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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Pazit Cahlon and Alex Gendler: What "Machiavellian" really means | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

unscrupulous

adj. having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair
synonym: unethical, immoral, dishonest

(1) **unscrupulous** conduct, (2) **unscrupulous** tactics

The **unscrupulous** salesman pressured me into buying a car I didn't want.

statesman

n. a man who is a respected leader or politician in national or international affairs

synonym: solon, politician, legislator

(1) a woman **statesman**, (2) international **statesman**

This statue honors a distinguished **statesman**.

monarch

n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen

synonym: ruler, sovereign, majesty

(1) an absolute **monarch**, (2) **monarch** butterflies

She came from a commoner background but eventually became the **monarch** of that country.

antiquity

n. the ancient past, especially the period of classical civilization

synonym: ancientness, oldness, hoariness

(1) remote **antiquity**, (2) unrecorded **antiquity**

The study of **antiquity** is important for understanding the history, culture, and civilization of the past and their influence on the present.

exhort

v. to strongly encourage or urge someone to do something; to give advice or admonition with urgency or passion

synonym: urge, encourage, persuade

(1) **exhort** to action, (2) **exhort** him to be honest

The motivational speaker tried to **exhort** the audience to reach their full potential.

diabolical

adj. characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character

synonym: wicked, evil, sinister

(1) **diabolical** revenge, (2) **diabolical** media mogul

The **diabolical** plan was to steal the diamond using sophisticated traps and deception.

protestant

adj. a member of a Western Christian church that is separate from the Roman Catholic Church and that is based on the teachings of Martin Luther and other Reformers

synonym: reformed, evangelical, nonconformist

(1) hard-line **Protestant**, (2) **protestant** theology

The **Protestant** church was the dominant religion in the area.

tyranny

n. a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

synonym: despotism, oppression, dictatorship

(1) brutal **tyranny**, (2) **tyranny** of the majority

The country was ruled by a **tyranny** that oppressed its citizens.

opportunistic

adj. making use of a current situation to get power or advantage, especially regardless of planning or principle

synonym: timeserving, conciliatory

(1) **opportunistic** fungus, (2) **opportunistic** behavior

Many of the party's members joined for simply **opportunistic** reasons.

synonym

n. a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language

synonym: equivalent, substitute, parallel

(1) **synonym** retrieval, (2) rough **synonym**

She was searching for a **synonym** for 'happiness' in the thesaurus.

manipulative

adj. characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner

synonym: maneuvering, calculating, shrewd

(1) **manipulative** behavior, (2) **manipulative** language

He was accused of being **manipulative** when he lied to his friends to get what he wanted.

villain

n. a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel

synonym: scoundrel, rogue, antagonist

(1) evil **villain**, (2) authoritarian **villain**

The **villain** in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.

atrocious

n. brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act

synonym: evil, horror, iniquity

(1) commit **atrocious**, (2) cold-blooded **atrocious**

The **atrocious** of the war left many children orphaned.

seize

v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

synonym : grab, grasp, capture

(1) **seize** a person's property, (2) **seize** the day

He has the superpower to **seize** a business opportunity.

oppress

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

synonym : antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force

Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

generosity

n. the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely

synonym : goodness, hospitality, unselfishness

(1) act of **generosity**, (2) boundless **generosity**

He is remembered for his **generosity** and civilization.

motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym : slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

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.

savory

adj. pleasing to the taste, especially by being salty, sour, or spicy rather than sweet

synonym : delicious, tasty, appetizing

(1) **savory** dish, (2) a **savory** omelet

The **savory** aroma of roasted chicken filled the kitchen.

hearken

v. to listen attentively or carefully; to give heed or pay attention to something

synonym: listen, heed, pay attention

(1) **hearken** back to tradition, (2) **hearken** with delight

Please **hearken** to my words of advice before making a decision.

