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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Lýdia Machová: The secrets of learning a new language | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

achieve

v. to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do

synonym: accomplish, attain, reach

(1) **achieve** success, (2) **achieve** milestones

I will work hard to **achieve** my goals and realize my dreams.

fluent

adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

synonym: eloquent, articulate, smooth-spoken

(1) **fluent** Chinese, (2) in a **fluent** tone

She learned five languages but is only **fluent** in two of them.

polyglot

adj. characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages

synonym: multilingual, fluent in multiple languages

(1) gifted **polyglot**, (2) **polyglot** skills

The city's population is quite **polyglot**, with various languages being spoken on the streets.

decide

v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

synonym: choose, determine, settle

(1) **decide** a question, (2) **decide** on a course of action
She couldn't **decide** whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

phrase

n. a group of words that mean something specific when used together

synonym: expression, idiom, term

(1) ready-made **phrases**, (2) noun **phrase**

We bought a Spanish **phrase** book.

native

adj. connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place

synonym: endemic, domestic, aboriginal

(1) **native** to Africa, (2) **native** language

The vegetation here is almost wholly **native**.

conversation

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

synonym: chat, discussion, dialogue

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

Your **conversation** reflects your thoughts.

comfort

n. a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint

synonym: ease, solace, coziness

(1) words of **comfort**, (2) **comfort** level

He found **comfort** in the warm embrace of his loved ones.

random

adj. made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern

synonym: incidental, arbitrary, unanticipated

(1) a **random** choice, (2) bombs fell at **random**

To find drunk drivers, police conduct **random** tests.

ingenious

adj. showing inventiveness and ability or skill

synonym: creative, innovative, inventive

(1) **ingenious** device, (2) **ingenious** idea

I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so **ingenious**.

imitate

v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

synonym: mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

frequent

adj. happening constantly

synonym: periodic, recurring, routine

(1) **frequent** absence, (2) **frequent** use

His heartaches are less **frequent** now.

grammar

n. the set of structural constraints on speakers' or writers' composition of clauses, phrases, and words

synonym: syntax, elements

(1) **grammar** checker, (2) Latin **grammar**

Mastering **grammar** takes a lot of time for those learning a foreign language.

suddenly

adv. quickly and unexpectedly

synonym: abruptly, unexpectedly, unawares

(1) **suddenly** attacked by an enemy, (2) die **suddenly**

Who answers **suddenly** knows little.

dawn

n. the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky

synonym: daybreak, sunrise, advent

(1) the wan light of **dawn**, (2) crack of **dawn**

Missile assaults on the capital continued around **dawn**.

process

n. a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or

approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products

synonym: procedure, method, system

(1) **process** improvement, (2) decision-making **process**

The **process** for applying for a visa can be lengthy and complicated.

chart

n. a visual display of information such as a diagram, lists of figures, etc.; a map designed to assist navigation by air or sea

synonym: diagram, graph, map

(1) a weather **chart**, (2) a statistical **chart**

This pie **chart** represents our market share.

handmade

adj. made by hand rather than by machine or mass production methods; crafted manually or using traditional methods

synonym: handcrafted, homemade, artisanal

(1) **handmade** crafts, (2) **handmade** soap

The jewelry was all **handmade** by local artisans using traditional techniques.

flash

n. a sudden intense burst of radiant energy; a momentary brightness

synonym: sparkle, gleam, glimmer

(1) a **flash** of lightning, (2) brilliant **flash**

These heavy rains caused **flash** floods on several islands.

statistics

n. the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

(1) **statistics** for cancer, (2) official **statistics**

The **statistics** demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.

vocabulary

n. the words used by a language, group, or individual; the knowledge and understanding of words and their

meanings that a person possesses

synonym : lexicon, glossary, dictionary

(1) **vocabulary** list, (2) academic **vocabulary**

Using proper **vocabulary** is essential for writing a good essay.

app

n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

synonym : application, software

(1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**

The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.

