac**

I placed my valuables in the **sac** before heading out on my hike.

neurotransmitter

n. a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles

(1) **neurotransmitter** receptor, (2) **neurotransmitters** released from the brain

Endorphins are a type of **neurotransmitter** that gives a sense of well-being.

ribosome

n. a cellular structure made of RNA and protein that helps in the production of proteins

(1) coli **ribosome**, (2) **ribosome** binding

Ribosome dysfunction can lead to diseases such as muscular dystrophy.

biodegrade

v. to decay naturally by microorganisms, such as bacteria and fungi

(1) **biodegrade** by the microorganism, (2) bioplastic designed to **biodegrade**

The company's plastic products are easily **biodegraded** thanks to a unique manufacturing process.

dissolve

v. to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss

synonym : disband, disappear, liquefy

(1) **dissolve** the sugar, (2) officially **dissolved** the marriage

The political party **dissolved** after much internal fighting.

carnival

n. a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment

synonym : fair, festival, celebration

(1) **carnival** parade, (2) **carnival** atmosphere

The traveling **carnival** is coming to our town next week.

craftsman

n. a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials

synonym : artisan, mechanic, workman

(1) **craftsman** skill, (2) a subtle **craftsman**

The adept **craftsman** carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.

nook

n. a small corner, alcove, or recess, especially one in a room or garden providing a seat or space for quiet

synonym : niche, corner, alcove

(1) every **nook** and cranny, (2) breakfast **nook**

The kitchen **nook** was perfect for coffee and chatting with friends.

cranny

n. a small, narrow opening or crack, especially in a wall or rock

synonym : crevice, nook, niche

(1) a **cranny** in the corner, (2) look in every nook and **cranny**

The mouse squeezed into the tiniest **cranny** of the wall to avoid being caught by the cat.

eyeball

n. the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen

(1) **eyeball** motion, (2) redness of the **eyeball**

Increased **eyeball** pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.

macroscopic

adj. visible to the naked eye; relating to objects or phenomena that are large enough to be seen without the aid of a microscope or other magnifying tools

synonym: large, visible, apparent

(1) **macroscopic** observation, (2) **macroscopic** anatomy

The **macroscopic** view of the galaxy is simply breathtaking.

snicker

v. to laugh in a sly, suppressed, or scornful manner; to snigger; to express amusement or disdain in a quiet or subdued way

synonym: chuckle, snigger, giggle

(1) **snicker** quietly, (2) **snicker** to himself

He couldn't help but **snicker** at his friend's silly joke.

hallway

n. an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open

synonym: foyer, corridor, entrance

(1) the head of a **hallway**, (2) wax a **hallway** floor

He dashed down a **hallway** to a bathroom.

disgust

n. a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval

synonym: nauseate, hate, dislike

(1) public **disgust**, (2) show **disgust** at his actions

He was filled with **disgust** and fear for the threat of war.

terrify

v. to frighten someone very much

synonym: unnerve, scare, horrify

(1) **terrify** people, (2) the threats **terrify** him

It would be best not to **terrify** your associates into doing complex tasks.

whisper

v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

synonym: murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves
He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

smirk

v. to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner

synonym: grin, sneer, simper

(1) **smirk** confidently, (2) **smirk** after playing a prank
He couldn't help but **smirk** when he heard her absurd excuse.

chuckle

n. a soft, partly suppressed laugh; an act of laughing quietly; (verb) to laugh quietly or softly, often in a suppressed or restrained way

synonym: laugh, giggle, snicker

(1) **chuckle** at my cat's silly antics, (2) stifled **chuckle**
I couldn't help but let out a little **chuckle** when I saw the silly photo my friend had sent me.

astrophysics

n. the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe

(1) **astrophysics** research, (2) neutrino **astrophysics**
He was studying **astrophysics** in an attempt to understand the origins of the universe.

biochemical

adj. relating to the chemical processes and substances that occur within living organisms

synonym: molecular, biological

(1) **biochemical** reaction, (2) complex **biochemical**
Biochemical research is essential to understanding the complex chemical reactions in living organisms.

