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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Iseult Gillespie: Why should you read "Waiting for Godot"? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/iseult\\_gillespie\\_why\\_should\\_you\\_read\\_waiting\\_for\\_godot](https://www.ted.com/talks/iseult_gillespie_why_should_you_read_waiting_for_godot)

### All Words

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### shabby

*adj.* (of a building or object) in poor condition through age and neglect

*synonym*: dilapidated, run-down, shoddy

(1) **shabby** appearance, (2) **shabby** treatment

The **shabby** couch had seen better days.

### dusk

*n.* the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight

*synonym*: twilight, gloaming, sundown

(1) **dusk** sky, (2) **dusk** falls

The sky turned a beautiful orange hue at **dusk**.

### struggle

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

*synonym*: toil, strive, compete

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

He could not **struggle** against temptation.

### anxious

*adj.* worried and nervous

*synonym*: nervous, uneasy, afraid

(1) **anxious** about his health, (2) an **anxious** look

He cast **anxious** glances behind her.

## companion

*n.* a person or an animal with whom you spend a lot of time, or you travel

*synonym*: affiliate, fellow, mate

(1) a working **companion**, (2) drinking **companions**

Her dog is her excellent **companion**.

## vex

*v.* to irritate or annoy with petty frustrations; to cause distress or agitation

*synonym*: annoy, irritate, bother

(1) **vex** my mind, (2) **vex** me all night

The loud noise from the construction site was starting to **vex** the nearby residents.

## cycle

*n.* an interval during which a recurring sequence of events occurs; a bicycle or motorcycle

*synonym*: revolution, rotation, bike

(1) the **cycle** of the seasons, (2) go to the workplace by **cycle**

The food chain causes a material **cycle**.

## 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.

## modern

*adj.* of or belonging to the present time or recent times

*synonym*: contemporary, stylish, current

(1) **modern** poetry, (2) pre- **modern** agricultural society

Their headquarters are in a **modern** skyscraper.

**drama**

*n.* a play in a theatre, television, or radio, or performance on a stage

*synonym* : acting, play, theater

(1) secular **drama**, (2) upcoming crime **drama**

She had an audition for **drama** school.

**stir**

*v.* to mix a liquid or substance by using a spoon or something similar; to cause to be agitated, excited, or roused

*synonym* : mix, swirl, provoke

(1) **stir** a sauce, (2) **stir** up controversy

Topics related to that war may **stir** up a political hornets' nest.

**Don**

*n.* a Spanish gentleman; a university lecturer, especially a senior member of a college at Oxford or Cambridge

(1) the **don** of the university, (2) **Don** Giovanni

He could never go against what **Don** Carlos said.

**cryptic**

*adj.* having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature

*synonym* : enigmatic, mysterious, obscure

(1) **cryptic** language, (2) **cryptic** crossword

The message was so **cryptic** that I had no idea what it meant.

**dialogue**

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

*synonym* : conversation, discussion, talk

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

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

**circular**

*adj.* shaped like a circle; having a round form

*synonym* : round, loopy, oblique

(1) **circular** economy, (2) non- **circular** orbit

The **circular** shape of the planet makes it difficult to determine which direction is north.

- feat** *n.* a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery  
*synonym*: achievement, accomplishment, exploit  
(1) intellectual **feat**, (2) **feat** accomplishment  
It is an incredible **feat** to climb Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world.
- absurd** *adj.* ridiculously silly, unreasonable, or illogical  
*synonym*: ridiculous, foolish, idiotic  
(1) **absurd** storyline, (2) an **absurd** amount of money  
We immediately rejected his **absurd** suggestion.
- movement** *n.* a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively  
*synonym*: motion, progression, action  
(1) a circular **movement**, (2) **movement** of troops  
The **movement** of the dancers on stage was graceful and elegant.
- emerge** *v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible  
*synonym*: arise, occur, appear  
(1) **emerge** as a butterfly, (2) **emerge** from poverty  
During colonial eras, new migratory patterns **emerged**.
- devastation** *n.* the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale  
*synonym*: destruction, ruin, havoc  
(1) financial **devastation**, (2) **devastation** to life  
The economic recession caused **devastation** in the housing market, with many people losing their homes.
- deconstruct** *v.* to break something down into its separate parts to interpret or analyze it; to interpret or analyze a text, an artwork, etc. to show that there is no fixed meaning

*synonym*: break down, interpret, assay

(1) **deconstruct** the existing system, (2) **deconstruct** his method

She employed a rigorous intellectual framework to **deconstruct** various categories of literature.

## plot

*n.* a secret plan or scheme to achieve a specific goal; the plan or main story of a literary work; (verb) to plan secretly, usually something illegal

*synonym*: scheme, plan, design

(1) **plot** twist, (2) **plot** a revolution

The **plot** of the novel centers around a group of friends who uncover a conspiracy to control the world's water supply.

## profound

*adj.* extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly; displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension

*synonym*: deep, unsounded, far-reaching

(1) a **profound** book, (2) the **profound** depths of the sea  
My mother's illness had a **profound** impact on us all.

## uncertain

*adj.* not being sure of something; not being able to choose

*synonym*: doubtful, skeptical, pending

(1) numerous **uncertain** factors, (2) take an **uncertain** attitude

She was **uncertain** about her friend's intentions.

## grim

*adj.* looking or sounding very serious or gloomy

*synonym*: fierce, harsh, gloomy

(1) **grim** reality, (2) a **grim-featured** man

The result presented a **grim** picture of inefficiency and corruption.

## blend

*v.* to mix or combine two or more substances

*synonym*: combine, mix, intermingle

(1) **blend** all the elements, (2) **blend** milk and cream

The toad altered its appearance to better **blend** in with its

new environments.

## hopeless

*adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

*synonym*: despairing, helpless, futile

(1) **hopeless** situation, (2) **hopeless** at everything

After months of job searching, he felt **hopeless** and unsure of his future.

## humor

*n.* the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body

*synonym*: comedy, funniness, liquid substance

(1) sardonic **humor**, (2) vitreous **humor**

My wife seems to be in ill **humor**.

## genre

*n.* a particular type or style of literature, art, music, or film that involves a particular set of characteristics

*synonym*: type, category, style

(1) **genre** of music, (2) a literary **genre**

He is known for creating **genre-busting** paintings.

## brand

*n.* a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning

*synonym*: trademark, label, symbol

(1) create a **brand** logo, (2) the **brand** of the new car

There's a new **brand** of hero in the movies now.

## tragic

*adj.* causing great sadness or suffering; very unfortunate

*synonym*: calamitous, disastrous, catastrophic

(1) **tragic** love stories, (2) **tragic** death

The **tragic** events of the war left many families torn apart.

