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Tim Harford: A powerful way to unleash your natural creativity | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

smackdown

n. a forceful or decisive defeat or rebuke, often delivered in an aggressive or confrontational manner

synonym : brawl, altercation, fight

(1) **smackdown** wrestling, (2) political **smackdown**

The wrestlers put on an intense **smackdown** during the championship match.

multitasking

n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

synonym : juggling, multihandling, parallelism

(1) computer **multitasking**, (2) **multitasking** ability

She could finish all her work on time because of her **multitasking** skills.

tweet

n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym : peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**

We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

photoelectric

adj. relating to the effects of light on electrically charged particles, particularly in the production of electricity or other forms of energy through the use of photovoltaic

cells or photoelectric devices

synonym : photoemissive, photovoltaic, photoconductive

(1) **photoelectric** effect, (2) **photoelectric** emission

The **photoelectric** cells on the roof convert sunlight into energy for the building.

counterintuitive

adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

synonym : unreasonable, paradoxical, nonsensical

(1) **counterintuitive** results, (2) **counterintuitive** behavior

The **counterintuitive** nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

lapse

n. a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended

synonym : break, failure, blunder

(1) **lapse** back into recession, (2) **lapse** in payment

I missed the deadline due to a **lapse** in my memory.

brilliantly

adv. in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively

synonym : brightly, radiantly, excellently

(1) **brilliantly** executed, (2) **brilliantly** lit

He played the piano **brilliantly** at the concert.

reclaim

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

synonym : recoup, regain, retake

(1) **reclaim** a competitive position, (2) **reclaim** land from the sea

You may be entitled to **reclaim** some tax.

ubiquitous

adj. being or existing everywhere at once

synonym :

universal, omnipresent, everywhere

(1) **ubiquitous** computing, (2) **ubiquitous** across ecosystems

Sugar is **ubiquitous** in food.

clamber

v. to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet

synonym: climb, scramble, crawl

(1) **clamber** up the ladder, (2) **clamber** over a boulder

I had to **clamber** over the rocks to reach the cave.

eureka

n. exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight

synonym: discovery, breakthrough, aha moment

(1) have a **eureka** moment, (2) shout "**eureka!**"

"**Eureka!**" he exclaimed, finally solving the problem.

ophthalmology

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the anatomy, physiology, and diseases of the eye

synonym: eye care, optometry, eye medicine

(1) **ophthalmology** practice, (2) **ophthalmology** clinic

My grandfather had a problem with his eyes and went to an **ophthalmology** specialist.

intimidate

v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

synonym: frighten, threaten, terrify

(1) **intimidate** an opponent, (2) effectively **intimidate** a thief

The boss tried to **intimidate** his subordinate with threats.

nonfiction

n. a genre of literature that deals with the factual representation of real or historical events, people, or places; prose writing that presents or discusses true life events or experiences

synonym: fact, reality, truth

(1) **nonfiction** movie, (2) **nonfiction** account

This **nonfiction** book about the history of jazz is a must-read for music fans.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

crossword

n. a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues

(1) do a **crossword** puzzle, (2) good at **crossword** puzzles

He sat frowning over a **crossword** puzzle.

timescale

n. a period or interval of time, particularly one used as a standard for measuring or comparing other periods of time; a reference point or benchmark for the duration or length of a particular event or process

synonym: time frame, schedule, duration

(1) long- **timescale**, (2) realistic **timescale**

The **timescale** for completing the construction project is three years.

stasis

n. a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease

synonym: stillness, inactivity, stagnation

(1) renal **stasis**, (2) **stasis** in development

The patient's **stasis** in the hospital was concerning to the doctors.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

miraculous

adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected

synonym : amazing, astonishing, awesome

(1) a **miraculous** encounter, (2) go through a **miraculous** change

He made a **miraculous** recovery.

stimming

n. a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

synonym : self-stimulation, repetitive behaviors

(1) autistic **stimming**, (2) **stimming** therapy

Autistic children may engage in **stimming** behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

choreograph

v. to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music

(1) **choreograph** a stage performance, (2) exquisitely **choreographed**

He had **choreographed** the dance in this play himself.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

zoology

n. the scientific study of animals, including their classification, habits, behavior, physiology, and evolution

synonym : animal science, biology, zoography

(1) **zoology** book, (2) **zoology** professor

She's studying **zoology** at university and hopes to work at a zoo someday.

onboard

v. to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or

software; (adjective) included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device

synonym : embark, aboard, on-load

(1) **onboard** the new employees, (2) **onboard** computer

The passengers were instructed to **onboard** the aircraft as quickly as possible so that the flight could depart on time.

naturalism

n. a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws

(1) **naturalism** in literature, (2) philosophical **naturalism**

The scientific method is often seen as an embodiment of **naturalism**, as it seeks to understand the natural world through observation and experimentation.

beagle

n. a small dog with a smooth coat, long ears, and a strong sense of smell, used for hunting hares

synonym : hound, dog, pup

(1) legal **beagle**, (2) **beagle** nose

His pet **beagle** sniffed at the ground, following the rabbit's trail.

synergy

n. the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

synonym : cooperation, collaboration, partnership

(1) **synergy** collaboration, (2) **synergy** between businesses

The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee **synergy**.

botany

n. the scientific study of plants

synonym : phytology, vegetation, horticulture

(1) **botany** professor, (2) geographical **botany**

The study of **botany** can also include the study of plant fossils and the history of plant evolution.

earthworm

n. a common type of worm that lives in soil
synonym: angleworm, wiggler, crawler

(1) **earthworm** type robot, (2) trample an **earthworm**
We fed the birds daily with insects and **earthworms**.

transmute

v. to change or convert from one form or substance to another, often in a transformative or profound way
synonym: transform, convert, change

(1) **transmute** energy, (2) **transmute** struggle into growth
Some alchemists believed in the ability to **transmute** base metals into gold.

taxonomy

n. the classification or scientific study of organisms, including their relationships to each other, based on shared characteristics and traits; a system of organizing and categorizing information in a particular field or subject area

synonym: classification, categorization, hierarchy

(1) **taxonomy** system, (2) biological **taxonomy**

The **taxonomy** of insects is incredibly complex due to the huge number of species.

barnacle

n. a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object

synonym: cirripede, shellfish, crustacean

(1) **barnacle** growth, (2) **barnacle** removal

The bottom of the boat was covered in **barnacles**, slowing its speed in the water.

billiards

n. a game played on a large table with cues and balls, where players use a cue stick to strike the balls and score points by hitting them into pockets or against each other

(1) **billiards** clubs, (2) **billiards** table

The **billiards** room in the mansion was large and lavishly decorated.

poke

v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

synonym: prod, jab, push

(1) **poke** around the desk, (2) **poke** a fire

They **poked** fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

chew

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

synonym: masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

bassoon

n. a musical instrument of the woodwind family, similar to a large oboe, with a narrow conical bore and a double reed

synonym: fagotto, contrabassoon

(1) a tenor **bassoon**, (2) **bassoon** reed

The **bassoon** player was the only one who could hit that low note.

mold

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

synonym: cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

twitch

v. to make a sudden and quick movement with a part of the body; (noun) a sudden, small, jerky movement of a muscle or part of the body

synonym: spasm, jerk, flinch

(1) **twitch** at his sleeve, (2) **twitch** of an eye

She couldn't stop her leg from **twitching** nervously.

hermit

n. a person who lives alone or in seclusion from society, typically for religious or spiritual reasons; a person who avoids social interactions or seeks solitude

synonym : recluse, solitary, anchorite

(1) **hermit** lifestyle, (2) mountain **hermit**

The **hermit-monk** spent his entire life in solitary contemplation, far from the world's hustle.

