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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Brian Olson: How an algorithm can fight election bias so every vote counts | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

suspicion

n. the act of doubting something, especially something wrong

synonym: doubt, misgiving, skepticism

(1) **suspicion** of fraud, (2) cast **suspicion**

There was an almost certain **suspicion** that the company was involved in illegal activities.

deck

n. a flat surface that is usually made of wood or other material and is attached to a building, vehicle, or other structure

synonym: platform, veranda, patio

(1) **deck** chairs, (2) hands on **deck**

She sat on the ship's **deck**, watching the sunset over the ocean.

stack

n. a pile of something arranged or laid one on top of another; a large tall chimney through which combustion gases and smoke can be evacuated

synonym: accumulation, heap, pile

(1) high **stack**, (2) a large **stack** of paper

The earthquake caused a **stack** of lumber to crumble noisily.

function

n. the purpose or use of an object, system, or process; a particular activity or operation that is designed to serve a specific purpose; a mathematical concept that describes a relationship between two sets of values, called the input and output sets; (verb) to operate or work in a specific way, or to perform a particular task or purpose

synonym: purpose, mapping, job

(1) **function** properly, (2) immune **function**

The brain is an incredibly complex organ that controls the body's **function**.

democracy

n. a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so

synonym: self-government, republic, commonwealth

(1) **democracy** advocate, (2) principles of **democracy**

Democracy often entails inclusive capitalism as well.

poll

n. an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election

synonym: survey, ballot, voting

(1) a pre-election **poll**, (2) public opinion **polls**

Several **polls** show a decline in the president's approval rating.

ballot

n. a piece of paper used to cast a vote in an election

synonym: vote, poll, election

(1) the final **ballot**, (2) **ballot** booth

The **ballot** for the upcoming election will be sent out to registered voters next week.

constitutional

adj. of or relating to a constitution (= the set of fundamental principles), especially of a country or government; existing as an essential characteristic

synonym: fundamental, basic, inherent

(1) **constitutional** ban, (2) a **constitutional** disease

The right to free speech is a **constitutional** right in the United States.

amendment

n. the act or the process of changing something, especially a document or proposed new law

synonym: modification, revision, emendation

(1) constitutional **amendment**, (2) make an **amendment** to a contract

The opposition politicians jointly proposed an **amendment** to that law.

district

n. a part of a country or town, especially one with particular features

synonym: territory, dominion, zone

(1) school **districts**, (2) urban **districts**

Since 2001, the **district** has provided training programs for automotive technicians.

bias

n. a strong feeling in favor of or against one group of people, an idea, or thing, often not based on fair judgment

synonym: inclination, partiality, predilection

(1) **bias** against a big company, (2) have a **bias** toward socialism

She researched gender **bias** in politics.

legislature

n. a body of elected or appointed representatives who make laws for a country or state

synonym: government, lawmaking group

(1) colonial **legislature**, (2) a prefectural **legislature**

The people elect **legislature** members to represent their interests and make decisions on their behalf.

requirement

n. something that is needed or wanted

synonym: prerequisite, provision, condition

(1) meet **requirement**, (2) school **requirement**

What is the entry **requirement** for this course?

subsequent

adj. happening or occurring later or after something else
synonym : later, following, ensuing

(1) over **subsequent** months, (2) reduce **subsequent** mortality

In the **subsequent** meeting, the team discussed ways to improve productivity.

racial

adj. of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations)

synonym : ethnic, tribal, ethnical

(1) **racial** prejudice, (2) **racial** and ethnic backgrounds

A minor **racial** conflict later led to a civil war.

nation

n. a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture

synonym : country, state, sovereign entity

(1) **nation-state**, (2) a seafaring **nation**

The **nation** of Japan is known for its unique culture and advanced technology.

gerrymander

v. to manipulate the boundaries of an electoral district or voting constituency to gain political advantage for a particular party or group

synonym : manipulate, tamper, falsify

(1) **gerrymander** the voting boundaries, (2) **gerrymander** the upcoming election

Politicians often **gerrymander** electoral districts in their favor.

specific

adj. clearly defined or particular to a certain thing or situation; distinct, explicit, and precise

synonym : particular, definite, distinct

(1) **specific** instructions, (2) industry- **specific** regulations

The scientist conducted a study that provided **specific** details

about the species' behavior.

demographic

n. a statistic characterizing that describes people or groups of people based on their age, sex, income, etc.

(1) **demographic** analyses, (2) **demographic** policy
Several **demographic** indicators correlate with care admission.

purple

adj. of a color intermediate between red and blue

synonym: violet

(1) deep **purple**, (2) **purple** sweet potatoes
The plant has a stunning **purple** blossom.

split

v. to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line

synonym: break, divide, break apart

(1) **split** a bill, (2) **split** a reward equally

Companies often **split** their shares to lower the stock price and encourage investors to buy.

preserve

v. to keep or maintain a particular quality, feature, etc., especially to prevent it from decaying, being damaged, or being destroyed

synonym: conserve, care for, maintain

(1) **preserve** my strength, (2) **preserve** a country's heritage
They worked hard to **preserve** the nature of their native lands.

ratio

n. the relative size or amount of one thing to another, typically expressed in the form of a fraction or decimal

synonym: proportion, rate, quota

(1) debt-to-income **ratio**, (2) **ratio** of boys to girls
The **ratio** of water to sugar in the recipe is 1:2.

outcome

n. the result or effect of an action, event, etc.

synonym: result, consequence, effect

(1) improved student **outcomes**, (2) a desirable **outcome**
They awaited news of the **outcome** of the election.

flip

v. to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion
synonym : throw, jump

(1) **flip** over the pork chop, (2) **flip** a coin
He **flipped** when he heard that he had been accepted into the university.

crack

v. to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking
synonym : snap, burst, break

(1) **crack** an eggshell, (2) a **crack** in a board
He that would eat the kernel must **crack** the nut.

strategy

n. a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
synonym : approach, procedure, scenario

(1) military **strategy**, (2) develop a **strategy**
Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing **strategy**.

diminish

v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
synonym : decline, dwindle, lessen

(1) **diminish** a reputation, (2) **diminish** swelling
As people get old, their energies may **diminish**.

influence

n. the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself
synonym : power, leverage, effect

(1) **influence** a child's future, (2) **influence** the daily life
The former emperor had a particular **influence** even after he abdicated.

governor

n. the person who holds the highest executive office in a state or province

synonym : administrator, executive, leader

(1) **governor** general, (2) a prefectural **governor**

The state **governor** visited the affected areas and promised to aid the victims.

cartoon

n. a simple drawing depicting a humorous or critical situation, often accompanied by a caption

synonym : illustration, drawing, caricature

(1) **cartoon** character, (2) **cartoon** industry

He spent his afternoon watching **cartoon** movies on TV.

monstrous

adj. extremely large or evil, or having a frightening appearance

synonym : grotesque, huge, deformed

(1) a **monstrous** iceberg, (2) **monstrous** behavior

The giant wave was **monstrous** and destroyed the small boat.

dragon

n. a mythical monster typically depicted as a giant reptile with wings, claws, and a fiery breath often portrayed as being fierce and dangerous

synonym : wyvern, serpent, drake

(1) **dragon** fruit, (2) **dragon** wing

In Chinese mythology, **dragons** are considered powerful and benevolent creatures.

salamander

n. any of various typically terrestrial amphibians that resemble lizards and that return to water only to breed

synonym : amphibian

(1) terrestrial **salamander**, (2) semiaquatic **salamander**

We plan to raise a giant **salamander** as a pet.

voter

n. a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election

synonym : elector, citizen

(1) an eligible **voter**, (2) **voter** apathy

The election administration nullified the election results because of **voter** fraud.

politician

n. a person who is a member of a government or law-making organization, especially as an elected member of parliament, etc.

synonym : congressperson, lawmaker, legislator

(1) a **politician** in the ruling party, (2) a corrupt **politician**

The **politician** lost his position in the end due to the scandal.