## conundrum

*n.* a confusing and difficult problem or question

*synonym*: puzzle, riddle, enigma

(1) **conundrum** of choice, (2) pose a **conundrum**

The group faced a **conundrum** when they couldn't decide whether to go hiking or to the beach.

## vain

*adj.* having an excessively high opinion of oneself; excessively concerned with one's appearance or achievements; producing no result or effect, or being unsuccessful

*synonym*: conceited, narcissistic, egotistic

(1) **vain** hope, (2) **vain** pursuit

He is in **vain** searching for a new job since he has no experience in the field.

## sink

*v.* to submerge or go down below the surface of a liquid or substance; to decline or deteriorate; to cause something to go down into a liquid substance or sink into something else

*synonym*: descend, drop, plummet

(1) **sink** a lot of capital, (2) **sink** a buzzer-beater

The abandoned ship slowly began to **sink** into the murky waters of the harbor.

## boredom

*n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation

*synonym*: ennui, tedium, monotony

(1) **boredom** relief, (2) chronic **boredom**

The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off **boredom**.

## religion

*n.* a deep conviction in a supernatural power that controls human destiny

*synonym*: faith, creed, belief

(1) **religion** sociology, (2) freedom of **religion**

Their **religion** strictly prohibits them from drinking or gambling.

## dread

*v.* to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen

*synonym*: fear, cringe, apprehend

(1) **dread** failure, (2) **dread** getting old

We all **dread** to think about what will happen if the company goes bankrupt.

## contemplate

*v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

*synonym*: think over, ponder, consider

(1) **contemplate** a marriage, (2) **contemplated** leaving school

I recently **contemplated** dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.

## suicide

*n.* the act of killing yourself intentionally

*synonym*: self-destruction, self-annihilation, felo-de-se

(1) commit **suicide**, (2) **suicide** attack

In an economically prosperous country, most male **suicide** is due to child support problems.

## jagged

*adj.* having a rough and sharply uneven surface or outline

*synonym*: bumpy, irregular, craggy

(1) **jagged** edges, (2) the **jagged** outline of the crags

There are several **jagged** limestone peaks throughout the mountains.

## predicament

*n.* a difficult, unpleasant, or embarrassing situation

*synonym*: situation, quandary, plight

(1) tragic **predicament**, (2) **predicament** decision

He was in a **predicament** and didn't know how to escape it.

## interaction

*n.* the act of connecting with someone, mainly when working, playing, or spending time with them

*synonym*: dealings, exchange, relations

(1) the **interaction** between man and his environment,



(2) **interaction** among human beings

The **interaction** of the two groups is good for brainstorming.

## bizarre

*adj.* very strange or unusual

*synonym*: abnormal, freaky, outlandish

(1) the story is **bizarre**, (2) **bizarre** behavior

The truth was more **bizarre** than expected.

## repetition

*n.* the act of doing or saying something many times

*synonym*: duplication, iteration, recurrence

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

**Repetition** is the mother of all learning.

## entendre

*n.* (also entente) a word or expression that has a double meaning, often one that is sexual or suggestive

*synonym*: entente, innuendo, suggestion

(1) humorous **entendre**, (2) unintended **entendre**

The double **entendre** in the comedian's joke had the audience laughing.

## clown

*n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences

*synonym*: jester, harlequin, comedian

(1) a **clown** act, (2) act as a **clown**

She dressed up as a Halloween **clown** with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.

## frantic

*adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied

*synonym*: wild, frenzied, manic

(1) **frantic** pace, (2) with **frantic** haste

The mother was **frantic** as she searched for her lost child.

## swap

*v.* to give something and receive something in trade

*synonym*: exchange, switch, trade

(1) **swap** seats, (2) **swap** columns with rows  
Don't **swap** horses while crossing a stream.

## unclear

*adj.* poorly stated or described and therefore not easy to understand; not easy to perceive

*synonym*: ambiguous, fuzzy, obscure

(1) an **unclear** match, (2) in no **unclear** terms

It is important not to undertake tasks with **unclear** objectives to improve productivity.

## suppose

*v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible

*synonym*: guess, assume, presume

(1) **suppose** you're right, (2) **suppose** beforehand

What do you **suppose** the culprit's motive was?

## poetry

*n.* poems in general as a genre of literature

*synonym*: ode, poesy, verse

(1) modern **poetry**, (2) book of **poetry**

Different cultures have different comfortable word rhythms, so the composition of **poetry** varies greatly.

## prose

*n.* a type of written or spoken language that is not organized in verse or rhyme

*synonym*: narrative, writing, story

(1) **prose** fiction, (2) rhythmical **prose**

The novel was written in **prose**, with no rhyme or meter.

## lifelong

*adj.* lasting for the whole of someone's life

*synonym*: enduring, eternal, permanent

(1) **lifelong** career, (2) **lifelong** commitment

He had a **lifelong** love of reading and spent hours daily with a book.

## silent

*adj.* without any or little sound

*synonym*: quiet, hushed, mute

(1) **silent** reading, (2) give **silent** consent

The politician remained **silent** despite intense media scrutiny.

## incorporate

*v.* to include something as a part of a larger entity

*synonym*: contain, integrate, amalgamate

(1) **incorporate** the current trends, (2) **incorporate** technology into daily life

We will attempt to **incorporate** some of your suggestions into our future strategy.

## gap

*n.* a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.

*synonym*: opening, lacuna, spread

(1) the **gap** between ideal and reality, (2) distance **gap**

Many people are working together to close the gender **gap**.

## pause

*v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

*synonym*: halt, break, intermit

(1) **pause** a moment, (2) **pause** for a reaction

The man **paused** before opening the door.

## trademark

*n.* a name or symbol on a product that indicates it was made by a particular company and cannot be used without permission by other companies

*synonym*: brand, label, hallmark

(1) **trademark** license, (2) assign a **trademark**

The company's logo is a registered **trademark** on a global scale.

## uneven

*adj.* not level or flat; not balanced or symmetrical

*synonym*: irregular, rough, bumpy

(1) **uneven** numbers, (2) **uneven** coating

The road was **uneven**, causing the car to bounce up and down as it drove.

## tempo

*n.* the speed at which a piece of music is performed  
*synonym* : pace, rhythm, speed

(1) a quick **tempo**, (2) set **tempo**

The **tempo** of the music was slow and soothing.

## cult

*n.* a small religious group, especially one that is not part of a larger religion and that is regarded as outside the norm; followers of an exclusive system of beliefs and practices

*synonym* : sect, faith, religion

(1) **cult** members, (2) **cult's** practices

The **cult** leader promised his followers that they would achieve enlightenment if they followed his teachings.