fertilize

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

synonym : pollinate, inseminate, enrich

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

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

trimester

n. approximately three months, especially one of the three three-month periods into which human pregnancy is traditionally divided; one of three divisions of an academic year

synonym : quarter, three months, 13 weeks

(1) second **trimester** ends, (2) **trimester** system

The first **trimester** of pregnancy is the most crucial for the development of the fetus.

biomolecule

n. a molecule produced by a living organism, typically composed of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and other elements, plays a vital role in various biological processes such as metabolism, energy production, and genetic information transfer

synonym : biochemical, molecule, protein

(1) **biomolecule** structure, (2) protein **biomolecule**

DNA is a complex **biomolecule** that contains the genetic information of an organism.

unsolved

adj. not yet understood, explained, or resolved; remaining a mystery or enigma

synonym : unresolved, mysterious, perplexing

(1) **unsolved** mystery, (2) **unsolved** crime

The case remains **unsolved** after years of investigation.

calico

n. a piece of printed cotton fabric with a brightly colored, often floral, print on a light-colored background; a domestic cat with a coat of white, black, and orange markings

synonym : printed cotton, fabric, cloth

(1) **calico** cat, (2) **calico** pattern

The family quilt was made up of multiple colorful squares of **calico** fabric.

womb

n. the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth

synonym: uterus, matrice

(1) tumor of **womb**, (2) **womb** transplant

The fertilized egg implanted itself in the **womb**.

readout

n. a display of information or data, often in numerical or digital form, that provides a readout of measurements, quantities, or other aspects of a process or system

synonym: display, output, screen

(1) **readout** display, (2) temperature **readout**

The machine provided a digital **readout** of my heart rate and oxygen levels.

kitten

n. a young cat

synonym: catling, kitling, puss

(1) **kitten** formula, (2) newborn **kitten**

The **kitten's** fur was so fluffy that it looked like it was always moving.

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.

genital

adj. of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs

synonym: reproductive, genetic, sexual

(1) **genital** bleeding, (2) pain in the **genital** area

The **genital** organs of the human body are necessary for

reproduction.

enlightenment

n. education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge

synonym: civilization, awareness, sophistication

(1) spiritual **enlightenment**, (2) **enlightenment** activity

He finally brought his **enlightenment** to perfection.

unwind

v. to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or twisting of something

synonym: relax, de-stress, unroll

(1) **unwind** after work, (2) **unwind** on vacation

I like to **unwind** with a good book after a long day at work.

eyebrow

n. the hair arc over each eye in humans

synonym: brow, supercilium

(1) raise her **eyebrows**, (2) **eyebrow** cosmetics

She raised an inquiring **eyebrow** towards me.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ca____al atmosphere
n. a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment
2. tr_____er system
n. approximately three months, especially one of the three three-month periods into which human pregnancy is traditionally divided; one of three divisions of an academic year
3. raise her ey_____ws
n. the hair arc over each eye in humans
4. mac_____ic observation
adj. visible to the naked eye; relating to objects or phenomena that are large enough to be seen without the aid of a microscope or other magnifying tools
5. enl_____ent activity
n. education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge
6. protein bio_____le
n. a molecule produced by a living organism, typically composed of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and other elements, plays a vital role in various biological processes such as metabolism, energy production, and genetic information transfer
7. tra_____er rights
adj. relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth

ANSWERS: 1. carnival, 2. trimester, 3. eyebrow, 4. macroscopic, 5. enlightenment, 6. biomolecule, 7. transgender

