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Iseult Gillespie: The wicked wit of Jane Austen | TED Talk

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

All Words

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Session 1: Word List

bicker

v. to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms

synonym : quarrel, dispute, argue

(1) **bicker** over small things, (2) **bicker** with each other
My siblings always **bicker** over who gets the front seat in the car.

declaration

n. a formal or explicit statement or announcement

synonym : statement, announcement, proclamation

(1) **declaration** of independence, (2) unilateral **declaration**
The President made the **declaration** of war.

juicy

adj. containing much liquid, often used to describe fresh fruit or meat; interesting or exciting, often because it is scandalous or revealing

synonym : succulent, luscious, flavorful

(1) **juicy** gossip, (2) **juicy** fruit
The burger was so **juicy** that it dripped down my hand as I ate it.

gossip

n. conversation or discussion about other people's personal affairs, often of a trivial or idle nature involving

sharing rumors, hearsay, or speculation about the lives of others

synonym: rumor, chitchat, tittle-tattle

(1) **gossip** magazine, (2) celebrity **gossip**

I heard some juicy **gossip** about our co-worker at the water cooler.

wit

n. the ability to say or write things or ideas in a clever and humorous way

synonym: humor, comedy, funniness

(1) the **wit** of man, (2) full of **wit**

He has the **wit** to keep talking about this topic.

cheek

n. either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw

synonym: jaw, mandible, malar

(1) **cheek** bone, (2) hollowed-out **cheek**

He gently touched her apple-red **cheek** and whispered that he loved her.

heroine

n. a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film

synonym: protagonist

(1) medieval **heroine**, (2) tragic **heroine**

The brave **heroine** rescued the prince from the dragon's lair.

conversation

n. an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.

synonym: chat, discussion, dialogue

(1) **conversation** in English, (2) a friendly **conversation**

Your **conversation** reflects your thoughts.

conspiracy

n. a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something harmful or illegal

synonym: plot, collaboration, scheme

(1) political **conspiracy**, (2) **conspiracy** theory
There was a **conspiracy** of silence about illegal police interrogation.

wink

v. to close one eye briefly as a way of showing agreement, understanding, or flirtation; to emit a flashing light

synonym: blink, flutter, twinkle

(1) **wink** at abuses, (2) **wink** away my tears

He couldn't help but **wink** at his wife during the boring meeting to make her laugh.

confidant

n. a person with whom one shares a secret or private matter, often in a trusting and intimate manner; a close friend or trusted advisor

synonym: chum, friend, pal

(1) **confidant's** advice, (2) trusted **confidant**

She chose her mother as her **confidant** to share her personal issue.

delight

n. a feeling of great pleasure or happiness

synonym: pleasure, joy, satisfaction

(1) a tremor of **delight**, (2) with **delight**

The **delight** on the child's faces when they received the toy was priceless.

wicked

adj. morally bad or evil

synonym: evil, sinful, nefarious

(1) **wicked** thoughts, (2) **wicked** grin

The **wicked** witch cast a spell on the kingdom.

brand

n. a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning

synonym: trademark, label, symbol

(1) create a **brand** logo, (2) the **brand** of the new car

There's a new **brand** of hero in the movies now.

tongue

n. a moveable mass of muscle tissue covered with mucous membrane that is in the mouth; a language

synonym: lingo, language, vocabulary

(1) native **tongue**, (2) **tongue** cancer

The **tongue** is boneless, but it is as strong as bones.

humor

n. the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body

synonym: comedy, funniness, liquid substance

(1) sardonic **humor**, (2) vitreous **humor**

My wife seems to be in ill **humor**.

feat

n. a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery

synonym: achievement, accomplishment, exploit

(1) intellectual **feat**, (2) **feat** accomplishment

It is an incredible **feat** to climb Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world.

sly

adj. having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals

synonym: crafty, sneaky, devious

(1) **sly** tactics, (2) **sly** fox

He had a **sly** smile on his face as he told his joke.

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.

sweeping

adj. extensive, broad, or far-reaching in scope or impact; characterized by a vigorous or forceful movement, often involving wide motions or gestures

synonym : broad, extensive, vast

(1) **sweeping** changes, (2) **sweeping** landscapes

The **sweeping** views from the mountaintop were breathtaking.

romantic

adj. of or relating to love or a sexual relationship

synonym : idealistic, unrealistic, amatory

(1) **romantic** movies, (2) **romantic** breakup

It was his first **romantic** love.

novel

n. an extended fictional work in prose; usually in the form of a story; (adjective) original and of a kind not seen before

synonym : fiction, story, (adjective) innovative

(1) historical **novel**, (2) **novel** effect

The **novel** has largely gotten positive feedback.

decode

v. to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand

synonym : decipher, translate, interpret

(1) **decode** a message, (2) ability to **decode** the differences

The software could **decode** the encrypted data and reveal the hidden information.

sheltered

adj. protected or shielded from danger or harmful influences; inexperienced or innocent of certain unpleasantness or harsh realities of life

synonym : protected, secure, guarded

(1) **sheltered** life, (2) **sheltered** housing

The birds found **sheltered** spots in the trees to avoid the rain.

rural

adj. of or relating to the countryside

synonym : agrarian, country, rustic

(1) **rural** accents, (2) people in **rural** areas
Many **rural** areas are still impoverished.

resentment

n. bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
synonym: bitterness, enmity, animosity

(1) abiding **resentment**, (2) bitter **resentment**

She felt **resentment** towards her boss for not giving her a promotion.

couch

n. a piece of furniture made for sitting, usually with a back and armrests, designed to seat more than one person
synonym: sofa, settee, divan

(1) leather **couch**, (2) a **couch** potato

I love to relax on the **couch** and watch movies on the weekends.

pleasantry

n. an act of politeness or a small gift or favor given to show goodwill or friendliness; a polite or humorous remark or comment, often used to make conversation or show friendliness

synonym: joke, banter, humor

(1) **pleasantry** exchange, (2) mutual **pleasantry**

After a long day at work, he appreciated the small **pleasantry** of a warm cup of tea.

argue

v. to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others

synonym: debate, dispute, quarrel

(1) **argue** a case, (2) **argue** passionately

The couple began to **argue** over which restaurant to go to for dinner.

mask

v. to conceal something; (noun) a covering that you wear over your face to hide it

synonym: disguise, camouflage, conceal

(1) **mask** body odor, (2) an oxygen **mask**

The politician tried to **mask** the corruption.

attraction

n. a sense of like someone, particularly sexually; something that causes individuals to desire to go to a specific area or do a specific activity

synonym: allure, appeal, interest

(1) the big **attraction** of the event, (2) popular tourist **attraction**

She felt an instant **attraction** toward him.

bewilder

v. to confuse or puzzle someone; to cause someone to become lost or disoriented in thought or perception

synonym: perplex, confound, puzzle

(1) **bewilder** the reader, (2) **bewilder** scientists

The complex instructions on the assignment sheet **bewilder** most students.

collision

n. an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict

synonym: crash, impact, smash

(1) **collision** detection, (2) come into **collision** with my friend

The **collision** of tectonic plates can result in new mountain ranges, such as the Himalayas or the Alps.

emotion

n. a strong feeling such as love, anger, etc. deriving from one's situation, mood, or relationships with others

synonym: feeling, sentiment, passion

(1) control my **emotion**, (2) afraid to show **emotion**

Some **emotions** are common across cultures and backgrounds.

etiquette

n. a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts

synonym: protocol, manners, decorum

(1) email **etiquette**, (2) breach of **etiquette**

It's important to follow proper **etiquette** when attending a formal dinner.

thread

n. a fine cord of natural or synthetic fibers or filaments, such as cotton or nylon, used in sewing, knitting, or weaving; a series of connected messages or comments on a social media platform or online forum, often related to a particular topic; a sequence or line of events, ideas, or actions that are connected or related; (verb) to pass a thread through a needle or other small opening, in preparation for sewing or stitching

synonym: filament, string, yarn

(1) **thread** a catheter, (2) start a new **thread**

The detective followed a **thread** of clues which ultimately led to the suspect's arrest.