## mysterious

*adj.* difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement

*synonym* : enigmatic, cryptic, puzzling

(1) **mysterious** object, (2) **mysterious** stranger

The **mysterious** disappearance of the ship remains unsolved.

## refuse

*v.* to show that one is not willing to do or accept something  
*synonym* : turn down, deny, decline

(1) **refuse** a request, (2) **refuse** the company

My initial reaction was to **refuse**.

## confirm

*v.* to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case

*synonym* : affirm, verify, assure

(1) **confirm** the diagnosis, (2) **confirm** a transaction

Please write to **confirm** your reservation.

## deny

*v.* to state that one refuses to admit the existence or truth of something

*synonym* : refute, reject, repudiate

(1) adamantly **deny** killing, (2) **deny** the allegations

He is still **denying** stealing the money from the cash register.

## speculate

*v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

*synonym*: assume, conjecture, infer

(1) **speculate** about the reason, (2) **speculate** on the outcome

He **speculated** that this investment would lead to success.

## fascination

*n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

*synonym*: allure, attraction, charm

(1) rapt in **fascination**, (2) the **fascination** with classical music

I looked at the painting in **fascination**.

## 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.

## enigmatic

*adj.* difficult to understand or explain; mysterious or puzzling

*synonym*: mysterious, puzzling, cryptic

(1) **enigmatic** smile, (2) **enigmatic** behavior

The **enigmatic** ancient civilization's disappearance remains unsolved.

## endlessly

*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

*synonym*: ceaselessly, interminably, unceasingly

(1) repeat **endlessly**, (2) worry **endlessly** about our future

The procession of demonstrators was **endlessly** continuing.

## interpretation

*n.* an explanation or opinion of something, especially that is not immediately obvious

*synonym*: rendering, explanation, understanding

(1) the **interpretation** of history, (2) open to **interpretation**  
His **interpretations** of literary works are often unique.

## critic

*n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.

*synonym* : pundit, analyst, attacker

(1) art **critic**, (2) severe **critic**

Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their **critics**.

## countless

*adj.* too numerous to be counted or very many

*synonym* : innumerable, myriad, numerous

(1) **countless** hours, (2) answer **countless** questions

There are **countless** methods for dealing with stress.

## ambiguity

*n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning

*synonym* : uncertainty, vagueness, obscurity

(1) free from **ambiguity**, (2) avoid **ambiguity** in writing

The **ambiguity** in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.

## allegory

*n.* a story, play, picture, etc. in which the characters and events represent religious or political values, concepts, or morals

*synonym* : fable, apologue, parable

(1) political **allegory**, (2) subtle, multivalent **allegory**

By using this **allegory**, we can teach moral lessons.

## 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.

## colonize

*v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

*synonym*: settle, occupy, inhabit

(1) **colonize** planets, (2) **colonize** for cultivation

European powers **colonized** much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

## dynamic

*adj.* having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies)

*synonym*: energetic, active, vital

(1) a **dynamic** market, (2) **dynamic** person

The sprinter has a **dynamic** way of running.

## protagonist

*n.* the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories

*synonym*: hero, central figure, leading character

(1) **protagonist** of drama, (2) play a **protagonist**

The **protagonist's** triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.

## spark

*v.* to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity

*synonym*: start, inspire, provoke

(1) **spark** his interest, (2) **spark** a chain reaction

The bankruptcy of the giant conglomerate **sparked** turmoil in the stock market.

## intense

*adj.* (especially of a feeling) very strong; extremely sharp or severe

*synonym*: extreme, fierce, harsh

(1) **intense** heat, (2) develop **intense** itching

That statement by the prime minister drew **intense** international criticism.

## survivor

*n.* a person who remains alive after an event in which others have died

*synonym* : subsister

(1) ovarian cancer **survivor**, (2) a single **survivor**

The shipwreck **survivor** was rescued after floating in the ocean for three days.

## apocalyptic

*adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world

*synonym* : fateful, prophetic, ominous

(1) **apocalyptic** event, (2) have **apocalyptic** overtones

The **apocalyptic** landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.

## impotent

*adj.* lacking power or ability to change things or to influence a situation

*synonym* : helpless, worthless, powerless

(1) an **impotent** feeling, (2) sexually **impotent**

Modern medicine was largely **impotent** against the disease.

## ego

*n.* a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one

*synonym* : self-esteem, personality, psyche

(1) **ego** defense mechanisms, (2) national **ego**

She was constantly trying to boost her **ego** by talking about her accomplishments.

## id

*n.* a part of the psyche that represents the unconscious desires and instincts of an individual; in psychoanalytic theory, it is believed to be the most basic and primal part of the human psyche; (also ID, short for identification) a document or card that proves a person's identity, such as a driver's license, passport, or national ID card

*synonym* : identity, ego, persona

(1) the **id** ego, (2) **ID** card

I forgot my **ID** at home and needed it to enter the club.



## madden

v. to make someone extremely angry or irritated, often to the point of losing control or rationality; to become irrational or frenzied with anger or frustration

*synonym*: infuriate, enrage, exasperate

(1) **madden** with rage, (2) **madden** the enemy

The slow internet connection **maddened** him as he tried to stream his favorite show.

## bicker

v. to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms

*synonym*: quarrel, dispute, argue

(1) **bicker** over small things, (2) **bicker** with each other

My siblings always **bicker** over who gets the front seat in the car.

## banter

n. playful and teasing conversation between friends or acquaintances, characterized by good-natured teasing and humor; (verb) to engage in good-natured teasing or playful conversation with someone in a lighthearted and humorous way

*synonym*: teasing, raillery, chitchat

(1) **banter** back and forth, (2) playful **banter**

The **banter** between the two colleagues lightened the mood in the office.

## decide

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

*synonym*: choose, determine, settle

(1) **decide** a question, (2) **decide** on a course of action

She couldn't **decide** whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

## onstage

*adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

(1) appeared **onstage**, (2) walk **onstage**

He performed his magic trick **onstage**, leaving the audience in awe.

## illusion

*n.* a false idea or belief, especially about somebody or about a situation

*synonym*: delusion, fallacy, magic trick

(1) optical **illusion**, (2) the **illusion** of being in the forest  
He could no longer tell the difference between **illusion** and reality.

## narrative

*n.* a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story

*synonym*: the tale, chronology, annals

(1) **narrative** poetry, (2) personal **narrative**

The **narrative** handles multiple plot lines and has unpredictable ends.

## appeal

*n.* a serious, earnest, or urgent request for money, information, or help; a quality that makes somebody or something attractive or interest

*synonym*: request, charm, attraction

(1) draw out your **appeal**, (2) an **appeal** for help

He needed to resolve the problem as soon as possible, so he made an **appeal** directly.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. un\_\_\_n numbers *adj.* not level or flat; not balanced or symmetrical
2. the story is bi\_\_\_\_e *adj.* very strange or unusual
3. the il\_\_\_\_on of being in the forest *n.* a false idea or belief, especially about somebody or about a situation
4. st\_\_\_\_le to get the job *v.* to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
5. avoid am\_\_\_\_ty in writing *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
6. s\_\_r a sauce *v.* to mix a liquid or substance by using a spoon or something similar; to cause to be agitated, excited, or roused
7. g\_\_m reality *adj.* looking or sounding very serious or gloomy
8. assign a tr\_\_\_\_rk *n.* a name or symbol on a product that indicates it was made by a particular company and cannot be used without permission by other companies
9. sh\_\_\_\_y treatment *adj.* (of a building or object) in poor condition through age and neglect
10. tr\_\_\_\_rk license *n.* a name or symbol on a product that indicates it was made by a particular company and cannot be used without permission by other companies

ANSWERS: 1. uneven, 2. bizarre, 3. illusion, 4. struggle, 5. ambiguity, 6. stir, 7. grim, 8. trademark, 9. shabby, 10. trademark

11. con\_\_\_\_\_ted leaving school      *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
12. act as a cl\_\_n      *n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
13. an ab\_\_\_d amount of money      *adj.* ridiculously silly, unreasonable, or illogical
14. rapt in fas\_\_\_\_\_on      *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
15. c\_\_t members      *n.* a small religious group, especially one that is not part of a larger religion and that is regarded as outside the norm; followers of an exclusive system of beliefs and practices
16. v\_x me all night      *v.* to irritate or annoy with petty frustrations; to cause distress or agitation
17. co\_\_\_\_\_ze for cultivation      *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
18. fr\_\_\_\_\_c pace      *adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
19. v\_\_n hope      *adj.* having an excessively high opinion of oneself; excessively concerned with one's appearance or achievements; producing no result or effect, or being unsuccessful

ANSWERS: 11. contemplate, 12. clown, 13. absurd, 14. fascination, 15. cult, 16. vex, 17. colonize, 18. frantic, 19. vain

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 20. pro_____st of drama           | <i>n.</i> the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories  |
| 21. bl__d milk and cream          | <i>v.</i> to mix or combine two or more substances   |
| 22. tragic pre_____nt             | <i>n.</i> a difficult, unpleasant, or embarrassing situation   |
| 23. secular dr__a                 | <i>n.</i> a play in a theatre, television, or radio, or performance on a stage   |
| 24. sp_____te on the outcome      | <i>v.</i> to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence   |
| 25. dy_____c person               | <i>adj.</i> having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies) |
| 26. take an un_____in attitude    | <i>adj.</i> not being sure of something; not being able to choose  |
| 27. inc_____te the current trends | <i>v.</i> to include something as a part of a larger entity  |
| 28. tr___c love stories           | <i>adj.</i> causing great sadness or suffering; very unfortunate   |
| 29. re_____on sociology           | <i>n.</i> a deep conviction in a supernatural power that controls human destiny  |
| 30. answer co_____ss questions    | <i>adj.</i> too numerous to be counted or very many  |
| 31. apo_____ic event              | <i>adj.</i> describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world   |

ANSWERS: 20. protagonist, 21. blend, 22. predicament, 23. drama, 24. speculate, 25. dynamic, 26. uncertain, 27. incorporate, 28. tragic, 29. religion, 30. countless, 31. apocalyptic

32. con\_\_\_\_\_te a marriage      *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
33. commit su\_\_\_\_\_e      *n.* the act of killing yourself intentionally
34. adamantly d\_\_\_y killing      *v.* to state that one refuses to admit the existence or truth of something
35. dev\_\_\_\_\_on to life      *n.* the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
36. free from am\_\_\_\_\_ty      *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
37. si\_\_\_\_t reading      *adj.* without any or little sound
38. ma\_\_\_\_n with rage      *v.* to make someone extremely angry or irritated, often to the point of losing control or rationality; to become irrational or frenzied with anger or frustration
39. have apo\_\_\_\_\_ic overtones      *adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
40. v\_\_\_\_n pursuit      *adj.* having an excessively high opinion of oneself; excessively concerned with one's appearance or achievements; producing no result or effect, or being unsuccessful
41. sh\_\_\_\_y appearance      *adj.* (of a building or object) in poor condition through age and neglect
42. go to the workplace by cy\_\_e      *n.* an interval during which a recurring sequence of events occurs; a bicycle or motorcycle

ANSWERS: 32. contemplate, 33. suicide, 34. deny, 35. devastation, 36. ambiguity, 37. silent, 38. madden, 39. apocalyptic, 40. vain, 41. shabby, 42. cycle

43. ja\_\_\_d edges *adj.* having a rough and sharply uneven surface or outline
44. art cr\_\_\_c *n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
45. ma\_\_\_n the enemy *v.* to make someone extremely angry or irritated, often to the point of losing control or rationality; to become irrational or frenzied with anger or frustration
46. set te\_\_\_o *n.* the speed at which a piece of music is performed
47. en\_\_\_\_ic smile *adj.* difficult to understand or explain; mysterious or puzzling
48. re\_\_\_e the company *v.* to show that one is not willing to do or accept something
49. s\_\_k a lot of capital *v.* to submerge or go down below the surface of a liquid or substance; to decline or deteriorate; to cause something to go down into a liquid substance or sink into something else
50. a circular mo\_\_\_\_nt *n.* a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively
51. appeared on\_\_\_\_e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
52. mys\_\_\_\_us stranger *adj.* difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement

ANSWERS: 43. jagged, 44. critic, 45. madden, 46. tempo, 47. enigmatic, 48. refuse, 49. sink, 50. movement, 51. onstage, 52. mysterious

53. give si\_\_t consent *adj.* without any or little sound
54. v\_x my mind *v.* to irritate or annoy with petty frustrations; to cause distress or agitation
55. the fas\_\_\_\_\_on with classical music *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
56. re\_\_\_e a request *v.* to show that one is not willing to do or accept something
57. worry en\_\_\_\_\_ly about our future *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
58. c\_\_t's practices *n.* a small religious group, especially one that is not part of a larger religion and that is regarded as outside the norm; followers of an exclusive system of beliefs and practices
59. intellectual f\_\_t *n.* a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery
60. cr\_\_\_\_\_c language *adj.* having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature
61. 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
62. the int\_\_\_\_\_ion of history *n.* an explanation or opinion of something, especially that is not immediately obvious

ANSWERS: 53. silent, 54. vex, 55. fascination, 56. refuse, 57. endlessly, 58. cult, 59. feat, 60. cryptic, 61. debate, 62. interpretation



63. distance g\_p *n.* a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.
64. mo\_\_\_\_\_nt of troops *n.* a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively
65. mys\_\_\_\_\_us object *adj.* difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement
66. a literary ge\_\_e *n.* a particular type or style of literature, art, music, or film that involves a particular set of characteristics
67. pr\_\_e fiction *n.* a type of written or spoken language that is not organized in verse or rhyme
68. rhythmical pr\_\_e *n.* a type of written or spoken language that is not organized in verse or rhyme
69. st\_\_\_\_\_le against discrimination *v.* to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
70. a dy\_\_\_\_\_c market *adj.* having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies)
71. repeat en\_\_\_\_\_ly *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

ANSWERS: 63. gap, 64. movement, 65. mysterious, 66. genre, 67. prose, 68. prose, 69. struggle, 70. dynamic, 71. endlessly

72. co\_\_\_\_\_um of choice *n.* a confusing and difficult problem or question
73. playful ba\_\_\_r *n.* playful and teasing conversation between friends or acquaintances, characterized by good-natured teasing and humor; (verb) to engage in good-natured teasing or playful conversation with someone in a lighthearted and humorous way
74. the br\_\_d of the new car *n.* a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning
75. vitreous hu\_\_r *n.* the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body
76. res\_\_\_\_\_ce to insulin *n.* the act of defending oneself from an aggressor or refusing to accept something
77. cr\_\_\_\_\_c crossword *adj.* having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature
78. sp\_\_\_\_\_te about the reason *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
79. ab\_\_\_d storyline *adj.* ridiculously silly, unreasonable, or illogical
80. s\_\_p seats *v.* to give something and receive something in trade
81. inc\_\_\_\_\_te technology into daily life *v.* to include something as a part of a larger entity

ANSWERS: 72. conundrum, 73. banter, 74. brand, 75. humor, 76. resistance, 77. cryptic, 78. speculate, 79. absurd, 80. swap, 81. incorporate

82. bi\_\_\_r over small things      *v.* to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms
83. ovarian cancer su\_\_\_\_or      *n.* a person who remains alive after an event in which others have died
84. financial dev\_\_\_\_\_on      *n.* the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
85. chronic bo\_\_\_\_m      *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
86. an un\_\_\_\_r match      *adj.* poorly stated or described and therefore not easy to understand; not easy to perceive
87. bo\_\_\_\_m relief      *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
88. li\_\_\_\_ng commitment      *adj.* lasting for the whole of someone's life
89. f\_\_t accomplishment      *n.* a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery
90. drinking co\_\_\_\_\_ons      *n.* a person or an animal with whom you spend a lot of time, or you travel
91. develop in\_\_\_\_\_e itching      *adj.* (especially of a feeling) very strong; extremely sharp or severe
92. un\_\_\_n coating      *adj.* not level or flat; not balanced or symmetrical

ANSWERS: 82. bicker, 83. survivor, 84. devastation, 85. boredom, 86. unclear, 87. boredom, 88. lifelong, 89. feat, 90. companion, 91. intense, 92. uneven

93. co\_\_\_\_\_ss hours *adj.* too numerous to be counted or very many
94. ci\_\_\_\_\_ar economy *adj.* shaped like a circle; having a round form
95. pa\_\_e a moment *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
96. rep\_\_\_\_\_on of the word *n.* the act of doing or saying something many times
97. su\_\_\_\_\_e beforehand *v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
98. na\_\_\_\_\_ve poetry *n.* a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story
99. mo\_\_\_\_\_n poetry *adj.* of or belonging to the present time or recent times
100. the cy\_\_e of the seasons *n.* an interval during which a recurring sequence of events occurs; a bicycle or motorcycle
101. a g\_\_m-featured man *adj.* looking or sounding very serious or gloomy
102. a single su\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* a person who remains alive after an event in which others have died
103. p\_\_t twist *n.* a secret plan or scheme to achieve a specific goal; the plan or main story of a literary work; (verb) to plan secretly, usually something illegal
104. ba\_\_\_r back and forth *n.* playful and teasing conversation between friends or acquaintances, characterized by good-natured teasing and humor; (verb) to engage in good-natured teasing or playful conversation with someone in a lighthearted and humorous way

ANSWERS: 93. countless, 94. circular, 95. pause, 96. repetition, 97. suppose, 98. narrative, 99. modern, 100. cycle, 101. grim, 102. survivor, 103. plot, 104. banter

105. e\_o defense mechanisms *n.* a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one
106. en\_\_\_\_\_ic behavior *adj.* difficult to understand or explain; mysterious or puzzling
107. create a br\_\_d logo *n.* a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning
108. 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
109. dr\_\_d failure *v.* to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen
110. de\_\_\_e on a course of action *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
111. Platonic di\_\_\_\_\_ues *n.* a conversation in a book, play, or film
112. national e\_o *n.* a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one
113. dec\_\_\_\_\_ct the existing system *v.* to break something down into its separate parts to interpret or analyze it; to interpret or analyze a text, an artwork, etc. to show that there is no fixed meaning

ANSWERS: 105. ego, 106. enigmatic, 107. brand, 108. debate, 109. dread, 110. decide, 111. dialogue, 112. ego, 113. deconstruct

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 114. an im____nt feeling              | <i>adj.</i> lacking power or ability to change things or to influence a situation   |
| 115. optical il____on                 | <i>n.</i> a false idea or belief, especially about somebody or about a situation  |
| 116. personal na____ve                | <i>n.</i> a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story  |
| 117. ho____ss situation               | <i>adj.</i> having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success   |
| 118. modern po____y                   | <i>n.</i> poems in general as a genre of literature   |
| 119. walk on____e                     | <i>adv.</i> onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience  |
| 120. unintended en____re              | <i>n.</i> (also entente) a word or expression that has a double meaning, often one that is sexual or suggestive   |
| 121. em____e as a butterfly           | <i>v.</i> to move out of or away from something and become visible  |
| 122. dr__d getting old                | <i>v.</i> to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen  |
| 123. pre-mo____n agricultural society | <i>adj.</i> of or belonging to the present time or recent times   |
| 124. sp__k his interest               | <i>v.</i> to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity  |
| 125. s__k a buzzer-beater             | <i>v.</i> to submerge or go down below the surface of a liquid or substance; to decline or deteriorate; to cause something to go down into a liquid substance or sink into something else |

ANSWERS: 114. impotent, 115. illusion, 116. narrative, 117. hopeless, 118. poetry, 119. onstage, 120. entendre, 121. emerge, 122. dread, 123. modern, 124. spark, 125. sink

126. open to int\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* an explanation or opinion of something, especially that is not immediately obvious
127. co\_\_\_\_\_m a transaction *v.* to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case
128. sardonic hu\_\_r *n.* the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body
129. su\_\_\_\_\_l art *adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
130. de\_\_\_e a question *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
131. sp\_\_k a chain reaction *v.* to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity
132. severe cr\_\_\_c *n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
133. the ja\_\_\_d outline of the crags *adj.* having a rough and sharply uneven surface or outline
134. p\_\_t a revolution *n.* a secret plan or scheme to achieve a specific goal; the plan or main story of a literary work; (verb) to plan secretly, usually something illegal
135. ID card *n.* a part of the psyche that represents the unconscious desires and instincts of an individual; in psychoanalytic theory, it is believed to be the most basic and primal part of the human psyche; (also ID, short for identification) a document or card that proves a person's identity, such as a driver's license, passport, or national ID card

ANSWERS: 126. interpretation, 127. confirm, 128. humor, 129. surreal, 130. decide, 131. spark, 132. critic, 133. jagged, 134. plot, 135. id

136. in no un\_\_\_\_r terms *adj.* poorly stated or described and therefore not easy to understand; not easy to perceive
137. d\_\_k sky *n.* the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight
138. a quick te\_\_o *n.* the speed at which a piece of music is performed
139. freedom of re\_\_\_\_on *n.* a deep conviction in a supernatural power that controls human destiny
140. li\_\_\_\_ng career *adj.* lasting for the whole of someone's life
141. a working co\_\_\_\_on *n.* a person or an animal with whom you spend a lot of time, or you travel
142. a cl\_\_n act *n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
143. the d\_n of the university *n.* a Spanish gentleman; a university lecturer, especially a senior member of a college at Oxford or Cambridge
144. pose a co\_\_\_\_um *n.* a confusing and difficult problem or question
145. s\_\_p columns with rows *v.* to give something and receive something in trade
146. co\_\_\_\_m the diagnosis *v.* to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case
147. in\_\_\_\_e heat *adj.* (especially of a feeling) very strong; extremely sharp or severe

ANSWERS: 136. unclear, 137. dusk, 138. tempo, 139. religion, 140. lifelong, 141. companion, 142. clown, 143. Don, 144. conundrum, 145. swap, 146. confirm, 147. intense



148. play a pro\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories
149. d\_\_y the allegations *v.* to state that one refuses to admit the existence or truth of something
150. sexually im\_\_\_\_\_nt *adj.* lacking power or ability to change things or to influence a situation
151. the form of a di\_\_\_\_\_ue *n.* a conversation in a book, play, or film
152. a pr\_\_\_\_\_nd book *adj.* extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly; displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension
153. humorous en\_\_\_\_\_re *n.* (also entente) a word or expression that has a double meaning, often one that is sexual or suggestive
154. numerous un\_\_\_\_\_in factors *adj.* not being sure of something; not being able to choose
155. su\_\_\_\_\_e attack *n.* the act of killing yourself intentionally
156. an\_\_\_\_\_s about his health *adj.* worried and nervous
157. bi\_\_\_\_r with each other *v.* to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms
158. su\_\_\_\_\_l number *adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
159. bl\_\_d all the elements *v.* to mix or combine two or more substances
160. an ap\_\_\_\_l for help *n.* a serious, earnest, or urgent request for money, information, or help; a quality that makes somebody or something attractive or interest

ANSWERS: 148. protagonist, 149. deny, 150. impotent, 151. dialogue, 152. profound, 153. entendre, 154. uncertain, 155. suicide, 156. anxious, 157. bicker, 158. surreal, 159. blend, 160. appeal

161. ho\_\_\_\_ss at everything *adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
162. the pr\_\_\_\_nd depths of the sea *adj.* extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly; displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension
163. pre\_\_\_\_\_nt decision *n.* a difficult, unpleasant, or embarrassing situation
164. upcoming crime dr\_\_a *n.* a play in a theatre, television, or radio, or performance on a stage
165. the g\_p between ideal and reality *n.* a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.
166. political al\_\_\_\_ry *n.* a story, play, picture, etc. in which the characters and events represent religious or political values, concepts, or morals
167. tr\_\_\_\_c death *adj.* causing great sadness or suffering; very unfortunate
168. draw out your ap\_\_\_\_l *n.* a serious, earnest, or urgent request for money, information, or help; a quality that makes somebody or something attractive or interest
169. dec\_\_\_\_\_ct his method *v.* to break something down into its separate parts to interpret or analyze it; to interpret or analyze a text, an artwork, etc. to show that there is no fixed meaning
170. ge\_\_e of music *n.* a particular type or style of literature, art, music, or film that involves a particular set of characteristics

ANSWERS: 161. hopeless, 162. profound, 163. predicament, 164. drama, 165. gap, 166. allegory, 167. tragic, 168. appeal, 169. deconstruct, 170. genre

171. bi\_\_\_\_e behavior *adj.* very strange or unusual
172. co\_\_\_\_ze planets *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
173. pa\_\_e for a reaction *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
174. an an\_\_\_\_s look *adj.* worried and nervous
175. su\_\_\_\_e you're right *v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
176. int\_\_\_\_on among human beings *n.* the act of connecting with someone, mainly when working, playing, or spending time with them
177. non-ci\_\_\_\_ar orbit *adj.* shaped like a circle; having a round form
178. the int\_\_\_\_on between man and his environment *n.* the act of connecting with someone, mainly when working, playing, or spending time with them
179. subtle, multivalent al\_\_\_\_ry *n.* a story, play, picture, etc. in which the characters and events represent religious or political values, concepts, or morals
180. em\_\_\_\_e from poverty *v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible
181. d\_\_k falls *n.* the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight
182. D\_n Giovanni *n.* a Spanish gentleman; a university lecturer, especially a senior member of a college at Oxford or Cambridge

ANSWERS: 171. bizarre, 172. colonize, 173. pause, 174. anxious, 175. suppose, 176. interaction, 177. circular, 178. interaction, 179. allegory, 180. emerge, 181. dusk, 182. Don

183. res\_\_\_\_\_ce movement *n.* the act of defending oneself from an aggressor or refusing to accept something
184. with fr\_\_\_\_\_c haste *adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
185. s\_\_r up controversy *v.* to mix a liquid or substance by using a spoon or something similar; to cause to be agitated, excited, or roused
186. habitual rep\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act of doing or saying something many times
187. the id ego *n.* a part of the psyche that represents the unconscious desires and instincts of an individual; in psychoanalytic theory, it is believed to be the most basic and primal part of the human psyche; (also ID, short for identification) a document or card that proves a person's identity, such as a driver's license, passport, or national ID card
188. book of po\_\_\_\_y *n.* poems in general as a genre of literature

ANSWERS: 183. resistance, 184. frantic, 185. stir, 186. repetition, 187. id, 188. poetry

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He cast \_\_\_\_\_ glances behind her.  
*adj.* worried and nervous
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ methods for dealing with stress.  
*adj.* too numerous to be counted or very many
3. That statement by the prime minister drew \_\_\_\_\_ international criticism.  
*adj.* (especially of a feeling) very strong; extremely sharp or severe
4. The loud noise from the construction site was starting to \_\_\_\_ the nearby residents.  
*v.* to irritate or annoy with petty frustrations; to cause distress or agitation
5. The economic recession caused \_\_\_\_\_ in the housing market, with many people losing their homes.  
*n.* the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
6. The politician remained \_\_\_\_\_ despite intense media scrutiny.  
*adj.* without any or little sound
7. The road was \_\_\_\_\_ causing the car to bounce up and down as it drove.  
*adj.* not level or flat; not balanced or symmetrical
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ handles multiple plot lines and has unpredictable ends.  
*n.* a story or a description of a series of events or process of telling a story
9. The dreamlike quality of the painting gave it a \_\_\_\_\_ feel.  
*adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality

ANSWERS: 1. anxious, 2. countless, 3. intense, 4. vex, 5. devastation, 6. silent, 7. uneven, 8. narrative, 9. surreal

10. The food chain causes a material \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* an interval during which a recurring sequence of events occurs; a bicycle or motorcycle
11. After months of job searching, he felt \_\_\_\_\_ and unsure of his future.
- adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
12. My initial reaction was to \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to show that one is not willing to do or accept something
13. He needed to resolve the problem as soon as possible, so he made an \_\_\_\_\_ directly.
- n.* a serious, earnest, or urgent request for money, information, or help; a quality that makes somebody or something attractive or interest
14. European powers \_\_\_\_\_ much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.
- v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ between the two colleagues lightened the mood in the office.
- n.* playful and teasing conversation between friends or acquaintances, characterized by good-natured teasing and humor; (verb) to engage in good-natured teasing or playful conversation with someone in a lighthearted and humorous way
16. My wife seems to be in ill \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the quality of being amusing or funny; the liquid parts of the body
17. She employed a rigorous intellectual framework to \_\_\_\_\_ various categories of literature.
- v.* to break something down into its separate parts to interpret or analyze it; to interpret or analyze a text, an artwork, etc. to show that there is no fixed meaning

ANSWERS: 10. cycle, 11. hopeless, 12. refuse, 13. appeal, 14. colonized, 15. banter,

16. humor, 17. deconstruct

18. He could not \_\_\_\_\_ against temptation.

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

19. He is known for creating \_\_\_\_\_ paintings.

- n.* a particular type or style of literature, art, music, or film that involves a particular set of characteristics

20. We will attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ some of your suggestions into our future strategy.

- v.* to include something as a part of a larger entity

21. It is important not to undertake tasks with \_\_\_\_\_ objectives to improve productivity.

- adj.* poorly stated or described and therefore not easy to understand; not easy to perceive

22. She was constantly trying to boost her \_\_\_\_ by talking about her accomplishments.

- n.* a consciousness of your own identity; a person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, especially inflated one

23. He could never go against what \_\_\_\_ Carlos said.

- n.* a Spanish gentleman; a university lecturer, especially a senior member of a college at Oxford or Cambridge

24. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the music was slow and soothing.

- n.* the speed at which a piece of music is performed

25. 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

ANSWERS: 18. struggle, 19. genre-busting, 20. incorporate, 21. unclear, 22. ego, 23. Don, 24. tempo, 25. resistance



26. Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
27. The \_\_\_\_\_ ancient civilization's disappearance remains unsolved.
- adj.* difficult to understand or explain; mysterious or puzzling
28. He was in a \_\_\_\_\_ and didn't know how to escape it.
- n.* a difficult, unpleasant, or embarrassing situation
29. He is in \_\_\_\_\_ searching for a new job since he has no experience in the field.
- adj.* having an excessively high opinion of oneself; excessively concerned with one's appearance or achievements; producing no result or effect, or being unsuccessful
30. There's a new \_\_\_\_\_ of hero in the movies now.
- n.* a type of product, service, etc., made by a particular company and sold under a specific name; identification mark on the skin of livestock, criminals, etc., made by burning
31. He \_\_\_\_\_ that this investment would lead to success.
- v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
32. The \_\_\_\_\_ couch had seen better days.
- adj.* (of a building or object) in poor condition through age and neglect
33. My siblings always \_\_\_\_\_ over who gets the front seat in the car.
- v.* to engage in a petty or argumentative disagreement, often characterized by back-and-forth exchanges and trivial accusations or criticisms

ANSWERS: 26. critics, 27. enigmatic, 28. predicament, 29. vain, 30. brand, 31. speculated, 32. shabby, 33. bicker

34. The novel was written in \_\_\_\_\_ with no rhyme or meter.  
*n.* a type of written or spoken language that is not organized in verse or rhyme
35. The \_\_\_\_\_ triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.  
*n.* the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories
36. The \_\_\_\_\_ disappearance of the ship remains unsolved.  
*adj.* difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement
37. He recorded the \_\_\_\_\_ at the time of the incident.  
*n.* a conversation in a book, play, or film
38. What do you \_\_\_\_\_ the culprit's motive was?  
*v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
39. The double \_\_\_\_\_ in the comedian's joke had the audience laughing.  
*n.* (also entente) a word or expression that has a double meaning, often one that is sexual or suggestive
40. The \_\_\_\_\_ in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.  
*n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
41. We all \_\_\_\_\_ to think about what will happen if the company goes bankrupt.  
*v.* to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen
42. The \_\_\_\_\_ leader promised his followers that they would achieve enlightenment if they followed his teachings.  
*n.* a small religious group, especially one that is not part of a larger religion and that is regarded as outside the norm; followers of an exclusive system of beliefs and practices

ANSWERS: 34. prose, 35. protagonist's, 36. mysterious, 37. dialogue, 38. suppose, 39. entendre, 40. ambiguity, 41. dread, 42. cult

43. The toad altered its appearance to better \_\_\_\_\_ in with its new environments.  
*v.* to mix or combine two or more substances
44. The truth was more \_\_\_\_\_ than expected.  
*adj.* very strange or unusual
45. The result presented a \_\_\_\_\_ picture of inefficiency and corruption.  
*adj.* looking or sounding very serious or gloomy
46. By using this \_\_\_\_\_ we can teach moral lessons.  
*n.* a story, play, picture, etc. in which the characters and events represent religious or political values, concepts, or morals
47. He had a \_\_\_\_\_ love of reading and spent hours daily with a book.  
*adj.* lasting for the whole of someone's life
48. The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
49. There are several \_\_\_\_\_ limestone peaks throughout the mountains.  
*adj.* having a rough and sharply uneven surface or outline
50. The \_\_\_\_\_ events of the war left many families torn apart.  
*adj.* causing great sadness or suffering; very unfortunate
51. I looked at the painting in \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