Christ

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

synonym: Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

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

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

diplomat

n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

synonym: envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**

The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

staunch

adj. firmly loyal and devoted, unyielding or resolute

synonym: strong, loyal, firm

(1) **staunch** conviction, (2) **staunch** opponent

She was a **staunch** supporter of the cause, always willing to speak out for her beliefs.

republican

n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States

synonym: conservative, right-winger, rightist

(1) **republican** ideology, (2) **Republican** party

Many **republican** lawmakers are advocating for stricter immigration policies.

banish

v. to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently

synonym: exile, deport, expel

(1) **banish** doubt, (2) **banish** my wrinkles

The queen **banished** the traitor from the kingdom, never to be seen again.

pamphlet

n. a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject

synonym: brochure, leaflet, booklet

(1) propaganda **pamphlet**, (2) **pamphlet** in English

The political organization handed out **pamphlets** to raise awareness about their cause.

exile

n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons

synonym: banishment, expulsion, deportation

(1) **exile** community, (2) political **exile**

The **exiled** king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.

scathe

v. to harm or injure someone or something, often by using words or criticism; to cut or wound deeply

synonym: damage, harm, hurt

(1) **scathe** the coastal town, (2) **scathe** the politician's credibility

The harsh words from her boss were enough to **scathe** her confidence for the rest of the day.

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.

subjugate

v. to bring under control; to conquer; to make subservient to one's authority

synonym : conquer, subdue, enslave

(1) **subjugate** the enemy, (2) **subjugate** my ego

The conqueror sought to **subjugate** the defeated country.

aspiring

adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life

synonym : hopeful, ambitious, eager

(1) **aspiring** prime minister, (2) have **aspiring** eyes

He was extremely generous to the **aspiring** young artist.

tyrannical

adj. using power or authority over people, especially in a specific country, group, etc., in an unfair and cruel way

synonym : despotic, oppressive, authoritarian

(1) a **tyrannical** government, (2) a **tyrannical** parent

Tyrannical Hollywood film moguls can easily rule the movie star's career.

rev

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

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

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

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

preconceived

adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness

(1) a **preconceived** notion, (2) **preconceived** opinions

We should start a discussion from scratch with no **preconceived** ideas.

shatter

v. to break suddenly into many pieces

synonym : break, crash, destroy

(1) **shatter** the plate, (2) **shatter** a world record

Her husband's death **shattered** her life entirely.

delusion

n. a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary

synonym: hallucination, illusion, fantasy

(1) grand **delusion**, (2) labor under a **delusion**

He had a **delusion** that he was a millionaire.

entail

v. to involve or require something as necessary, particularly as a consequence of a particular situation or action; to impose a burden or restriction on something

synonym: involve, necessitate, require

(1) **entail** legal consequences, (2) **entail** risks

The job offer **entails** a lot of responsibility and hard work.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ty____y of the majority *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
2. sc___e the politician's credibility *v.* to harm or injure someone or something, often by using words or criticism; to cut or wound deeply
3. political ex__e *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
4. man_____ive language *adj.* characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner
5. su_____te my ego *v.* to bring under control; to conquer; to make subservient to one's authority
6. rep_____an ideology *n.* a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
7. a woman st_____an *n.* a man who is a respected leader or politician in national or international affairs
8. sc___e the coastal town *v.* to harm or injure someone or something, often by using words or criticism; to cut or wound deeply

ANSWERS: 1. tyranny, 2. scathe, 3. exile, 4. manipulative, 5. subjugate, 6. republican, 7. statesman, 8. scathe

9. a tyr_____al parent *adj.* using power or authority over people, especially in a specific country, group, etc., in an unfair and cruel way
10. sy_____m retrieval *n.* a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language
11. uns_____ous tactics *adj.* having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair
12. labor under a de_____on *n.* a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary
13. pro_____nt theology *adj.* a member of a Western Christian church that is separate from the Roman Catholic Church and that is based on the teachings of Martin Luther and other Reformers
14. sh_____r a world record *v.* to break suddenly into many pieces
15. en____l legal consequences *v.* to involve or require something as necessary, particularly as a consequence of a particular situation or action; to impose a burden or restriction on something
16. Rep_____an party *n.* a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
17. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 9. tyrannical, 10. synonym, 11. unscrupulous, 12. delusion, 13. protestant, 14. shatter, 15. entail, 16. republican, 17. rev

18. cold-blooded at_____ty *n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
19. before Ch____t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
20. opp_____tic behavior *adj.* making use of a current situation to get power or advantage, especially regardless of planning or principle
21. a pre_____ved notion *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
22. remote an_____ty *n.* the ancient past, especially the period of classical civilization
23. st_____h opponent *adj.* firmly loyal and devoted, unyielding or resolute
24. ex____t him to be honest *v.* to strongly encourage or urge someone to do something; to give advice or admonition with urgency or passion
25. in a sen_____al mood *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
26. se__e a person's property *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
27. unrecorded an_____ty *n.* the ancient past, especially the period of classical civilization
28. a sa____y omelet *adj.* pleasing to the taste, especially by being salty, sour, or spicy rather than sweet

ANSWERS: 18. atrocity, 19. Christ, 20. opportunistic, 21. preconceived, 22. antiquity, 23. staunch, 24. exhort, 25. sentimental, 26. seize, 27. antiquity, 28. savory

29. pre_____ved opinions *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
30. ex__e community *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
31. evil vi_____n *n.* a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
32. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
33. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
34. brutal ty_____y *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
35. he_____n with delight *v.* to listen attentively or carefully; to give heed or pay attention to something
36. st_____h conviction *adj.* firmly loyal and devoted, unyielding or resolute
37. man_____ive behavior *adj.* characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner

ANSWERS: 29. preconceived, 30. exile, 31. villain, 32. motto, 33. rev, 34. tyranny, 35. hearken, 36. staunch, 37. manipulative

38. spiritual enl_____ent *n.* education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge
39. allied di_____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
40. su_____te the enemy *v.* to bring under control; to conquer; to make subservient to one's authority
41. authoritarian vi_____n *n.* a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
42. expel a di_____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
43. opp_____tic fungus *adj.* making use of a current situation to get power or advantage, especially regardless of planning or principle
44. sa____y dish *adj.* pleasing to the taste, especially by being salty, sour, or spicy rather than sweet
45. have as_____ng eyes *adj.* desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
46. ex____t to action *v.* to strongly encourage or urge someone to do something; to give advice or admonition with urgency or passion

ANSWERS: 38. enlightenment, 39. diplomat, 40. subjugate, 41. villain, 42. diplomat, 43. opportunistic, 44. savory, 45. aspiring, 46. exhort

47. dia_____al media mogul *adj.* characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character
48. as_____ng prime minister *adj.* desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
49. grand de_____on *n.* a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary
50. sh_____r the plate *v.* to break suddenly into many pieces
51. mo_____h butterflies *n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
52. propaganda pa_____et *n.* a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject
53. ba____h my wrinkles *v.* to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently
54. op_____s the people with force *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
55. rough sy_____m *n.* a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language
56. a tyr_____al government *adj.* using power or authority over people, especially in a specific country, group, etc., in an unfair and cruel way
57. hard-line Pro_____nt *adj.* a member of a Western Christian church that is separate from the Roman Catholic Church and that is based on the teachings of Martin Luther and other Reformers

ANSWERS: 47. diabolical, 48. aspiring, 49. delusion, 50. shatter, 51. monarch, 52. pamphlet, 53. banish, 54. oppress, 55. synonym, 56. tyrannical, 57. protestant

58. uns_____ous conduct *adj.* having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair
59. se__e the day *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
60. sen_____al damage *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
61. commit at_____ty *n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
62. pa_____et in English *n.* a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject
63. an absolute mo_____h *n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
64. op_____s the minority *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
65. ba____h doubt *v.* to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently
66. he_____n back to tradition *v.* to listen attentively or carefully; to give heed or pay attention to something
67. international st_____an *n.* a man who is a respected leader or politician in national or international affairs
68. enl_____ent activity *n.* education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge

ANSWERS: 58. unscrupulous, 59. seize, 60. sentimental, 61. atrocity, 62. pamphlet, 63. monarch, 64. oppress, 65. banish, 66. hearken, 67. statesman, 68. enlightenment

69. en___l risks *v.* to involve or require something as necessary, particularly as a consequence of a particular situation or action; to impose a burden or restriction on something
70. company mo___o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
71. act of gen_____ty *n.* the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
72. boundless gen_____ty *n.* the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
73. dia_____al revenge *adj.* characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character
74. teaching of Ch___t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

ANSWERS: 69. entail, 70. motto, 71. generosity, 72. generosity, 73. diabolical, 74. Christ

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Historically, many countries have often _____ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.
 - v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
2. The _____ of the war left many children orphaned.
 - n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
3. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
 - n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
4. The _____ in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.
 - n.* a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
5. The _____ aroma of roasted chicken filled the kitchen.
 - adj.* pleasing to the taste, especially by being salty, sour, or spicy rather than sweet
6. The study of _____ is important for understanding the history, culture, and civilization of the past and their influence on the present.
 - n.* the ancient past, especially the period of classical civilization
7. We should start a discussion from scratch with no _____ ideas.
 - adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness

ANSWERS: 1. oppressed, 2. atrocity, 3. motto, 4. villain, 5. savory, 6. antiquity, 7. preconceived

8. Stop being _____ and always speak the truth.

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

9. The queen _____ the traitor from the kingdom, never to be seen again.

v. to expel or send away from a place or situation, especially permanently

10. He is remembered for his _____ and civilization.

n. the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely

11. Please _____ to my words of advice before making a decision.

v. to listen attentively or carefully; to give heed or pay attention to something

12. The _____ plan was to steal the diamond using sophisticated traps and deception.

adj. characterized by extreme wickedness, cruelty, or evil; devilish or inhuman in nature or character

13. He was accused of being _____ when he lied to his friends to get what he wanted.

adj. characterized by the use of shrewd, cunning, or deceptive tactics to control or influence others, often in a self-serving or unethical manner

14. He was extremely generous to the _____ young artist.

adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life

15. The country was ruled by a _____ that oppressed its citizens.

n. a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

ANSWERS: 8. sentimental, 9. banished, 10. generosity, 11. hearken, 12. diabolical, 13. manipulative, 14. aspiring, 15. tyranny

16. Many of the party's members joined for simply _____ reasons.

adj. making use of a current situation to get power or advantage, especially regardless of planning or principle

17. The conqueror sought to _____ the defeated country.

v. to bring under control; to conquer; to make subservient to one's authority

18. He finally brought his _____ to perfection.

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

19. She was searching for a _____ for 'happiness' in the thesaurus.

n. a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language

20. The job offer _____ a lot of responsibility and hard work.

v. to involve or require something as necessary, particularly as a consequence of a particular situation or action; to impose a burden or restriction on something

21. Many _____ lawmakers are advocating for stricter immigration policies.

n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States

22. The motivational speaker tried to _____ the audience to reach their full potential.

v. to strongly encourage or urge someone to do something; to give advice or admonition with urgency or passion

23. _____ Hollywood film moguls can easily rule the movie star's career.

adj. using power or authority over people, especially in a specific country, group, etc., in an unfair and cruel way

ANSWERS: 16. opportunistic, 17. subjugate, 18. enlightenment, 19. synonym, 20. entails, 21. republican, 22. exhort, 23. Tyrannical

24. She came from a commoner background but eventually became the _____ of that country.

n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen

25. The political organization handed out _____ to raise awareness about their cause.

n. a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject

26. The _____ church was the dominant religion in the area.

adj. a member of a Western Christian church that is separate from the Roman Catholic Church and that is based on the teachings of Martin Luther and other Reformers

27. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.

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

28. The harsh words from her boss were enough to _____ her confidence for the rest of the day.

v. to harm or injure someone or something, often by using words or criticism; to cut or wound deeply

29. The senior _____ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

ANSWERS: 24. monarch, 25. pamphlets, 26. Protestant, 27. rev, 28. scathe, 29. diplomat

30. She was a _____ supporter of the cause, always willing to speak out for her beliefs.
adj. firmly loyal and devoted, unyielding or resolute
31. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.
n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
32. Her husband's death _____ her life entirely.
v. to break suddenly into many pieces
33. This statue honors a distinguished _____.
n. a man who is a respected leader or politician in national or international affairs
34. The _____ king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.
n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
35. He has the superpower to _____ a business opportunity.
v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
36. He had a _____ that he was a millionaire.
n. a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary
37. The _____ salesman pressured me into buying a car I didn't want.
adj. having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair

ANSWERS: 30. staunch, 31. Christmas, 32. shattered, 33. statesman, 34. exiled, 35. seize, 36. delusion, 37. unscrupulous