recipe

n. a set of instructions for preparing a dish, including the ingredients and the method of cooking

synonym : instructions, formula, method

(1) **recipe** book, (2) **recipe** collection

The **recipe** for the cake is passed down from generation to generation in her family.

span

n. the entire length of something, such as time or space from beginning to end; the amount of space that something covers

synonym : interval, period, length

(1) the **span** of a bird's wings, (2) the average life **span**

He slightly modified the **span** of training because it was just before a match.

harry

v. to persistently harass, badger, or bother someone or something; to persistently attack or pursue an opposing force or target

synonym : bother, pester, annoy

(1) **harry** the ship all night, (2) **harry** a suspect

I need to **harry** my coworkers to finish the project on time.

potter

n. a person who makes pottery, objects that are made of clay and then fired in a kiln to make them hard and durable; (verb, also putter) to occupy oneself in a leisurely or casual way, often with no particular goal or aim in mind

synonym : shape, form, mold

(1) **potter's** studio, (2) **potter** around in the garden

The ancient Egyptians were skilled **potters** and left behind many beautiful artifacts.

translate

v. to convert or change words into another language

synonym : convert, transcribe, render

(1) **translate** a document into English, (2) **translate** the emotion to a movement

Translate the text from Italian into English.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym : bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

sitcom

n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format

synonym : comedy, TV show

(1) **sitcom** series, (2) popular **sitcom**

I love to watch **sitcoms** when I need a good laugh.

gibberish

n. unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing

synonym : nonsense, babble, drivel

(1) **gibberish** language, (2) meaningless **gibberish**

He spoke in **gibberish**, and no one could understand what he was trying to say.

dialogue

n. a conversation in a book, play, or film

synonym: conversation, discussion, talk

(1) Platonic **dialogues**, (2) the form of a **dialogue**

He recorded the **dialogue** at the time of the incident.

genius

n. someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality

synonym: brilliance, brainiac, acumen

(1) a person of **genius**, (2) a **genius** for music

Mozart was a musical **genius**.

shortcut

n. an alternative route shorter or quicker than the usual one

synonym: bypass, cutoff, alternative

(1) take a **shortcut**, (2) keyboard **shortcuts**

There is no **shortcut** to success.

pleasant

adj. enjoyable, attractive, friendly, or agreeable

synonym: agreeable, delightful, pleasing

(1) **pleasant** news, (2) **pleasant** odor

The hotel's staff is very **pleasant** and efficient.

podcast

n. a radio program made available in digital format that you can download from the Internet and play on a computer or music player

(1) football **podcast**, (2) listen to a **podcast**

Our **podcast** was the most downloaded in the technology news genre this year.

introvert

n. a shy and reticent person

synonym: observer, loner, solitary

(1) **introvert** personality, (2) **introvert** behavior

Being an **introvert** is not a weakness, and it's just a different way of interacting with the world.

imaginary

adj. existing only in someone's mind

synonym: fictional, ideal, fantastical

(1) **imaginary** number, (2) **imaginary** pregnancy

Little children tend to have **imaginary** friends.

crucial

adj. extremely vital or necessary

synonym: essential, pivotal, vital

(1) **crucial** information, (2) a **crucial** issue for women

The revitalization of technology companies is **crucial** to the country's growth.

principle

n. a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works

synonym: rule, creed, code

(1) **principle** of treatment, (2) **principle** in business

Efficiency isn't an essential **principle** here; fairness is.

memorize

v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly

synonym: learn, remember, remind

(1) **memorize** musical scores, (2) try hard to **memorize** the lines

Lawyers need to **memorize** even the most minor provisions of the law.

revise

v. to examine and make corrections or alterations to the idea, piece of writing, etc. to improve it

synonym: alter, revamp, modify

(1) **revise** the plan, (2) **revise** his belief

The prediction method has been **revised** drastically.

repetition

n. the act of doing or saying something many times

synonym: duplication, iteration, recurrence

(1) **repetition** of the word, (2) habitual **repetition**

Repetition is the mother of all learning.

