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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Hugo Mercier: How can you change someone's mind? | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

scenario

n. a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work

synonym: plan, scheme, procedure

(1) the worst case **scenario**, (2) number of different **scenarios**

The president prepared several possible **scenarios** for an enemy attack.

confident

adj. feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future

synonym: certain, sure, convinced

(1) feel **confident**, (2) a **confident** remark

I'm not **confident** in our victory.

examine

v. to study or consider a person or object attentively and thoroughly to learn something about them

synonym: study, probe, analyze

(1) **examine** the data studiously, (2) **examine** the issue

Initially, we must **examine** all project-related expenses.

attitude

n. the way you think and feel about someone or something

synonym: mindset, perspective, philosophy

(1) **attitude** toward mistakes, (2) **attitude** control

She had the **attitude** that work was fun.

regard

v. to think about or consider somebody or something in a specified way

synonym: consider, see, reckon

(1) **regard** him as an enemy, (2) **regard** the situation as unfortunate

Frugality and industry are still **regarded** as virtues.

participate

v. to take part in something

synonym: take part, partake, enter

(1) **participate** fully in conversation, (2) **participate** in the program

The majority of students actively **participated** in the college's intramural sports program.

mass

n. a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together

synonym: abundance, crowd, mob

(1) a **mass** of molten rock, (2) critical **mass**

The **mass** of people who do not own property is politically impotent.

destruction

n. the act of causing so much damage to something

synonym: devastation, annihilation, ruin

(1) path of **destruction**, (2) cyclonic **destruction**

The extinction of several subspecies has been linked to climate change and habitat **destruction**.

convinced

adj. completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion

synonym: confident, positive, indoctrinated

(1) **convinced** of the idea, (2) **convinced** criminal

The public is **convinced** that the prime minister has committed fraud.

argument

n. a set of statements or reasons used to support or refute a proposition or theory; a verbal or physical fight or dispute

synonym : debate, discourse, discussion

(1) a blazing **argument**, (2) the **argument** against capital punishment

The **argument** between the two sides over the proposed policy was heated.

backfire

v. to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion

synonym : recoil, boomerang, misfire

(1) **backfire** big time, (2) **backfire** spectacularly

The company's decision to lay off a large number of employees **backfired** as it led to a decrease in productivity.

convincing

adj. able to make someone believe that something is true

synonym : clear, compelling, believable

(1) a **convincing** victory, (2) **convincing** biochemical explanation

I found her assertion pretty **convincing**.

mathematics

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

synonym : arithmetic, calculation, calculus

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

He has a flair for **mathematics**.

tease

v. to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

synonym : bully, annoy, provoke

(1) **tease** the children, (2) **tease** wool

This ad is intended to **tease** a competing product.

conclude

v. to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning

synonym: complete, finish, decide

(1) **conclude** a meeting, (2) **conclude** that he is healthy

We **concluded** a cease-fire.

proof

n. a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists

synonym: testimony, evidence, assurance

(1) documentary **proof**, (2) a geometric **proof**

Proof is better than argument.

upend

v. to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order

synonym: overturn, upset, invert

(1) **upend** a table, (2) **upend** a tradition

The sudden news **upended** their plans for the weekend.

brilliant

adj. extremely clever, skilled, or impressive

synonym: luminous, intelligent, clever

(1) **brilliant** idea, (2) **brilliant** performance

The more **brilliant** you are, the more people around you look at you with envy and jealousy.

rely

v. to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.

synonym: depend, count, lean

(1) **rely** on convenience stores, (2) **rely** entirely on him

Babies heavily **rely** on others for food.

axiom

n. a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based

synonym: principle, maxim, postulate

(1) self-evident **axiom**, (2) fundamental **axiom**

It is an **axiom** in mathematics that two parallel lines never intersect.

disagree

v. to have or express a different opinion, idea, etc.

synonym: discord, oppose, dissent

(1) **disagree** about a particular issue, (2) **disagree** with a plan

I **disagree** for reasons already stated above.

involve

v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else

synonym: implicate, include, engage

(1) **involve** a lot of paperwork, (2) **involve** a high degree of risk

The investigation **involves** several government agencies and is expected to take several months.

reconcile

v. to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist

synonym: harmonize, moderate, conciliate

(1) **reconcile** these differences, (2) **reconcile** a dispute

Sometimes it is challenging to **reconcile** science and religion.

logic

n. a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments

synonym: reasoning, reason, ratiocination

(1) an indisputable **logic**, (2) a demonstration in **logic**

There's no **logic** in his description.

estimate

v. to guess or calculate the cost, size, value, etc. of something

synonym: calculate, gauge, evaluate

(1) **estimate** a fair value, (2) **estimate** this chicken to weigh three pounds

We **estimated** the season's total trade deficit at \$50 billion.

statistics

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

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

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

relate

v. to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something

synonym : connect, link, associate

(1) **relate** a story, (2) **relate** a message

He tried to **relate** his experience to the group, but they couldn't understand.

scope

n. the range of one's perceptions, thoughts, or actions, or a subject that

synonym : content, coverage, extent

(1) **scope** of a project, (2) have broad **scope**

The **scope** of human thought is diverse.

climate

n. the weather in a particular location averaged over some long period

synonym : atmosphere, weather, environment

(1) a cold **climate**, (2) effects of **climate** change

Climate and weather have an impact on every part of our lifestyles.

develop

v. to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created

synonym : evolve, progress, advance

(1) **develop** a strategy, (2) **develop** a skill

We must **develop** a new system to streamline our workflow and increase efficiency.

panel

n. a square or rectangular and flat piece of something that forms a distinct section or component of something; a small group of specialists who discuss particular topics or give their advice or opinion about something

synonym: board, commission, discussion

(1) **panel** discussion, (2) cost of solar **panels**

A **panel** of economic advisers from the United States visited the country to help rebuild its economy.

reliable

adj. worthy of being relied on; trustworthy

synonym: dependable, trustworthy, dedicated

(1) **reliable** access, (2) guarantee **reliable** delivery

Trains are **reliable**, inexpensive, and ideal for long-distance travel.

fin

n. a thin flat part on the body of a fish or other aquatic animal used for propulsion or balance

synonym: flipper, appendage, stabilizer

(1) back **fin**, (2) a **fin** of a plane

The shark's powerful **fins** allowed it to swim at high speeds.

definitive

adj. serving to provide a final solution or to end a situation; final and not able to be changed

synonym: conclusive, final, decisive

(1) **definitive** answer, (2) a **definitive** edition

The study provided **definitive** proof of the effectiveness of the new drug.

settle

v. to reach an agreement of disagreement

synonym: inhabit, occupy, decide

(1) **settle** a dispute, (2) **settle** down in the town

I don't want to **settle** for second best.

engaging

adj. attracting, pleasant, or charming

synonym: alluring, interesting, engrossing

(1) **engaging** story, (2) an **engaging** smile

She was disbarred for her **engaging** in fraud.

conduct

v. to organize and carry out a particular activity
synonym: behave, lead, carry on

(1) **conduct** a background check, (2) **conduct** research
Police will **conduct** random breath testing for drunk driving.

background

n. the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem
synonym: ground, experience, backdrop

(1) a **background** color, (2) a criminal **background**
The company's hiring criteria emphasize personality, not a person's **background**.

rank

n. a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others
synonym: position, status, standing

(1) **rank** amateur, (2) high **rank**
He was promoted to the **rank** of captain in the military.

liberal

adj. willing to respect or allow many different types of beliefs or behavior; open-minded
synonym: broad, free, large-minded

(1) a **liberal** arts college, (2) under **liberal** conditions
He is **liberal** in his thoughts.

loyalty

n. the quality of being devoted or faithful to someone or something
synonym: faithfulness, devotion, allegiance

(1) **loyalty** program, (2) earn his **loyalty**
He has always shown great **loyalty** to his friends and family.

attempt

n. an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult
synonym: endeavor, effort, try

(1) the **attempt** to rescue the hostages, (2) a reckless

attempt

The third **attempt** was far more successful.

convince

v. to persuade someone or make someone believe that something is true

synonym : persuade, win over, convert

(1) **convince** her to go with us, (2) **convince** an opponent

I am considering what I should do to **convince** him.

military

adj. relating to or characteristic of members of the armed forces; of or relating to war or warfare

synonym : armed, martial, warlike

(1) a **military** operation, (2) a **military** leader

The **military** academy was known for its strict discipline and training.

employ

v. to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of

synonym : hire, engage, use

(1) **employ** job seekers, (2) **employ** a new method

When making arrests, police officers frequently **employ** excessive force.

disadvantage

n. a drawback or a negative aspect of something; (verb) to put someone or something in an unfavorable position

synonym : detriment, drawback, (verb) disfavor

(1) the **disadvantage** of a plan, (2) **disadvantage** small businesses

A lack of education can be a significant **disadvantage** in today's job market.

nation

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

synonym : country, state, sovereign entity

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

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

formula

n. a group of symbols, letters, or numbers that represent a rule, law, or mathematical statement

synonym: expression, recipe, procedure

(1) structural **formula**, (2) a binomial **formula**

The teacher told the students to memorize the math **formula**.

consensus

n. general agreement or accord in the judgment or opinion reached by a group as a whole

synonym: agreement, accord, harmony

(1) a public **consensus**, (2) **consensus** among scientists

The two parties have reached a **consensus**.

initial

adj. of or happening at the beginning; (noun) the first letter of a word, especially a person's name

synonym: basic, primary, beginning

(1) **initial** velocity, (2) an **initial** letter

They took the **initial** step toward reconciliation.

inclination

n. a tendency or disposition to think, feel, or act in a certain way; a preference or bias; a degree of sloping

synonym: tendency, preference, angle

(1) consumer's **inclination** to spend, (2) the **inclination** of a slope

She had an **inclination** towards the arts.

identify

v. to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are

synonym: determine, specify, recognize

(1) **identify** handwriting, (2) **identify** gene sequences

I will introduce you to how to **identify** the leading causes of the malfunction.

discuss

v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information

on a particular topic

synonym: talk about, converse, debate

(1) **discuss** options, (2) **discuss** solutions

We need to **discuss** the next steps for the project during our meeting tomorrow.

exposed

adj. having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism

synonym: endangered, revealed, disclosed

(1) **exposed** to radiation, (2) an **exposed** rock

Tech companies often employ **exposed** ducts and other materials in their office interiors.

rebuttal

n. a response or argument that opposes or counters a previous statement or claim; a refutation or denial of the validity of an argument or claim

synonym: refutation, counterargument, disproof

(1) **rebuttal** to the argument, (2) **rebuttal** of the claims

The defense attorney offered a strong **rebuttal** to the prosecution's case.

Session 2: Spelling

1. the inc_____on of a slope *n.* a tendency or disposition to think, feel, or act in a certain way; a preference or bias; a degree of sloping
2. a reckless at_____t *n.* an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult
3. co_____ed of the idea *adj.* completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion
4. a demonstration in lo__c *n.* a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments
5. lo_____y program *n.* the quality of being devoted or faithful to someone or something
6. re_____le a dispute *v.* to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist
7. a cold cl_____e *n.* the weather in a particular location averaged over some long period
8. ex_____e the data studiously *v.* to study or consider a person or object attentively and thoroughly to learn something about them
9. es_____te a fair value *v.* to guess or calculate the cost, size, value, etc. of something

ANSWERS: 1. inclination, 2. attempt, 3. convinced, 4. logic, 5. loyalty, 6. reconcile, 7. climate, 8. examine, 9. estimate

10. back f_n *n.* a thin flat part on the body of a fish or other aquatic animal used for propulsion or balance
11. di____s options *v.* to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
12. a good grounding in mat____cs *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
13. number of different sc____ios *n.* a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work
14. re____le these differences *v.* to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist
15. re____d him as an enemy *v.* to think about or consider somebody or something in a specified way
16. en____ng story *adj.* attracting, pleasant, or charming
17. mat____cs competition *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
18. a blazing ar____nt *n.* a set of statements or reasons used to support or refute a proposition or theory; a verbal or physical fight or dispute
19. id____fy handwriting *v.* to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are

ANSWERS: 10. fin, 11. discuss, 12. mathematics, 13. scenario, 14. reconcile, 15. regard, 16. engaging, 17. mathematics, 18. argument, 19. identify

20. high r__k *n.* a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others
21. an in_____l letter *adj.* of or happening at the beginning; (noun) the first letter of a word, especially a person's name
22. em___y a new method *v.* to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of
23. a def_____ve edition *adj.* serving to provide a final solution or to end a situation; final and not able to be changed
24. the worst case sc_____io *n.* a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work
25. a public co_____us *n.* general agreement or accord in the judgment or opinion reached by a group as a whole
26. feel co_____nt *adj.* feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future
27. in_____l velocity *adj.* of or happening at the beginning; (noun) the first letter of a word, especially a person's name
28. a m__s of molten rock *n.* a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together
29. di_____ee about a particular issue *v.* to have or express a different opinion, idea, etc.

ANSWERS: 20. rank, 21. initial, 22. employ, 23. definitive, 24. scenario, 25. consensus, 26. confident, 27. initial, 28. mass, 29. disagree

30. a seafaring na___n *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
31. cyclonic des_____on *n.* the act of causing so much damage to something
32. a f_n of a plane *n.* a thin flat part on the body of a fish or other aquatic animal used for propulsion or balance
33. guarantee re_____le delivery *adj.* worthy of being relied on; trustworthy
34. consumer's inc_____on to spend *n.* a tendency or disposition to think, feel, or act in a certain way; a preference or bias; a degree of sloping
35. co_____ce an opponent *v.* to persuade someone or make someone believe that something is true
36. a geometric pr__f *n.* a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
37. a mi_____ry leader *adj.* relating to or characteristic of members of the armed forces; of or relating to war or warfare
38. up__d a tradition *v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
39. re_____al of the claims *n.* a response or argument that opposes or counters a previous statement or claim; a refutation or denial of the validity of an argument or claim
40. r__y on convenience stores *v.* to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.

ANSWERS: 30. nation, 31. destruction, 32. fin, 33. reliable, 34. inclination, 35. convince, 36. proof, 37. military, 38. upend, 39. rebuttal, 40. rely

41. de____p a strategy *v.* to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created
42. under li____l conditions *adj.* willing to respect or allow many different types of beliefs or behavior; open-minded
43. an en____ng smile *adj.* attracting, pleasant, or charming
44. the dis____age of a plan *n.* a drawback or a negative aspect of something; (verb) to put someone or something in an unfavorable position
45. in____e a high degree of risk *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
46. ba____re spectacularly *v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion
47. ba____re big time *v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion
48. re____al to the argument *n.* a response or argument that opposes or counters a previous statement or claim; a refutation or denial of the validity of an argument or claim
49. a mi____ry operation *adj.* relating to or characteristic of members of the armed forces; of or relating to war or warfare

ANSWERS: 41. develop, 42. liberal, 43. engaging, 44. disadvantage, 45. involve, 46. backfire, 47. backfire, 48. rebuttal, 49. military

50. pa__l discussion *n.* a square or rectangular and flat piece of something that forms a distinct section or component of something; a small group of specialists who discuss particular topics or give their advice or opinion about something
51. br_____nt idea *adj.* extremely clever, skilled, or impressive
52. na___n-state *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
53. par_____te fully in conversation *v.* to take part in something
54. se___e down in the town *v.* to reach an agreement or disagreement
55. re___e a message *v.* to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something
56. par_____te in the program *v.* to take part in something
57. official sta_____cs *n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
58. sc___e of a project *n.* the range of one's perceptions, thoughts, or actions, or a subject that
59. a co_____nt remark *adj.* feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future
60. up__d a table *v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order

ANSWERS: 50. panel, 51. brilliant, 52. nation, 53. participate, 54. settle, 55. relate, 56. participate, 57. statistics, 58. scope, 59. confident, 60. upend

61. a binomial fo____a *n.* a group of symbols, letters, or numbers that represent a rule, law, or mathematical statement
62. de____p a skill *v.* to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created
63. es____te this chicken to weigh three pounds *v.* to guess or calculate the cost, size, value, etc. of something
64. em____y job seekers *v.* to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of
65. a criminal bac____nd *n.* the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem
66. at____de control *n.* the way you think and feel about someone or something
67. structural fo____a *n.* a group of symbols, letters, or numbers that represent a rule, law, or mathematical statement
68. id____fy gene sequences *v.* to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are
69. earn his lo____y *n.* the quality of being devoted or faithful to someone or something
70. the at____t to rescue the hostages *n.* an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult

ANSWERS: 61. formula, 62. develop, 63. estimate, 64. employ, 65. background, 66. attitude, 67. formula, 68. identify, 69. loyalty, 70. attempt

71. a bac_____nd color *n.* the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem
72. co_____t research *v.* to organize and carry out a particular activity
73. br_____nt performance *adj.* extremely clever, skilled, or impressive
74. the ar_____nt against capital punishment *n.* a set of statements or reasons used to support or refute a proposition or theory; a verbal or physical fight or dispute
75. co_____de that he is healthy *v.* to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning
76. te__e wool *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
77. co_____de a meeting *v.* to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning
78. fundamental ax__m *n.* a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based
79. cost of solar pa__ls *n.* a square or rectangular and flat piece of something that forms a distinct section or component of something; a small group of specialists who discuss particular topics or give their advice or opinion about something

ANSWERS: 71. background, 72. conduct, 73. brilliant, 74. argument, 75. conclude, 76. tease, 77. conclude, 78. axiom, 79. panel

80. have broad sc__e *n.* the range of one's perceptions, thoughts, or actions, or a subject that
81. r__y entirely on him *v.* to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.
82. ex____d to radiation *adj.* having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism
83. te__e the children *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
84. re___e a story *v.* to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something
85. a li____l arts college *adj.* willing to respect or allow many different types of beliefs or behavior; open-minded
86. a con_____ng victory *adj.* able to make someone believe that something is true
87. re____le access *adj.* worthy of being relied on; trustworthy
88. di_____ee with a plan *v.* to have or express a different opinion, idea, etc.
89. def_____ve answer *adj.* serving to provide a final solution or to end a situation; final and not able to be changed

ANSWERS: 80. scope, 81. rely, 82. exposed, 83. tease, 84. relate, 85. liberal, 86. convincing, 87. reliable, 88. disagree, 89. definitive

90. in_____e a lot of paperwork *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
91. self-evident ax__m *n.* a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based
92. at_____de toward mistakes *n.* the way you think and feel about someone or something
93. dis_____age small businesses *n.* a drawback or a negative aspect of something; (verb) to put someone or something in an unfavorable position
94. effects of cl_____e change *n.* the weather in a particular location averaged over some long period
95. r__k amateur *n.* a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others
96. co_____ce her to go with us *v.* to persuade someone or make someone believe that something is true
97. documentary pr__f *n.* a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
98. path of des_____on *n.* the act of causing so much damage to something
99. ex_____e the issue *v.* to study or consider a person or object attentively and thoroughly to learn something about them
100. an ex_____d rock *adj.* having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism

ANSWERS: 90. involve, 91. axiom, 92. attitude, 93. disadvantage, 94. climate, 95. rank, 96. convince, 97. proof, 98. destruction, 99. examine, 100. exposed