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.

congressional

adj. of or relating to Congress, especially to the Congress of the United States

synonym : parliamentary, senatorial, legislative

(1) **congressional** approval, (2) suspend a **congressional** meeting

There was a **congressional** probe into the scandal.

incumbent

n. a person who currently holds a particular position or job, especially in politics or public office; a duty or obligation that is required as part of a particular role or job

synonym : holder, occupant, officeholder

(1) **incumbent** party, (2) **incumbent** duties

The **incumbent** president is seeking re-election for another term in office.

debate

n. a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives

synonym: argument, discussion, dispute

(1) **debate** topic, (2) **debate** competition

The **debate** over climate change continues to be a hot topic in politics.

elect

v. to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something

synonym: select, choose, prefer

(1) **elect** the school board, (2) **elect** death

Every five years, the provincial governors are **elected**.

opposed

adj. being completely different from something or disagreeing strongly with something

synonym: anti, averse, hostile

(1) two **opposed** characters, (2) absolutely **opposed** to abortion

I'm strongly **opposed** to that plan.

representative

n. someone who speaks or acts officially on behalf of another person or group of people

synonym: spokesperson, agent, delegate

(1) an official **representative**, (2) sales **representative**

The media **representatives** had special passes.

Congress

n. a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups

synonym: legislature, parliament, assembly

(1) an international **Congress**, (2) peace **Congress**

Congress must consider this proposal in an unusual situation.

extreme

adj. very great in amount or degree

synonym : farthestmost, outermost, fierce

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

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

challenger

n. a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge

synonym : contender, rival, contestant

(1) **challenger** brand, (2) political **challenger**

The **challenger** in the boxing match put up a good fight.

extremist

n. a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views

synonym : radical, fanatic, zealot

(1) **extremist** political views, (2) radical **extremist**

The **extremist** group planned a series of violent attacks to push its agenda.

upstart

n. a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer

synonym : parvenu, newbie, newcomer

(1) **upstart** company, (2) ambitious **upstart**

The **upstart** politician made a splash in the election, challenging the established incumbents.

aisle

n. a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

synonym : corridor, passageway, gangway

(1) **aisle** seat, (2) the center **aisle** of a church

She walked down the **aisle** to the front of the church.

compromise

v. to settle a problem or disagreement by mutual concession

synonym : agree, settle, negotiate

(1) **compromise** the matter, (2) cannot **compromise** anymore

They never **compromised** on development despite the lack of funds.

legislative

adj. having to do with the process of making laws; relating to or serving as a branch of government that makes laws, such as a legislative assembly or legislature

synonym : legislative, parliamentary, statutory

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

The **legislative** branch of government creates and passes laws.

grind

v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

synonym : mill, crush, grate

(1) **grind** away at my work, (2) **grind** your teeth

She had to **grind** the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.

halt

v. to bring or come to a stop; to force to stop moving or operating

synonym : stop, cease, terminate

(1) **halt** production, (2) **halt** progress

The train came to a **halt** at the station.

cynical

adj. believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity

synonym : skeptical, mistrustful, doubtful

(1) **cynical** remarks, (2) **cynical** worldview

He was very **cynical** and didn't believe anything anyone said unless he saw evidence for himself.

impartial

adj. not favoring one side or party over another; fair and unbiased in judgment or opinion

synonym : fair, unbiased, neutral

(1) **impartial** treatment, (2) **impartial** observer

The judge made an **impartial** decision after reviewing all the evidence.

define

v. to state or explain precisely the nature, scope, or meaning of something

synonym : characterize, depict, express

(1) **define** a word, (2) **define** my position

To advance this discussion, we must **define** "success" rigorously.

mathematics

n. the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement

synonym : arithmetic, calculation, calculus

(1) a good grounding in **mathematics**, (2) **mathematics** competition

He has a flair for **mathematics**.

agenda

n. a list or outline of things to be done, discussed, or considered

synonym : program, schedule, list

(1) **agenda** setting, (2) ambitious **agenda**

The **agenda** for the meeting includes discussions on the budget and new project proposals.

interfere

v. to get involved in and prevent a process or activity from continuing

synonym : interpose, interrupt, hamper

(1) **interfere** in another country's affairs, (2) **interfere** with DNA synthesis

Your talking **interferes** with my work.

contiguous

adj. sharing a common boundary; touching; adjacent

synonym : adjacent, neighboring, touching

(1) **contiguous** territory, (2) **contiguous** numbers

The **contiguous** states are connected by land.

compact

adj. closely and firmly united or packed together, using very little space; smaller than is usual

synonym : packed, tight, consolidated

(1) a **compact** camera, (2) extremely **compact** device

Two countries acted together as if by **compact**.

tight

adj. fixed, fastened, or kept together firmly or closely

synonym : closed, secured, cramped

(1) a **tight** game, (2) student on a **tight** budget

The national election was held amid **tight** security.

represent

v. to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute

synonym : depict, express, describe

(1) **represent** by a diagram, (2) the characters that **represent** numbers

We elected him to **represent** us at the international conference.

locate

v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something

synonym : discover, find, place

(1) **locate** a missing pet, (2) **locate** a tumor

The robot can accurately **locate** construction material.

toy

n. a thing, typically a small model or replica of something that is played with, especially by children

synonym : plaything, game, trinket

(1) **toy** store, (2) **toy** box

He gave his daughter a new **toy** for her birthday.

engineer

n. a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software

synonym : architect, creator, builder

(1) a civil **engineer**, (2) **engineer** shortage

The **engineer** will repair my telephone tomorrow morning.

census

n. an official count or survey of a population, typically recording various details such as age, sex, occupation, and education levels

synonym: count, survey, enumeration

(1) **census** data, (2) population **census**

The government conducted a **census** of the population to gather data on demographics.

constant

adj. happening repeatedly or all the time

synonym: ceaseless, stable, unchanging

(1) a **constant** wind, (2) a **constant** temperature

Constant dropping wears away the stone.

primary

adj. first or highest in rank, order, or importance; most fundamental or essential; pertaining to the initial or introductory stage of something, such as a school year or election cycle

synonym: chief, main, fundamental

(1) **primary** school, (2) **primary** education

The **primary** cause of the accident was due to the icy road conditions.

spinning

n. the act of rotating rapidly around an axis; in the context of textiles, the process of twisting fibers together to form thread or yarn

synonym: whirling, rotating, spinning wheel

(1) **spinning** machine, (2) **spinning** wheel

She took a **spinning** class at the gym to improve her cardiovascular fitness.

hasty

adj. done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration

synonym: rushed, impulsive, prompt

(1) a **hasty** temper, (2) **hasty** commitment

The **hasty** conclusion drawn by the researchers resulted in flawed study findings.

candidate

n. a person who is seeking or being considered for some kind of position, title, honor, or award; a job applicant
synonym: applicant, nominee, contender

(1) **candidate** selection, (2) PhD **candidate**

The **candidate's** platform focused on healthcare reform and reducing income inequality.

disarray

n. the state of disorganization or untidiness in a situation or place; a mental state characterized by a lack of clear and orderly thought and behavior

synonym: chaos, mess, confusion

(1) fall into **disarray**, (2) with her clothes in **disarray** .

The country's economic policies have led to political **disarray**.

pinch

v. to grip something such as someone's skin and press it tightly between the finger and thumb; (noun) a painful or straitened circumstance

synonym: cramp, squeeze, clutch

(1) **pinch** off a bud, (2) **pinch** my nose

He **pinched** money from the cashbox without telling the company's employees.

grab

v. to take hold of something or someone suddenly with a hand, especially in a violent way

synonym: clutch, snatch, grasp

(1) **grab** an audience, (2) **grab** an opportunity

Shall we **grab** a bite to eat?

visual

adj. relating to seeing or sight

synonym: optical, graphical, visible

(1) **visual** navigation, (2) field of **visual** arts

The building makes a remarkable **visual** impact.

telltale

adj. revealing or betraying information or evidence; serving as a sign or indicator of something

synonym: revealing, indicative, suggestive

(1) **telltale** evidence, (2) **telltale** heart

The **telltale** signs of a dishonest employee were missing files and constant delay.

distort

v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

synonym: fudge, deform, contort

(1) **distort** the facts, (2) **distort** the economy

Economists contend that taxes **distort** consumer behavior in general.

opposition

n. the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement

synonym: resistance, hostility, antagonism

(1) **opposition** campaign, (2) meet with **opposition**

The **opposition** party strongly disagreed with the government's proposed legislation.

sprawl

v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out

synonym: drape, spread out

(1) **sprawl** out luxuriously on the sofa, (2) **sprawl** for acres

The lush vegetation **sprawls** across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.

distance

n. the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance

synonym: space, gap, span

(1) driving **distance**, (2) social **distance**

The marathon runner covered a long **distance** in a short amount of time.

technique

n. a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill

synonym: approach, procedure, strategy

(1) a **technique** in martial arts, (2) the **technique** applied to construction

Jockey's superior **technique** brought him victory.

resistance

n. the act of defending oneself from an aggressor or refusing to accept something

synonym: opposition, antagonism, defiance

(1) **resistance** movement, (2) **resistance** to insulin

The bill to increase the consumption tax had passed despite much **resistance** from the public.

republican

n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States

synonym: conservative, right-winger, rightist

(1) **republican** ideology, (2) **Republican** party

Many **republican** lawmakers are advocating for stricter immigration policies.

overturn

v. to turn something upside down; to upset

synonym: flip over, upset, topple

(1) **overturn** a decision, (2) **overturn** a table

The court **overturned** the original verdict.

contort

v. to (cause something to) twist and press out of its natural or normal shape

synonym: deform, disfigure, distort

(1) **contort** my limbs, (2) **contort** the face

He **contorted** his smile with anger coming from his gut.

mess

n. a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy

synonym: disarray, confusion, predicament

(1) have a whole **mess**, (2) get into a **mess**
He made a frightful **mess** in his room.

tentacle

n. a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving

(1) a squid's **tentacle**, (2) posterior **tentacle**

The police caught the fugitive criminal in the **tentacles** of an expanded investigation.

horror

n. intense fear or disgust, especially at something shocking or terrifying

synonym: fear, terror, dread

(1) **horror** movie, (2) **horror-struck** look

The stories of war crimes filled her with **horror**.

submit

v. to give or offer a document, proposal, etc. to a decision-maker for examination or consideration

synonym: hand in, present, propose

(1) agree to **submit** the bill, (2) **submit** an application

Please **submit** the assignment to me.

viable

adj. capable of being done as intended; able to succeed

synonym: feasible, possible, attainable

(1) achieve a **viable** relationship, (2) develop a **viable** therapy

Male gorillas with good drumming skills are more **viable**.

obvious

adj. easy to see, discover or understand

synonym: apparent, conspicuous, evident

(1) **obvious** reasons, (2) his conclusion was **obvious**

There are **obvious** differences between the two wine-producing regions.

runaround

n. a series of evasive or misleading answers or actions often used to evade responsibility or avoid giving a direct answer; a frustrating and time-consuming experience of being led from one place or person to

another in search of information or assistance

synonym: excuse, evasion, avoidance

(1) **runaround** excuses, (2) get a bureaucratic **runaround**

My boss has been giving me the **runaround** about my promotion for months.

drawback

n. a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive

synonym: disadvantage, defect, weakness

(1) the **drawback** of his method, (2) one of the main **drawbacks**

He pointed out all the **drawbacks** to our plan.

divide

v. to separate or cause to separate into parts or groups

synonym: separate, disconnect, split

(1) **divide** the cake into two pieces, (2) **divide** money equally

Can you **divide** 123321 by eleven?

government

n. the group of people with authority to control a country or state

synonym: administration, regime, state

(1) **government** bureaucracy, (2) **government** funding

The federal **government** is planning to increase taxes for the next fiscal year.

bureaucracy

n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives

synonym: administration, government, system

(1) government **bureaucracy**, (2) arbitrary **bureaucracy**

The bumbling **bureaucracy** made it difficult to get the permits we needed.

crank

n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable

person

synonym: eccentric, oddball, kook

(1) **crank** handle, (2) **crank** caller

The fishing reel had a **crank** that made it easy to reel in the catch.

reform

n. the act of improving or correcting something that is wrong or bad; a change made to correct a flaw or problem

synonym: change, modify, improve

(1) economic **reform**, (2) **reform** movement

The government is proposing a **reform** to the healthcare system to make it more accessible and affordable for all citizens.

tinker

v. to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way

synonym: fiddle, play, fix

(1) **tinker** with the bill, (2) **tinker** with the settings

He spent the afternoon **tinkering** with his car engine.

software

n. a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular computational jobs

synonym: program, system, operating system

(1) **software** architect, (2) copyrighted **software**

The company specializes in both hardware and **software**.

verify

v. to check that something exists or is true, or to prove that something is correct

synonym: affirm, ascertain, confirm

(1) **verify** a document, (2) **verify** identity

We always **verify** all critical information independently.

politically

adv. in a way that relates to the government or public affairs of a nation

(1) **politically** advantageous, (2) become **politically** savvy
This newspaper is supposed to be **politically** neutral.

mechanism

n. a part of a machine, or a set of parts that performs a task; a natural or established process that occurs during a specific situation or reaction

synonym: means, method, system

(1) the **mechanism** for DNA replication, (2) defense **mechanism**

He discovered unique **mechanisms** for photochemical reactions.

achievable

adj. possible to accomplish or attain

synonym: attainable, possible, reachable

(1) **achievable** task, (2) **achievable** plan

Setting a realistic and **achievable** goal is the key to success.

core

n. the most essential or fundamental part of something

synonym: center, basis, heart

(1) the **core** of an apple, (2) **core** business activity

These gas nebulas are merely newborn galactic **cores**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ex____e sports *adj.* very great in amount or degree
2. driving di____ce *n.* the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance
3. political cha_____er *n.* a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge
4. el__t the school board *v.* to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something
5. ra___l and ethnic backgrounds *adj.* of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations)
6. with her clothes in di____ay. *n.* the state of disorganization or untidiness in a situation or place; a mental state characterized by a lack of clear and orderly thought and behavior
7. high st__k *n.* a pile of something arranged or laid one on top of another; a large tall chimney through which combustion gases and smoke can be evacuated
8. ve___y a document *v.* to check that something exists or is true, or to prove that something is correct

ANSWERS: 1. extreme, 2. distance, 3. challenger, 4. elect, 5. racial, 6. disarray, 7. stack, 8. verify

9. ru_____nd excuses *n.* a series of evasive or misleading answers or actions often used to evade responsibility or avoid giving a direct answer; a frustrating and time-consuming experience of being led from one place or person to another in search of information or assistance
10. sp____l for acres *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
11. pr____ve my strength *v.* to keep or maintain a particular quality, feature, etc., especially to prevent it from decaying, being damaged, or being destroyed
12. arbitrary bur____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
13. ger____er the upcoming election *v.* to manipulate the boundaries of an electoral district or voting constituency to gain political advantage for a particular party or group
14. im____al observer *adj.* not favoring one side or party over another; fair and unbiased in judgment or opinion
15. a civil en____er *n.* a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
16. peace co____ss *n.* a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups

ANSWERS: 9. runaround, 10. sprawl, 11. preserve, 12. bureaucracy, 13. gerrymander, 14. impartial, 15. engineer, 16. congress

17. a prefectural leg_____re *n.* a body of elected or appointed representatives who make laws for a country or state
18. sales rep_____ive *n.* someone who speaks or acts officially on behalf of another person or group of people
19. agree to su___t the bill *v.* to give or offer a document, proposal, etc. to a decision-maker for examination or consideration
20. the final ba___t *n.* a piece of paper used to cast a vote in an election
21. di_____sh swelling *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
22. g__b an audience *v.* to take hold of something or someone suddenly with a hand, especially in a violent way
23. leg_____ve process *adj.* having to do with the process of making laws; relating to or serving as a branch of government that makes laws, such as a legislative assembly or legislature
24. t_y box *n.* a thing, typically a small model or replica of something that is played with, especially by children
25. dem_____ic policy *n.* a statistic characterizing that describes people or groups of people based on their age, sex, income, etc.
26. government bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives

ANSWERS: 17. legislature, 18. representative, 19. submit, 20. ballot, 21. diminish, 22. grab, 23. legislative, 24. toy, 25. demographic, 26. bureaucracy

27. cast su_____on *n.* the act of doubting something, especially something wrong
28. become pol_____ly savvy *adv.* in a way that relates to the government or public affairs of a nation
29. in_____re in another country's affairs *v.* to get involved in and prevent a process or activity from continuing
30. sp_____ic instructions *adj.* clearly defined or particular to a certain thing or situation; distinct, explicit, and precise
31. ex_____e weather events *adj.* very great in amount or degree
32. de_____e a word *v.* to state or explain precisely the nature, scope, or meaning of something
33. get a bureaucratic ru_____nd *n.* a series of evasive or misleading answers or actions often used to evade responsibility or avoid giving a direct answer; a frustrating and time-consuming experience of being led from one place or person to another in search of information or assistance
34. gr__d your teeth *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
35. ho____r movie *n.* intense fear or disgust, especially at something shocking or terrifying
36. ag____a setting *n.* a list or outline of things to be done, discussed, or considered
37. gov_____nt funding *n.* the group of people with authority to control a country or state

ANSWERS: 27. suspicion, 28. politically, 29. interfere, 30. specific, 31. extreme, 32. define, 33. runaround, 34. grind, 35. horror, 36. agenda, 37. government

38. opp_____on campaign *n.* the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement
39. gr__d away at my work *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
40. develop a st_____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
41. an official rep_____ive *n.* someone who speaks or acts officially on behalf of another person or group of people
42. com_____se the matter *v.* to settle a problem or disagreement by mutual concession
43. meet with opp_____on *n.* the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement
44. g__b an opportunity *v.* to take hold of something or someone suddenly with a hand, especially in a violent way
45. school di_____cts *n.* a part of a country or town, especially one with particular features
46. ti___r with the bill *v.* to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way
47. a mo_____us iceberg *adj.* extremely large or evil, or having a frightening appearance
48. lo___e a missing pet *v.* to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
49. achieve a vi___e relationship *adj.* capable of being done as intended; able to succeed

ANSWERS: 38. opposition, 39. grind, 40. strategy, 41. representative, 42. compromise, 43. opposition, 44. grab, 45. district, 46. tinker, 47. monstrous, 48. locate, 49. viable

50. con_____us territory *adj.* sharing a common boundary; touching; adjacent
51. con_____nal ban *adj.* of or relating to a constitution (= the set of fundamental principles), especially of a country or government; existing as an essential characteristic
52. a ha__y temper *adj.* done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration
53. c__e business activity *n.* the most essential or fundamental part of something
54. ca_____te selection *n.* a person who is seeking or being considered for some kind of position, title, honor, or award; a job applicant
55. copyrighted so_____re *n.* a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular computational jobs
56. vo__r apathy *n.* a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election
57. a co_____nt temperature *adj.* happening repeatedly or all the time
58. di_____t the facts *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
59. cha_____er brand *n.* a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge
60. a corrupt pol_____an *n.* a person who is a member of a government or law-making organization, especially as an elected member of parliament, etc.

ANSWERS: 50. contiguous, 51. constitutional, 52. hasty, 53. core, 54. candidate, 55. software, 56. voter, 57. constant, 58. distort, 59. challenger, 60. politician

61. ov____rn a table *v.* to turn something upside down; to upset
62. cr__k an eggshell *v.* to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking
63. PhD ca_____te *n.* a person who is seeking or being considered for some kind of position, title, honor, or award; a job applicant
64. economic re____m *n.* the act of improving or correcting something that is wrong or bad; a change made to correct a flaw or problem
65. develop a vi____e therapy *adj.* capable of being done as intended; able to succeed
66. cr__k handle *n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
67. ach_____le plan *adj.* possible to accomplish or attain
68. colonial leg_____re *n.* a body of elected or appointed representatives who make laws for a country or state
69. leg_____ve power *adj.* having to do with the process of making laws; relating to or serving as a branch of government that makes laws, such as a legislative assembly or legislature
70. a large st__k of paper *n.* a pile of something arranged or laid one on top of another; a large tall chimney through which combustion gases and smoke can be evacuated

ANSWERS: 61. overturn, 62. crack, 63. candidate, 64. reform, 65. viable, 66. crank, 67. achievable, 68. legislature, 69. legislative, 70. stack

71. 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
72. urban di____cts *n.* a part of a country or town, especially one with particular features
73. ti____r with the settings *v.* to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way
74. cy____l remarks *adj.* believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity
75. a te____ue in martial arts *n.* a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill
76. cannot com____se anymore *v.* to settle a problem or disagreement by mutual concession
77. di____t the economy *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
78. fu____on properly *n.* the purpose or use of an object, system, or process; a particular activity or operation that is designed to serve a specific purpose; a mathematical concept that describes a relationship between two sets of values, called the input and output sets; (verb) to operate or work in a specific way, or to perform a particular task or purpose

ANSWERS: 71. process, 72. district, 73. tinker, 74. cynical, 75. technique, 76. compromise, 77. distort, 78. function

79. posterior te_____le *n.* a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving
80. extremely co_____t device *adj.* closely and firmly united or packed together, using very little space; smaller than is usual
81. pol_____ly advantageous *adv.* in a way that relates to the government or public affairs of a nation
82. the me_____sm for DNA replication *n.* a part of a machine, or a set of parts that performs a task; a natural or established process that occurs during a specific situation or reaction
83. res_____ce movement *n.* the act of defending oneself from an aggressor or refusing to accept something
84. industry-sp_____ic regulations *adj.* clearly defined or particular to a certain thing or situation; distinct, explicit, and precise
85. di_____sh a reputation *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
86. 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
87. so_____re architect *n.* a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular computational jobs

ANSWERS: 79. tentacle, 80. compact, 81. politically, 82. mechanism, 83. resistance, 84. specific, 85. diminish, 86. process, 87. software

88. el__t death *v.* to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something
89. ob____s reasons *adj.* easy to see, discover or understand
90. ca____n industry *n.* a simple drawing depicting a humorous or critical situation, often accompanied by a caption
91. the c__e of an apple *n.* the most essential or fundamental part of something
92. improved student ou____es *n.* the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
93. im____al treatment *adj.* not favoring one side or party over another; fair and unbiased in judgment or opinion
94. up____t company *n.* a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer
95. in____re with DNA synthesis *v.* to get involved in and prevent a process or activity from continuing
96. ce____s data *n.* an official count or survey of a population, typically recording various details such as age, sex, occupation, and education levels
97. h__t progress *v.* to bring or come to a stop; to force to stop moving or operating
98. con____nal approval *adj.* of or relating to Congress, especially to the Congress of the United States

ANSWERS: 88. elect, 89. obvious, 90. cartoon, 91. core, 92. outcome, 93. impartial, 94. upstart, 95. interfere, 96. census, 97. halt, 98. congressional

99. a cr__k in a board
v. to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking
100. in_____ce the daily life
n. the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself
101. fall into di_____ay
n. the state of disorganization or untidiness in a situation or place; a mental state characterized by a lack of clear and orderly thought and behavior
102. re_____m movement
n. the act of improving or correcting something that is wrong or bad; a change made to correct a flaw or problem
103. over sub_____nt months
adj. happening or occurring later or after something else
104. di___e money equally
v. to separate or cause to separate into parts or groups
105. a co_____nt wind
adj. happening repeatedly or all the time
106. f__p over the pork chop
v. to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion
107. his conclusion was ob_____s
adj. easy to see, discover or understand
108. constitutional am_____nt
n. the act or the process of changing something, especially a document or proposed new law
109. debt-to-income ra__o
n. the relative size or amount of one thing to another, typically expressed in the form of a fraction or decimal

ANSWERS: 99. crack, 100. influence, 101. disarray, 102. reform, 103. subsequent, 104. divide, 105. constant, 106. flip, 107. obvious, 108. amendment, 109. ratio

110. pi__h off a bud *v.* to grip something such as someone's skin and press it tightly between the finger and thumb; (noun) a painful or straitened circumstance
111. ex_____st political views *n.* a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views
112. in_____nt duties *n.* a person who currently holds a particular position or job, especially in politics or public office; a duty or obligation that is required as part of a particular role or job
113. military st_____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
114. a seafaring na____n *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
115. gov_____nt bureaucracy *n.* the group of people with authority to control a country or state
116. lo___e a tumor *v.* to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
117. ger_____er the voting boundaries *v.* to manipulate the boundaries of an electoral district or voting constituency to gain political advantage for a particular party or group
118. pi__h my nose *v.* to grip something such as someone's skin and press it tightly between the finger and thumb; (noun) a painful or straitened circumstance

ANSWERS: 110. pinch, 111. extremist, 112. incumbent, 113. strategy, 114. nation, 115. government, 116. locate, 117. gerrymander, 118. pinch

119. social di____ce *n.* the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance
120. ve____y identity *v.* to check that something exists or is true, or to prove that something is correct
121. cy____l worldview *adj.* believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity
122. pr____ve a country's heritage *v.* to keep or maintain a particular quality, feature, etc., especially to prevent it from decaying, being damaged, or being destroyed
123. sp__t a reward equally *v.* to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line
124. a pol____an in the ruling party *n.* a person who is a member of a government or law-making organization, especially as an elected member of parliament, etc.
125. de____e topic *n.* a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives
126. t_y store *n.* a thing, typically a small model or replica of something that is played with, especially by children

ANSWERS: 119. distance, 120. verify, 121. cynical, 122. preserve, 123. split, 124. politician, 125. debate, 126. toy

127. mat_____cs competition *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
128. a ti__t game *adj.* fixed, fastened, or kept together firmly or closely
129. population ce____s *n.* an official count or survey of a population, typically recording various details such as age, sex, occupation, and education levels
130. co_____t my limbs *v.* to (cause something to) twist and press out of its natural or normal shape
131. hands on d__k *n.* a flat surface that is usually made of wood or other material and is attached to a building, vehicle, or other structure
132. terrestrial sal_____er *n.* any of various typically terrestrial amphibians that resemble lizards and that return to water only to breed
133. an eligible vo__r *n.* a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election
134. sp__t a bill *v.* to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line
135. te_____le evidence *adj.* revealing or betraying information or evidence; serving as a sign or indicator of something
136. te_____le heart *adj.* revealing or betraying information or evidence; serving as a sign or indicator of something
137. na___n-state *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture

ANSWERS: 127. mathematics, 128. tight, 129. census, 130. contort, 131. deck, 132. salamander, 133. voter, 134. split, 135. telltale, 136. telltale, 137. nation

138. dem_____ic analyses *n.* a statistic characterizing that describes people or groups of people based on their age, sex, income, etc.
139. di___e the cake into two pieces *v.* to separate or cause to separate into parts or groups
140. con_____us numbers *adj.* sharing a common boundary; touching; adjacent
141. ra___l prejudice *adj.* of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations)
142. ba___t booth *n.* a piece of paper used to cast a vote in an election
143. in_____nt party *n.* a person who currently holds a particular position or job, especially in politics or public office; a duty or obligation that is required as part of a particular role or job
144. get into a m___s *n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy
145. absolutely op_____d to abortion *adj.* being completely different from something or disagreeing strongly with something
146. have a whole m___s *n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy
147. two op_____d characters *adj.* being completely different from something or disagreeing strongly with something

ANSWERS: 138. demographic, 139. divide, 140. contiguous, 141. racial, 142. ballot, 143. incumbent, 144. mess, 145. opposed, 146. mess, 147. opposed

148. de___e competition *n.* a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives
149. one of the main dr_____cks *n.* a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive
150. ra__o of boys to girls *n.* the relative size or amount of one thing to another, typically expressed in the form of a fraction or decimal
151. ca_____n character *n.* a simple drawing depicting a humorous or critical situation, often accompanied by a caption
152. res_____ce to insulin *n.* the act of defending oneself from an aggressor or refusing to accept something
153. a co_____t camera *adj.* closely and firmly united or packed together, using very little space; smaller than is usual
154. b__s against a big company *n.* a strong feeling in favor of or against one group of people, an idea, or thing, often not based on fair judgment
155. sp_____ng machine *n.* the act of rotating rapidly around an axis; in the context of textiles, the process of twisting fibers together to form thread or yarn
156. a squid's te_____le *n.* a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving

ANSWERS: 148. debate, 149. drawback, 150. ratio, 151. cartoon, 152. resistance, 153. compact, 154. bias, 155. spinning, 156. tentacle

157. co____t the face *v.* to (cause something to) twist and press out of its natural or normal shape
158. sp____ng wheel *n.* the act of rotating rapidly around an axis; in the context of textiles, the process of twisting fibers together to form thread or yarn
159. an international co____ss *n.* a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups
160. a con_____nal disease *adj.* of or relating to a constitution (= the set of fundamental principles), especially of a country or government; existing as an essential characteristic
161. ambitious up____t *n.* a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer
162. de___e my position *v.* to state or explain precisely the nature, scope, or meaning of something
163. principles of de____cy *n.* a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so
164. have a b__s toward socialism *n.* a strong feeling in favor of or against one group of people, an idea, or thing, often not based on fair judgment
165. dr____n wing *n.* a mythical monster typically depicted as a giant reptile with wings, claws, and a fiery breath often portrayed as being fierce and dangerous

ANSWERS: 157. contort, 158. spinning, 159. congress, 160. constitutional, 161. upstart, 162. define, 163. democracy, 164. bias, 165. dragon

166. go_____or general *n.* the person who holds the highest executive office in a state or province
167. the center ai__e of a church *n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure
168. a prefectural go_____or *n.* the person who holds the highest executive office in a state or province
169. meet req_____nt *n.* something that is needed or wanted
170. make an am_____nt to a contract *n.* the act or the process of changing something, especially a document or proposed new law
171. the characters that re_____nt numbers *v.* to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute
172. dr___n fruit *n.* a mythical monster typically depicted as a giant reptile with wings, claws, and a fiery breath often portrayed as being fierce and dangerous
173. radical ex_____st *n.* a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views
174. semiaquatic sal_____er *n.* any of various typically terrestrial amphibians that resemble lizards and that return to water only to breed
175. ov_____rn a decision *v.* to turn something upside down; to upset

ANSWERS: 166. governor, 167. aisle, 168. governor, 169. requirement, 170. amendment, 171. represent, 172. dragon, 173. extremist, 174. salamander, 175. overturn

176. ach_____le task *adj.* possible to accomplish or attain
177. pu___e sweet potatoes *adj.* of a color intermediate between red and blue
178. pr_____y education *adj.* first or highest in rank, order, or importance; most fundamental or essential; pertaining to the initial or introductory stage of something, such as a school year or election cycle
179. h__t production *v.* to bring or come to a stop; to force to stop moving or operating
180. sp___l out luxuriously on the sofa *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
181. a pre-election p__l *n.* an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election
182. vi___l navigation *adj.* relating to seeing or sight
183. immune fu_____on *n.* the purpose or use of an object, system, or process; a particular activity or operation that is designed to serve a specific purpose; a mathematical concept that describes a relationship between two sets of values, called the input and output sets; (verb) to operate or work in a specific way, or to perform a particular task or purpose
184. cr__k caller *n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person

ANSWERS: 176. achievable, 177. purple, 178. primary, 179. halt, 180. sprawl, 181. poll, 182. visual, 183. function, 184. crank

185. the dr____ck of his method *n.* a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive
186. ho___r-struck look *n.* intense fear or disgust, especially at something shocking or terrifying
187. de_____cy advocate *n.* a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so
188. re_____nt by a diagram *v.* to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute
189. in_____ce a child's future *n.* the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself
190. field of vi___l arts *adj.* relating to seeing or sight
191. defense me_____sm *n.* a part of a machine, or a set of parts that performs a task; a natural or established process that occurs during a specific situation or reaction
192. en_____er shortage *n.* a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
193. a good grounding in mat_____cs *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
194. ambitious ag___a *n.* a list or outline of things to be done, discussed, or considered
195. reduce sub_____nt mortality *adj.* happening or occurring later or after something else

ANSWERS: 185. drawback, 186. horror, 187. democracy, 188. represent, 189. influence, 190. visual, 191. mechanism, 192. engineer, 193. mathematics, 194. agenda, 195. subsequent

196. student on a ti__t budget *adj.* fixed, fastened, or kept together firmly or closely
197. ai__e seat *n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure
198. rep_____an ideology *n.* a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
199. pr_____y school *adj.* first or highest in rank, order, or importance; most fundamental or essential; pertaining to the initial or introductory stage of something, such as a school year or election cycle
200. f__p a coin *v.* to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion
201. a desirable ou_____e *n.* the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
202. ha__y commitment *adj.* done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration
203. d__k chairs *n.* a flat surface that is usually made of wood or other material and is attached to a building, vehicle, or other structure
204. public opinion p__ls *n.* an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election

ANSWERS: 196. tight, 197. aisle, 198. republican, 199. primary, 200. flip, 201. outcome, 202. hasty, 203. deck, 204. poll