unleash

v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

synonym : discharge, free, release

(1) **unleash** a hound, (2) **unleash** her anger

The general was still reluctant to **unleash** his troops in pursuit of an enemy.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. re_____m land from the sea | <i>v.</i> to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back |
| 2. p__e a fire | <i>v.</i> to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger |
| 3. b__r image | <i>n.</i> a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; <i>(verb)</i> to become unclear; to lose clear vision |
| 4. on_____d computer | <i>v.</i> to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or software; <i>(adjective)</i> included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device |
| 5. ea_____rm type robot | <i>n.</i> a common type of worm that lives in soil |
| 6. bo___y professor | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of plants |
| 7. cou_____ive results | <i>adj.</i> contrary to what common sense would suggest |
| 8. computer mul_____ing | <i>n.</i> the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time |
| 9. tw___h at his sleeve | <i>v.</i> to make a sudden and quick movement with a part of the body; <i>(noun)</i> a sudden, small, jerky movement of a muscle or part of the body |
| 10. an op_____ne remark | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |

ANSWERS: 1. reclaim, 2. poke, 3. blur, 4. onboard, 5. earthworm, 6. botany, 7. counterintuitive, 8. multitasking, 9. twitch, 10. opportune

11. shout "eu___a!" *n.* exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight
12. un___h a hound *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
13. ta___my system *n.* the classification or scientific study of organisms, including their relationships to each other, based on shared characteristics and traits; a system of organizing and categorizing information in a particular field or subject area
14. a mir_____us encounter *adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
15. un___h her anger *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
16. pho_____ric emission *adj.* relating to the effects of light on electrically charged particles, particularly in the production of electricity or other forms of energy through the use of photovoltaic cells or photoelectric devices
17. bri_____ly executed *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
18. oph_____ogy practice *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the anatomy, physiology, and diseases of the eye
19. exquisitely cho_____phed *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
20. zo___y professor *n.* the scientific study of animals, including their classification, habits, behavior, physiology, and evolution

ANSWERS: 11. eureka, 12. unleash, 13. taxonomy, 14. miraculous, 15. unleash, 16. photoelectric, 17. brilliantly, 18. ophthalmology, 19. choreograph, 20. zoology

21. sm_____wn wrestling *n.* a forceful or decisive defeat or rebuke, often delivered in an aggressive or confrontational manner
22. cho_____ph a stage performance *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
23. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
24. go through a mir_____us change *adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
25. re_____m a competitive position *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
26. tw____h of an eye *v.* to make a sudden and quick movement with a part of the body; (noun) a sudden, small, jerky movement of a muscle or part of the body
27. non_____on account *n.* a genre of literature that deals with the factual representation of real or historical events, people, or places; prose writing that presents or discusses true life events or experiences
28. have a eu____a moment *n.* exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight
29. geographical bo____y *n.* the scientific study of plants
30. la__e back into recession *n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended

ANSWERS: 21. smackdown, 22. choreograph, 23. opportune, 24. miraculous, 25. reclaim, 26. twitch, 27. nonfiction, 28. eureka, 29. botany, 30. lapse

31. ba____n reed *n.* a musical instrument of the woodwind family, similar to a large oboe, with a narrow conical bore and a double reed
32. bi_____ds table *n.* a game played on a large table with cues and balls, where players use a cue stick to strike the balls and score points by hitting them into pockets or against each other
33. c__w each word *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
34. pho_____ric effect *adj.* relating to the effects of light on electrically charged particles, particularly in the production of electricity or other forms of energy through the use of photovoltaic cells or photoelectric devices
35. bri_____ly lit *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
36. nat_____sm in literature *n.* a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws
37. int_____te an opponent *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
38. philosophical nat_____sm *n.* a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws
39. c__w a stick of gum *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

ANSWERS: 31. bassoon, 32. billiards, 33. chew, 34. photoelectric, 35. brilliantly, 36. naturalism, 37. intimidate, 38. naturalism, 39. chew

40. oph_____ogy clinic *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the anatomy, physiology, and diseases of the eye
41. bi_____ds clubs *n.* a game played on a large table with cues and balls, where players use a cue stick to strike the balls and score points by hitting them into pockets or against each other
42. a tenor ba_____n *n.* a musical instrument of the woodwind family, similar to a large oboe, with a narrow conical bore and a double reed
43. realistic ti_____le *n.* a period or interval of time, particularly one used as a standard for measuring or comparing other periods of time; a reference point or benchmark for the duration or length of a particular event or process
44. renal st_____s *n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease
45. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
46. his latest tw__ts *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
47. ubi_____us computing *adj.* being or existing everywhere at once
48. trample an ea_____rm *n.* a common type of worm that lives in soil
49. cl_____r over a boulder *v.* to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet

ANSWERS: 40. ophthalmology, 41. billiards, 42. bassoon, 43. timescale, 44. stasis, 45. medicinal, 46. tweet, 47. ubiquitous, 48. earthworm, 49. clamber

50. sy____y collaboration *n.* the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements
51. ubi_____us across ecosystems *adj.* being or existing everywhere at once
52. sy____y between businesses *n.* the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements
53. st___s in development *n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease
54. be___e nose *n.* a small dog with a smooth coat, long ears, and a strong sense of smell, used for hunting hares
55. la___e in payment *n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended
56. mul_____ing ability *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
57. effectively int_____te a thief *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

ANSWERS: 50. synergy, 51. ubiquitous, 52. synergy, 53. stasis, 54. beagle, 55. lapse, 56. multitasking, 57. intimidate

58. a chick's tw__t *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
59. long-ti_____le *n.* a period or interval of time, particularly one used as a standard for measuring or comparing other periods of time; a reference point or benchmark for the duration or length of a particular event or process
60. tr_____te struggle into growth *v.* to change or convert from one form or substance to another, often in a transformative or profound way
61. on_____d the new employees *v.* to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or software; (adjective) included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device
62. he____t lifestyle *n.* a person who lives alone or in seclusion from society, typically for religious or spiritual reasons; a person who avoids social interactions or seeks solitude
63. m__d allergy *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
64. zo_____y book *n.* the scientific study of animals, including their classification, habits, behavior, physiology, and evolution

ANSWERS: 58. tweet, 59. timescale, 60. transmute, 61. onboard, 62. hermit, 63. mold, 64. zoology

65. ba____le removal *n.* a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object
66. cou_____ive behavior *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
67. mountain he____t *n.* a person who lives alone or in seclusion from society, typically for religious or spiritual reasons; a person who avoids social interactions or seeks solitude
68. st_____ng therapy *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
69. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
70. political sm_____wn *n.* a forceful or decisive defeat or rebuke, often delivered in an aggressive or confrontational manner
71. cl_____r up the ladder *v.* to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet
72. biological ta_____my *n.* the classification or scientific study of organisms, including their relationships to each other, based on shared characteristics and traits; a system of organizing and categorizing information in a particular field or subject area

ANSWERS: 65. barnacle, 66. counterintuitive, 67. hermit, 68. stimming, 69. blur, 70. smackdown, 71. clamber, 72. taxonomy

73. do a cr_____rd puzzle *n.* a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
74. non_____on movie *n.* a genre of literature that deals with the factual representation of real or historical events, people, or places; prose writing that presents or discusses true life events or experiences
75. autistic st_____ng *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
76. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
77. ba_____le growth *n.* a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object
78. legal be___e *n.* a small dog with a smooth coat, long ears, and a strong sense of smell, used for hunting hares
79. good at cr_____rd puzzles *n.* a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues

ANSWERS: 73. crossword, 74. nonfiction, 75. stimming, 76. medicinal, 77. barnacle, 78. beagle, 79. crossword

80. a casting m__d

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

81. tr_____te energy

v. to change or convert from one form or substance to another, often in a transformative or profound way

82. p__e around the desk

v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

ANSWERS: 80. mold, 81. transmute, 82. poke

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ player was the only one who could hit that low note.
n. a musical instrument of the woodwind family, similar to a large oboe, with a narrow conical bore and a double reed

2. The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee _____.
n. the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

3. The patient's _____ in the hospital was concerning to the doctors.
n. a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease

4. Sugar is _____ in food.
adj. being or existing everywhere at once

5. " _____ he exclaimed, finally solving the problem.
n. exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight

6. He made a _____ recovery.
adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected

7. The _____ of insects is incredibly complex due to the huge number of species.
n. the classification or scientific study of organisms, including their relationships to each other, based on shared characteristics and traits; a system of organizing and categorizing information in a particular field or subject area

ANSWERS: 1. bassoon, 2. synergy, 3. stasis, 4. ubiquitous, 5. Eureka!", 6. miraculous, 7. taxonomy

8. He played the piano _____ at the concert.

adv. in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively

9. I had to _____ over the rocks to reach the cave.

v. to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet

10. They _____ fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

11. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

12. This _____ book about the history of jazz is a must-read for music fans.

n. a genre of literature that deals with the factual representation of real or historical events, people, or places; prose writing that presents or discusses true life events or experiences

13. The _____ for completing the construction project is three years.

n. a period or interval of time, particularly one used as a standard for measuring or comparing other periods of time; a reference point or benchmark for the duration or length of a particular event or process

14. The _____ room in the mansion was large and lavishly decorated.

n. a game played on a large table with cues and balls, where players use a cue stick to strike the balls and score points by hitting them into pockets or against each other

15. The bottom of the boat was covered in _____ slowing its speed in the water.

n. a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object

ANSWERS: 8. brilliantly, 9. clamber, 10. poked, 11. medicinal, 12. nonfiction, 13.

timescale, 14. billiards, 15. barnacles,

16. Mushrooms and _____ are fungi.

- n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

17. She's studying _____ at university and hopes to work at a zoo someday.

- n.* the scientific study of animals, including their classification, habits, behavior, physiology, and evolution

18. The general was still reluctant to _____ his troops in pursuit of an enemy.

- v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

19. I missed the deadline due to a _____ in my memory.

- n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended

20. She could finish all her work on time because of her _____ skills.

- n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

21. We fed the birds daily with insects and _____.

- n.* a common type of worm that lives in soil

22. Autistic children may engage in _____ behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

- n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

ANSWERS: 16. mold, 17. zoology, 18. unleash, 19. lapse, 20. multitasking, 21. earthworms, 22. stimming

23. The scientific method is often seen as an embodiment of _____ as it seeks to understand the natural world through observation and experimentation.
- n.* a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws
24. You may be entitled to _____ some tax.
- v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
25. The _____ cells on the roof convert sunlight into energy for the building.
- adj.* relating to the effects of light on electrically charged particles, particularly in the production of electricity or other forms of energy through the use of photovoltaic cells or photoelectric devices
26. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.
- n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
27. She couldn't stop her leg from _____ nervously.
- v.* to make a sudden and quick movement with a part of the body; (noun) a sudden, small, jerky movement of a muscle or part of the body
28. Some alchemists believed in the ability to _____ base metals into gold.
- v.* to change or convert from one form or substance to another, often in a transformative or profound way
29. The _____ spent his entire life in solitary contemplation, far from the world's hustle.
- n.* a person who lives alone or in seclusion from society, typically for religious or spiritual reasons; a person who avoids social interactions or seeks solitude

ANSWERS: 23. naturalism, 24. reclaim, 25. photoelectric, 26. tweet, 27. twitching, 28. transmute, 29. hermit-monk

30. The boss tried to _____ his subordinate with threats.
- v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
31. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
32. The _____ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.
- adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
33. He sat frowning over a _____ puzzle.
- n.* a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
34. The wrestlers put on an intense _____ during the championship match.
- n.* a forceful or decisive defeat or rebuke, often delivered in an aggressive or confrontational manner
35. My dog loves to _____ on bones.
- v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
36. My grandfather had a problem with his eyes and went to an _____ specialist.
- n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the anatomy, physiology, and diseases of the eye
37. The passengers were instructed to _____ the aircraft as quickly as possible so that the flight could depart on time.
- v.* to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or software; (adjective) included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device

ANSWERS: 30. intimidate, 31. opportune, 32. counterintuitive, 33. crossword, 34. smackdown, 35. chew, 36. ophthalmology, 37. onboard

38. The study of _____ can also include the study of plant fossils and the history of plant evolution.
n. the scientific study of plants
39. He had _____ the dance in this play himself.
v. to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
40. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
41. His pet _____ sniffed at the ground, following the rabbit's trail.
n. a small dog with a smooth coat, long ears, and a strong sense of smell, used for hunting hares

ANSWERS: 38. botany, 39. choreographed, 40. blur, 41. beagle