dismiss

v. to regard something or someone as not important and not worth considering; to terminate someone's employment

synonym: decline, disband, dissolve

(1) **dismiss** a person from the office, (2) **dismiss** a matter with a laugh

The committee has decided to **dismiss** the president from the post.

sentimental

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

synonym: bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage

Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

lofty

adj. elevated in position, rank, or status; grand; elevated in style or language

synonym: high, elevated, grand

(1) a **lofty** peak, (2) **lofty** ambitions

His **lofty** goals were admirable but unrealistic.

naturally

adv. as might be expected; by natural manners

synonym: by nature, inherently, intrinsically

(1) **naturally** arising, (2) **naturally** regenerated forest
He was **naturally** gifted.

awkwardly

adv. in a manner that lacks grace or fluidity; in a manner that is uncomfortable or difficult to perform

synonym: clumsily, ungracefully, ineptly

(1) speak **awkwardly**, (2) an **awkwardly** timed joke
She tripped **awkwardly** on the uneven pavement and almost fell.

pragmatic

adj. practical rather than idealistic

synonym: practical, realistic, down-to-earth

(1) **pragmatic** approach, (2) **pragmatic** politics
He was a **pragmatic** leader who made decisions based on what was practical rather than ideal.

barb

n. a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair

synonym: spine, barbed remark, sting

(1) **barb** wire, (2) aim a **barb**
The politician's words were full of **barbs** designed to hurt his opponent.

arrogant

adj. having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities

synonym: haughty, supercilious, disdainful

(1) an **arrogant** attitude, (2) grow **arrogant**
He was so **arrogant** that he thought he was always right.

peer

n. a person who has the same age, status, or ability

synonym: fellow, associate, counterpart

(1) **peer** group, (2) **peer** review

Among young people, **peer** pressure can be pretty influential.

grapple

v. to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons

synonym: brawl, scuffle, wrestle

(1) **grapple** with problem, (2) **grapple** with each other

He needed to **grapple** with structural reforms to improve the company's revenue.

endless

adj. having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount

synonym: infinite, ceaseless, boundless

(1) **endless** possibilities, (2) **endless** hours

He looked out the window at the **endless** stream of people.

hypocrisy

n. the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform

synonym: insincerity, dissembling, duplicity

(1) without **hypocrisy**, (2) self-serving **hypocrisy**

The commentaries often criticized the government's political **hypocrisy**.

propriety

n. the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct

synonym: appropriateness, correctness, decorum

(1) a breach of **propriety**, (2) **propriety** etiquette

The company's code of **propriety** requires all employees to dress professionally.

ridicule

n. speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way

synonym: derision, mockery, satire

(1) public **ridicule**, (2) **ridicule** at his expense
The **ridicule** from his classmates made him feel embarrassed and ashamed.

senseless

adj. lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational

synonym: meaningless, pointless, absurd

(1) **senseless** terror attack, (2) **senseless** slaughter
The **senseless** act of violence left the community in shock and mourning.

practical

adj. of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas

synonym: applicable, functional, realistic

(1) **practical** English, (2) gain **practical** experience
Her concept is highly **practical** and helpful.

importance

n. the quality of being important and worthy of note

synonym: significance, primacy, matter

(1) a man of **importance**, (2) high **importance**
I stopped by the branch though I have no business of **importance**.

maintain

v. to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true

synonym: preserve, uphold, sustain

(1) **maintain** order, (2) **maintain** good health
I need to **maintain** my car regularly to prevent any major mechanical issues.

wealth

n. a large amount of money, property, or other things that someone or an organization owns

synonym: affluence, assets, fortunate

(1) majority of his **wealth**, (2) material **wealth**
The **wealth** inequality was unavoidable.

necessity

n. the state or fact of being needed; anything indispensable
synonym: need, essentiality, prerequisite

(1) in great **necessity**, (2) the **necessity** of the concrete measure

He emphasized the **necessity** of immediate action.

mythical

adj. based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination

synonym: mythological, fictitious, legendary

(1) **mythical** heroes, (2) **mythical** world

Many cultures have their **mythical** creatures and legends.

quest

n. a long or challenging search for something

synonym: exploration, inquisition, pursuit

(1) the **quest** for truth, (2) on a **quest** for happiness

That adventurer traveled in **quest** of buried treasure.

economy

n. the system by which a country or region produces, manages, and distributes goods and services, including the money and finances involved in these activities; (of an airline) the lowest-priced, most basic option for seating in commercial travel

synonym: finance, trade, business

(1) **economy** of scale, (2) **economy** class

The **economy** of the country is struggling due to the recent political instability.

savvy

n. the condition of being aware of and able to deal with a situation effectively; (adjective) having knowledge and understanding of a particular subject or activity

synonym: know-how, expertise, skill

(1) a **savvy** investor, (2) tech- **savvy**

His business **savvy** was evident in the success of his company.

socialite

n. a person, usually a woman, who is known for and participates in fashionable social events and is often

wealthy or of high social status

synonym: social butterfly, partygoer, social climber

(1) wealthy **socialite**, (2) **socialite's** philanthropic efforts

The young **socialite** was photographed in the pages of high fashion magazines.

prop

n. a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something

synonym: support, buttress, column

(1) emotional **prop**, (2) **prop** stick

We have finally lost our last **prop**.

unsurprising

adj. not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted

synonym: predictable, expected, foreseeable

(1) **unsurprising** success, (2) **unsurprising** result

The **unsurprising** outcome of the election was a victory for the incumbent candidate.

anonymous

adj. having no known name, identity, or known source

synonym: nameless, unidentified, unnamed

(1) **anonymous** letter, (2) **anonymous** house

She received several **anonymous** calls.

lucrative

adj. producing a great deal of profit; financially rewarding

synonym: profitable, moneymaking, remunerative

(1) **lucrative** deal, (2) **lucrative** market

Investing in real estate can be a **lucrative** business if done correctly.

spark

v. to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity

synonym: start, inspire, provoke

(1) **spark** his interest, (2) **spark** a chain reaction

The bankruptcy of the giant conglomerate **sparked** turmoil in the stock market.

chemistry

n. the branch of the natural sciences dealing with the composition of substances and their properties and reactions

(1) professor of **chemistry**, (2) the **chemistry** of soil
He is familiar with **chemistry** and biology.

element

n. a fundamental or essential part of something
synonym: component, feature, essence

(1) new design **elements**, (2) nonmetallic **elements**
Natural selection is an essential **element** in Darwin's theory of evolution.

circumstance

n. the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence
synonym: condition, context, environment

(1) **circumstance** of birth, (2) **circumstance** of injury
She explained the **circumstances** surrounding the accident.

intelligent

adj. having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree
synonym: brilliant, clever, competent

(1) an **intelligent** person, (2) **intelligent** assisting system
Intelligent robots that can cooperate with humans have limited motor output for safety.

witty

adj. cleverly amusing or entertaining, especially in a spontaneous or impromptu way
synonym: clever, humorous, satirical

(1) **witty** cartoon, (2) make **witty** remarks
The comedian's **witty** jokes had the audience in stitches.

headstrong

adj. stubborn and determined to have one's way; not easily influenced by others
synonym: stubborn, obstinate, unyielding

(1) **headstrong** person, (2) **headstrong** decision
His **headstrong** behavior made it difficult for him to work with other team members.

entertaining

adj. providing enjoyment or amusement, especially through being lively or amusing

synonym: amusing, diverting, engaging

(1) **entertaining** puppet show, (2) very **entertaining** book
The magician's act was **entertaining** and kept the audience on the edge of their seats.

anchor

n. a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability

synonym: mainstay, ballast, backbone

(1) **anchor** bolt, (2) **anchor** weight
The ship dropped **anchor** in the bay.

tumult

n. a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting

synonym: commotion, disturbance, upheaval

(1) **tumult** of voices, (2) in the midst of the **tumult**
The political turmoil caused great **tumult** in the country.