205. mo_____us behavior *adj.* extremely large or evil, or having a frightening appearance
206. suspend a con_____nal meeting *adj.* of or relating to Congress, especially to the Congress of the United States
207. the te_____ue applied to construction *n.* a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill
208. su_____on of fraud *n.* the act of doubting something, especially something wrong
209. su___t an application *v.* to give or offer a document, proposal, etc. to a decision-maker for examination or consideration
210. Rep_____an party *n.* a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
211. school req_____nt *n.* something that is needed or wanted
212. deep pu___e *adj.* of a color intermediate between red and blue

ANSWERS: 205. monstrous, 206. congressional, 207. technique, 208. suspicion, 209. submit, 210. republican, 211. requirement, 212. purple

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The government is proposing a _____ to the healthcare system to make it more accessible and affordable for all citizens.
n. the act of improving or correcting something that is wrong or bad; a change made to correct a flaw or problem
2. The building makes a remarkable _____ impact.
adj. relating to seeing or sight
3. The scientist conducted a study that provided _____ details about the species' behavior.
adj. clearly defined or particular to a certain thing or situation; distinct, explicit, and precise
4. The state _____ visited the affected areas and promised to aid the victims.
n. the person who holds the highest executive office in a state or province
5. Many _____ lawmakers are advocating for stricter immigration policies.
n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
6. Companies often _____ their shares to lower the stock price and encourage investors to buy.
v. to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line
7. The _____ platform focused on healthcare reform and reducing income inequality.
n. a person who is seeking or being considered for some kind of position, title, honor, or award; a job applicant

ANSWERS: 1. reform, 2. visual, 3. specific, 4. governor, 5. republican, 6. split, 7. candidate's

8. Two countries acted together as if by _____.
- adj.* closely and firmly united or packed together, using very little space; smaller than is usual
9. She sat on the ship's _____ watching the sunset over the ocean.
- n.* a flat surface that is usually made of wood or other material and is attached to a building, vehicle, or other structure
10. He has a flair for _____.
- n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
11. Male gorillas with good drumming skills are more _____.
- adj.* capable of being done as intended; able to succeed
12. _____ dropping wears away the stone.
- adj.* happening repeatedly or all the time
13. The earthquake caused a _____ of lumber to crumble noisily.
- n.* a pile of something arranged or laid one on top of another; a large tall chimney through which combustion gases and smoke can be evacuated
14. The train came to a _____ at the station.
- v.* to bring or come to a stop; to force to stop moving or operating
15. He discovered unique _____ for photochemical reactions.
- n.* a part of a machine, or a set of parts that performs a task; a natural or established process that occurs during a specific situation or reaction

ANSWERS: 8. compact, 9. deck, 10. mathematics, 11. viable, 12. Constant, 13. stack, 14. halt, 15. mechanisms

16. Shall we _____ a bite to eat?

- v.* to take hold of something or someone suddenly with a hand, especially in a violent way

17. He made a frightful _____ in his room.

- n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy

18. In the _____ meeting, the team discussed ways to improve productivity.

- adj.* happening or occurring later or after something else

19. The _____ of water to sugar in the recipe is 1:2.

- n.* the relative size or amount of one thing to another, typically expressed in the form of a fraction or decimal

20. The bill to increase the consumption tax had passed despite much _____ from the public.

- n.* the act of defending oneself from an aggressor or refusing to accept something

21. The _____ group planned a series of violent attacks to push its agenda.

- n.* a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views

22. She took a _____ class at the gym to improve her cardiovascular fitness.

- n.* the act of rotating rapidly around an axis; in the context of textiles, the process of twisting fibers together to form thread or yarn

23. He spent the afternoon _____ with his car engine.

- v.* to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way

ANSWERS: 16. grab, 17. mess, 18. subsequent, 19. ratio, 20. resistance, 21. extremist, 22. spinning, 23. tinkering

24. The _____ lost his position in the end due to the scandal.
- n.* a person who is a member of a government or law-making organization, especially as an elected member of parliament, etc.
25. She had to _____ the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.
- v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
26. He that would eat the kernel must _____ the nut.
- v.* to break or cause to break without dividing into separate parts; (noun) a line on the surface of something along which it has separated without breaking
27. The _____ cause of the accident was due to the icy road conditions.
- adj.* first or highest in rank, order, or importance; most fundamental or essential; pertaining to the initial or introductory stage of something, such as a school year or election cycle
28. Economists contend that taxes _____ consumer behavior in general.
- v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
29. The _____ of Japan is known for its unique culture and advanced technology.
- n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
30. The brain is an incredibly complex organ that controls the body's _____.
- n.* the purpose or use of an object, system, or process; a particular activity or operation that is designed to serve a specific purpose; a mathematical concept that describes a relationship between two sets of values, called the input and output sets; (verb) to operate or work in a specific way, or to perform a particular task or purpose

ANSWERS: 24. politician, 25. grind, 26. crack, 27. primary, 28. distort, 29. nation, 30. function

31. Your talking _____ with my work.

v. to get involved in and prevent a process or activity from continuing

32. This newspaper is supposed to be _____ neutral.

adv. in a way that relates to the government or public affairs of a nation

33. We always _____ all critical information independently.

v. to check that something exists or is true, or to prove that something is correct

34. We elected him to _____ us at the international conference.

v. to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute

35. He gave his daughter a new ____ for her birthday.

n. a thing, typically a small model or replica of something that is played with, especially by children

36. The robot can accurately _____ construction material.

v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something

37. The _____ states are connected by land.

adj. sharing a common boundary; touching; adjacent

38. The marathon runner covered a long _____ in a short amount of time.

n. the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance

39. He _____ money from the cashbox without telling the company's employees.

v. to grip something such as someone's skin and press it tightly between the finger and thumb; (noun) a painful or straitened circumstance

ANSWERS: 31. interferes, 32. politically, 33. verify, 34. represent, 35. toy, 36. locate, 37. contiguous, 38. distance, 39. pinched

40. He _____ his smile with anger coming from his gut.
v. to (cause something to) twist and press out of its natural or normal shape
41. They awaited news of the _____ of the election.
n. the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
42. She researched gender _____ in politics.
n. a strong feeling in favor of or against one group of people, an idea, or thing, often not based on fair judgment
43. The _____ branch of government creates and passes laws.
adj. having to do with the process of making laws; relating to or serving as a branch of government that makes laws, such as a legislative assembly or legislature
44. The plant has a stunning _____ blossom.
adj. of a color intermediate between red and blue
45. The country's economic policies have led to political _____.
n. the state of disorganization or untidiness in a situation or place; a mental state characterized by a lack of clear and orderly thought and behavior
46. The _____ signs of a dishonest employee were missing files and constant delay.
adj. revealing or betraying information or evidence; serving as a sign or indicator of something
47. He was very _____ and didn't believe anything anyone said unless he saw evidence for himself.
adj. believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity

ANSWERS: 40. contorted, 41. outcome, 42. bias, 43. legislative, 44. purple, 45. disarray, 46. telltale, 47. cynical