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.

normally

adv. usually; under normal conditions

synonym : commonly, generally, naturally

(1) complete **normally**, (2) not **normally** drink much

I don't **normally** take a vacation in the middle of summer.

chore

n. a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor

synonym : task, duty, job

(1) **chore** list, (2) household **chores**

Cleaning the house is a **chore** that only some enjoy.

patience

n. the ability to remain calm and composed in the face of adversity, delay, or frustration; the capacity to tolerate or endure difficult or unpleasant situations without becoming upset or angry

synonym : forbearance, endurance, tolerance

(1) test my **patience**, (2) show **patience**

Healing a broken heart requires **patience**, as it takes time to heal.

definitely

adv. without any question and beyond doubt; clearly

synonym : absolutely, certainly, indeed

(1) **definitely** become a problem, (2) say **definitely**

The paper is **definitely** worth reading thoroughly.

visible

adj. capable of being seen; or open to easy view

synonym : clear, observable, seeable

(1) **visible** stars, (2) **visible** by X-ray

My home is easily **visible** from the shore.

improve

v. to make or become better

synonym: enhance, ameliorate, enrich

(1) **improve** a process, (2) **improve** the test score

We want to **improve** ties between our two countries.

chunk

n. a thick and solid mass or piece of something

synonym: block, lump, piece

(1) a **chunk** of money, (2) a tiny **chunk** of meat

The new start-up company carved out a large **chunk** of the market within a year.

motto

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

synonym: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

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

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

vivid

adj. producing very clear, powerful, and detailed images in the mind

synonym: intense, powerful, dazzling

(1) **vivid** colors, (2) still **vivid** in my memory

She made a **vivid** impression.

episode

n. a happening or story that is distinctive in a series of related events; an abrupt short period during which someone suffers from the effects of a physical or mental illness

synonym: event, chapter, seizure

(1) end of the first **episode**, (2) **episode** of vertigo

I want to put that **episode** of my life behind me.

victory

n. success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won

synonym: win, triumph, success

(1) **victory** in the law court, (2) **victory** over terrorism

We are optimistic about our final **victory**.

talented

adj. having a natural ability or aptitude for something;
showing exceptional skill or ability in a particular area

synonym: gifted, able, skilled

(1) a very **talented** actor, (2) **talented** athlete

She is a **talented** musician, able to play several instruments.

graduate

n. a person who has a first degree from university or college; (verb) to complete the first course of university or college and get a degree

synonym: alumna, alum, grad

(1) **graduate** degree program, (2) honor **graduate**

Many employers hire **graduate** trainees to train as managers.

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.

doe

n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym: rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

miracle

n. an act or occurrence that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore believed to be caused by God

synonym: wonder, marvel, phenomenon

(1) **miracle** person, (2) economic **miracle**

The doctors said that her recovery was a **miracle**.

mentor

n. a person who helps and advises a younger or less experienced person over time, usually at work or school

synonym : adviser, coach, tutor

(1) **mentor** for life, (2) fashion **mentor**

As a **mentor**, he helped me realize my career.

struggle

v. to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction

synonym : toil, strive, compete

(1) **struggle** against discrimination, (2) **struggle** to get the job

He could not **struggle** against temptation.

appreciate

v. to value and acknowledge the worth of someone or something; to be grateful for something or someone

synonym : acknowledge, admire, enjoy

(1) **appreciate** her feedback, (2) **appreciate** the value

We would **appreciate** an early reply.

progression

n. the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward

synonym : advancement, development, evolution

(1) **progression** of civilization, (2) **progression** of disease

The company has made great strides in its **progression** toward sustainability.

magical

adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers

synonym : enchanting, occult, supernatural

(1) **magical** place, (2) **magical** powers

When I was a child, my mother often cast **magical** spells to ease my pain whenever I was injured.

talent

n. a natural ability to be good at something; someone who has a natural ability to be good at something

synonym : endowment, aptitude, capability

(1) a person of diverse **talents**, (2) raw **talent**

Numerous great professional sports **talents** have come from

this city.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. po___r around in the garden | <i>n.</i> a person who makes pottery, objects that are made of clay and then fired in a kiln to make them hard and durable; (verb, also putter) to occupy oneself in a leisurely or casual way, often with no particular goal or aim in mind |
| 2. ch__e list | <i>n.</i> a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor |
| 3. the mo__o for safe traffic | <i>n.</i> a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal |
| 4. habitual rep_____on | <i>n.</i> the act of doing or saying something many times |
| 5. household ch__es | <i>n.</i> a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor |
| 6. ha__y a suspect | <i>v.</i> to persistently harass, badger, or bother someone or something; to persistently attack or pursue an opposing force or target |
| 7. d_e rabbit | <i>n.</i> a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit |
| 8. listen to a po_____t | <i>n.</i> a radio program made available in digital format that you can download from the Internet and play on a computer or music player |
| 9. in_____rt behavior | <i>n.</i> a shy and reticent person |

ANSWERS: 1. potter, 2. chore, 3. motto, 4. repetition, 5. chore, 6. harry, 7. doe, 8. podcast, 9. introvert

10. in_____us idea *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
11. crack of d__n *n.* the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky
12. a ra___m choice *adj.* made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern
13. decision-making pr____s *n.* a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products
14. mi_____e person *n.* an act or occurrence that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore believed to be caused by God
15. app_____te her feedback *v.* to value and acknowledge the worth of someone or something; to be grateful for something or someone
16. source of ins_____on *n.* something that motivates or encourages someone to create or achieve something, or a feeling of excitement or creativity
17. test my pa_____ce *n.* the ability to remain calm and composed in the face of adversity, delay, or frustration; the capacity to tolerate or endure difficult or unpleasant situations without becoming upset or angry

ANSWERS: 10. ingenious, 11. dawn, 12. random, 13. process, 14. miracle, 15. appreciate, 16. inspiration, 17. patience

18. a weather ch__t *n.* a visual display of information such as a diagram, lists of figures, etc.; a map designed to assist navigation by air or sea
19. me___r for life *n.* a person who helps and advises a younger or less experienced person over time, usually at work or school
20. im_____e the test score *v.* to make or become better
21. Latin gr_____r *n.* the set of structural constraints on speakers' or writers' composition of clauses, phrases, and words
22. in_____us device *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
23. a statistical ch__t *n.* a visual display of information such as a diagram, lists of figures, etc.; a map designed to assist navigation by air or sea
24. not no_____ly drink much *adv.* usually; under normal conditions
25. a ge___s for music *n.* someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality
26. vi_____y in the law court *n.* success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won
27. try hard to me_____ze the lines *v.* to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
28. app_____te the value *v.* to value and acknowledge the worth of someone or something; to be grateful for something or someone

ANSWERS: 18. chart, 19. mentor, 20. improve, 21. grammar, 22. ingenious, 23. chart, 24. normally, 25. genius, 26. victory, 27. memorize, 28. appreciate

29. vi_____e by X-ray *adj.* capable of being seen; or open to easy view
30. im_____ry pregnancy *adj.* existing only in someone's mind
31. vi_____e stars *adj.* capable of being seen; or open to easy view
32. end of the first ep_____e *n.* a happening or story that is distinctive in a series of related events; an abrupt short period during which someone suffers from the effects of a physical or mental illness
33. ready-made ph____es *n.* a group of words that mean something specific when used together
34. pl_____nt news *adj.* enjoyable, attractive, friendly, or agreeable
35. cannot log in to the a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
36. tr_____te the emotion to a movement *v.* to convert or change words into another language
37. gr_____te degree program *n.* a person who has a first degree from university or college; (verb) to complete the first course of university or college and get a degree
38. voc_____ry list *n.* the words used by a language, group, or individual; the knowledge and understanding of words and their meanings that a person possesses

ANSWERS: 29. visible, 30. imaginary, 31. visible, 32. episode, 33. phrase, 34. pleasant, 35. app, 36. translate, 37. graduate, 38. vocabulary

39. academic voc_____ry *n.* the words used by a language, group, or individual; the knowledge and understanding of words and their meanings that a person possesses
40. the form of a di_____ue *n.* a conversation in a book, play, or film
41. words of co_____t *n.* a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint
42. official sta_____cs *n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
43. the average life s____n *n.* the entire length of something, such as time or space from beginning to end; the amount of space that something covers
44. a tiny ch__k of meat *n.* a thick and solid mass or piece of something
45. re____e his belief *v.* to examine and make corrections or alterations to the idea, piece of writing, etc. to improve it
46. co_____t level *n.* a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint
47. pr_____s improvement *n.* a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products

ANSWERS: 39. vocabulary, 40. dialogue, 41. comfort, 42. statistics, 43. span, 44. chunk, 45. revise, 46. comfort, 47. process

48. ma_____l place *adj.* produced by or containing supernatural powers
49. cr_____l information *adj.* extremely vital or necessary
50. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
51. pro_____on of civilization *n.* the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward
52. ta_____ed athlete *adj.* having a natural ability or aptitude for something; showing exceptional skill or ability in a particular area
53. ac_____e milestones *v.* to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do
54. fashion me____r *n.* a person who helps and advises a younger or less experienced person over time, usually at work or school
55. a fl__h of lightning *n.* a sudden intense burst of radiant energy; a momentary brightness
56. con_____ion in English *n.* an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.
57. in a fl____t tone *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
58. sta_____cs for cancer *n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

ANSWERS: 48. magical, 49. crucial, 50. germ, 51. progression, 52. talented, 53. achieve, 54. mentor, 55. flash, 56. conversation, 57. fluent, 58. statistics

59. re___e the plan *v.* to examine and make corrections or alterations to the idea, piece of writing, etc. to improve it
60. pr_____le in business *n.* a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works
61. honor gr_____te *n.* a person who has a first degree from university or college; (verb) to complete the first course of university or college and get a degree
62. fr_____nt absence *adj.* happening constantly
63. noun ph___e *n.* a group of words that mean something specific when used together
64. pl_____nt odor *adj.* enjoyable, attractive, friendly, or agreeable
65. st_____le to get the job *v.* to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
66. raw ta___t *n.* a natural ability to be good at something; someone who has a natural ability to be good at something
67. a cr_____l issue for women *adj.* extremely vital or necessary
68. series of exp_____nts *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
69. a friendly con_____ion *n.* an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.

ANSWERS: 59. revise, 60. principle, 61. graduate, 62. frequent, 63. phrase, 64. pleasant, 65. struggle, 66. talent, 67. crucial, 68. experiment, 69. conversation

70. re___e collection *n.* a set of instructions for preparing a dish, including the ingredients and the method of cooking
71. ac_____e success *v.* to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do
72. def_____ly become a problem *adv.* without any question and beyond doubt; clearly
73. im_____e painting styles *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
74. im_____e a process *v.* to make or become better
75. gi_____sh language *n.* unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing
76. a person of diverse ta____ts *n.* a natural ability to be good at something; someone who has a natural ability to be good at something
77. st_____le against discrimination *v.* to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
78. fl____t Chinese *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
79. football po_____t *n.* a radio program made available in digital format that you can download from the Internet and play on a computer or music player

ANSWERS: 70. recipe, 71. achieve, 72. definitely, 73. imitate, 74. improve, 75. gibberish, 76. talent, 77. struggle, 78. fluent, 79. podcast

80. im_____ry number *adj.* existing only in someone's mind
81. gifted po_____ot *adj.* characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages
82. ha_____de soap *adj.* made by hand rather than by machine or mass production methods; crafted manually or using traditional methods
83. na_____e to Africa *adj.* connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
84. brilliant fl__h *n.* a sudden intense burst of radiant energy; a momentary brightness
85. company mo__o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
86. bombs fell at ra____m *adj.* made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern
87. the s__n of a bird's wings *n.* the entire length of something, such as time or space from beginning to end; the amount of space that something covers
88. killer a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
89. show pa_____ce *n.* the ability to remain calm and composed in the face of adversity, delay, or frustration; the capacity to tolerate or endure difficult or unpleasant situations without becoming upset or angry

ANSWERS: 80. imaginary, 81. polyglot, 82. handmade, 83. native, 84. flash, 85. motto, 86. random, 87. span, 88. app, 89. patience

90. exp_____nt design *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
91. de___e on a course of action *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
92. su_____ly attacked by an enemy *adv.* quickly and unexpectedly
93. the wan light of d__n *n.* the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky
94. get ins_____on from nature *n.* something that motivates or encourages someone to create or achieve something, or a feeling of excitement or creativity
95. say def_____ly *adv.* without any question and beyond doubt; clearly
96. fr_____nt use *adj.* happening constantly
97. complete no_____ly *adv.* usually; under normal conditions
98. ma_____l powers *adj.* produced by or containing supernatural powers
99. meaningless gi_____sh *n.* unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing
100. ep_____e of vertigo *n.* a happening or story that is distinctive in a series of related events; an abrupt short period during which someone suffers from the effects of a physical or mental illness
101. in_____rt personality *n.* a shy and reticent person

ANSWERS: 90. experiment, 91. decide, 92. suddenly, 93. dawn, 94. inspiration, 95. definitely, 96. frequent, 97. normally, 98. magical, 99. gibberish, 100. episode, 101. introvert

102. im_____e animal sounds *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
103. me_____ze musical scores *v.* to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
104. a person of ge____s *n.* someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality
105. po____r's studio *n.* a person who makes pottery, objects that are made of clay and then fired in a kiln to make them hard and durable; (verb, also putter) to occupy oneself in a leisurely or casual way, often with no particular goal or aim in mind
106. tr_____te a document into English *v.* to convert or change words into another language
107. die su_____ly *adv.* quickly and unexpectedly
108. po_____ot skills *adj.* characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages
109. a ch__k of money *n.* a thick and solid mass or piece of something
110. de___e a question *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
111. vi_____y over terrorism *n.* success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won
112. pr_____le of treatment *n.* a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works

ANSWERS: 102. imitate, 103. memorize, 104. genius, 105. potter, 106. translate, 107. suddenly, 108. polyglot, 109. chunk, 110. decide, 111. victory, 112. principle

113. ha__y the ship all night *v.* to persistently harass, badger, or bother someone or something; to persistently attack or pursue an opposing force or target
114. vi__d colors *adj.* producing very clear, powerful, and detailed images in the mind
115. pro_____on of disease *n.* the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward
116. take a sh_____ut *n.* an alternative route shorter or quicker than the usual one
117. a very ta_____ed actor *adj.* having a natural ability or aptitude for something; showing exceptional skill or ability in a particular area
118. rep_____on of the word *n.* the act of doing or saying something many times
119. still vi__d in my memory *adj.* producing very clear, powerful, and detailed images in the mind
120. ha_____de crafts *adj.* made by hand rather than by machine or mass production methods; crafted manually or using traditional methods
121. keyboard sh_____uts *n.* an alternative route shorter or quicker than the usual one
122. Platonic di_____ues *n.* a conversation in a book, play, or film
123. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
124. gr_____r checker *n.* the set of structural constraints on speakers' or writers' composition of clauses, phrases, and words

ANSWERS: 113. harry, 114. vivid, 115. progression, 116. shortcut, 117. talented, 118. repetition, 119. vivid, 120. handmade, 121. shortcut, 122. dialogue, 123. doe, 124. grammar