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|--------------------------------|--|
| 8. newborn ki___n | <i>n.</i> a young cat |
| 9. sm__k after playing a prank | <i>v.</i> to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner |
| 10. breakfast n__k | <i>n.</i> a small corner, alcove, or recess, especially one in a room or garden providing a seat or space for quiet |
| 11. enrich my in_____ct | <i>n.</i> the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level |
| 12. w__b transplant | <i>n.</i> the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth |
| 13. redness of the ey_____l | <i>n.</i> the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen |
| 14. bi_____er discovery | <i>n.</i> a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention |
| 15. bio_____al reaction | <i>adj.</i> relating to the chemical processes and substances that occur within living organisms |
| 16. answer in a wh_____r | <i>v.</i> to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you |

ANSWERS: 8. kitten, 9. smirk, 10. nook, 11. intellect, 12. womb, 13. eyeball, 14. biomarker, 15. biochemical, 16. whisper

17. ne___n cell body *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
18. neutrino ast_____ics *n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe
19. wax a ha_____y floor *n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
20. ki___n formula *n.* a young cat
21. pain in the ge_____l area *adj.* of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs
22. ge_____l bleeding *adj.* of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs
23. coli ri_____me *n.* a cellular structure made of RNA and protein that helps in the production of proteins
24. look in every nook and cr___y *n.* a small, narrow opening or crack, especially in a wall or rock
25. sn_____r to himself *v.* to laugh in a sly, suppressed, or scornful manner; to snigger; to express amusement or disdain in a quiet or subdued way
26. ast_____ics research *n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe

ANSWERS: 17. neuron, 18. astrophysics, 19. hallway, 20. kitten, 21. genital, 22. genital, 23. ribosome, 24. cranny, 25. snicker, 26. astrophysics

36. mac_____ic anatomy *adj.* visible to the naked eye; relating to objects or phenomena that are large enough to be seen without the aid of a microscope or other magnifying tools
37. 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
38. ri_____me binding *n.* a cellular structure made of RNA and protein that helps in the production of proteins
39. ey_____l motion *n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
40. complicated con_____on *n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual
41. un_____ed crime *adj.* not yet understood, explained, or resolved; remaining a mystery or enigma
42. un____d on vacation *v.* to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or twisting of something
43. te_____y people *v.* to frighten someone very much
44. ca____o cat *n.* a piece of printed cotton fabric with a brightly colored, often floral, print on a light-colored background; a domestic cat with a coat of white, black, and orange markings

ANSWERS: 36. macroscopic, 37. demean, 38. ribosome, 39. eyeball, 40. contraption, 41. unsolved, 42. unwind, 43. terrify, 44. calico

45. ca_____al parade *n.* a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment
46. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
47. second tr_____er ends *n.* approximately three months, especially one of the three three-month periods into which human pregnancy is traditionally divided; one of three divisions of an academic year
48. tra_____er person *adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth
49. complex bio_____al *adj.* relating to the chemical processes and substances that occur within living organisms
50. ey_____w cosmetics *n.* the hair arc over each eye in humans
51. diabetes bi_____er *n.* a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention
52. the wh_____r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

ANSWERS: 45. carnival, 46. neuroscience, 47. trimester, 48. transgender, 49. biochemical, 50. eyebrow, 51. biomarker, 52. whisper

53. show di_____t at his actions *n.* a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval
54. epi_____ic markers *adj.* relating to changes in gene expression that are not caused by alterations in the underlying DNA sequence but rather by modifications to the structure of DNA or proteins that regulate gene activity
55. in a ta____e *n.* a confused mass of something twisted together
56. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
57. de____k theory *v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless
58. neu_____ter receptor *n.* a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
59. un_____ed mystery *adj.* not yet understood, explained, or resolved; remaining a mystery or enigma
60. epi_____ic inheritance *adj.* relating to changes in gene expression that are not caused by alterations in the underlying DNA sequence but rather by modifications to the structure of DNA or proteins that regulate gene activity
61. fe_____ze the female egg *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well

ANSWERS: 53. disgust, 54. epigenetic, 55. tangle, 56. neuroscience, 57. debunk, 58. neurotransmitter, 59. unsolved, 60. epigenetic, 61. fertilize

62. bio_____de by the microorganism *v.* to decay naturally by microorganisms, such as bacteria and fungi
63. ch_____e at my cat's silly antics *n.* a soft, partly suppressed laugh; an act of laughing quietly; (verb) to laugh quietly or softly, often in a suppressed or restrained way
64. ta_____e wires *n.* a confused mass of something twisted together
65. tumor of w__b *n.* the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth
66. cr_____an skill *n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
67. excite the ne____ns *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
68. s_c contents *n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant
69. spiritual enl_____ent *n.* education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge
70. bioplastic designed to bio_____de *v.* to decay naturally by microorganisms, such as bacteria and fungi
71. stifled ch_____e *n.* a soft, partly suppressed laugh; an act of laughing quietly; (verb) to laugh quietly or softly, often in a suppressed or restrained way

ANSWERS: 62. biodegrade, 63. chuckle, 64. tangle, 65. womb, 66. craftsman, 67. neuron, 68. sac, 69. enlightenment, 70. biodegrade, 71. chuckle

72. every n__k and cranny *n.* a small corner, alcove, or recess, especially one in a room or garden providing a seat or space for quiet
73. a cr___y in the corner *n.* a small, narrow opening or crack, especially in a wall or rock
74. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
75. the threats te_____y him *v.* to frighten someone very much
76. farming con_____on *n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual
77. un___d after work *v.* to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or twisting of something
78. abdominal s_c *n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant
79. public di_____t *n.* a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval
80. officially di_____ved the marriage *v.* to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss
81. ca___o pattern *n.* a piece of printed cotton fabric with a brightly colored, often floral, print on a light-colored background; a domestic cat with a coat of white, black, and orange markings

ANSWERS: 72. nook, 73. cranny, 74. intellect, 75. terrify, 76. contraption, 77. unwind, 78. sac, 79. disgust, 80. dissolve, 81. calico

82. bio_____le structure *n.* a molecule produced by a living organism, typically composed of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and other elements, plays a vital role in various biological processes such as metabolism, energy production, and genetic information transfer
83. re_____t display *n.* a display of information or data, often in numerical or digital form, that provides a readout of measurements, quantities, or other aspects of a process or system
84. neu_____ters released from the brain *n.* a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
85. sm__k confidently *v.* to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner
86. temperature re_____t *n.* a display of information or data, often in numerical or digital form, that provides a readout of measurements, quantities, or other aspects of a process or system

ANSWERS: 82. biomolecule, 83. readout, 84. neurotransmitter, 85. smirk, 86. readout

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He couldn't help but _____ when he heard her absurd excuse.
 - v.* to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner

2. _____ research has opened up new possibilities for the treatment of certain diseases.
 - adj.* relating to changes in gene expression that are not caused by alterations in the underlying DNA sequence but rather by modifications to the structure of DNA or proteins that regulate gene activity

3. The mouse squeezed into the tiniest _____ of the wall to avoid being caught by the cat.
 - n.* a small, narrow opening or crack, especially in a wall or rock

4. _____ research is essential to understanding the complex chemical reactions in living organisms.
 - adj.* relating to the chemical processes and substances that occur within living organisms

5. The machine provided a digital _____ of my heart rate and oxygen levels.
 - n.* a display of information or data, often in numerical or digital form, that provides a readout of measurements, quantities, or other aspects of a process or system

6. Many _____ individuals face discrimination and marginalization in society.
 - adj.* relating to or denoting a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth

ANSWERS: 1. smirk, 2. Epigenetic, 3. cranny, 4. Biochemical, 5. readout, 6. transgender

7. The adept _____ carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.
- n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
8. He dashed down a _____ to a bathroom.
- n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
9. The family quilt was made up of multiple colorful squares of _____ fabric.
- n.* a piece of printed cotton fabric with a brightly colored, often floral, print on a light-colored background; a domestic cat with a coat of white, black, and orange markings
10. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
- n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
11. The myth was _____ by scientists, who provided evidence to the contrary.
- v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless
12. I placed my valuables in the ____ before heading out on my hike.
- n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant
13. He finally brought his _____ to perfection.
- n.* education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge
14. The cords behind my computer were a _____ mess.
- n.* a confused mass of something twisted together

ANSWERS: 7. craftsman, 8. hallway, 9. calico, 10. neuron, 11. debunked, 12. sac, 13. enlightenment, 14. tangled

15. The _____ fur was so fluffy that it looked like it was always moving.
n. a young cat
16. It would be best not to _____ your associates into doing complex tasks.
v. to frighten someone very much
17. Endorphins are a type of _____ that gives a sense of well-being.
n. a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
18. The _____ organs of the human body are necessary for reproduction.
adj. of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs
19. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
20. The inventor created a _____ that could turn salt water into drinking water.
n. a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual
21. The case remains _____ after years of investigation.
adj. not yet understood, explained, or resolved; remaining a mystery or enigma
22. The political party _____ after much internal fighting.
v. to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss

ANSWERS: 15. kitten's, 16. terrify, 17. neurotransmitter, 18. genital, 19. intellect, 20. contraption, 21. unsolved, 22. dissolved

23. The traveling _____ is coming to our town next week.
- n.* a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment
24. He took me aside and _____ in my ear.
- v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
25. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
- n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
26. DNA is a complex _____ that contains the genetic information of an organism.
- n.* a molecule produced by a living organism, typically composed of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and other elements, plays a vital role in various biological processes such as metabolism, energy production, and genetic information transfer
27. The fertilized egg implanted itself in the _____.
- n.* the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth
28. Increased _____ pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.
- n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
29. The _____ approach to funding led to an uneven distribution of resources.
- n.* a fabric made by stitching together small pieces of different colored and patterned fabrics; a mixture or grouping of diverse elements or components

ANSWERS: 23. carnival, 24. whispered, 25. neuroscience, 26. biomolecule, 27. womb, 28. eyeball, 29. patchwork

30. He was studying _____ in an attempt to understand the origins of the universe.
- n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe
31. The _____ view of the galaxy is simply breathtaking.
- adj.* visible to the naked eye; relating to objects or phenomena that are large enough to be seen without the aid of a microscope or other magnifying tools
32. She raised an inquiring _____ towards me.
- n.* the hair arc over each eye in humans
33. _____ dysfunction can lead to diseases such as muscular dystrophy.
- n.* a cellular structure made of RNA and protein that helps in the production of proteins
34. I like to _____ with a good book after a long day at work.
- v.* to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or twisting of something
35. I couldn't help but let out a little _____ when I saw the silly photo my friend had sent me.
- n.* a soft, partly suppressed laugh; an act of laughing quietly; (verb) to laugh quietly or softly, often in a suppressed or restrained way
36. The company's plastic products are easily _____ thanks to a unique manufacturing process.
- v.* to decay naturally by microorganisms, such as bacteria and fungi

ANSWERS: 30. astrophysics, 31. macroscopic, 32. eyebrow, 33. Ribosome, 34. unwind, 35. chuckle, 36. biodegraded

37. The _____ test showed that the patient was responding well to the treatment.
- n.* a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention
38. He was filled with _____ and fear for the threat of war.
- n.* a strong feeling of dislike or disapproval
39. He couldn't help but _____ at his friend's silly joke.
- v.* to laugh in a sly, suppressed, or scornful manner; to snigger; to express amusement or disdain in a quiet or subdued way
40. The first _____ of pregnancy is the most crucial for the development of the fetus.
- n.* approximately three months, especially one of the three three-month periods into which human pregnancy is traditionally divided; one of three divisions of an academic year
41. The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to _____ a wife.
- v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
42. The kitchen _____ was perfect for coffee and chatting with friends.
- n.* a small corner, alcove, or recess, especially one in a room or garden providing a seat or space for quiet
43. 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: 37. biomarker, 38. disgust, 39. snicker, 40. trimester, 41. fertilize, 42. nook, 43. demean

ANSWERS: