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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Daniel Finkel: Can you solve the unstoppable blob riddle? | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

blob

n. a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance

synonym : chunk, lump, hunk

(1) a big **blob** of yellow, (2) a **blob** of jelly

A **blob** of ink fell on the floor.

emerge

v. to move out of or away from something and become visible

synonym : arise, occur, appear

(1) **emerge** as a butterfly, (2) **emerge** from poverty

During colonial eras, new migratory patterns **emerged**.

creep

v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

synonym : crawl, glide, encroach

(1) **creep** along the leaf, (2) **creep** toward the mouse

Aging **creeps** up slowly with time.

leap

v. to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward

synonym : jump, bound, hop

(1) **leap** to a conclusion, (2) **leap** of faith

The athlete was able to **leap** over the hurdle with ease.

glide

v. to move smoothly and effortlessly

synonym : slide, skim, coast

(1) **glide** through the water, (2) **glide** down the mountain

The eagle gracefully **glided** on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.

slide

v. to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption

synonym : glide, drift, drop

(1) **slide** a card across the table, (2) **slide** a glance

If necessary, you can **slide** the front seats forward.

unstoppable

adj. impossible to stop or prevent

synonym : unshakable, unyielding, relentless

(1) **unstoppable** force, (2) **unstoppable** momentum

The team's winning streak was **unstoppable**.

extreme

adj. very great in amount or degree

synonym : farthestmost, outermost, fierce

(1) **extreme** sports, (2) **extreme** weather events

Solar gravity creates **extreme** pressures and temperatures.

regrow

v. to grow back or regenerate after being cut or removed, such as cells or tissues in the body, or plants and vegetation

synonym : regenerate

(1) **regrow** hair, (2) **regrow** vegetation

Lizards can **regrow** their tails if they are cut off.

rampage

n. a violent and uncontrollable outburst of destructive behavior

synonym : storm, binge, destruction

(1) killing **rampage**, (2) an outrageous **rampage**

The crowd went on a **rampage** after their team lost the

championship game.

expansion

n. the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process

synonym: growth, enlargement, development

(1) industrial **expansion**, (2) **expansion** project

The company is undergoing an **expansion**, opening new locations in several states.

brehtaking

adj. extremely impressive, stunning, awe-inspiring, or emotionally overwhelming

synonym: stunning, awe-inspiring, magnificent

(1) **brehtaking** view, (2) **brehtaking** performance

The sunset over the ocean was truly **brehtaking**.

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.

triangle

n. a three-sided polygon with three angles; something that has three sides or parts

synonym: trilateral, delta, triad

(1) **triangle** shape, (2) love **triangle**

The Pythagorean theorem is used to calculate the length of the sides of a right **triangle**.

planet

n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

synonym: earth, world, globe

(1) **planet** like the Earth, (2) save the **planet**

Mercury is the closest **planet** to the sun.

involve

v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else

synonym : implicate, include, engage

(1) **involve** a lot of paperwork, (2) **involve** a high degree of risk

The investigation **involves** several government agencies and is expected to take several months.

satellite

n. an electronic device that is sent up into space and moves around the Earth or another planet, used for gathering information or communicating by radio, television, etc.

synonym : orbiter, asteroid, moon

(1) a GPS **satellite**, (2) a meteorological **satellite**

Launching an artificial **satellite** contributed to the technological development of our country.

nanoscale

adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

(1) **nanoscale** device, (2) things at the **nanoscale**

This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the **nanoscale** lattice structure of the metal.

fission

n. the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces

synonym : splitting, division, separation

(1) heavy-ion **fission**, (2) atomic **fission**

Nuclear **fission** is the process of splitting an atom into two smaller ones.

ray

n. a narrow line of light, heat, or another form of energy

synonym : beam, light, glimmer

(1) opaque to X- **rays**, (2) effect of cosmic **rays**

Gamma **rays** penetrate body tissues and cause cell damage.

heal

v. to make a wound or injury to become well again

synonym : recover, bring around, mend

(1) **heal** a broken bone, (2) **heal** the hurt mind
It will take time for her mental scars to **heal**.

critic

n. someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.

synonym : pundit, analyst, attacker

(1) art **critic**, (2) severe **critic**

Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their **critics**.

discovery

n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known

synonym : finding, uncovering, detection

(1) a scientific **discovery**, (2) the great **discovery** of the century

Her research team made an important **discovery**.

acute

adj. extremely sharp or severe

synonym : sharp, perceptive, keen

(1) **acute** pain, (2) **acute** triangle

The patient died from **acute** alcohol intoxication.

degree

n. a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment

synonym : level, qualification, diploma

(1) bachelor's **degree**, (2) **degree** centigrade

She received her **degree** in psychology from the university.

inert

adj. lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive

synonym : motionless, inactive, dormant

(1) **inert** gases, (2) **inert** ingredients

The rock was completely **inert** and didn't react when we tried to break it open.

obtuse

adj. lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees

synonym : dense, stupid, insensitive

(1) **obtuse** angle, (2) **obtuse** remarks

His **obtuse** reasoning made it difficult for me to understand his point of view.

experiment

n. the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge

synonym : experimentation, investigation

(1) **experiment** design, (2) series of **experiments**

His **experiments** showed highly positive results.

straight

adj. extending or moving in one direction without bending or curving; having no deviations

synonym : linear, honest, consecutive

(1) a **straight** line, (2) **straight** for two months

He was sick for five **straight** days.

orbit

n. the path of an object around a celestial body, especially a planet, star, or moon, under the influence of gravity.

synonym : path, course, trajectory

(1) the **orbit** of the moon, (2) a planetary **orbit**

The rocket engine is used to put the satellite into **orbit**.

consume

v. to spend something, especially fuel, energy, or time, in a large amount

synonym : absorb, ingest, use up

(1) **consume** a large of alcohol, (2) **consume** electricity

A smaller car will **consume** less fuel.

entirely

adv. completely

synonym : completely, fully, totally

(1) **entirely** satisfied with the meal, (2) he was **entirely** to blame

Later, his claim was found to be **entirely** false.

destroy

v. to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely

synonym: demolish, ruin, obliterate

(1) **destroy** the ecosystem, (2) **destroyed** evidence

The building was **destroyed** in the fire and had to be rebuilt.

pause

v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

synonym: halt, break, intermit

(1) **pause** a moment, (2) **pause** for a reaction

The man **paused** before opening the door.

doable

adj. possible to do; capable of existing, taking place, or proving true

synonym: realizable, accomplishable, achievable

(1) make a **doable** plan, (2) **doable** in daily life

This project is **doable** despite the tight schedule.

difficulty

n. a condition or state that causes problems

synonym: hardship, complication, problem

(1) the degree of **difficulty**, (2) **difficulty** in breathing

He has **difficulty** exercising because of a back injury sustained in an accident.

doom

n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

synonym: judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

inspiration

n. something that motivates or encourages someone to create or achieve something, or a feeling of excitement or creativity

synonym: motivation, drive, encouragement

(1) source of **inspiration**, (2) get **inspiration** from nature
He found **inspiration** in the works of his favorite authors.

octagon

n. a polygon with eight sides and eight angles

synonym: eight-sided figure

(1) regular **octagon**, (2) an **octagon** table

The building had eight sides, forming an **octagon** shape.

slice

n. a flat, often thin, piece of bread, meat, cheese, etc., that has been cut from a larger piece; a wound made by cutting

synonym: piece, portion, slit

(1) a **slice** of the company's revenue, (2) **slice** a tomato thin

The children complained because one **slice** of cake was slightly larger than the other.

polygon

n. a closed plane figure bounded by three or more straight sides that meet at the same number of angles (vertices)

synonym: shape, figure, form

(1) regular **polygon**, (2) closed **polygon**

The garden had a complex **polygon** shape with many angles and corners.

import

v. to bring goods or services into a country from another country; to transfer electronic data into a database or document;

synonym: bring, spell

(1) **import** goods, (2) **import** a style sheet

The company **imports** raw materials from other countries to manufacture its products.

heptagon

n. a polygon with seven sides and seven angles; a geometrical figure with seven sides

synonym: seven-sided figure

(1) draw a **heptagon**, (2) regular **heptagon**

A snowflake can have a symmetrical **heptagon** shape.

hexagon

n. a six-sided polygon with six angles and six sides of equal length

synonym: hexahedron, six-sided figure, six-gon

(1) **hexagon** head bolt, (2) **hexagon** pattern

The honeycomb structure of a beehive is made up of **hexagons**.

pentagon

n. a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military

synonym: five-sided shape, quinquangle

(1) equilateral **pentagon**, (2) **pentagon** building

The shape of the building is a distinctive five-sided **pentagon**.

render

v. to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.

synonym: deliver, give, provide

(1) **render** an assessment, (2) **render** the contract void

The jury must **render** a decision on this complex case.

giant

adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are

synonym: big, gigantic, huge

(1) **giant** trees, (2) **giant** tech company

The **giant** jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.

practically

adv. almost or nearly

synonym: almost, nearly, virtually

(1) **practically** constant, (2) **practically** impossible to find a parking spot

The store is **practically** empty.

indestructible

adj. impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair

synonym: unbreakable, sturdy, durable

(1) **indestructible** warrior, (2) **indestructible** object

The vault was advertised as **indestructible** but was eventually broken into.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. the degree of dif_____ty | <i>n.</i> a condition or state that causes problems |
| 2. gl__e through the water | <i>v.</i> to move smoothly and effortlessly |
| 3. love tr_____le | <i>n.</i> a three-sided polygon with three angles; something that has three sides or parts |
| 4. a scientific di_____ry | <i>n.</i> the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known |
| 5. de_____yed evidence | <i>v.</i> to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely |
| 6. get ins_____on from nature | <i>n.</i> something that motivates or encourages someone to create or achieve something, or a feeling of excitement or creativity |
| 7. uns_____le momentum | <i>adj.</i> impossible to stop or prevent |
| 8. a b__b of jelly | <i>n.</i> a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance |
| 9. opaque to X-r_ys | <i>n.</i> a narrow line of light, heat, or another form of energy |
| 10. pl__t like the Earth | <i>n.</i> any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star |

ANSWERS: 1. difficulty, 2. glide, 3. triangle, 4. discovery, 5. destroy, 6. inspiration, 7. unstoppable, 8. blob, 9. ray, 10. planet

- | | |
|--|--|
| 11. ex_____on project | <i>n.</i> the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process |
| 12. de_____y the ecosystem | <i>v.</i> to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely |
| 13. regular oc_____n | <i>n.</i> a polygon with eight sides and eight angles |
| 14. bre_____ing performance | <i>adj.</i> extremely impressive, stunning, awe-inspiring, or emotionally overwhelming |
| 15. effect of cosmic r_ys | <i>n.</i> a narrow line of light, heat, or another form of energy |
| 16. ind_____ble object | <i>adj.</i> impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair |
| 17. closed po_____n | <i>n.</i> a closed plane figure bounded by three or more straight sides that meet at the same number of angles (vertices) |
| 18. cr__p toward the mouse | <i>v.</i> to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard |
| 19. a GPS sa_____te | <i>n.</i> an electronic device that is sent up into space and moves around the Earth or another planet, used for gathering information or communicating by radio, television, etc. |
| 20. a big b__b of yellow | <i>n.</i> a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance |
| 21. dif_____ty in breathing | <i>n.</i> a condition or state that causes problems |
| 22. pra_____ly impossible to find a parking spot | <i>adv.</i> almost or nearly |

ANSWERS: 11. expansion, 12. destroy, 13. octagon, 14. breathtaking, 15. ray, 16. indestructible, 17. polygon, 18. creep, 19. satellite, 20. blob, 21. difficulty, 22. practically

23. industrial ex_____on *n.* the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process
24. ex_____e sports *adj.* very great in amount or degree
25. the great di_____ry of the century *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
26. do_____e in daily life *adj.* possible to do; capable of existing, taking place, or proving true
27. pa____e a moment *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
28. prophet of d____m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
29. l____p to a conclusion *v.* to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward
30. em_____e from poverty *v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible
31. an oc_____n table *n.* a polygon with eight sides and eight angles
32. save the pl____t *n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
33. re____r an assessment *v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.

ANSWERS: 23. expansion, 24. extreme, 25. discovery, 26. doable, 27. pause, 28. doom, 29. leap, 30. emerge, 31. octagon, 32. planet, 33. render

34. gl__e down the mountain *v.* to move smoothly and effortlessly
35. na_____le device *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
36. ex_____e weather events *adj.* very great in amount or degree
37. h__l a broken bone *v.* to make a wound or injury to become well again
38. pe_____on building *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
39. in__t ingredients *adj.* lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive
40. st_____ht for two months *adj.* extending or moving in one direction without bending or curving; having no deviations
41. im___t a style sheet *v.* to bring goods or services into a country from another country; to transfer electronic data into a database or document;
42. a st_____ht line *adj.* extending or moving in one direction without bending or curving; having no deviations
43. exp_____nt design *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
44. h__l the hurt mind *v.* to make a wound or injury to become well again

ANSWERS: 34. glide, 35. nanoscale, 36. extreme, 37. heal, 38. pentagon, 39. inert, 40. straight, 41. import, 42. straight, 43. experiment, 44. heal

45. re___w hair *v.* to grow back or regenerate after being cut or removed, such as cells or tissues in the body, or plants and vegetation
46. gi__t tech company *adj.* enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
47. ind_____ble warrior *adj.* impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair
48. cr__p along the leaf *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
49. he was en_____ly to blame *adv.* completely
50. in__t gases *adj.* lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive
51. make a do___e plan *adj.* possible to do; capable of existing, taking place, or proving true
52. im___t goods *v.* to bring goods or services into a country from another country; to transfer electronic data into a database or document;
53. art cr___c *n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
54. bachelor's de___e *n.* a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment
55. uns_____le force *adj.* impossible to stop or prevent
56. economic d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

ANSWERS: 45. regrow, 46. giant, 47. indestructible, 48. creep, 49. entirely, 50. inert, 51. doable, 52. import, 53. critic, 54. degree, 55. unstoppable, 56. doom

57. regular he_____on *n.* a polygon with seven sides and seven angles; a geometrical figure with seven sides
58. draw a he_____on *n.* a polygon with seven sides and seven angles; a geometrical figure with seven sides
59. he_____n pattern *n.* a six-sided polygon with six angles and six sides of equal length
60. the or__t of the moon *n.* the path of an object around a celestial body, especially a planet, star, or moon, under the influence of gravity.
61. things at the na_____le *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
62. an outrageous ra_____e *n.* a violent and uncontrollable outburst of destructive behavior
63. killing ra_____e *n.* a violent and uncontrollable outburst of destructive behavior
64. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
65. he_____n head bolt *n.* a six-sided polygon with six angles and six sides of equal length
66. de___e centigrade *n.* a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment
67. l__p of faith *v.* to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward

ANSWERS: 57. heptagon, 58. heptagon, 59. hexagon, 60. orbit, 61. nanoscale, 62. rampage, 63. rampage, 64. opportune, 65. hexagon, 66. degree, 67. leap

68. a meteorological sa_____te *n.* an electronic device that is sent up into space and moves around the Earth or another planet, used for gathering information or communicating by radio, television, etc.
69. series of exp_____nts *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
70. co_____e electricity *v.* to spend something, especially fuel, energy, or time, in a large amount
71. em___e as a butterfly *v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible
72. ac__e triangle *adj.* extremely sharp or severe
73. re___w vegetation *v.* to grow back or regenerate after being cut or removed, such as cells or tissues in the body, or plants and vegetation
74. bre_____ing view *adj.* extremely impressive, stunning, awe-inspiring, or emotionally overwhelming
75. gi__t trees *adj.* enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
76. equilateral pe_____on *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
77. heavy-ion fi_____n *n.* the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces

ANSWERS: 68. satellite, 69. experiment, 70. consume, 71. emerge, 72. acute, 73. regrow, 74. breathtaking, 75. giant, 76. pentagon, 77. fission

78. in_____e a lot of paperwork *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
79. a sl__e of the company's revenue *n.* a flat, often thin, piece of bread, meat, cheese, etc., that has been cut from a larger piece; a wound made by cutting
80. severe cr___c *n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
81. in_____e a high degree of risk *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
82. ob___e remarks *adj.* lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees
83. pa__e for a reaction *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
84. a planetary or__t *n.* the path of an object around a celestial body, especially a planet, star, or moon, under the influence of gravity.
85. pra_____ly constant *adv.* almost or nearly
86. sl__e a glance *v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption
87. atomic fi_____n *n.* the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces

ANSWERS: 78. involve, 79. slice, 80. critic, 81. involve, 82. obtuse, 83. pause, 84. orbit, 85. practically, 86. slide, 87. fission

88. tr____le shape *n.* a three-sided polygon with three angles; something that has three sides or parts
89. co____e a large of alcohol *v.* to spend something, especially fuel, energy, or time, in a large amount
90. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
91. regular po____n *n.* a closed plane figure bounded by three or more straight sides that meet at the same number of angles (vertices)
92. sl__e a card across the table *v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption
93. sl__e a tomato thin *n.* a flat, often thin, piece of bread, meat, cheese, etc., that has been cut from a larger piece; a wound made by cutting
94. re____r the contract void *v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
95. ob____e angle *adj.* lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees
96. ac__e pain *adj.* extremely sharp or severe
97. source of ins_____on *n.* something that motivates or encourages someone to create or achieve something, or a feeling of excitement or creativity
98. en____ly satisfied with the meal *adv.* completely

ANSWERS: 88. triangle, 89. consume, 90. opportune, 91. polygon, 92. slide, 93. slice, 94. render, 95. obtuse, 96. acute, 97. inspiration, 98. entirely

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company _____ raw materials from other countries to manufacture its products.
 - v. to bring goods or services into a country from another country; to transfer electronic data into a database or document;
2. A snowflake can have a symmetrical _____ shape.
 - n. a polygon with seven sides and seven angles; a geometrical figure with seven sides
3. The building was _____ in the fire and had to be rebuilt.
 - v. to ruin or damage severely or completely; to eradicate or eliminate completely
4. The jury must _____ a decision on this complex case.
 - v. to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
5. Later, his claim was found to be _____ false.
 - adv. completely
6. The team's winning streak was _____.
 - adj. impossible to stop or prevent
7. The store is _____ empty.
 - adv. almost or nearly
8. He was sick for five _____ days.
 - adj. extending or moving in one direction without bending or curving; having no deviations

ANSWERS: 1. imports, 2. heptagon, 3. destroyed, 4. render, 5. entirely, 6. unstoppable, 7. practically, 8. straight

9. She received her _____ in psychology from the university.
n. a unit of measurement for angles, temperature, or level of proficiency or achievement; a rank or level of academic or professional attainment
10. The _____ jets gradually dominate the world's airlines.
adj. enormous; much bigger or more important than similar items usually are
11. This project is _____ despite the tight schedule.
adj. possible to do; capable of existing, taking place, or proving true
12. Her research team made an important _____.
n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
13. Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their _____.
n. someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
14. The athlete was able to _____ over the hurdle with ease.
v. to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward
15. Nuclear _____ is the process of splitting an atom into two smaller ones.
n. the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces
16. His _____ reasoning made it difficult for me to understand his point of view.
adj. lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees

ANSWERS: 9. degree, 10. giant, 11. doable, 12. discovery, 13. critics, 14. leap, 15. fission, 16. obtuse

17. The building had eight sides, forming an _____ shape.
n. a polygon with eight sides and eight angles
18. A smaller car will _____ less fuel.
v. to spend something, especially fuel, energy, or time, in a large amount
19. Launching an artificial _____ contributed to the technological development of our country.
n. an electronic device that is sent up into space and moves around the Earth or another planet, used for gathering information or communicating by radio, television, etc.
20. The eagle gracefully _____ on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.
v. to move smoothly and effortlessly
21. The children complained because one _____ of cake was slightly larger than the other.
n. a flat, often thin, piece of bread, meat, cheese, etc., that has been cut from a larger piece; a wound made by cutting
22. The honeycomb structure of a beehive is made up of _____.
n. a six-sided polygon with six angles and six sides of equal length
23. The sunset over the ocean was truly _____.
adj. extremely impressive, stunning, awe-inspiring, or emotionally overwhelming
24. His _____ showed highly positive results.
n. the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge

ANSWERS: 17. octagon, 18. consume, 19. satellite, 20. glided, 21. slice, 22. hexagons, 23. breathtaking, 24. experiments

25. During colonial eras, new migratory patterns _____.
- v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible
26. He has _____ exercising because of a back injury sustained in an accident.
- n.* a condition or state that causes problems
27. The crowd went on a _____ after their team lost the championship game.
- n.* a violent and uncontrollable outburst of destructive behavior
28. The company is undergoing an _____ opening new locations in several states.
- n.* the process of becoming larger or more extensive, or the result of this process
29. The garden had a complex _____ shape with many angles and corners.
- n.* a closed plane figure bounded by three or more straight sides that meet at the same number of angles (vertices)
30. The patient died from _____ alcohol intoxication.
- adj.* extremely sharp or severe
31. The shape of the building is a distinctive five-sided _____.
- n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
32. Gamma _____ penetrate body tissues and cause cell damage.
- n.* a narrow line of light, heat, or another form of energy

ANSWERS: 25. emerged, 26. difficulty, 27. rampage, 28. expansion, 29. polygon, 30. acute, 31. pentagon, 32. rays

33. He found _____ in the works of his favorite authors.
- n.* something that motivates or encourages someone to create or achieve something, or a feeling of excitement or creativity
34. Mercury is the closest _____ to the sun.
- n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
35. The man _____ before opening the door.
- v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
36. Solar gravity creates _____ pressures and temperatures.
- adj.* very great in amount or degree
37. A _____ of ink fell on the floor.
- n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance
38. Everyone was aware of the impending _____ but was unable to prevent it.
- n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
39. The investigation _____ several government agencies and is expected to take several months.
- v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
40. Lizards can _____ their tails if they are cut off.
- v.* to grow back or regenerate after being cut or removed, such as cells or tissues in the body, or plants and vegetation

ANSWERS: 33. inspiration, 34. planet, 35. paused, 36. extreme, 37. blob, 38. doom, 39. involves, 40. regrow

41. The rocket engine is used to put the satellite into _____.
- n.* the path of an object around a celestial body, especially a planet, star, or moon, under the influence of gravity.
42. The rock was completely _____ and didn't react when we tried to break it open.
- adj.* lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive
43. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
44. The vault was advertised as _____ but was eventually broken into.
- adj.* impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair
45. It will take time for her mental scars to _____.
- v.* to make a wound or injury to become well again
46. Aging _____ up slowly with time.
- v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
47. This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the _____ lattice structure of the metal.
- adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
48. If necessary, you can _____ the front seats forward.
- v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption

ANSWERS: 41. orbit, 42. inert, 43. opportune, 44. indestructible, 45. heal, 46. creeps, 47. nanoscale, 48. slide

49. The Pythagorean theorem is used to calculate the length of the sides of a right _____.
- n.* a three-sided polygon with three angles; something that has three sides or parts

ANSWERS: 49. triangle