125. re___e book *n.* a set of instructions for preparing a dish, including the ingredients and the method of cooking
126. si___m series *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
127. economic mi____e *n.* an act or occurrence that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore believed to be caused by God
128. na___e language *adj.* connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
129. popular si___m *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
130. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

ANSWERS: 125. recipe, 126. sitcom, 127. miracle, 128. native, 129. sitcom, 130. germ

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He _____ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.
v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
2. We want to _____ ties between our two countries.
v. to make or become better
3. This pie _____ represents our market share.
n. a visual display of information such as a diagram, lists of figures, etc.; a map designed to assist navigation by air or sea
4. I love to watch _____ when I need a good laugh.
n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
5. I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so _____.
adj. showing inventiveness and ability or skill
6. She couldn't _____ whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.
v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
7. Using proper _____ is essential for writing a good essay.
n. the words used by a language, group, or individual; the knowledge and understanding of words and their meanings that a person possesses
8. Our _____ was the most downloaded in the technology news genre this year.
n. a radio program made available in digital format that you can download from the Internet and play on a computer or music player

ANSWERS: 1. imitated, 2. improve, 3. chart, 4. sitcoms, 5. ingenious, 6. decide, 7. vocabulary, 8. podcast

9. She learned five languages but is only _____ in two of them.

adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

10. She made a _____ impression.

adj. producing very clear, powerful, and detailed images in the mind

11. There is no _____ to success.

n. an alternative route shorter or quicker than the usual one

12. Hunters use a whistle that makes the _____ sound to lure stags.

n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

13. The city's population is quite _____ with various languages being spoken on the streets.

adj. characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages

14. When I was a child, my mother often cast _____ spells to ease my pain whenever I was injured.

adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers

15. We would _____ an early reply.

v. to value and acknowledge the worth of someone or something; to be grateful for something or someone

16. Efficiency isn't an essential _____ here; fairness is.

n. a fundamental law or truth that explains or controls how something happens or works

ANSWERS: 9. fluent, 10. vivid, 11. shortcut, 12. doe, 13. polyglot, 14. magical, 15. appreciate, 16. principle

17. _____ the text from Italian into English.
v. to convert or change words into another language
18. Mozart was a musical _____.
n. someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality
19. He spoke in _____ and no one could understand what he was trying to say.
n. unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing
20. She is a _____ musician, able to play several instruments.
adj. having a natural ability or aptitude for something; showing exceptional skill or ability in a particular area
21. The _____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
22. Your _____ reflects your thoughts.
n. an informal talk between two or more people to exchange their views, ideas, information, etc.
23. His heartaches are less _____ now.
adj. happening constantly
24. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

ANSWERS: 17. Translate, 18. genius, 19. gibberish, 20. talented, 21. germ, 22. conversation, 23. frequent, 24. motto

25. The new start-up company carved out a large _____ of the market within a year.
n. a thick and solid mass or piece of something
26. Lawyers need to _____ even the most minor provisions of the law.
v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
27. The ancient Egyptians were skilled _____ and left behind many beautiful artifacts.
n. a person who makes pottery, objects that are made of clay and then fired in a kiln to make them hard and durable; (verb, also putter) to occupy oneself in a leisurely or casual way, often with no particular goal or aim in mind
28. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the _____ release.
n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
29. Many employers hire _____ trainees to train as managers.
n. a person who has a first degree from university or college; (verb) to complete the first course of university or college and get a degree
30. He could not _____ against temptation.
v. to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
31. The _____ for the cake is passed down from generation to generation in her family.
n. a set of instructions for preparing a dish, including the ingredients and the method of cooking
32. As a _____ he helped me realize my career.
n. a person who helps and advises a younger or less experienced person over time, usually at work or school

ANSWERS: 25. chunk, 26. memorize, 27. potters, 28. app's, 29. graduate, 30. struggle, 31. recipe, 32. mentor,

33. Cleaning the house is a _____ that only some enjoy.

n. a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor

34. I will work hard to _____ my goals and realize my dreams.

v. to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do

35. He recorded the _____ at the time of the incident.

n. a conversation in a book, play, or film

36. We bought a Spanish _____ book.

n. a group of words that mean something specific when used together

37. The hotel's staff is very _____ and efficient.

adj. enjoyable, attractive, friendly, or agreeable

38. The _____ for applying for a visa can be lengthy and complicated.

n. a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products

39. Numerous great professional sports _____ have come from this city.

n. a natural ability to be good at something; someone who has a natural ability to be good at something

40. He found _____ in the warm embrace of his loved ones.

n. a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint

ANSWERS: 33. chore, 34. achieve, 35. dialogue, 36. phrase, 37. pleasant, 38. process, 39. talents, 40. comfort

41. I want to put that _____ of my life behind me.
n. a happening or story that is distinctive in a series of related events; an abrupt short period during which someone suffers from the effects of a physical or mental illness
42. Mastering _____ takes a lot of time for those learning a foreign language.
n. the set of structural constraints on speakers' or writers' composition of clauses, phrases, and words
43. The doctors said that her recovery was a _____.
n. an act or occurrence that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore believed to be caused by God
44. We are optimistic about our final _____.
n. success in a game, competition, election, or battle, or the knowledge that you have won
45. His _____ showed highly positive results.
n. the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
46. Who answers _____ knows little.
adv. quickly and unexpectedly
47. Healing a broken heart requires _____ as it takes time to heal.
n. the ability to remain calm and composed in the face of adversity, delay, or frustration; the capacity to tolerate or endure difficult or unpleasant situations without becoming upset or angry
48. Little children tend to have _____ friends.
adj. existing only in someone's mind

ANSWERS: 41. episode, 42. grammar, 43. miracle, 44. victory, 45. experiments, 46. suddenly, 47. patience, 48. imaginary

49. The revitalization of technology companies is _____ to the country's growth.
adj. extremely vital or necessary
50. These heavy rains caused _____ floods on several islands.
n. a sudden intense burst of radiant energy; a momentary brightness
51. _____ is the mother of all learning.
n. the act of doing or saying something many times
52. My home is easily _____ from the shore.
adj. capable of being seen; or open to easy view
53. To find drunk drivers, police conduct _____ tests.
adj. made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern
54. Missile assaults on the capital continued around _____.
n. the time of day when the sun's light starts to show in the sky
55. The _____ demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.
n. the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
56. 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
57. The company has made great strides in its _____ toward sustainability.
n. the act or process of changing to the next stage or phase or moving forward

ANSWERS: 49. crucial, 50. flash, 51. Repetition, 52. visible, 53. random, 54. dawn, 55. statistics, 56. inspiration, 57. progression

58. I need to _____ my coworkers to finish the project on time.
v. to persistently harass, badger, or bother someone or something; to persistently attack or pursue an opposing force or target
59. The jewelry was all _____ by local artisans using traditional techniques.
adj. made by hand rather than by machine or mass production methods; crafted manually or using traditional methods
60. The prediction method has been _____ drastically.
v. to examine and make corrections or alterations to the idea, piece of writing, etc. to improve it
61. He slightly modified the _____ of training because it was just before a match.
n. the entire length of something, such as time or space from beginning to end; the amount of space that something covers
62. The vegetation here is almost wholly _____.
adj. connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
63. The paper is _____ worth reading thoroughly.
adv. without any question and beyond doubt; clearly
64. Being an _____ is not a weakness, and it's just a different way of interacting with the world.
n. a shy and reticent person
65. I don't _____ take a vacation in the middle of summer.
adv. usually; under normal conditions

ANSWERS: 58. harry, 59. handmade, 60. revised, 61. span, 62. native, 63. definitely, 64. introvert, 65. normally

ANSWERS: