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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Carolyn Harris: Why is Marie Antoinette so controversial? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

peasant

n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society

synonym : farmer, laborer, rustic

(1) **peasant** class, (2) exploited **peasant**

Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a **peasant**, but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.

starve

v. to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

synonym : famish, hunger

(1) **starve** for a victory, (2) **starve** to death

If you don't eat soon, you're going to **starve**.

slander

n. the act of making false and damaging statements about someone

synonym : defamation, libel, calumny

(1) **slander** of goods, (2) **slander** lawsuit

He was accused of **slander** when he spread rumors about his boss.

turbulent

adj. marked by a lot of sudden changes, confusion, or uncertainty; characterized by intense activity or agitation

synonym : chaotic, stormy, tumultuous

(1) **turbulent** waves, (2) **turbulent** age

The stock market has been **turbulent** lately, with prices fluctuating rapidly.

heir

n. a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies

synonym : successor, inheritor, beneficiary

(1) an imperial **heir**, (2) **heir** at law

She recognized me as her lawful **heir**.

chateau

n. a large country house or castle in France, especially one that is the residence of a noble or titled person

synonym : castle, manor, palace

(1) **chateau** building, (2) **chateau** garden

They spent the weekend at a luxurious **chateau** in the countryside.

tailspin

n. a state of confusion or panic, often associated with a sudden and rapid decline or loss of control; (of aviation) a sudden and rapid downward spiral of an aircraft, which is typically out of control

synonym : nosedive, dive, confusion

(1) mental **tailspin**, (2) put a business into a **tailspin**

The company's decision to lay off thousands of employees sent the stock market into a **tailspin**.

skyrocket

v. to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;

synonym : rocket, soar, shoot up

(1) **skyrocket** the cost, (2) price **skyrocketed**

Production has decreased, but costs and unemployment have **skyrocketed** dramatically.

insensitive

adj. not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others

synonym : unfeeling, unaware, indifferent

(1) an **insensitive** heart, (2) **insensitive** behavior

His **insensitive** comments made her feel hurt and unimportant.

plight

n. a difficult or unfortunate situation

synonym : crisis, predicament, trouble

(1) miserable **plight**, (2) the **plight** of the poor

The government has ignored the **plight** of the homeless population.

glamorous

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

synonym : alluring, bewitching, enchanting

(1) **glamorous** movie stars, (2) cast **glamorous** eyes

The south coast is less **glamorous** yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

vaccinate

v. to treat with a vaccine, usually by injection, to produce immunity against a disease

synonym : immunize, inject, inoculate

(1) **vaccinate** against scarlet fever, (2) **vaccinate** every year

The nurse **vaccinated** the children in the school.

smallpox

n. a highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, weakness, spots on the skin, and often death

synonym : variola

(1) **smallpox** epidemic, (2) **smallpox** vaccine

An outbreak of **smallpox** occurred in the 1920s.

disastrous

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

synonym : catastrophic, destructive, fatal

(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely

disastrous effect

The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.

franc

n. the currency used in some countries, including Switzerland, France, and formerly Belgium

synonym: currency, money

(1) **franc** area, (2) Swiss **franc**

During the colonial period, several African nations used the **franc** as their currency due to the influence of France.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

synonym: entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

scapegoat

v. to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause

synonym: blame, accuse, fault

(1) **scapegoat** the new employee, (2) political **scapegoat**

Some politicians try to **scapegoat** specific groups of people to distract from their shortcomings.

oblivious

adj. not aware of something, especially what is happening around you; forgetful

synonym: forgetful, clueless, unaware

(1) **oblivious** of his promise, (2) **oblivious** to our response

She was so engrossed in her work that she was **oblivious** to her surroundings.

fabricate

v. to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone

synonym : manufacture, assemble, falsify

(1) **fabricate** a chemical, (2) **fabricate** an excuse

The detective discovered that the witness had **fabricated** her story about the crime.

rumor

n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth

synonym : gossip, whisper, talk

(1) a false **rumor**, (2) **rumor** mill

There was a baseless **rumor** that the company was going bankrupt.

pardon

v. to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense

synonym : forgive, excuse, absolve

(1) **pardon** me, (2) supplicate for **pardon**

The governor decided to **pardon** the prisoner after reviewing the evidence of his innocence.

wasteful

adj. characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

synonym : uneconomical, extravagant, profligate

(1) **wasteful** practices, (2) **wasteful** habits

Buying new clothes every week is a **wasteful** use of money and resources.

spendthrift

n. a person who spends money excessively and wastefully

synonym : squanderer, profligate, wastrel

(1) **spendthrift** personality, (2) **spendthrift** lifestyle

The company went bankrupt because of the CEO's **spendthrift** habits.

incompetent

adj. lacking the necessary skills, knowledge, or ability to perform a task or job; not legally qualified or authorized

to perform a particular task or job

synonym: ineffective, unskilled, inadequate

(1) **incompetent** leadership, (2) **incompetent** employee

The **incompetent** doctor misdiagnosed my illness and prescribed the wrong medication.

veto

n. the power or right to prevent a decision or law from being enacted or enforced, typically granted to a person in authority, such as a government official or a president

synonym: rejection, disapproval, interdict

(1) **veto** power, (2) legislative **veto**

The president's **veto** prevented the bill from becoming law.

reformer

n. a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it

synonym: inciter, innovator, agitator

(1) education **reformer**, (2) catalytic **reformer**

He is regarded as a passionate social **reformer**.

avalanche

n. a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances

synonym: snowslide, snowfall, downfall

(1) **avalanche** warning, (2) an **avalanche** of questions

The skiers narrowly escaped the **avalanche** by taking shelter behind a nearby rock.

treason

n. the act of betraying one's country or government, especially by attempting to overthrow it or give aid and comfort to its enemies; a violation of allegiance or loyalty to one's country or government

synonym: betrayal, disloyalty, sedition

(1) high **treason**, (2) arrested for **treason**

The rebels were sentenced to death for committing acts of **treason** against the state.

prosecute

v. to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement

synonym : charge, sue, bring to trial

(1) **prosecute** criminal, (2) **prosecute** case

The attorney decided to **prosecute** the suspect for stealing from the store.

denigrate

v. to speak of or treat someone or something that is perceived as low or inferior in a derogatory or critical manner

synonym : belittle, disparage, degrade

(1) **denigrate** his reputation, (2) **denigrate** a student's intelligence

It's not fair to **denigrate** a whole group of people based on a stereotype.

baseless

adj. without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason

synonym : groundless, unfounded, unsupported

(1) **baseless** rumor, (2) **baseless** accusation

The lawsuit against the company was dismissed due to the plaintiff's **baseless** claims

accusation

n. a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone

synonym : charge, indictment, imputation

(1) criminal **accusation**, (2) false **accusation**

The **accusation** of theft was unfounded, and the suspect was eventually cleared of all charges.

composure

n. the state of being calm, collected, and in control of one's emotions and actions, especially in difficult or stressful situations

synonym : calmness, poise, self-control

(1) regain my **composure**, (2) lack of **composure**

The actress maintained her **composure** even when faced with harsh criticism.

executioner

n. a person who carries out the orders of a legal authority or a court to put someone to death

(1) **executioner's** axe, (2) brutal **executioner**

He was an **executioner** of justice, making sure all those who broke the law faced their deserved punishments.

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.

decadent

adj. characterized by or showing a state of moral or cultural decline

synonym: effete, depraved, corrupt

(1) **decadent** country, (2) have a **decadent** time

He had been living a **decadent** life after being fired from his job.

monarchy

n. a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority

synonym: kingdom, realm, empire

(1) **monarchy** system, (2) abolish **monarchy**

The **monarchy** government had been in power for centuries.

smear

v. to spread or apply a substance thinly and unevenly over a surface; to slander or accuse someone falsely; (noun) a mark or blot made by smudging, typically a dirty or greasy one

synonym: smudge, spread, daub

(1) **smear** butter on bread, (2) **smear** of blood

The politician tried to **smear** his opponent's reputation with false accusations.

monarch

n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
synonym: ruler, sovereign, majesty