48. He _____ when he heard that he had been accepted into the university.
v. to turn over into a different position quickly; to throw or toss with a light motion
49. What is the entry _____ for this course?
n. something that is needed or wanted
50. Jockey's superior _____ brought him victory.
n. a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill
51. Solar gravity creates _____ pressures and temperatures.
adj. very great in amount or degree
52. To advance this discussion, we must _____ "success" rigorously.
v. to state or explain precisely the nature, scope, or meaning of something
53. The right to free speech is a _____ right in the United States.
adj. of or relating to a constitution (= the set of fundamental principles), especially of a country or government; existing as an essential characteristic
54. The fishing reel had a _____ that made it easy to reel in the catch.
n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
55. The _____ will repair my telephone tomorrow morning.
n. a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
56. _____ must consider this proposal in an unusual situation.
n. a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups

ANSWERS: 48. flipped, 49. requirement, 50. technique, 51. extreme, 52. define, 53. constitutional, 54. crank, 55. engineer, 56. Congress

57. Several _____ show a decline in the president's approval rating.
- n.* an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election
58. _____ often entails inclusive capitalism as well.
- n.* a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so
59. The election administration nullified the election results because of _____ fraud.
- n.* a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election
60. The media _____ had special passes.
- n.* someone who speaks or acts officially on behalf of another person or group of people
61. A minor _____ conflict later led to a civil war.
- adj.* of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations)
62. Can you _____ 123321 by eleven?
- v.* to separate or cause to separate into parts or groups
63. The company specializes in both hardware and _____.
- n.* a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular computational jobs
64. The stories of war crimes filled her with _____.
- n.* intense fear or disgust, especially at something shocking or terrifying

ANSWERS: 57. polls, 58. Democracy, 59. voter, 60. representatives, 61. racial, 62. divide, 63. software, 64. horror

65. The people elect _____ members to represent their interests and make decisions on their behalf.
- n.* a body of elected or appointed representatives who make laws for a country or state
66. We plan to raise a giant _____ as a pet.
- n.* any of various typically terrestrial amphibians that resemble lizards and that return to water only to breed
67. She walked down the _____ to the front of the church.
- n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure
68. The _____ for the upcoming election will be sent out to registered voters next week.
- n.* a piece of paper used to cast a vote in an election
69. The _____ politician made a splash in the election, challenging the established incumbents.
- n.* a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer
70. My boss has been giving me the _____ about my promotion for months.
- n.* a series of evasive or misleading answers or actions often used to evade responsibility or avoid giving a direct answer; a frustrating and time-consuming experience of being led from one place or person to another in search of information or assistance
71. The _____ president is seeking re-election for another term in office.
- n.* a person who currently holds a particular position or job, especially in politics or public office; a duty or obligation that is required as part of a particular role or job

ANSWERS: 65. legislature, 66. salamander, 67. aisle, 68. ballot, 69. upstart, 70. runaround, 71. incumbent

72. The opposition politicians jointly proposed an _____ to that law.
n. the act or the process of changing something, especially a document or proposed new law
73. The lush vegetation _____ across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.
v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
74. Since 2001, the _____ has provided training programs for automotive technicians.
n. a part of a country or town, especially one with particular features
75. The _____ over climate change continues to be a hot topic in politics.
n. a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives
76. The court _____ the original verdict.
v. to turn something upside down; to upset
77. The bumbling _____ made it difficult to get the permits we needed.
n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
78. The federal _____ is planning to increase taxes for the next fiscal year.
n. the group of people with authority to control a country or state
79. They never _____ on development despite the lack of funds.
v. to settle a problem or disagreement by mutual concession

ANSWERS: 72. amendment, 73. sprawls, 74. district, 75. debate, 76. overturned, 77. bureaucracy, 78. government, 79. compromised

80. Setting a realistic and _____ goal is the key to success.

adj. possible to accomplish or attain

81. There was a _____ probe into the scandal.

adj. of or relating to Congress, especially to the Congress of the United States

82. As people get old, their energies may _____.

v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

83. Politicians often _____ electoral districts in their favor.

v. to manipulate the boundaries of an electoral district or voting constituency to gain political advantage for a particular party or group

84. The _____ for the meeting includes discussions on the budget and new project proposals.

n. a list or outline of things to be done, discussed, or considered

85. The _____ conclusion drawn by the researchers resulted in flawed study findings.

adj. done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration

86. These gas nebulas are merely newborn galactic _____.

n. the most essential or fundamental part of something

87. The _____ party strongly disagreed with the government's proposed legislation.

n. the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement

ANSWERS: 80. achievable, 81. congressional, 82. diminish, 83. gerrymander, 84. agenda, 85. hasty, 86. cores, 87. opposition

88. The national election was held amid _____ security.

adj. fixed, fastened, or kept together firmly or closely

89. There was an almost certain _____ that the company was involved in illegal activities.

n. the act of doubting something, especially something wrong

90. Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing _____.

n. a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.

91. The government conducted a _____ of the population to gather data on demographics.

n. an official count or survey of a population, typically recording various details such as age, sex, occupation, and education levels

92. The police caught the fugitive criminal in the _____ of an expanded investigation.

n. a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving

93. The former emperor had a particular _____ even after he abdicated.

n. the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself

94. In Chinese mythology, _____ are considered powerful and benevolent creatures.

n. a mythical monster typically depicted as a giant reptile with wings, claws, and a fiery breath often portrayed as being fierce and dangerous

95. I'm strongly _____ to that plan.

adj. being completely different from something or disagreeing strongly with something

ANSWERS: 88. tight, 89. suspicion, 90. strategy, 91. census, 92. tentacles, 93. influence, 94. dragons, 95. opposed

96. They worked hard to _____ the nature of their native lands.

- v.* to keep or maintain a particular quality, feature, etc., especially to prevent it from decaying, being damaged, or being destroyed

97. There are _____ differences between the two wine-producing regions.

- adj.* easy to see, discover or understand

98. Please _____ the assignment to me.

- v.* to give or offer a document, proposal, etc. to a decision-maker for examination or consideration

99. 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

100. He spent his afternoon watching _____ movies on TV.

- n.* a simple drawing depicting a humorous or critical situation, often accompanied by a caption

101. The giant wave was _____ and destroyed the small boat.

- adj.* extremely large or evil, or having a frightening appearance

102. Every five years, the provincial governors are _____.

- v.* to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something

103. The _____ in the boxing match put up a good fight.

- n.* a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge

ANSWERS: 96. preserve, 97. obvious, 98. submit, 99. process, 100. cartoon, 101. monstrous, 102. elected, 103. challenger

104. He pointed out all the _____ to our plan.

n. a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive

105. Several _____ indicators correlate with care admission.

n. a statistic characterizing that describes people or groups of people based on their age, sex, income, etc.

106. The judge made an _____ decision after reviewing all the evidence.

adj. not favoring one side or party over another; fair and unbiased in judgment or opinion

ANSWERS: 104. drawbacks, 105. demographic, 106. impartial