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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ruby Sales: How we can start to heal the pain of racial division | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

paralyze

v. to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel

synonym: immobilize, disable, numb

(1) **paralyze** a city, (2) **paralyze** a person

The venom from the snake bite **paralyzed** his arm.

seminary

n. an educational institution, typically for the training of candidates for the priesthood or ministry; a school for higher learning

synonym: school, academy, college

(1) theological **seminary**, (2) college **seminary**

He enrolled in the **seminary** to study theology and become a minister.

idealist

n. a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

synonym: dreamer, idealizer, visionary

(1) **idealist** at heart, (2) an **idealist** perspective

As a dedicated **idealist**, she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.

ignite

v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning

synonym: light, set fire to, ignite

(1) **ignite** a boom, (2) **ignite** passion

He **ignited** the fireworks with a single spark.

nonviolence

n. the use of peaceful means, such as civil disobedience or passive resistance, rather than violence to achieve a goal, especially in the context of political or social change

synonym: pacifism, nonresistance, peacekeeping

(1) **nonviolence** movement, (2) **nonviolence** protest

Martin Luther King Jr. was a champion of **nonviolence** in the fight for civil rights.

redeem

v. to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation

synonym: rescue, save, recover

(1) **redeem** a coupon, (2) **redeem** a government bond

He tried to **redeem** himself by volunteering at the local charity after his mistakes.

stranglehold

n. a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control

synonym: grip, tight control, hold

(1) escape their **stranglehold**, (2) information **stranglehold**

The monopoly has a **stranglehold** on the market, making it difficult for new businesses to compete.

sharecropper

n. a farmer who cultivates a piece of land owned by someone else, usually in exchange for a share of the crops produced

synonym: tenant farmer, cropper, farmer

(1) **sharecropper** system, (2) **sharecropper** labor

Many **sharecroppers** in the South were impoverished and

trapped in a cycle of debt.

howl

v. to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness

synonym: wail, scream, shriek

(1) **howl** at the moon, (2) **howl** of anger

The wolves began to **howl** in the distance as the sunset.

shotgun

n. a firearm that is designed to be fired from the shoulder and that typically fires several small metal balls or pellets called shot

synonym: scattergun, blunderbuss

(1) a **shotgun** marriage, (2) a 12-gauge **shotgun**

The robbers used a **shotgun** to threaten the store clerk.

inhumane

adj. lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain

synonym: cruel, brutal, barbaric

(1) **inhumane** forms of punishment, (2) **inhumane** living conditions

The conditions at the factory were deemed **inhumane** and caused outrage among the public.

fervent

adj. characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion

synonym: ardent, passionate, enthusiastic

(1) **fervent** supporter, (2) **fervent** belief

She had a **fervent** desire to pursue her passion and make a difference in the world.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel

or use

synonym : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

seep

v. to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually

synonym : leak, ooze, trickle

(1) **seep** cool and moist air, (2) **seep** into paper

The rain began to **seep** through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.

doorway

n. an opening in a wall for a door to fit into

synonym : entrance, portal, gateway

(1) a wide **doorway**, (2) **doorway** to success

He leaned against the **doorway**, waiting for her to come home.

blouse

n. a loose-fitting upper garment for women, typically having a collar, buttons, and sleeves

synonym : shirt, top, tunic

(1) a lacy **blouse**, (2) **blouse** with sleeves

She paired her denim jeans with a delicate floral **blouse**.

mire

n. a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through

synonym : swamp, quagmire, bog

(1) stick in the **mire**, (2) **mire** of debt

The project was bogged down in a **mire** of bureaucracy.

quicksand

n. a type of loose sand or soil that behaves like a liquid, capable of trapping and engulfing living beings or objects that become stuck in it; dangerous or difficult situations that can trap or overwhelm people who find themselves in them

synonym :

sinkhole, bog, mire

(1) escaping from **quicksand**, (2) sink in **quicksand**

During my hiking trip, I got stuck in **quicksand** and had to be rescued.

volley

n. a simultaneous discharge or release of multiple objects, often projectiles like arrows or bullets; a rapid and continuous series of utterances or actions

synonym: salvo, bombardment, barrage

(1) **volley** of conversation, (2) **volley** of insults

The soldiers fired a **volley** of shots at the approaching enemy.

stereotype

n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

(1) avoid **stereotype**, (2) negative **stereotypes**

Changing **stereotypes** about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.

invade

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

synonym: intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

unequal

adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair

synonym: unfair, uneven, imbalanced

(1) **unequal** distribution, (2) **unequal** opportunity

The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly **unequal**.

betray

v. to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally

synonym: fail, denounce, display

(1) **betray** a friend, (2) **betray** confidence

He felt **betrayed** when his best friend revealed their secret to the enemy.

drown

v. to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater

synonym: douse, drench, overwhelm

(1) **drown** in a bath, (2) I was **drowned** in work

Floods have the potential to **drown** any subsurface animals easily.

uniformity

n. the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity

synonym: uniformness, consistency, sameness

(1) lack of **uniformity**, (2) strive for **uniformity**

The **uniformity** of the products in this brand results from strict quality control measures.

quo

n. the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

synonym: status, condition, state

(1) status **quo** politician, (2) **quo** warranto

The company has been successful in maintaining the status **quo**.

humanize

v. to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans

synonym: civilize, personalize

(1) **humanize** my pet, (2) **humanize** a room

The charity event aims to **humanize** the homeless rather than treat them as mere statistics.

interlocking

adj. fitting or locking together in a way that makes a continuous and secure whole

synonym: connected, linked, joined

(1) **interlocking** braid, (2) **interlocking** mechanism

The **interlocking** puzzle pieces were difficult to separate.

complicit

adj. involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group

synonym : compliant, involved, accessory

(1) **complicit** behavior, (2) **complicit** in cover-up

The accomplice was **complicit** in the crime committed by her partner.

quagmire

n. a soft, muddy area that is difficult to walk or move through; a difficult or complicated situation; a dilemma or predicament

synonym : morass, swamp, bog

(1) sink into a **quagmire**, (2) **quagmire** debate

The company found itself in a legal **quagmire**, unable to resolve the issue without causing harm to its reputation.

punitive

adj. relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining

synonym : punishing, retributive, disciplinary

(1) **punitive** response, (2) **punitive** damages

His coworkers deemed the **punitive** measures taken against the employee too harsh.

vitriolic

adj. bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)

synonym : acerbic, caustic, biting

(1) **vitriolic** assault, (2) **vitriolic** discussion

Her **vitriolic** remarks caused much tension in the workplace.

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.

perpetuate

v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time
synonym: eternalize, preserve, maintain

(1) **perpetuate** a myth, (2) **perpetuate** chronic pain
That work **perpetuates** his fame.

indulge

v. to allow oneself or another person to have or enjoy something, especially something that is considered to be a luxury or treat

synonym: pamper, gratify, entertain

(1) **indulge** in debauchery, (2) **indulge** children
She **indulged** in a warm bath after a long day at work.

bully

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

synonym: tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak
The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym: demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality
You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

elevate

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

synonym: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

segregate

v. to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic

synonym: isolate, separate, divide

(1) **segregate** by race, (2) **segregate** boys and girls

The school board decided to **segregate** students by the ability to meet their needs better.

cannibal

n. a person who eats the flesh or internal organs of other human beings, especially as a cultural or ritual practice

synonym: man-eater, anthropophagite

(1) **cannibal** tribe, (2) habitual **cannibal**

The horror movie portrayed a group of **cannibals** who hunted humans in the woods.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sha_____per system *n.* a farmer who cultivates a piece of land owned by someone else, usually in exchange for a share of the crops produced
2. m__e of debt *n.* a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through
3. per_____te a myth *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
4. re___m a government bond *v.* to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation
5. hu_____ze my pet *v.* to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
6. escape their str_____old *n.* a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control
7. h__l at the moon *v.* to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness

ANSWERS: 1. sharecropper, 2. mire, 3. perpetuate, 4. redeem, 5. humanize, 6. stranglehold, 7. howl

8. theological se____ry *n.* an educational institution, typically for the training of candidates for the priesthood or ministry; a school for higher learning
9. s__p cool and moist air *v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
10. de____e his public image *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
11. a 12-gauge sh____n *n.* a firearm that is designed to be fired from the shoulder and that typically fires several small metal balls or pellets called shot
12. ig____e passion *v.* to set on fire; to cause to start burning
13. be____y confidence *v.* to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
14. college se____ry *n.* an educational institution, typically for the training of candidates for the priesthood or ministry; a school for higher learning
15. non_____ce protest *n.* the use of peaceful means, such as civil disobedience or passive resistance, rather than violence to achieve a goal, especially in the context of political or social change

ANSWERS: 8. seminary, 9. seep, 10. degrade, 11. shotgun, 12. ignite, 13. betray, 14. seminary, 15. nonviolence

16. bl___e with sleeves *n.* a loose-fitting upper garment for women, typically having a collar, buttons, and sleeves
17. se_____te boys and girls *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
18. in_____e in debauchery *v.* to allow oneself or another person to have or enjoy something, especially something that is considered to be a luxury or treat
19. dr__n in a bath *v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
20. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
21. de_____e environmental quality *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
22. p__e a smoother road *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
23. ig___e a boom *v.* to set on fire; to cause to start burning
24. per_____te chronic pain *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
25. status q_o politician *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

ANSWERS: 16. blouse, 17. segregate, 18. indulge, 19. drown, 20. invade, 21. degrade, 22. pave, 23. ignite, 24. perpetuate, 25. quo

26. an id____st perspective *n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
27. sha_____per labor *n.* a farmer who cultivates a piece of land owned by someone else, usually in exchange for a share of the crops produced
28. bu__y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
29. int_____ing braid *adj.* fitting or locking together in a way that makes a continuous and secure whole
30. a lacy bl___e *n.* a loose-fitting upper garment for women, typically having a collar, buttons, and sleeves
31. in_____e children *v.* to allow oneself or another person to have or enjoy something, especially something that is considered to be a luxury or treat
32. a wide do_____y *n.* an opening in a wall for a door to fit into
33. do_____y to success *n.* an opening in a wall for a door to fit into
34. vo___y of conversation *n.* a simultaneous discharge or release of multiple objects, often projectiles like arrows or bullets; a rapid and continuous series of utterances or actions

ANSWERS: 26. idealist, 27. sharecropper, 28. bully, 29. interlocking, 30. blouse, 31. indulge, 32. doorway, 33. doorway, 34. volley

35. 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
36. s__p into paper *v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
37. co_____it in cover-up *adj.* involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group
38. escaping from qu_____nd *n.* a type of loose sand or soil that behaves like a liquid, capable of trapping and engulfing living beings or objects that become stuck in it; dangerous or difficult situations that can trap or overwhelm people who find themselves in them
39. strive for uni_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity
40. un_____l distribution *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
41. fe_____t supporter *adj.* characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion
42. pu_____ve response *adj.* relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining
43. pa_____ze a person *v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel

ANSWERS: 35. oppress, 36. seep, 37. complicit, 38. quicksand, 39. uniformity, 40. unequal, 41. fervent, 42. punitive, 43. paralyze

44. habitual ca_____al *n.* a person who eats the flesh or internal organs of other human beings, especially as a cultural or ritual practice
45. avoid ste_____pe *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
46. h__l of anger *v.* to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness
47. pa_____ze a city *v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
48. re___m a coupon *v.* to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation
49. in_____ne living conditions *adj.* lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain
50. in_____ne forms of punishment *adj.* lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain

ANSWERS: 44. cannibal, 45. stereotype, 46. howl, 47. paralyze, 48. redeem, 49. inhumane, 50. inhumane

51. non_____ce movement *n.* the use of peaceful means, such as civil disobedience or passive resistance, rather than violence to achieve a goal, especially in the context of political or social change
52. q_o warranto *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
53. I was dr__ned in work *v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
54. el_____e educational standards *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
55. bu__y the weak *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
56. p__e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
57. vi_____ic assault *adj.* bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)
58. co_____it behavior *adj.* involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group

ANSWERS: 51. nonviolence, 52. quo, 53. drown, 54. elevate, 55. bully, 56. pave, 57. vitriolic, 58. complicit

59. information str_____old *n.* a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control
60. sink in qu_____nd *n.* a type of loose sand or soil that behaves like a liquid, capable of trapping and engulfing living beings or objects that become stuck in it; dangerous or difficult situations that can trap or overwhelm people who find themselves in them
61. lack of uni_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity
62. 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
63. hu_____ze a room *v.* to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
64. un_____l opportunity *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
65. se_____te by race *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
66. id_____st at heart *n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

ANSWERS: 59. stranglehold, 60. quicksand, 61. uniformity, 62. oppress, 63. humanize, 64. unequal, 65. segregate, 66. idealist

67. be___y a friend *v.* to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
68. fe_____t belief *adj.* characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion
69. qu_____re debate *n.* a soft, muddy area that is difficult to walk or move through; a difficult or complicated situation; a dilemma or predicament
70. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
71. pu_____ve damages *adj.* relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining
72. a sh_____n marriage *n.* a firearm that is designed to be fired from the shoulder and that typically fires several small metal balls or pellets called shot
73. vo___y of insults *n.* a simultaneous discharge or release of multiple objects, often projectiles like arrows or bullets; a rapid and continuous series of utterances or actions
74. negative ste_____pes *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

ANSWERS: 67. betray, 68. fervent, 69. quagmire, 70. invade, 71. punitive, 72. shotgun, 73. volley, 74. stereotype

75. el_____e a close relationship *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
76. vi_____ic discussion *adj.* bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)
77. sink into a qu_____re *n.* a soft, muddy area that is difficult to walk or move through; a difficult or complicated situation; a dilemma or predicament
78. ca_____al tribe *n.* a person who eats the flesh or internal organs of other human beings, especially as a cultural or ritual practice
79. stick in the m___e *n.* a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through
80. int_____ing mechanism *adj.* fitting or locking together in a way that makes a continuous and secure whole

ANSWERS: 75. elevate, 76. vitriolic, 77. quagmire, 78. cannibal, 79. mire, 80. interlocking

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ puzzle pieces were difficult to separate.
adj. fitting or locking together in a way that makes a continuous and secure whole
2. The _____ of the products in this brand results from strict quality control measures.
n. the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity
3. The horror movie portrayed a group of _____ who hunted humans in the woods.
n. a person who eats the flesh or internal organs of other human beings, especially as a cultural or ritual practice
4. The wolves began to _____ in the distance as the sunset.
v. to make a prolonged, loud, mournful cry or noise, typically as a signal of distress, pain, or an intense emotion; to express one's strong feelings or emotions in a loud and unrestrained manner; (noun) a long, loud, mournful sound made by a person or an animal, often in response to pain, fear, or sadness
5. The charity event aims to _____ the homeless rather than treat them as mere statistics.
v. to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
6. The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly _____.
adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair

ANSWERS: 1. interlocking, 2. uniformity, 3. cannibals, 4. howl, 5. humanize, 6. unequal

7. The company has been successful in maintaining the status ____.
- n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
8. The monopoly has a _____ on the market, making it difficult for new businesses to compete.
- n.* a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control
9. The school board decided to _____ students by the ability to meet their needs better.
- v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
10. She _____ in a warm bath after a long day at work.
- v.* to allow oneself or another person to have or enjoy something, especially something that is considered to be a luxury or treat
11. That work _____ his fame.
- v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
12. He felt _____ when his best friend revealed their secret to the enemy.
- v.* to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
13. Martin Luther King Jr. was a champion of _____ in the fight for civil rights.
- n.* the use of peaceful means, such as civil disobedience or passive resistance, rather than violence to achieve a goal, especially in the context of political or social change

ANSWERS: 7. quo, 8. stranglehold, 9. segregate, 10. indulged, 11. perpetuates, 12. betrayed, 13. nonviolence

14. The project was bogged down in a _____ of bureaucracy.
- n.* a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through
15. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
- v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
16. The robbers used a _____ to threaten the store clerk.
- n.* a firearm that is designed to be fired from the shoulder and that typically fires several small metal balls or pellets called shot
17. 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
18. She had a _____ desire to pursue her passion and make a difference in the world.
- adj.* characterized by intense or passionate emotion or enthusiasm; showing great warmth or devotion
19. The venom from the snake bite _____ his arm.
- v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
20. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.
- v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
21. The schoolyard _____ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.
- n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

ANSWERS: 14. mire, 15. invade, 16. shotgun, 17. oppressed, 18. fervent, 19.

paralyzed, 20. degrade, 21. bully

22. He leaned against the _____ waiting for her to come home.
n. an opening in a wall for a door to fit into
23. Eating food in a hurry _____ blood glucose levels.
v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
24. The soldiers fired a _____ of shots at the approaching enemy.
n. a simultaneous discharge or release of multiple objects, often projectiles like arrows or bullets; a rapid and continuous series of utterances or actions
25. Changing _____ about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.
n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
26. He tried to _____ himself by volunteering at the local charity after his mistakes.
v. to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation
27. The rain began to _____ through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.
v. to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
28. His coworkers deemed the _____ measures taken against the employee too harsh.
adj. relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining

ANSWERS: 22. doorway, 23. elevates, 24. volley, 25. stereotypes, 26. redeem, 27. seep, 28. punitive

29. She paired her denim jeans with a delicate floral _____.
- n.* a loose-fitting upper garment for women, typically having a collar, buttons, and sleeves
30. Her _____ remarks caused much tension in the workplace.
- adj.* bitter, acidic, or harsh in tone or language; expressing intense and vehement hatred or criticism; pertains to or derived from vitriol (= an archaic name for certain sulfates, initially used to describe sulfuric acid)
31. The accomplice was _____ in the crime committed by her partner.
- adj.* involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group
32. The company found itself in a legal _____ unable to resolve the issue without causing harm to its reputation.
- n.* a soft, muddy area that is difficult to walk or move through; a difficult or complicated situation; a dilemma or predicament
33. He _____ the fireworks with a single spark.
- v.* to set on fire; to cause to start burning
34. Floods have the potential to _____ any subsurface animals easily.
- v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
35. As a dedicated _____ she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.
- n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

ANSWERS: 29. blouse, 30. vitriolic, 31. complicit, 32. quagmire, 33. ignited, 34. drown, 35. idealist,

36. He enrolled in the _____ to study theology and become a minister.
- n.* an educational institution, typically for the training of candidates for the priesthood or ministry; a school for higher learning
37. During my hiking trip, I got stuck in _____ and had to be rescued.
- n.* a type of loose sand or soil that behaves like a liquid, capable of trapping and engulfing living beings or objects that become stuck in it; dangerous or difficult situations that can trap or overwhelm people who find themselves in them
38. The conditions at the factory were deemed _____ and caused outrage among the public.
- adj.* lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain
39. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
- v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
40. Many _____ in the South were impoverished and trapped in a cycle of debt.
- n.* a farmer who cultivates a piece of land owned by someone else, usually in exchange for a share of the crops produced

ANSWERS: 36. seminary, 37. quicksand, 38. inhumane, 39. paved, 40. sharecroppers