narrative

n. a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story

synonym: the tale, chronology, annals

(1) **narrative** poetry, (2) personal **narrative**
The **narrative** handles multiple plot lines and has unpredictable ends.

irreverent

adj. lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

synonym: disrespectful, impious, sacrilegious

(1) **irreverent** comment, (2) **irreverent** attitude

The comedian's **irreverent** jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.

pride

n. a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements

synonym: vanity, conceit, egotism

(1) **pride** of a company, (2) hide his **pride**

She took great **pride** in her work, always striving for perfection.

prejudice

n. a thought or feeling that is unfair and makes no sense, mainly when it is formed without enough thought or knowledge

synonym: bias, preconception, predisposition

(1) deep-rooted **prejudice**, (2) color **prejudice**

This community is free of social **prejudice**.

devotion

n. great loyalty and love or deep consideration for someone or something

synonym: dedication, faith, adherence

(1) **devotion** for Buddhism, (2) selfless **devotion**

Their **devotion** to each other was beautiful.

blind

adj. unable to see; unable or unwilling to perceive or understand the true nature of something

synonym: sightless, unseeing, random

(1) **blind** to the beauties, (2) **blind** spot

She was nearly **blind** due to severe diabetes.

clumsy

adj. lacking in grace or skill; awkward; cumbersome

synonym: awkward, ungainly, inept

(1) **clumsy** at sports, (2) **clumsy** attempt

The **clumsy** waiter accidentally spilled a tray of drinks on a customer.

suitor

n. a man who seeks the favor, hand in marriage; a prospective buyer who wants to take control of another company

synonym : wooer, admirer, beau

(1) potential **suitors**, (2) ward off a **suitor**

The princess had many **suitors** who sought her hand in marriage.

iron-willed

adj. having a will or resolve that is unyielding, inflexible, or determined; characterized by determination, resolve, and toughness in the face of adversity or challenge

synonym : resolute, determined, firm

(1) display **iron-willed** discipline, (2) **iron-willed** resolve

Her **iron-willed** determination helped her achieve her goals.

persuade

v. to convince or induce someone to do something by presenting a reason or argument; to sway or influence someone's decision or opinion

synonym : convince, influence, sway

(1) attempt to **persuade**, (2) **persuade** enough people

She tried to **persuade** her brother to join her on the trip, but he was too busy with work.

unmarried

adj. not married; single; having not entered into the legal or socially recognized state of marriage

synonym : single, unwed, celibate

(1) young **unmarried** couple, (2) **unmarried** status

She has chosen to remain **unmarried** and focus on her career.

disappear

v. to cease to exist or be visible

synonym : fade, evaporate, vanish

(1) **disappear** without a trace, (2) **disappear** after a week

They watched the train **disappear** into the distance.

fierce

adj. severe and violent in a way that is frightening

synonym : ferocious, convulsive, forceful

(1) **fierce** competition, (2) a **fierce** animal
The **fierce** thunders echoed across the plain.

desire

n. a strong feeling of wanting to have or do something
synonym: ambition, appetite, greed

(1) unsatisfied **desire**, (2) fleshly **desire**
Low sexual **desire** typically correlates with low testosterone levels.

sensibility

n. mental responsiveness and awareness toward something

synonym: emotion, sense, aesthesia

(1) cultural **sensibility**, (2) design **sensibility**
Everything he writes shows the breadth of his **sensibility**.

encounter

v. to face something, particularly something unpleasant or difficult, while attempting to do something else; to meet, especially unexpectedly

synonym: meet, run into, come across

(1) **encounter** a crisis, (2) **encounter** a storm
I'm prepared to **encounter** challenges throughout this adventure.

filial

adj. relating to or befitting a son or daughter; having the characteristics or feelings of a child towards their parent

synonym: offspring, familial

(1) **filial** respect, (2) **filial** generation

Filial piety is an important value in many Asian cultures, where respect for one's parents is paramount.

stability

n. the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast
synonym: resilience, solidity, steadiness

(1) **stability** pact, (2) fiscal **stability** pact

The policy should increase the country's monetary **stability**.

resolve

v. to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty
synonym: decide, determine, fix

(1) **resolve** a dispute, (2) **resolve** the computer error
This company **resolves** its battery problem completely.

sacrifice

n. the act of killing an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to a deity; (verb) to give up something important or valuable to help another person or get or do something that seems more important

synonym: forfeit, immolation, gift

(1) small **sacrifice** for a great cause, (2) **sacrifice** anything to get ahead

You cannot accomplish great things without a **sacrifice** of your time or money.

perspective

n. a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something

synonym: viewpoint, standpoint, outlook

(1) a **perspective** view, (2) the **perspective** of the battle
His father's death changed his whole **perspective** on life.

protagonist

n. the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories

synonym: hero, central figure, leading character

(1) **protagonist** of drama, (2) play a **protagonist**

The **protagonist's** triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.

titular

adj. holding or bearing a particular title or designation, often without having the full authority or functional responsibilities that normally accompany the position; pertaining to or existing in name only

synonym: named, nominal, formal

(1) **titular** character, (2) **titular** ruler

Despite being the company's **titular** leader, she had little authority in decision-making.

surround

v. to be all around something or somebody

synonym: encircle, encompass, envelop

(1) **surround** a town, (2) a stone wall **surrounds** the palace
On three sides, mountains **surround** the settlement.

dull

adj. not interesting or exciting; not bright, vivid, or shiny; not active, brisk, or sharp

synonym: insensitive, unintelligent, boring

(1) a **dull** pain, (2) **dull** sight

The trade is **dull** right now due to the collapse of the prominent investment bank.

prattle

n. meaningless and incessant chatter or talk; idle or foolish talk; (verb) to talk at length in a foolish or inconsequential way

synonym: chatter, babble, prate

(1) meaningless **prattle**, (2) **prattle** endlessly about the gossip

Her constant **prattle** about trivial things annoyed everyone in the room.

exciting

adj. causing a lot of interest or excitement

synonym: exhilarating, stimulating, thrilling

(1) **exciting** football player, (2) **exciting** news

The findings of the experiment were both **exciting** and unexpected.

swelling

n. an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury

synonym: bulge, bump, inflammation

(1) **swelling** of the ankle, (2) hard **swelling** on the body

After intensive icing by the trainer, the **swelling** went down.

ego

n. a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one

synonym: self-esteem, personality, psyche

(1) **ego** defense mechanisms, (2) national **ego**

She was constantly trying to boost her **ego** by talking about her accomplishments.

intimate

adj. having a very close friendship, personal

synonym: close, tight, friendly

(1) my **intimate** affairs, (2) **intimate** relationship

He has an **intimate** knowledge of American history.

revelation

n. a fact that has been disclosed to others, especially a surprising one; the act of revealing or telling the fact or truth to others; communication of knowledge to humans by a divine or supernatural agency

synonym: disclosure, telling, annunciation

(1) a divine **revelation**, (2) the **revelation** of a secret

The shocking **revelation** embarrassed the administration.

doubly

adv. to twice the extent or degree; in a way that involves two things at once; with twice as much force, effect, or significance

synonym: twice, twofold, in two ways

(1) **doubly** difficult, (2) **doubly** effective

The athlete faced a challenge that was **doubly** daunting because of her injury.

blindside

v. to surprise or attack someone unexpectedly and from a position they are not aware of, often to gain an advantage

synonym: surprise, ambush, catch off guard

(1) **blindside** the audience, (2) **blindside** opponent

My boss's criticism of my work **blindsided** me during the meeting.

diminish

v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

synonym: decline, dwindle, lessen

(1) **diminish** a reputation, (2) **diminish** swelling

As people get old, their energies may **diminish**.

flaw

n. a fault, mistake, or weakness that causes something not to be perfect

synonym: defect, fault, imperfection

(1) a minor **flaw**, (2) the **flaw** in the legislation

Even the slightest design **flaw** in an aircraft can lead to a fatal accident.

confirm

v. to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case

synonym: affirm, verify, assure

(1) **confirm** the diagnosis, (2) **confirm** a transaction

Please write to **confirm** your reservation.

inconsistent

adj. not remaining constant or in agreement

synonym: conflicting, discrepant, contrary

(1) **inconsistent** results, (2) **inconsistent** with the roadmap

This lawsuit appears to be unfair and **inconsistent**.

complexity

n. the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand

synonym: intricacy, sophistication, elaboration

(1) cognitive **complexity**, (2) **complexity** theory

The project's **complexity** made it difficult for the team to complete it on time.

prominent

adj. important, well-known, or noticeable

synonym: notable, distinguished, prominent

(1) **prominent** figure, (2) play a **prominent** role

The media frequently interviewed **prominent** scientists.

adaptable

adj. able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

synonym: flexible, adjustable, elastic

(1) **adaptable** enough for the environment, (2) an

adaptable person

We seek a candidate who possesses **adaptable** fighting potential.

modern

adj. of or belonging to the present time or recent times

synonym: contemporary, stylish, current

(1) **modern** poetry, (2) pre- **modern** agricultural society

Their headquarters are in a **modern** skyscraper.

