

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Nora Atkinson: *Why art thrives at Burning Man | TED Talk*

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

- roar** v. to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
synonym: bellow, yell, shout
(1) **roar** with laughter, (2) **roar** for more
The lion **roared** loudly, signaling its dominance over the other animals.
- flicker** v. to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light
synonym: flash, spark, glimmer
(1) **flicker** every two seconds, (2) **flicker** out like a candle
The fireflies **flickered** in the darkness.
- redefine** v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
synonym: reconsider, reformulate, alter
(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role
The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.
- anarchist** n. a person who is skeptical of laws and governments and believes those are not necessary
synonym: nihilist, syndicalist, agitator
(1) **anarchist** terrorism, (2) **anarchist** group

The event pretty much converted him from his **anarchist** views.

pilgrim

n. a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion

synonym: traveler, wayfarer, sojourner

(1) shrine for **pilgrims**, (2) **pilgrim** site

The group of **pilgrims** walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.

consumerism

n. a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions

synonym: consumer culture, materialism

(1) anti- **consumerism** movement, (2) global **consumerism**

The rise of **consumerism** has led to an increase in wastefulness and environmental damage.

curate

n. a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

synonym: minister, caretaker, (verb) arrange

(1) perpetual **curate**, (2) **curate** an art website

The art museum has hired a **curate** to select and display pieces from its collection.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym: captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

encampment

n. a temporary or semi-permanent settlement, especially a group of tents or other shelters used for lodging or

military purposes

synonym : campsite, bivouac, settlement

(1) military **encampment**, (2) temporary **encampment**

The **encampment** of soldiers in the field was a temporary arrangement.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym : Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

stimming

n. a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

synonym : self-stimulation, repetitive behaviors

(1) autistic **stimming**, (2) **stimming** therapy

Autistic children may engage in **stimming** behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

monumental

adj. great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive

synonym : massive, awesome, enormous

(1) **monumental** task, (2) **monumental** sculpture

Everyone, even non-scholars, knows Einstein's **monumental** contributions to physics.

surreal

adj. strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality

synonym : dreamlike, fantastical, unreal

(1) **surreal** number, (2) **surreal** art

The dreamlike quality of the painting gave it a **surreal** feel.

audacity

n. boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless

synonym :

boldness, daring, temerity

(1) **audacity** of hope, (2) act of **audacity**

His **audacity** in stealing the painting matched his foolishness in getting caught.

irreverent

adj. lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

synonym : disrespectful, impious, sacrilegious

(1) **irreverent** comment, (2) **irreverent** attitude

The comedian's **irreverent** jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.

precarious

adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions

synonym : precariousness, instability, uncertainty

(1) **precarious** job, (2) **precarious** financial situation

She had a **precarious** hold on the ladder and was afraid to move.

lure

v. to tempt or persuade someone to do something

synonym : tempt, entice, attract

(1) **lure** prey, (2) **lure** foreign investment

The salesperson used a special offer to **lure** customers into buying the product.

firmament

n. the heavens or sky, especially as seen from a particular point on earth; the expanse or canopy of space considered by ancient astronomers to be a solid sphere upon which the stars, planets, and other celestial bodies were situated

synonym : sky, heavens, cosmos

(1) twinkling **firmament**, (2) celestial **firmament**

The stars in the **firmament** shone brightly on a clear night.

thump

v. to strike or hit heavily or repeatedly, often with a dull, resonating sound; to pound or beat forcefully

synonym: beat, thud, pound

(1) **thump** on the back, (2) **thump** a blistering shot

I heard someone **thump** on the door, and when I opened it, no one was there.

rave

v. to talk in a noisy, excited, or uncontrolled manner; to praise someone or something enthusiastically

synonym: babble, freak out, be enthusiastic

(1) **rave** against the politician, (2) **rave** myself hoarse

You can rant and **rave** at the arrest, but you'll still have to accept it.

swarm

n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

synonym: horde, hive, throng

(1) a **swarm** of mosquitoes, (2) locust **swarm**

A **swarm** of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.

roam

v. to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander

synonym: wander, ramble, meander

(1) **roam** freely, (2) **roam** the countryside

I love to **roam** around the city and discover new neighborhoods.

zigzag

adj. having short sharp turns or angles

synonym: bent, crinkled, crooked

(1) **zigzag** sewing machine, (2) a **zigzag** line

We had to go through a **zigzag** course.

marvelous

adj. causing wonder or astonishment; excellent

synonym: wonderful, amazing, superb

(1) **marvelous** performance, (2) **marvelous** power

The view from the top of the mountain was **marvelous**.

crane

n. a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook

synonym: hoist, derrick, winch

(1) **crane** operator, (2) **crane** construction

The construction workers used a **crane** to lift the heavy beams.

fairytale

n. a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals

synonym: fable, myth, legend

(1) **fairytale** romance, (2) popular **fairytale**

The children's book was a **fairytale** about a princess and her journey to find true love.

blackbird

n. a medium-sized, mostly black bird that is native to Europe and North America, which is a popular subject in literature, poetry, and folklore

synonym: thrush, songbird, merl

(1) flock of **blackbirds**, (2) shy **blackbird**

The **blackbird's** sweet song filled the air and brought peace to the garden.

beanstalk

n. a tall stem or stalk of a bean plant, typically grown for its edible beans, sometimes used in the context of fairy tales or folklore to describe an impossibly tall plant

synonym: climbing plant, vine, creeper

(1) giant **beanstalk**, (2) fairy tale **beanstalk**

Jack climbed the **beanstalk** to reach the giant's castle in the clouds.

unskilled

adj. lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise

synonym: inexperienced, untrained, amateur

(1) **unskilled** salesperson, (2) **unskilled** job

The **unskilled** worker struggled to keep up with the fast-paced manufacturing job.

weld

v. to join two or more pieces of metal together by heating their edges until they melt and fuse

synonym: fuse, join, bond

(1) **weld** a team of such people, (2) **weld** two broken pipes

He learned how to **weld** metal in his high school shop class.

grove

n. a small group of trees growing closely together

synonym: copse, thicket, underbrush

(1) a bamboo **grove**, (2) citrus **grove**

They walked through the **grove** of trees and admired the natural beauty.

origami

n. the Japanese art or practice of folding paper into decorative shapes and figures

synonym: paper folding, paper art

(1) **origami** paper, (2) **origami** art

I love making **origami** cranes during my free time.

mushroom

n. a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap

synonym: fungus, toadstool

(1) **mushroom** spores, (2) **mushroom** cultivation

The **mushroom** risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.

yurt

n. (also "ger") a circular tent of felt or skins on a collapsible framework used by nomads in the steppes of central Asia

synonym: tent, nomad dwelling, circular tent

(1) a Mongolian **yurt**, (2) **yurt** home

The nomads lived in **urts** while they traveled through the desert.

gatekeeper

n. a person, organization, or system that controls or monitors access to something, often a website, database, or institution; a person or group that controls or regulates access to information, especially for a particular perspective or interest

synonym: guardian, watchman, custodian

(1) **gatekeeper** role, (2) information **gatekeeper**

The company's **gatekeeper screened** all incoming phone calls and emails to ensure only important ones reached the boss.

placard

n. a sign or poster, usually large, used to advertise or promote something, to convey information, or to make a public announcement

synonym: poster, sign, billboard

(1) **placard** campaign, (2) warning **placard**

The protesters held a **placard** with their political message.

imp

n. a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore

synonym: demon, sprite, mischievous child

(1) a little **imp**, (2) behave like an **imp**

The mischievous **imp** caused trouble wherever it went.

makeshift

adj. serving as a temporary substitute or solution; improvised

synonym: improvised, temporary, ad-hoc

(1) **makeshift** shelter, (2) a **makeshift** solution

The team set up a **makeshift** tent for shelter during the storm.

crayon

n. a stick of colored wax, charcoal, chalk, or other material used for drawing or coloring; (verb) to draw or color with crayons, which are sticks of colored wax, chalk, or charcoal used for drawing or coloring

synonym: chalk, pastel, (verb) draw

(1) **crayon** drawing, (2) **crayon** her coloring books

The teacher handed out several different colored **crayons** to each student.

testament

n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

synonym: proof, testimony, testimonial

(1) give properties by **testament**, (2) **testament** to the superior quality

His wealth is a **testament** to his success.

overpower

v. to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength

synonym: overwhelm, conquer, surpass

(1) **overpower** the suspect, (2) **overpower** the opponent

The shooter was eventually **overpowered** and arrested by police.

indescribable

adj. not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language

synonym: uncommunicable, indefinable, unutterable

(1) **indescribable** horror, (2) **indescribable** experience

The beauty of the sunset was **indescribable**, leaving me in awe of its splendor.

compel

v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

synonym: force, oblige, coerce

(1) **compel** a person to submission, (2) **compel** attention

The strict deadlines will **compel** the team to work efficiently.

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.

cathedral

n. the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area

synonym: church, basilica, temple

(1) **cathedral** school, (2) **cathedral** choir

The **cathedral's** stained glass windows depicted scenes from the Bible.

Session 2: Spelling

1. re____ne our role
v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
2. pre_____us financial situation
adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions
3. mon_____al task
adj. great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive
4. gat_____er role
n. a person, organization, or system that controls or monitors access to something, often a website, database, or institution; a person or group that controls or regulates access to information, especially for a particular perspective or interest
5. r__r with laughter
v. to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
6. fairy tale be_____lk
n. a tall stem or stalk of a bean plant, typically grown for its edible beans, sometimes used in the context of fairy tales or folklore to describe an impossibly tall plant
7. pre_____us job
adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions

ANSWERS: 1. redefine, 2. precarious, 3. monumental, 4. gatekeeper, 5. roar, 6. beanstalk, 7. precarious

8. co___l a person to submission *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
9. mu____om spores *n.* a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap
10. l__e prey *v.* to tempt or persuade someone to do something
11. citrus gr__e *n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
12. co___l attention *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
13. cr__e operator *n.* a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook
14. r__e myself hoarse *v.* to talk in a noisy, excited, or uncontrolled manner; to praise someone or something enthusiastically
15. warning pl____d *n.* a sign or poster, usually large, used to advertise or promote something, to convey information, or to make a public announcement
16. r__r for more *v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
17. au____ty of hope *n.* boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless

ANSWERS: 8. compel, 9. mushroom, 10. lure, 11. grove, 12. compel, 13. crane, 14. rave, 15. placard, 16. roar, 17. audacity

18. twinkling fi_____nt *n.* the heavens or sky, especially as seen from a particular point on earth; the expanse or canopy of space considered by ancient astronomers to be a solid sphere upon which the stars, planets, and other celestial bodies were situated
19. te_____nt to the superior quality *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
20. l__e foreign investment *v.* to tempt or persuade someone to do something
21. mu_____om cultivation *n.* a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap
22. irr_____nt comment *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
23. ma_____us performance *adj.* causing wonder or astonishment; excellent
24. fl_____r out like a candle *v.* to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light
25. w__d two broken pipes *v.* to join two or more pieces of metal together by heating their edges until they melt and fuse
26. military enc_____nt *n.* a temporary or semi-permanent settlement, especially a group of tents or other shelters used for lodging or military purposes

ANSWERS: 18. firmament, 19. testament, 20. lure, 21. mushroom, 22. irreverent, 23. marvelous, 24. flicker, 25. weld, 26. encampment

27. shrine for pi_____ms *n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
28. mon_____al sculpture *adj.* great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive
29. un_____ed job *adj.* lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise
30. a sw__m of mosquitoes *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
31. fl_____r every two seconds *v.* to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light
32. su_____l number *adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
33. ov_____er the opponent *v.* to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength
34. flock of bl_____rds *n.* a medium-sized, mostly black bird that is native to Europe and North America, which is a popular subject in literature, poetry, and folklore
35. or_____i paper *n.* the Japanese art or practice of folding paper into decorative shapes and figures
36. pi_____m site *n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion

ANSWERS: 27. pilgrim, 28. monumental, 29. unskilled, 30. swarm, 31. flicker, 32. surreal, 33. overpower, 34. blackbird, 35. origami, 36. pilgrim

37. an_____st terrorism *n.* a person who is skeptical of laws and governments and believes those are not necessary
38. celestial fi_____nt *n.* the heavens or sky, especially as seen from a particular point on earth; the expanse or canopy of space considered by ancient astronomers to be a solid sphere upon which the stars, planets, and other celestial bodies were situated
39. temporary enc_____nt *n.* a temporary or semi-permanent settlement, especially a group of tents or other shelters used for lodging or military purposes
40. fa_____le romance *n.* a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals
41. ca_____al choir *n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
42. global con_____sm *n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions
43. a zi___g line *adj.* having short sharp turns or angles
44. fa_____te the young *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

ANSWERS: 37. anarchist, 38. firmament, 39. encampment, 40. fairytale, 41. cathedral, 42. consumerism, 43. zigzag, 44. fascinate

45. behave like an i_p *n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
46. r__m the countryside *v.* to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
47. a Mongolian y__t *n.* (also "ger") a circular tent of felt or skins on a collapsible framework used by nomads in the steppes of central Asia
48. ca_____al school *n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
49. fa_____te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
50. ma_____ft shelter *adj.* serving as a temporary substitute or solution; improvised
51. un_____ed salesperson *adj.* lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise
52. cy_____l worldview *adj.* believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity
53. an_____st group *n.* a person who is skeptical of laws and governments and believes those are not necessary
54. act of au_____ty *n.* boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless
55. w__d a team of such people *v.* to join two or more pieces of metal together by heating their edges until they melt and fuse

ANSWERS: 45. imp, 46. roam, 47. yurt, 48. cathedral, 49. fascinate, 50. makeshift, 51. unskilled, 52. cynical, 53. anarchist, 54. audacity, 55. weld

56. ma_____us power *adj.* causing wonder or astonishment; excellent
57. su_____l art *adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
58. y__t home *n.* (also "ger") a circular tent of felt or skins on a collapsible framework used by nomads in the steppes of central Asia
59. re_____ne customer experience *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
60. locust sw___m *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
61. a little i_p *n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
62. a ma_____ft solution *adj.* serving as a temporary substitute or solution; improvised
63. perpetual cu___e *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
64. autistic st_____ng *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

ANSWERS: 56. marvelous, 57. surreal, 58. yurt, 59. redefine, 60. swarm, 61. imp, 62. makeshift, 63. curate, 64. stimming

65. cr__e construction *n.* a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook
66. cr___n drawing *n.* a stick of colored wax, charcoal, chalk, or other material used for drawing or coloring; (verb) to draw or color with crayons, which are sticks of colored wax, chalk, or charcoal used for drawing or coloring
67. cr___n her coloring books *n.* a stick of colored wax, charcoal, chalk, or other material used for drawing or coloring; (verb) to draw or color with crayons, which are sticks of colored wax, chalk, or charcoal used for drawing or coloring
68. st_____ng therapy *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
69. ov_____er the suspect *v.* to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength
70. cu___e an art website *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

ANSWERS: 65. crane, 66. crayon, 67. crayon, 68. stimming, 69. overpower, 70. curate

71. popular fa_____le
n. a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals
72. th__p on the back
v. to strike or hit heavily or repeatedly, often with a dull, resonating sound; to pound or beat forcefully
73. zi___g sewing machine
adj. having short sharp turns or angles
74. cy_____l remarks
adj. believing that people are motivated by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity
75. before Ch___t
n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
76. giant be_____lk
n. a tall stem or stalk of a bean plant, typically grown for its edible beans, sometimes used in the context of fairy tales or folklore to describe an impossibly tall plant
77. teaching of Ch___t
n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
78. pl_____d campaign
n. a sign or poster, usually large, used to advertise or promote something, to convey information, or to make a public announcement

ANSWERS: 71. fairytale, 72. thump, 73. zigzag, 74. cynical, 75. Christ, 76. beanstalk, 77. Christ, 78. placard

79. information gat_____er *n.* a person, organization, or system that controls or monitors access to something, often a website, database, or institution; a person or group that controls or regulates access to information, especially for a particular perspective or interest
80. ind_____ble horror *adj.* not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language
81. a bamboo gr__e *n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
82. irr_____nt attitude *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
83. shy bl_____rd *n.* a medium-sized, mostly black bird that is native to Europe and North America, which is a popular subject in literature, poetry, and folklore
84. r__m freely *v.* to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
85. ind_____ble experience *adj.* not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language
86. give properties by te_____nt *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

ANSWERS: 79. gatekeeper, 80. indescribable, 81. grove, 82. irreverent, 83. blackbird, 84. roam, 85. indescribable, 86. testament

87. r__e against the politician *v.* to talk in a noisy, excited, or uncontrolled manner; to praise someone or something enthusiastically
88. th__p a blistering shot *v.* to strike or hit heavily or repeatedly, often with a dull, resonating sound; to pound or beat forcefully
89. or____i art *n.* the Japanese art or practice of folding paper into decorative shapes and figures
90. anti-con_____sm movement *n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions

ANSWERS: 87. rave, 88. thump, 89. origami, 90. consumerism

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The art museum has hired a _____ to select and display pieces from its collection.
n. a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
2. The _____ risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.
n. a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap
3. The _____ worker struggled to keep up with the fast-paced manufacturing job.
adj. lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise
4. 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
5. The stars in the _____ shone brightly on a clear night.
n. the heavens or sky, especially as seen from a particular point on earth; the expanse or canopy of space considered by ancient astronomers to be a solid sphere upon which the stars, planets, and other celestial bodies were situated
6. I love making _____ cranes during my free time.
n. the Japanese art or practice of folding paper into decorative shapes and figures

ANSWERS: 1. curate, 2. mushroom, 3. unskilled, 4. cynical, 5. firmament, 6. origami

7. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.
- n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
8. The beauty of the sunset was _____ leaving me in awe of its splendor.
- adj.* not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language
9. The protesters held a _____ with their political message.
- n.* a sign or poster, usually large, used to advertise or promote something, to convey information, or to make a public announcement
10. I love to _____ around the city and discover new neighborhoods.
- v.* to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
11. I heard someone _____ on the door, and when I opened it, no one was there.
- v.* to strike or hit heavily or repeatedly, often with a dull, resonating sound; to pound or beat forcefully
12. His _____ in stealing the painting matched his foolishness in getting caught.
- n.* boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless
13. The _____ of soldiers in the field was a temporary arrangement.
- n.* a temporary or semi-permanent settlement, especially a group of tents or other shelters used for lodging or military purposes
14. The team set up a _____ tent for shelter during the storm.
- adj.* serving as a temporary substitute or solution; improvised

ANSWERS: 7. Christmas, 8. indescribable, 9. placard, 10. roam, 11. thump, 12. audacity, 13. encampment, 14. makeshift

15. The lion _____ loudly, signaling its dominance over the other animals.

v. to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine

16. Everyone, even non-scholars, knows Einstein's _____ contributions to physics.

adj. great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive

17. The fireflies _____ in the darkness.

v. to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light

18. The view from the top of the mountain was _____.

adj. causing wonder or astonishment; excellent

19. She had a _____ hold on the ladder and was afraid to move.

adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions

20. His wealth is a _____ to his success.

n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

21. The rise of _____ has led to an increase in wastefulness and environmental damage.

n. a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions

22. Jack climbed the _____ to reach the giant's castle in the clouds.

n. a tall stem or stalk of a bean plant, typically grown for its edible beans, sometimes used in the context of fairy tales or folklore to describe an impossibly tall plant

ANSWERS: 15. roared, 16. monumental, 17. flickered, 18. marvelous, 19. precarious, 20. testament, 21. consumerism, 22. beanstalk

23. The event pretty much converted him from his _____ views.
- n.* a person who is skeptical of laws and governments and believes those are not necessary
24. The video telephony application has _____ the way we work.
- v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
25. The nomads lived in _____ while they traveled through the desert.
- n.* (also "ger") a circular tent of felt or skins on a collapsible framework used by nomads in the steppes of central Asia
26. The salesperson used a special offer to _____ customers into buying the product.
- v.* to tempt or persuade someone to do something
27. The construction workers used a _____ to lift the heavy beams.
- n.* a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook
28. A _____ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.
- n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
29. He learned how to _____ metal in his high school shop class.
- v.* to join two or more pieces of metal together by heating their edges until they melt and fuse
30. The magic tricks _____ the children.
- v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

ANSWERS: 23. anarchist, 24. redefined, 25. yurts, 26. lure, 27. crane, 28. swarm, 29. weld, 30. fascinated

31. You can rant and _____ at the arrest, but you'll still have to accept it.
- v.* to talk in a noisy, excited, or uncontrolled manner; to praise someone or something enthusiastically
32. The company's _____ all incoming phone calls and emails to ensure only important ones reached the boss.
- n.* a person, organization, or system that controls or monitors access to something, often a website, database, or institution; a person or group that controls or regulates access to information, especially for a particular perspective or interest
33. We had to go through a _____ course.
- adj.* having short sharp turns or angles
34. The group of _____ walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.
- n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
35. Autistic children may engage in _____ behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.
- n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
36. The dreamlike quality of the painting gave it a _____ feel.
- adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
37. The strict deadlines will _____ the team to work efficiently.
- v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

ANSWERS: 31. rave, 32. gatekeeper screened, 33. zigzag, 34. pilgrims, 35. stimming, 36. surreal, 37. compel

38. The teacher handed out several different colored _____ to each student.
- n.* a stick of colored wax, charcoal, chalk, or other material used for drawing or coloring; (verb) to draw or color with crayons, which are sticks of colored wax, chalk, or charcoal used for drawing or coloring
39. The mischievous ____ caused trouble wherever it went.
- n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
40. The children's book was a _____ about a princess and her journey to find true love.
- n.* a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals
41. They walked through the _____ of trees and admired the natural beauty.
- n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
42. The _____ stained glass windows depicted scenes from the Bible.
- n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
43. The _____ sweet song filled the air and brought peace to the garden.
- n.* a medium-sized, mostly black bird that is native to Europe and North America, which is a popular subject in literature, poetry, and folklore
44. The shooter was eventually _____ and arrested by police.
- v.* to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength

ANSWERS: 38. crayons, 39. imp, 40. fairytale, 41. grove, 42. cathedral's, 43. blackbird's, 44. overpowered

45. The comedian's _____ jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.

adj. lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

ANSWERS: 45. irreverent