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

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

Session 2: Spelling

1. criminal acc_____on
n. a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone
2. b__y emotion
v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
3. regain my co_____re
n. the state of being calm, collected, and in control of one's emotions and actions, especially in difficult or stressful situations
4. exploited pe_____t
n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
5. inc_____nt leadership
adj. lacking the necessary skills, knowledge, or ability to perform a task or job; not legally qualified or authorized to perform a particular task or job
6. ch_____u garden
n. a large country house or castle in France, especially one that is the residence of a noble or titled person
7. st___e to death
v. to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
8. de_____te his reputation
v. to speak of or treat someone or something that is perceived as low or inferior in a derogatory or critical manner

ANSWERS: 1. accusation, 2. bury, 3. composure, 4. peasant, 5. incompetent, 6. chateau, 7. starve, 8. denigrate

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|----------------------------------|------|---|
| 9. supplicate for pa___n | v. | to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense |
| 10. an av_____he of questions | n. | a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances |
| 11. have dis_____us consequences | adj. | extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful |
| 12. sm__r butter on bread | v. | to spread or apply a substance thinly and unevenly over a surface; to slander or accuse someone falsely; (noun) a mark or blot made by smudging, typically a dirty or greasy one |
| 13. exe_____er's axe | n. | a person who carries out the orders of a legal authority or a court to put someone to death |
| 14. sc_____at the new employee | v. | to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause |
| 15. sm_____ox epidemic | n. | a highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, weakness, spots on the skin, and often death |
| 16. education re_____er | n. | a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it |

ANSWERS: 9. pardon, 10. avalanche, 11. disastrous, 12. smear, 13. executioner, 14. scapegoat, 15. smallpox, 16. reformer

17. ob_____us of his promise *adj.* not aware of something, especially what is happening around you; forgetful
18. mo_____hy system *n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
19. pe_____t class *n.* a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
20. mo_____h butterflies *n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
21. wa_____ul practices *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
22. cast gl_____us eyes *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
23. de_____nt country *adj.* characterized by or showing a state of moral or cultural decline
24. an ins_____ve heart *adj.* not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others
25. va_____te against scarlet fever *v.* to treat with a vaccine, usually by injection, to produce immunity against a disease
26. arrested for tr_____n *n.* the act of betraying one's country or government, especially by attempting to overthrow it or give aid and comfort to its enemies; a violation of allegiance or loyalty to one's country or government

ANSWERS: 17. oblivious, 18. monarchy, 19. peasant, 20. monarch, 21. wasteful, 22. glamorous, 23. decadent, 24. insensitive, 25. vaccinate, 26. treason

27. st___e for a victory *v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
28. fa_____te a chemical *v.* to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone
29. ob_____us to our response *adj.* not aware of something, especially what is happening around you; forgetful
30. av_____he warning *n.* a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances
31. gl_____us movie stars *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
32. spe_____ft personality *n.* a person who spends money excessively and wastefully
33. price sk_____eted *v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
34. h__r at law *n.* a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies
35. sm_____ox vaccine *n.* a highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, weakness, spots on the skin, and often death

ANSWERS: 27. starve, 28. fabricate, 29. oblivious, 30. avalanche, 31. glamorous, 32. spendthrift, 33. skyrocket, 34. heir, 35. smallpox

36. pa____n me	<i>v.</i> to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense
37. fr__c area	<i>n.</i> the currency used in some countries, including Switzerland, France, and formerly Belgium
38. legislative v__o	<i>n.</i> the power or right to prevent a decision or law from being enacted or enforced, typically granted to a person in authority, such as a government official or a president
39. ba____ss accusation	<i>adj.</i> without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason
40. an absolute mo____h	<i>n.</i> a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
41. va____te every year	<i>v.</i> to treat with a vaccine, usually by injection, to produce immunity against a disease
42. sl____r lawsuit	<i>n.</i> the act of making false and damaging statements about someone
43. ba____ss rumor	<i>adj.</i> without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason
44. sl____r of goods	<i>n.</i> the act of making false and damaging statements about someone

ANSWERS: 36. pardon, 37. franc, 38. veto, 39. baseless, 40. monarch, 41. vaccinate, 42. slander, 43. baseless, 44. slander

45. have a de_____nt time *adj.* characterized by or showing a state of moral or cultural decline
46. be____y confidence *v.* to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
47. tu_____nt age *adj.* marked by a lot of sudden changes, confusion, or uncertainty; characterized by intense activity or agitation
48. pr_____te case *v.* to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement
49. ch_____u building *n.* a large country house or castle in France, especially one that is the residence of a noble or titled person
50. de_____te a student's intelligence *v.* to speak of or treat someone or something that is perceived as low or inferior in a derogatory or critical manner
51. an imperial h__r *n.* a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies
52. tu_____nt waves *adj.* marked by a lot of sudden changes, confusion, or uncertainty; characterized by intense activity or agitation
53. false acc_____on *n.* a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone

ANSWERS: 45. decadent, 46. betray, 47. turbulent, 48. prosecute, 49. chateau, 50. denigrate, 51. heir, 52. turbulent, 53. accusation

54. lack of co_____re *n.* the state of being calm, collected, and in control of one's emotions and actions, especially in difficult or stressful situations
55. ins_____ve behavior *adj.* not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others
56. brutal exe_____er *n.* a person who carries out the orders of a legal authority or a court to put someone to death
57. Swiss fr__c *n.* the currency used in some countries, including Switzerland, France, and formerly Belgium
58. sk_____et the cost *v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
59. political sc_____at *v.* to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause
60. pr_____te criminal *v.* to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement
61. catalytic re_____er *n.* a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it
62. high tr_____n *n.* the act of betraying one's country or government, especially by attempting to overthrow it or give aid and comfort to its enemies; a violation of allegiance or loyalty to one's country or government

ANSWERS: 54. composure, 55. insensitive, 56. executioner, 57. franc, 58. skyrocket, 59. scapegoat, 60. prosecute, 61. reformer, 62. treason

63. fa_____te an excuse *v.* to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone
64. put a business into a ta_____in *n.* a state of confusion or panic, often associated with a sudden and rapid decline or loss of control; (of aviation) a sudden and rapid downward spiral of an aircraft, which is typically out of control
65. ru__r mill *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
66. spe_____ft lifestyle *n.* a person who spends money excessively and wastefully
67. mental ta_____in *n.* a state of confusion or panic, often associated with a sudden and rapid decline or loss of control; (of aviation) a sudden and rapid downward spiral of an aircraft, which is typically out of control
68. abolish mo_____hy *n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
69. wa_____ul habits *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
70. sm__r of blood *v.* to spread or apply a substance thinly and unevenly over a surface; to slander or accuse someone falsely; (noun) a mark or blot made by smudging, typically a dirty or greasy one

ANSWERS: 63. fabricate, 64. tailspin, 65. rumor, 66. spendthrift, 67. tailspin, 68. monarchy, 69. wasteful, 70. smear

71. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
72. v__o power *n.* the power or right to prevent a decision or law from being enacted or enforced, typically granted to a person in authority, such as a government official or a president
73. be___y a friend *v.* to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
74. miserable pl___t *n.* a difficult or unfortunate situation
75. inc_____nt employee *adj.* lacking the necessary skills, knowledge, or ability to perform a task or job; not legally qualified or authorized to perform a particular task or job
76. the pl___t of the poor *n.* a difficult or unfortunate situation
77. a false ru__r *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
78. absolutely dis_____us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

ANSWERS: 71. bury, 72. veto, 73. betray, 74. plight, 75. incompetent, 76. plight, 77. rumor, 78. disastrous

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company's decision to lay off thousands of employees sent the stock market into a _____.
 - n.* a state of confusion or panic, often associated with a sudden and rapid decline or loss of control; (of aviation) a sudden and rapid downward spiral of an aircraft, which is typically out of control

2. The company went bankrupt because of the CEO's _____ habits.
 - n.* a person who spends money excessively and wastefully

3. The _____ government had been in power for centuries.
 - n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority

4. Buying new clothes every week is a _____ use of money and resources.
 - adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

5. The lawsuit against the company was dismissed due to the plaintiff's _____ claims
 - adj.* without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason

6. The detective discovered that the witness had _____ her story about the crime.
 - v.* to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone

ANSWERS: 1. tailspin, 2. spendthrift, 3. monarchy, 4. wasteful, 5. baseless, 6. fabricated

7. Some politicians try to _____ specific groups of people to distract from their shortcomings.
- v. to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause
8. The president's _____ prevented the bill from becoming law.
- n. the power or right to prevent a decision or law from being enacted or enforced, typically granted to a person in authority, such as a government official or a president
9. An outbreak of _____ occurred in the 1920s.
- n. a highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, weakness, spots on the skin, and often death
10. Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a _____ but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.
- n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
11. It's not fair to _____ a whole group of people based on a stereotype.
- v. to speak of or treat someone or something that is perceived as low or inferior in a derogatory or critical manner
12. The nurse _____ the children in the school.
- v. to treat with a vaccine, usually by injection, to produce immunity against a disease
13. He was accused of _____ when he spread rumors about his boss.
- n. the act of making false and damaging statements about someone

ANSWERS: 7. scapegoat, 8. veto, 9. smallpox, 10. peasant, 11. denigrate, 12. vaccinated, 13. slander

14. The skiers narrowly escaped the _____ by taking shelter behind a nearby rock.
- n.* a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances
15. If you don't eat soon, you're going to _____.
- v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
16. The _____ of theft was unfounded, and the suspect was eventually cleared of all charges.
- n.* a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone
17. Production has decreased, but costs and unemployment have _____ dramatically.
- v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
18. She came from a commoner background but eventually became the _____ of that country.
- n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
19. He is regarded as a passionate social _____.
- n.* a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it
20. They spent the weekend at a luxurious _____ in the countryside.
- n.* a large country house or castle in France, especially one that is the residence of a noble or titled person

ANSWERS: 14. avalanche, 15. starve, 16. accusation, 17. skyrocketed, 18. monarch, 19. reformer, 20. chateau

21. The south coast is less _____ yet has many clean and appealing hotels.
adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
22. The rebels were sentenced to death for committing acts of _____ against the state.
n. the act of betraying one's country or government, especially by attempting to overthrow it or give aid and comfort to its enemies; a violation of allegiance or loyalty to one's country or government
23. There was a baseless _____ that the company was going bankrupt.
n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
24. The government has ignored the _____ of the homeless population.
n. a difficult or unfortunate situation
25. The _____ doctor misdiagnosed my illness and prescribed the wrong medication.
adj. lacking the necessary skills, knowledge, or ability to perform a task or job; not legally qualified or authorized to perform a particular task or job
26. The attorney decided to _____ the suspect for stealing from the store.
v. to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement
27. She was so engrossed in her work that she was _____ to her surroundings.
adj. not aware of something, especially what is happening around you; forgetful
28. The governor decided to _____ the prisoner after reviewing the evidence of his innocence.
v. to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime;
(noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense

ANSWERS: 21. glamorous, 22. treason, 23. rumor, 24. plight, 25. incompetent, 26. prosecute, 27. oblivious, 28. pardon

29. The politician tried to _____ his opponent's reputation with false accusations.
- v. to spread or apply a substance thinly and unevenly over a surface; to slander or accuse someone falsely; (noun) a mark or blot made by smudging, typically a dirty or greasy one
30. The stock market has been _____ lately, with prices fluctuating rapidly.
- adj. marked by a lot of sudden changes, confusion, or uncertainty; characterized by intense activity or agitation
31. He had been living a _____ life after being fired from his job.
- adj. characterized by or showing a state of moral or cultural decline
32. 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
33. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.
- v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
34. During the colonial period, several African nations used the _____ as their currency due to the influence of France.
- n. the currency used in some countries, including Switzerland, France, and formerly Belgium
35. His _____ comments made her feel hurt and unimportant.
- adj. not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others
36. She recognized me as her lawful _____.
- n. a person who has the legal right to receive someone's money, property, or a title from another person when that person dies

ANSWERS: 29. smear, 30. turbulent, 31. decadent, 32. betrayed, 33. bury, 34. franc, 35. insensitive, 36. heir

37. The actress maintained her _____ even when faced with harsh criticism.
- n.* the state of being calm, collected, and in control of one's emotions and actions, especially in difficult or stressful situations
38. The emission of hazardous substances has _____ effects on the ecology of a region.
- adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
39. He was an _____ of justice, making sure all those who broke the law faced their deserved punishments.
- n.* a person who carries out the orders of a legal authority or a court to put someone to death

ANSWERS: 37. composure, 38. disastrous, 39. executioner