Session 2: Spelling

1. irr_____nt attitude *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
2. mo___n poetry *adj.* of or belonging to the present time or recent times
3. en_____s hours *adj.* having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount
4. de_____on for Buddhism *n.* great loyalty and love or deep consideration for someone or something
5. pr_____ic politics *adj.* practical rather than idealistic
6. pr_____nt figure *adj.* important, well-known, or noticeable
7. trusted co_____nt *n.* a person with whom one shares a secret or private matter, often in a trusting and intimate manner; a close friend or trusted advisor
8. hollowed-out ch__k *n.* either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw
9. inc_____ent results *adj.* not remaining constant or in agreement
10. 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

ANSWERS: 1. irreverent, 2. modern, 3. endless, 4. devotion, 5. pragmatic, 6. prominent, 7. confidant, 8. cheek, 9. inconsistent, 10. satire

11. my____al world *adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination
12. in great ne_____ty *n.* the state or fact of being needed; anything indispensable
13. national e_o *n.* a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one
14. aim a b__b *n.* a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair
15. se_____ss terror attack *adj.* lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational
16. breach of et_____te *n.* a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts
17. bl__d spot *adj.* unable to see; unable or unwilling to perceive or understand the true nature of something
18. ri_____le at his expense *n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way
19. a fi___e animal *adj.* severe and violent in a way that is frightening

ANSWERS: 11. mythical, 12. necessity, 13. ego, 14. barb, 15. senseless, 16. etiquette, 17. blind, 18. ridicule, 19. fierce

20. co_____m the diagnosis
v. to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case
21. on a qu__t for happiness
n. a long or challenging search for something
22. people in ru__l areas
adj. of or relating to the countryside
23. bi___r with each other
v. to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms
24. an_____us house
adj. having no known name, identity, or known source
25. personal na_____ve
n. a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story
26. the f__w in the legislation
n. a fault, mistake, or weakness that causes something not to be perfect
27. a d__l pain
adj. not interesting or exciting; not bright, vivid, or shiny; not active, brisk, or sharp
28. make wi__y remarks
adj. cleverly amusing or entertaining, especially in a spontaneous or impromptu way
29. cir_____nce of birth
n. the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence
30. di_____ar without a trace
v. to cease to exist or be visible
31. th___d a catheter
n. a fine cord of natural or synthetic fibers or filaments, such as cotton or nylon, used in sewing, knitting, or weaving; a series of connected messages or comments on a social media platform or online forum, often related to a particular topic; a sequence or line of events, ideas, or actions that are connected or related; (verb) to pass a thread through a needle or other small opening, in preparation for sewing or stitching

ANSWERS: 20. confirm, 21. quest, 22. rural, 23. bicker, 24. anonymous, 25. narrative, 26. flaw, 27. dull, 28. witty, 29. circumstance, 30. disappear, 31. thread

32. cir_____nce of injury *n.* the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence
33. grow ar_____nt *adj.* having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities
34. sh_____ed life *adj.* protected or shielded from danger or harmful influences; inexperienced or innocent of certain unpleasantness or harsh realities of life
35. an____r weight *n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability
36. ex_____ng football player *adj.* causing a lot of interest or excitement
37. wi____d grin *adj.* morally bad or evil
38. di_____ar after a week *v.* to cease to exist or be visible
39. an ad_____le person *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
40. an aw_____ly timed joke *adv.* in a manner that lacks grace or fluidity; in a manner that is uncomfortable or difficult to perform
41. ec_____y of scale *n.* the system by which a country or region produces manages, and distributes goods and services, including the money and finances involved in these activities; (of an airline) the lowest-priced, most basic option for seating in commercial travel

ANSWERS: 32. circumstance, 33. arrogant, 34. sheltered, 35. anchor, 36. exciting, 37. wicked, 38. disappear, 39. adaptable, 40. awkwardly, 41. economy

42. wi___d thoughts *adj.* morally bad or evil
43. ma_____in order *v.* to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true
44. pr_____ic approach *adj.* practical rather than idealistic
45. a sa__y investor *n.* the condition of being aware of and able to deal with a situation effectively; (adjective) having knowledge and understanding of a particular subject or activity
46. design sen_____ty *n.* mental responsiveness and awareness toward something
47. di_____s a person from the office *v.* to regard something or someone as not important and not worth considering; to terminate someone's employment
48. ti_____r character *adj.* holding or bearing a particular title or designation, often without having the full authority or functional responsibilities that normally accompany the position; pertaining to or existing in name only
49. bl__d to the beauties *adj.* unable to see; unable or unwilling to perceive or understand the true nature of something
50. sw_____ng changes *adj.* extensive, broad, or far-reaching in scope or impact; characterized by a vigorous or forceful movement, often involving wide motions or gestures
51. ple_____ry exchange *n.* an act of politeness or a small gift or favor given to show goodwill or friendliness; a polite or humorous remark or comment, often used to make conversation or show friendliness

ANSWERS: 42. wicked, 43. maintain, 44. pragmatic, 45. savvy, 46. sensibility, 47. dismiss, 48. titular, 49. blind, 50. sweeping, 51. pleasantry

52. su____nd a town *v.* to be all around something or somebody
53. wi__y cartoon *adj.* cleverly amusing or entertaining, especially in a spontaneous or impromptu way
54. int_____nt assisting system *adj.* having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree
55. re_____e a dispute *v.* to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty
56. hide his pr__e *n.* a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements
57. a co__h potato *n.* a piece of furniture made for sitting, usually with a back and armrests, designed to seat more than one person
58. se_____ss slaughter *adj.* lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational
59. an____r bolt *n.* a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability
60. sp__k a chain reaction *v.* to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity
61. control my em_____n *n.* a strong feeling such as love, anger, etc. deriving from one's situation, mood, or relationships with others

ANSWERS: 52. surround, 53. witty, 54. intelligent, 55. resolve, 56. pride, 57. couch, 58. senseless, 59. anchor, 60. spark, 61. emotion

62. be____er scientists *v.* to confuse or puzzle someone; to cause someone to become lost or disoriented in thought or perception
63. high imp_____ce *n.* the quality of being important and worthy of note
64. st_____ty pact *n.* the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast
65. en_____s possibilities *adj.* having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount
66. an oxygen m__k *v.* to conceal something; (noun) a covering that you wear over your face to hide it
67. gr_____e with each other *v.* to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
68. ex_____ng news *adj.* causing a lot of interest or excitement
69. an_____us letter *adj.* having no known name, identity, or known source
70. fi___l respect *adj.* relating to or befitting a son or daughter; having the characteristics or feelings of a child towards their parent
71. very ent_____ing book *adj.* providing enjoyment or amusement, especially through being lively or amusing
72. na_____ve poetry *n.* a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story
73. d___l sight *adj.* not interesting or exciting; not bright, vivid, or shiny; not active, brisk, or sharp
74. di_____sh swelling *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

ANSWERS: 62. bewilder, 63. importance, 64. stability, 65. endless, 66. mask, 67. grapple, 68. exciting, 69. anonymous, 70. filial, 71. entertaining, 72. narrative, 73. dull, 74. diminish

75. email et_____te *n.* a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts
76. con_____cy theory *n.* a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something harmful or illegal
77. to____e cancer *n.* a moveable mass of muscle tissue covered with mucous membrane that is in the mouth; a language
78. with de_____t *n.* a feeling of great pleasure or happiness
79. display iro_____ed discipline *adj.* having a will or resolve that is unyielding, inflexible, or determined; characterized by determination, resolve, and toughness in the face of adversity or challenge
80. s_y tactics *adj.* having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals
81. selfless de_____on *n.* great loyalty and love or deep consideration for someone or something
82. nonmetallic el_____ts *n.* a fundamental or essential part of something
83. di_____s a matter with a laugh *v.* to regard something or someone as not important and not worth considering; to terminate someone's employment
84. sh_____ed housing *adj.* protected or shielded from danger or harmful influences; inexperienced or innocent of certain unpleasantness or harsh realities of life

ANSWERS: 75. etiquette, 76. conspiracy, 77. tongue, 78. delight, 79. iron-willed, 80. sly, 81. devotion, 82. element, 83. dismiss, 84. sheltered

85. leather co__h *n.* a piece of furniture made for sitting, usually with a back and armrests, designed to seat more than one person
86. gr_____e with problem *v.* to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
87. co_____on detection *n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict
88. medieval he_____e *n.* a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film
89. afraid to show em_____n *n.* a strong feeling such as love, anger, etc. deriving from one's situation, mood, or relationships with others
90. a friendly con_____ion *n.* an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.
91. ability to de___e the differences *v.* to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand
92. self-serving hy_____sy *n.* the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform
93. lu_____ve market *adj.* producing a great deal of profit; financially rewarding

ANSWERS: 85. couch, 86. grapple, 87. collision, 88. heroine, 89. emotion, 90. conversation, 91. decode, 92. hypocrisy, 93. lucrative

94. in a sen_____al mood *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
95. a stone wall su_____nds the palace *v.* to be all around something or somebody
96. meaningless pr_____e *n.* meaningless and incessant chatter or talk; idle or foolish talk; (verb) to talk at length in a foolish or inconsequential way
97. bl_____de opponent *v.* to surprise or attack someone unexpectedly and from a position they are not aware of, often to gain an advantage
98. the ch_____ry of soil *n.* the branch of the natural sciences dealing with the composition of substances and their properties and reactions
99. pr_____ty etiquette *n.* the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct
100. celebrity go___p *n.* conversation or discussion about other people's personal affairs, often of a trivial or idle nature involving sharing rumors, hearsay, or speculation about the lives of others
101. un_____ed status *adj.* not married; single; having not entered into the legal or socially recognized state of marriage
102. play a pr_____nt role *adj.* important, well-known, or noticeable

ANSWERS: 94. sentimental, 95. surround, 96. prattle, 97. blindside, 98. chemistry, 99. propriety, 100. gossip, 101. unmarried, 102. prominent

103. a man of imp_____ce
n. the quality of being important and worthy of note
104. iro_____ed resolve
adj. having a will or resolve that is unyielding, inflexible, or determined; characterized by determination, resolve, and toughness in the face of adversity or challenge
105. pr_____al English
adj. of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas
106. ti_____r ruler
adj. holding or bearing a particular title or designation, often without having the full authority or functional responsibilities that normally accompany the position; pertaining to or existing in name only
107. hard sw_____ng on the body
n. an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
108. en_____er a storm
v. to face something, particularly something unpleasant or difficult, while attempting to do something else; to meet, especially unexpectedly
109. en_____er a crisis
v. to face something, particularly something unpleasant or difficult, while attempting to do something else; to meet, especially unexpectedly
110. irr_____nt comment
adj. lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

ANSWERS: 103. importance, 104. iron-willed, 105. practical, 106. titular, 107. swelling, 108. encounter, 109. encounter, 110. irreverent

111. unsatisfied de___e *n.* a strong feeling of wanting to have or do something
112. na_____ly arising *adv.* as might be expected; by natural manners
113. gain pr_____al experience *adj.* of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas
114. a divine rev_____on *n.* a fact that has been disclosed to others, especially a surprising one; the act of revealing or telling the fact or truth to others; communication of knowledge to humans by a divine or supernatural agency
115. ar__e a case *v.* to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others
116. b__b wire *n.* a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair
117. without hy_____sy *n.* the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform
118. s_y fox *adj.* having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals

ANSWERS: 111. desire, 112. naturally, 113. practical, 114. revelation, 115. argue, 116. barb, 117. hypocrisy, 118. sly

119. pr__e of a company	<i>n.</i> a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements
120. fleshly de___e	<i>n.</i> a strong feeling of wanting to have or do something
121. material we___h	<i>n.</i> a large amount of money, property, or other things that someone or an organization owns
122. bitter res_____nt	<i>n.</i> bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
123. na_____ly regenerated forest	<i>adv.</i> as might be expected; by natural manners
124. uns_____ing success	<i>adj.</i> not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
125. sw_____ng of the ankle	<i>n.</i> an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
126. an ar_____nt attitude	<i>adj.</i> having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities
127. ar__e passionately	<i>v.</i> to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others
128. historical no__l	<i>n.</i> an extended fictional work in prose; usually in the form of a story; (adjective) original and of a kind not seen before
129. pre-mo___n agricultural society	<i>adj.</i> of or belonging to the present time or recent times
130. cultural sen_____ty	<i>n.</i> mental responsiveness and awareness toward something

ANSWERS: 119. pride, 120. desire, 121. wealth, 122. resentment, 123. naturally, 124. unsurprising, 125. swelling, 126. arrogant, 127. argue, 128. novel, 129. modern, 130. sensibility

131. cl___y attempt	<i>adj.</i> lacking in grace or skill; awkward; cumbersome
132. lo__y ambitions	<i>adj.</i> elevated in position, rank, or status; grand; elevated in style or language
133. the w_t of man	<i>n.</i> the ability to say or write things or ideas in a clever and humorous way
134. mutual ple_____ry	<i>n.</i> an act of politeness or a small gift or favor given to show goodwill or friendliness; a polite or humorous remark or comment, often used to make conversation or show friendliness
135. new design el_____ts	<i>n.</i> a fundamental or essential part of something
136. ch__k bone	<i>n.</i> either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw
137. attempt to pe_____de	<i>v.</i> to convince or induce someone to do something by presenting a reason or argument; to sway or influence someone's decision or opinion
138. the per_____ve of the battle	<i>n.</i> a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something
139. go___p magazine	<i>n.</i> conversation or discussion about other people's personal affairs, often of a trivial or idle nature involving sharing rumors, hearsay, or speculation about the lives of others
140. no__l effect	<i>n.</i> an extended fictional work in prose; usually in the form of a story; (adjective) original and of a kind not seen before

ANSWERS: 131. clumsy, 132. lofty, 133. wit, 134. pleasantry, 135. element, 136. cheek, 137. persuade, 138. perspective, 139. gossip, 140. novel

141. fi___l generation *adj.* relating to or befitting a son or daughter; having the characteristics or feelings of a child towards their parent
142. com_____ty theory *n.* the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand
143. p__r review *n.* a person who has the same age, status, or ability
144. hea_____ng decision *adj.* stubborn and determined to have one's way; not easily influenced by others
145. m__k body odor *v.* to conceal something; (noun) a covering that you wear over your face to hide it
146. cognitive com_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand
147. wealthy so_____te *n.* a person, usually a woman, who is known for and participates in fashionable social events and is often wealthy or of high social status
148. tech-sa__y *n.* the condition of being aware of and able to deal with a situation effectively; (adjective) having knowledge and understanding of a particular subject or activity
149. full of w_t *n.* the ability to say or write things or ideas in a clever and humorous way
150. do___y effective *adv.* to twice the extent or degree; in a way that involves two things at once; with twice as much force, effect, or significance
151. sen_____al damage *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

ANSWERS: 141. filial, 142. complexity, 143. peer, 144. headstrong, 145. mask, 146. complexity, 147. socialite, 148. savvy, 149. wit, 150. doubly, 151. sentimental

152. be_____er the reader *v.* to confuse or puzzle someone; to cause someone to become lost or disoriented in thought or perception
153. potential su_____rs *n.* a man who seeks the favor, hand in marriage; a prospective buyer who wants to take control of another company
154. deep-rooted pr_____ce *n.* a thought or feeling that is unfair and makes no sense, mainly when it is formed without enough thought or knowledge
155. ru__l accents *adj.* of or relating to the countryside
156. sw_____ng landscapes *adj.* extensive, broad, or far-reaching in scope or impact; characterized by a vigorous or forceful movement, often involving wide motions or gestures
157. hea_____ng person *adj.* stubborn and determined to have one's way; not easily influenced by others
158. an int_____nt person *adj.* having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree
159. public ri_____le *n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way
160. the rev_____on of a secret *n.* a fact that has been disclosed to others, especially a surprising one; the act of revealing or telling the fact or truth to others; communication of knowledge to humans by a divine or supernatural agency

ANSWERS: 152. bewilder, 153. suitor, 154. prejudice, 155. rural, 156. sweeping, 157. headstrong, 158. intelligent, 159. ridicule, 160. revelation

161. emotional p__p *n.* a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something
162. small sa_____ce for a great cause *n.* the act of killing an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to a deity; (verb) to give up something important or valuable to help another person or get or do something that seems more important
163. vitreous hu__r *n.* the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body
164. a per_____ve view *n.* a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something
165. ju__y gossip *adj.* containing much liquid, often used to describe fresh fruit or meat; interesting or exciting, often because it is scandalous or revealing
166. popular tourist att_____on *n.* a sense of like someone, particularly sexually; something that causes individuals to desire to go to a specific area or do a specific activity
167. the ne_____ty of the concrete measure *n.* the state or fact of being needed; anything indispensable
168. play a pro_____st *n.* the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories

ANSWERS: 161. prop, 162. sacrifice, 163. humor, 164. perspective, 165. juicy, 166. attraction, 167. necessity, 168. protagonist

169. w__k away my tears *v.* to close one eye briefly as a way of showing agreement, understanding, or flirtation; to emit a flashing light
170. color pr_____ce *n.* a thought or feeling that is unfair and makes no sense, mainly when it is formed without enough thought or knowledge
171. pro_____st of drama *n.* the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories
172. my in_____te affairs *adj.* having a very close friendship, personal
173. p__p stick *n.* a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something
174. co_____m a transaction *v.* to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case
175. sardonic hu__r *n.* the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body
176. native to____e *n.* a moveable mass of muscle tissue covered with mucous membrane that is in the mouth; a language
177. f__t accomplishment *n.* a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery
178. a tremor of de_____t *n.* a feeling of great pleasure or happiness

ANSWERS: 169. wink, 170. prejudice, 171. protagonist, 172. intimate, 173. prop, 174. confirm, 175. humor, 176. tongue, 177. feat, 178. delight

179. e_o defense mechanisms *n.* a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one
180. ro____ic movies *adj.* of or relating to love or a sexual relationship
181. tu____t of voices *n.* a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting
182. con_____ion in English *n.* an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.
183. w__k at abuses *v.* to close one eye briefly as a way of showing agreement, understanding, or flirtation; to emit a flashing light
184. young un_____ed couple *adj.* not married; single; having not entered into the legal or socially recognized state of marriage
185. a breach of pr_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct
186. ro____ic breakup *adj.* of or relating to love or a sexual relationship
187. ent_____ing puppet show *adj.* providing enjoyment or amusement, especially through being lively or amusing
188. inc_____ent with the roadmap *adj.* not remaining constant or in agreement
189. ad_____le enough for the environment *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

ANSWERS: 179. ego, 180. romantic, 181. tumult, 182. conversation, 183. wink, 184. unmarried, 185. propriety, 186. romantic, 187. entertaining, 188. inconsistent, 189. adaptable

190. a lo__y peak *adj.* elevated in position, rank, or status; grand; elevated in style or language
191. my____al heroes *adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination
192. do___y difficult *adv.* to twice the extent or degree; in a way that involves two things at once; with twice as much force, effect, or significance
193. p__r group *n.* a person who has the same age, status, or ability
194. lu_____ve deal *adj.* producing a great deal of profit; financially rewarding
195. in the midst of the tu___t *n.* a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting
196. di_____sh a reputation *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
197. ec_____y class *n.* the system by which a country or region produces, manages, and distributes goods and services, including the money and finances involved in these activities; (of an airline) the lowest-priced, most basic option for seating in commercial travel
198. speak aw_____ly *adv.* in a manner that lacks grace or fluidity; in a manner that is uncomfortable or difficult to perform

ANSWERS: 190. lofty, 191. mythical, 192. doubly, 193. peer, 194. lucrative, 195. tumult, 196. diminish, 197. economy, 198. awkwardly

199. uns_____ing result *adj.* not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
200. de___e a message *v.* to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand
201. sp__k his interest *v.* to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity
202. fiscal st_____ty pact *n.* the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast
203. re_____e the computer error *v.* to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty
204. fi___e competition *adj.* severe and violent in a way that is frightening
205. dec_____on of independence *n.* a formal or explicit statement or announcement
206. a minor f__w *n.* a fault, mistake, or weakness that causes something not to be perfect
207. sa_____ce anything to get ahead *n.* the act of killing an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to a deity; (verb) to give up something important or valuable to help another person or get or do something that seems more important
208. come into co_____on with my friend *n.* an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict
209. intellectual f__t *n.* a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery

ANSWERS: 199. unsurprising, 200. decode, 201. spark, 202. stability, 203. resolve, 204. fierce, 205. declaration, 206. flaw, 207. sacrifice, 208. collision, 209. feat

210. co_____nt's advice *n.* a person with whom one shares a secret or private matter, often in a trusting and intimate manner; a close friend or trusted advisor
211. unilateral dec_____on *n.* a formal or explicit statement or announcement
212. the big att_____on of the event *n.* a sense of like someone, particularly sexually; something that causes individuals to desire to go to a specific area or do a specific activity
213. start a new th____d *n.* a fine cord of natural or synthetic fibers or filaments, such as cotton or nylon, used in sewing, knitting, or weaving; a series of connected messages or comments on a social media platform or online forum, often related to a particular topic; a sequence or line of events, ideas, or actions that are connected or related; (verb) to pass a thread through a needle or other small opening, in preparation for sewing or stitching
214. pe_____de enough people *v.* to convince or induce someone to do something by presenting a reason or argument; to sway or influence someone's decision or opinion
215. bi____r over small things *v.* to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms

ANSWERS: 210. confidant, 211. declaration, 212. attraction, 213. thread, 214. persuade, 215. bicker

216. 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
217. ju___y fruit *adj.* containing much liquid, often used to describe fresh fruit or meat; interesting or exciting, often because it is scandalous or revealing
218. cl___y at sports *adj.* lacking in grace or skill; awkward; cumbersome
219. the qu___t for truth *n.* a long or challenging search for something
220. professor of ch_____ry *n.* the branch of the natural sciences dealing with the composition of substances and their properties and reactions
221. the br___d of the new car *n.* a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning
222. ward off a su___r *n.* a man who seeks the favor, hand in marriage; a prospective buyer who wants to take control of another company
223. create a br___d logo *n.* a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning

ANSWERS: 216. satire, 217. juicy, 218. clumsy, 219. quest, 220. chemistry, 221. brand, 222. suitor, 223. brand

224. in_____te relationship *adj.* having a very close friendship, personal
225. bl_____de the audience *v.* to surprise or attack someone unexpectedly and from a position they are not aware of, often to gain an advantage
226. majority of his we____h *n.* a large amount of money, property, or other things that someone or an organization owns
227. pr_____e endlessly about the gossip *n.* meaningless and incessant chatter or talk; idle or foolish talk; (verb) to talk at length in a foolish or inconsequential way
228. political con_____cy *n.* a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something harmful or illegal
229. abiding res_____nt *n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
230. ma_____in good health *v.* to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true
231. tragic he_____e *n.* a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film
232. so_____te's philanthropic efforts *n.* a person, usually a woman, who is known for and participates in fashionable social events and is often wealthy or of high social status

ANSWERS: 224. intimate, 225. blindside, 226. wealth, 227. prattle, 228. conspiracy, 229. resentment, 230. maintain, 231. heroine, 232. socialite

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. After a long day at work, he appreciated the small _____ of a warm cup of tea.
n. an act of politeness or a small gift or favor given to show goodwill or friendliness; a polite or humorous remark or comment, often used to make conversation or show friendliness
2. Many _____ areas are still impoverished.
adj. of or relating to the countryside
3. She explained the _____ surrounding the accident.
n. the specific conditions or events that surround a particular situation or occurrence
4. You cannot accomplish great things without a _____ of your time or money.
n. the act of killing an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to a deity; (verb) to give up something important or valuable to help another person or get or do something that seems more important
5. The _____ thunders echoed across the plain.
adj. severe and violent in a way that is frightening
6. She was constantly trying to boost her _____ by talking about her accomplishments.
n. a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one
7. The political turmoil caused great _____ in the country.
n. a state of great confusion, commotion, or disturbance; a loud, confused noise, as of people shouting

ANSWERS: 1. pleasantry, 2. rural, 3. circumstances, 4. sacrifice, 5. fierce, 6. ego, 7. tumult

8. He has an _____ knowledge of American history.

adj. having a very close friendship, personal

9. The brave _____ rescued the prince from the dragon's lair.

n. a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film

10. She was nearly _____ due to severe diabetes.

adj. unable to see; unable or unwilling to perceive or understand the true nature of something

11. I need to _____ my car regularly to prevent any major mechanical issues.

v. to continue to uphold or sustain; to keep in a particular state or condition; to assert or declare something to be true

12. This community is free of social _____.

n. a thought or feeling that is unfair and makes no sense, mainly when it is formed without enough thought or knowledge

13. The commentaries often criticized the government's political _____.

n. the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform

14. The President made the _____ of war.

n. a formal or explicit statement or announcement

15. _____ robots that can cooperate with humans have limited motor output for safety.

adj. having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree

ANSWERS: 8. intimate, 9. heroine, 10. blind, 11. maintain, 12. prejudice, 13. hypocrisy, 14. declaration, 15. Intelligent

16. The burger was so _____ that it dripped down my hand as I ate it.

adj. containing much liquid, often used to describe fresh fruit or meat; interesting or exciting, often because it is scandalous or revealing

17. The _____ on the child's faces when they received the toy was priceless.

n. a feeling of great pleasure or happiness

18. The _____ triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.

n. the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories

19. The ship dropped _____ in the bay.

n. a device, typically made of metal, that is used to moor a ship or boat in a particular place, typically by being dropped to the seabed; a central cohesive source of support and stability

20. The _____ witch cast a spell on the kingdom.

adj. morally bad or evil

21. Some _____ are common across cultures and backgrounds.

n. a strong feeling such as love, anger, etc. deriving from one's situation, mood, or relationships with others

22. This company _____ its battery problem completely.

v. to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty

23. Her concept is highly _____ and helpful.

adj. of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas

ANSWERS: 16. juicy, 17. delight, 18. protagonist's, 19. anchor, 20. wicked, 21. emotions, 22. resolves, 23. practical

24. He looked out the window at the _____ stream of people.

adj. having no end or conclusion; infinitely very large in size or amount

25. His business _____ was evident in the success of his company.

n. the condition of being aware of and able to deal with a situation effectively; (adjective) having knowledge and understanding of a particular subject or activity

26. The trade is _____ right now due to the collapse of the prominent investment bank.

adj. not interesting or exciting; not bright, vivid, or shiny; not active, brisk, or sharp

27. The company's code of _____ requires all employees to dress professionally.

n. the state or quality of being correct and suitable in manners, etiquette, or conduct

28. He has the _____ to keep talking about this topic.

n. the ability to say or write things or ideas in a clever and humorous way

29. The _____ views from the mountaintop were breathtaking.

adj. extensive, broad, or far-reaching in scope or impact; characterized by a vigorous or forceful movement, often involving wide motions or gestures

30. Their _____ to each other was beautiful.

n. great loyalty and love or deep consideration for someone or something

31. Stop being _____ and always speak the truth.

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

ANSWERS: 24. endless, 25. savvy, 26. dull, 27. propriety, 28. wit, 29. sweeping, 30. devotion, 31. sentimental

32. He was a _____ leader who made decisions based on what was practical rather than ideal.

adj. practical rather than idealistic

33. The _____ is boneless, but it is as strong as bones.

n. a moveable mass of muscle tissue covered with mucous membrane that is in the mouth; a language

34. The bankruptcy of the giant conglomerate _____ turmoil in the stock market.

v. to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity

35. We have finally lost our last _____.

n. a piece of wood, metal, etc., placed beneath or against something to support it or keep it in position; a system, institution, or person that gives help or support to someone or something

36. My siblings always _____ over who gets the front seat in the car.

v. to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms

37. I stopped by the branch though I have no business of _____.

n. the quality of being important and worthy of note

38. _____ piety is an important value in many Asian cultures, where respect for one's parents is paramount.

adj. relating to or befitting a son or daughter; having the characteristics or feelings of a child towards their parent

39. The _____ of tectonic plates can result in new mountain ranges, such as the Himalayas or the Alps.

n. an instance of two or more objects or entities crashing into each other, usually resulting in damage, impact, or conflict

ANSWERS: 32. pragmatic, 33. tongue, 34. sparked, 35. prop, 36. bicker, 37. importance, 38. Filial, 39. collision

40. The athlete faced a challenge that was _____ daunting because of her injury.
adv. to twice the extent or degree; in a way that involves two things at once; with twice as much force, effect, or significance
41. Among young people, _____ pressure can be pretty influential.
n. a person who has the same age, status, or ability
42. They watched the train _____ into the distance.
v. to cease to exist or be visible
43. She felt _____ towards her boss for not giving her a promotion.
n. bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
44. The politician tried to _____ the corruption.
v. to conceal something; (noun) a covering that you wear over your face to hide it
45. Investing in real estate can be a _____ business if done correctly.
adj. producing a great deal of profit; financially rewarding
46. After intensive icing by the trainer, the _____ went down.
n. an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
47. The detective followed a _____ of clues which ultimately led to the suspect's arrest.
n. a fine cord of natural or synthetic fibers or filaments, such as cotton or nylon, used in sewing, knitting, or weaving; a series of connected messages or comments on a social media platform or online forum, often related to a particular topic; a sequence or line of events, ideas, or actions that are connected or related; (verb) to pass a thread through a needle or other small opening, in preparation for sewing or stitching

ANSWERS: 40. doubly, 41. peer, 42. disappear, 43. resentment, 44. mask, 45. lucrative, 46. swelling, 47. thread

48. Natural selection is an essential _____ in Darwin's theory of evolution.
n. a fundamental or essential part of something
49. His _____ goals were admirable but unrealistic.
adj. elevated in position, rank, or status; grand; elevated in style or language
50. Everything he writes shows the breadth of his _____.
n. mental responsiveness and awareness toward something
51. Their headquarters are in a _____ skyscraper.
adj. of or belonging to the present time or recent times
52. The software could _____ the encrypted data and reveal the hidden information.
v. to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand
53. Her _____ determination helped her achieve her goals.
adj. having a will or resolve that is unyielding, inflexible, or determined; characterized by determination, resolve, and toughness in the face of adversity or challenge
54. 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
55. It is an incredible _____ to climb Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world.
n. a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery

ANSWERS: 48. element, 49. lofty, 50. sensibility, 51. modern, 52. decode, 53. iron-willed, 54. satire, 55. feat