ANSWERS: 43. blend, 44. bizarre, 45. grim, 46. allegory, 47. lifelong, 48. boredom, 49. jagged, 50. tragic, 51. fascination

52. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the novel centers around a group of friends who uncover a conspiracy to control the world's water supply.
- n.* a secret plan or scheme to achieve a specific goal; the plan or main story of a literary work; (verb) to plan secretly, usually something illegal
53. She had an audition for \_\_\_\_\_ school.
- n.* a play in a theatre, television, or radio, or performance on a stage
54. Their \_\_\_\_\_ strictly prohibits them from drinking or gambling.
- n.* a deep conviction in a supernatural power that controls human destiny
55. Many people are working together to close the gender \_\_\_\_.
- n.* a conspicuous disparity or difference separates something such as a figure, people, their opinions, situation, etc.
56. The bankruptcy of the giant conglomerate \_\_\_\_\_ turmoil in the stock market.
- v.* to start something or make it grow, especially suddenly; to emit a tiny piece of fire or electricity
57. The \_\_\_\_\_ shape of the planet makes it difficult to determine which direction is north.
- adj.* shaped like a circle; having a round form
58. She was \_\_\_\_\_ about her friend's intentions.
- adj.* not being sure of something; not being able to choose
59. Modern medicine was largely \_\_\_\_\_ against the disease.
- adj.* lacking power or ability to change things or to influence a situation

ANSWERS: 52. plot, 53. drama, 54. religion, 55. gap, 56. sparked, 57. circular, 58. uncertain, 59. impotent

60. Different cultures have different comfortable word rhythms, so the composition of \_\_\_\_\_ varies greatly.

*n.* poems in general as a genre of literature

61. My mother's illness had a \_\_\_\_\_ impact on us all.

*adj.* extremely great; sensed or experienced very strongly; displaying a high level of knowledge or comprehension

62. The company's logo is a registered \_\_\_\_\_ on a global scale.

*n.* a name or symbol on a product that indicates it was made by a particular company and cannot be used without permission by other companies

63. Topics related to that war may \_\_\_\_\_ up a political hornets' nest.

*v.* to mix a liquid or substance by using a spoon or something similar; to cause to be agitated, excited, or roused

64. The procession of demonstrators was \_\_\_\_\_ continuing.

*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

65. The man \_\_\_\_\_ before opening the door.

*v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

66. Her dog is her excellent \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* a person or an animal with whom you spend a lot of time, or you travel

67. Their headquarters are in a \_\_\_\_\_ skyscraper.

*adj.* of or belonging to the present time or recent times

68. It is an incredible \_\_\_\_\_ to climb Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world.

*n.* a notable or impressive achievement, especially one that requires great skill or bravery

ANSWERS: 60. poetry, 61. profound, 62. trademark, 63. stir, 64. endlessly, 65. paused, 66. companion, 67. modern, 68. feat

69. The message was so \_\_\_\_\_ that I had no idea what it meant.

*adj.* having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature

70. The \_\_\_\_\_ landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.

*adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world

71. 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

72. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the dancers on stage was graceful and elegant.

*n.* a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively

73. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the two groups is good for brainstorming.

*n.* the act of connecting with someone, mainly when working, playing, or spending time with them

74. In an economically prosperous country, most male \_\_\_\_\_ is due to child support problems.

*n.* the act of killing yourself intentionally

75. During colonial eras, new migratory patterns \_\_\_\_\_.

*v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible

ANSWERS: 69. cryptic, 70. apocalyptic, 71. debate, 72. movement, 73. interaction, 74. suicide, 75. emerged

76. He could no longer tell the difference between \_\_\_\_\_ and reality.  
*n.* a false idea or belief, especially about somebody or about a situation
77. She couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.  
*v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
78. He performed his magic trick \_\_\_\_\_ leaving the audience in awe.  
*adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
79. The slow internet connection \_\_\_\_\_ him as he tried to stream his favorite show.  
*v.* to make someone extremely angry or irritated, often to the point of losing control or rationality; to become irrational or frenzied with anger or frustration
80. He is still \_\_\_\_\_ stealing the money from the cash register.  
*v.* to state that one refuses to admit the existence or truth of something
81. \_\_\_\_\_ is the mother of all learning.  
*n.* the act of doing or saying something many times
82. The mother was \_\_\_\_\_ as she searched for her lost child.  
*adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
83. We immediately rejected his \_\_\_\_\_ suggestion.  
*adj.* ridiculously silly, unreasonable, or illogical
84. The shipwreck \_\_\_\_\_ was rescued after floating in the ocean for three days.  
*n.* a person who remains alive after an event in which others have died

ANSWERS: 76. illusion, 77. decide, 78. onstage, 79. maddened, 80. denying, 81. Repetition, 82. frantic, 83. absurd, 84. survivor

85. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ horses while crossing a stream.

*v.* to give something and receive something in trade

86. The abandoned ship slowly began to \_\_\_\_\_ into the murky waters of the harbor.

*v.* to submerge or go down below the surface of a liquid or substance; to decline or deteriorate; to cause something to go down into a liquid substance or sink into something else

87. His \_\_\_\_\_ of literary works are often unique.

*n.* an explanation or opinion of something, especially that is not immediately obvious

88. I recently \_\_\_\_\_ dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.

*v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

89. The group faced a \_\_\_\_\_ when they couldn't decide whether to go hiking or to the beach.

*n.* a confusing and difficult problem or question

90. The sky turned a beautiful orange hue at \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight

91. She dressed up as a Halloween \_\_\_\_\_ with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.

*n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences

92. I forgot my \_\_\_\_\_ at home and needed it to enter the club.

*n.* a part of the psyche that represents the unconscious desires and instincts of an individual; in psychoanalytic theory, it is believed to be the most basic and primal part of the human psyche; (also ID, short for identification) a document or card that proves a person's identity, such as a driver's license, passport, or national ID card



ANSWERS: 85. swap, 86. sink, 87. interpretations, 88. contemplated, 89. conundrum, 90. dusk, 91. clown, 92. ID

93. The sprinter has a \_\_\_\_\_ way of running.

*adj.* having a lot of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and a strong personality; of or relating to dynamics (= the branch of physics and engineering concerned with the forces that cause motions of bodies)

94. Please write to \_\_\_\_\_ your reservation.

*v.* to support or establish the truth or certainty of something previously believed or suspected to be the case

ANSWERS: 93. dynamic, 94. confirm