56. She took great _____ in her work, always striving for perfection.

n. a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's achievements

57. The _____ waiter accidentally spilled a tray of drinks on a customer.

adj. lacking in grace or skill; awkward; cumbersome

58. He was _____ gifted.

adv. as might be expected; by natural manners

59. He needed to _____ with structural reforms to improve the company's revenue.

v. to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons

60. The _____ outcome of the election was a victory for the incumbent candidate.

adj. not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted

61. Low sexual _____ typically correlates with low testosterone levels.

n. a strong feeling of wanting to have or do something

62. The princess had many _____ who sought her hand in marriage.

n. a man who seeks the favor, hand in marriage; a prospective buyer who wants to take control of another company

63. The complex instructions on the assignment sheet _____ most students.

v. to confuse or puzzle someone; to cause someone to become lost or disoriented in thought or perception

ANSWERS: 56. pride, 57. clumsy, 58. naturally, 59. grapple, 60. unsurprising, 61. desire, 62. suitors, 63. bewilder

64. The magician's act was _____ and kept the audience on the edge of their seats.
adj. providing enjoyment or amusement, especially through being lively or amusing
65. Despite being the company's _____ leader, she had little authority in decision-making.
adj. holding or bearing a particular title or designation, often without having the full authority or functional responsibilities that normally accompany the position; pertaining to or existing in name only
66. The committee has decided to _____ the president from the post.
v. to regard something or someone as not important and not worth considering; to terminate someone's employment
67. It was his first _____ love.
adj. of or relating to love or a sexual relationship
68. The _____ has largely gotten positive feedback.
n. an extended fictional work in prose; usually in the form of a story; (adjective) original and of a kind not seen before
69. The _____ inequality was unavoidable.
n. a large amount of money, property, or other things that someone or an organization owns
70. There was a _____ of silence about illegal police interrogation.
n. a secret agreement between two or more people to perform something harmful or illegal
71. He emphasized the _____ of immediate action.
n. the state or fact of being needed; anything indispensable

ANSWERS: 64. entertaining, 65. titular, 66. dismiss, 67. romantic, 68. novel, 69. wealth, 70. conspiracy, 71. necessity

72. His _____ behavior made it difficult for him to work with other team members.

adj. stubborn and determined to have one's way; not easily influenced by others

73. She tried to _____ her brother to join her on the trip, but he was too busy with work.

v. to convince or induce someone to do something by presenting a reason or argument; to sway or influence someone's decision or opinion

74. The politician's words were full of _____ designed to hurt his opponent.

n. a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair

75. The young _____ was photographed in the pages of high fashion magazines.

n. a person, usually a woman, who is known for and participates in fashionable social events and is often wealthy or of high social status

76. It's important to follow proper _____ when attending a formal dinner.

n. a set of rules and norms governing polite and proper behavior in social situations or professional contexts

77. He is familiar with _____ and biology.

n. the branch of the natural sciences dealing with the composition of substances and their properties and reactions

78. The project's _____ made it difficult for the team to complete it on time.

n. the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand

ANSWERS: 72. headstrong, 73. persuade, 74. barbs, 75. socialite, 76. etiquette, 77. chemistry, 78. complexity

79. The comedian's _____ jokes had the audience in stitches.

adj. cleverly amusing or entertaining, especially in a spontaneous or impromptu way

80. His father's death changed his whole _____ on life.

n. a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something

81. Her constant _____ about trivial things annoyed everyone in the room.

n. meaningless and incessant chatter or talk; idle or foolish talk; (verb) to talk at length in a foolish or inconsequential way

82. The couple began to _____ over which restaurant to go to for dinner.

v. to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others

83. I'm prepared to _____ challenges throughout this adventure.

v. to face something, particularly something unpleasant or difficult, while attempting to do something else; to meet, especially unexpectedly

84. She received several _____ calls.

adj. having no known name, identity, or known source

85. The _____ act of violence left the community in shock and mourning.

adj. lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational

86. She has chosen to remain _____ and focus on her career.

adj. not married; single; having not entered into the legal or socially recognized state of marriage

ANSWERS: 79. witty, 80. perspective, 81. prattle, 82. argue, 83. encounter, 84. anonymous, 85. senseless, 86. unmarried

87. The _____ from his classmates made him feel embarrassed and ashamed.
n. speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way
88. He was so _____ that he thought he was always right.
adj. having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities
89. The findings of the experiment were both _____ and unexpected.
adj. causing a lot of interest or excitement
90. He gently touched her apple-red _____ and whispered that he loved her.
n. either side of the face below the eye and between the nose and the jaw
91. That adventurer traveled in _____ of buried treasure.
n. a long or challenging search for something
92. She tripped _____ on the uneven pavement and almost fell.
adv. in a manner that lacks grace or fluidity; in a manner that is uncomfortable or difficult to perform
93. Even the slightest design _____ in an aircraft can lead to a fatal accident.
n. a fault, mistake, or weakness that causes something not to be perfect
94. She chose her mother as her _____ to share her personal issue.
n. a person with whom one shares a secret or private matter, often in a trusting and intimate manner; a close friend or trusted advisor

ANSWERS: 87. ridicule, 88. arrogant, 89. exciting, 90. cheek, 91. quest, 92. awkwardly, 93. flaw, 94. confidant

95. This lawsuit appears to be unfair and _____.

adj. not remaining constant or in agreement

96. The comedian's _____ jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.

adj. lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

97. I love to relax on the _____ and watch movies on the weekends.

n. a piece of furniture made for sitting, usually with a back and armrests, designed to seat more than one person

98. We seek a candidate who possesses _____ fighting potential.

adj. able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

99. My wife seems to be in ill _____.

n. the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body

100. As people get old, their energies may _____.

v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

101. Please write to _____ your reservation.

v. to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case

102. The birds found _____ spots in the trees to avoid the rain.

adj. protected or shielded from danger or harmful influences; inexperienced or innocent of certain unpleasantness or harsh realities of life

ANSWERS: 95. inconsistent, 96. irreverent, 97. couch, 98. adaptable, 99. humor, 100. diminish, 101. confirm, 102. sheltered

103. Your _____ reflects your thoughts.

- n.* an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.

104. The shocking _____ embarrassed the administration.

- n.* a fact that has been disclosed to others, especially a surprising one; the act of revealing or telling the fact or truth to others; communication of knowledge to humans by a divine or supernatural agency

105. She felt an instant _____ toward him.

- n.* a sense of like someone, particularly sexually; something that causes individuals to desire to go to a specific area or do a specific activity

106. The _____ of the country is struggling due to the recent political instability.

- n.* the system by which a country or region produces manages, and distributes goods and services, including the money and finances involved in these activities; (of an airline) the lowest-priced, most basic option for seating in commercial travel

107. The media frequently interviewed _____ scientists.

- adj.* important, well-known, or noticeable

108. There's a new _____ of hero in the movies now.

- n.* a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning

109. On three sides, mountains _____ the settlement.

- v.* to be all around something or somebody

ANSWERS: 103. conversation, 104. revelation, 105. attraction, 106. economy, 107. prominent, 108. brand, 109. surround

110. He couldn't help but _____ at his wife during the boring meeting to make her laugh.

- v.* to close one eye briefly as a way of showing agreement, understanding, or flirtation; to emit a flashing light

111. I heard some juicy _____ about our co-worker at the water cooler.

- n.* conversation or discussion about other people's personal affairs, often of a trivial or idle nature involving sharing rumors, hearsay, or speculation about the lives of others

112. My boss's criticism of my work _____ me during the meeting.

- v.* to surprise or attack someone unexpectedly and from a position they are not aware of, often to gain an advantage

113. The policy should increase the country's monetary _____.

- n.* the quality or attribute of being firm and steadfast

114. Many cultures have their _____ creatures and legends.

- adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination

115. The _____ handles multiple plot lines and has unpredictable ends.

- n.* a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story

116. He had a ___ smile on his face as he told his joke.

- adj.* having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals

ANSWERS: 110. wink, 111. gossip, 112. blindsided, 113. stability, 114. mythical, 115. narrative, 116. sly