101. co_____ed criminal	<i>adj.</i> completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion
102. re___d the situation as unfortunate	<i>v.</i> to think about or consider somebody or something in a specified way
103. se___e a dispute	<i>v.</i> to reach an agreement of disagreement
104. co_____us among scientists	<i>n.</i> general agreement or accord in the judgment or opinion reached by a group as a whole
105. di_____s solutions	<i>v.</i> to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
106. sta_____cs for cancer	<i>n.</i> the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
107. co_____t a background check	<i>v.</i> to organize and carry out a particular activity
108. an indisputable lo__c	<i>n.</i> a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments
109. critical m__s	<i>n.</i> a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together
110. con_____ng biochemical explanation	<i>adj.</i> able to make someone believe that something is true

ANSWERS: 101. convinced, 102. regard, 103. settle, 104. consensus, 105. discuss, 106. statistics, 107. conduct, 108. logic, 109. mass, 110. convincing

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. _____ and weather have an impact on every part of our lifestyles.
 - n.* the weather in a particular location averaged over some long period

2. The extinction of several subspecies has been linked to climate change and habitat _____.
 - n.* the act of causing so much damage to something

3. This ad is intended to _____ a competing product.
 - v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

4. The defense attorney offered a strong _____ to the prosecution's case.
 - n.* a response or argument that opposes or counters a previous statement or claim; a refutation or denial of the validity of an argument or claim

5. We _____ the season's total trade deficit at \$50 billion.
 - v.* to guess or calculate the cost, size, value, etc. of something

6. Tech companies often employ _____ ducts and other materials in their office interiors.
 - adj.* having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism

7. Babies heavily _____ on others for food.
 - v.* to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.

ANSWERS: 1. Climate, 2. destruction, 3. tease, 4. rebuttal, 5. estimated, 6. exposed, 7. rely

8. Sometimes it is challenging to _____ science and religion.
- v. to find a way of dealing with two or more ideas, needs, etc. that are opposed to each other to agree and coexist
9. The investigation _____ several government agencies and is expected to take several months.
- v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
10. The company's decision to lay off a large number of employees _____ as it led to a decrease in productivity.
- v. to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion
11. The two parties have reached a _____.
- n. general agreement or accord in the judgment or opinion reached by a group as a whole
12. The _____ of Japan is known for its unique culture and advanced technology.
- n. a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
13. The president prepared several possible _____ for an enemy attack.
- n. a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work
14. I am considering what I should do to _____ him.
- v. to persuade someone or make someone believe that something is true
15. The _____ of people who do not own property is politically impotent.
- n. a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together

ANSWERS: 8. reconcile, 9. involves, 10. backfired, 11. consensus, 12. nation, 13. scenarios, 14. convince, 15. mass

16. There's no _____ in his description.

n. a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments

17. It is an _____ in mathematics that two parallel lines never intersect.

n. a statement or principle that is regarded as being self-evidently true and does not require proof or justification; a fundamental truth upon which other truths or theories are based

18. She had the _____ that work was fun.

n. the way you think and feel about someone or something

19. The _____ between the two sides over the proposed policy was heated.

n. a set of statements or reasons used to support or refute a proposition or theory; a verbal or physical fight or dispute

20. Trains are _____ inexpensive, and ideal for long-distance travel.

adj. worthy of being relied on; trustworthy

21. He was promoted to the _____ of captain in the military.

n. a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others

22. He has a flair for _____.

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

23. A _____ of economic advisers from the United States visited the country to help rebuild its economy.

n. a square or rectangular and flat piece of something that forms a distinct section or component of something; a small group of specialists who discuss particular topics or give their advice or opinion about something

ANSWERS: 16. logic, 17. axiom, 18. attitude, 19. argument, 20. reliable, 21. rank, 22. mathematics, 23. panel

24. I found her assertion pretty _____.

adj. able to make someone believe that something is true

25. Frugality and industry are still _____ as virtues.

v. to think about or consider somebody or something in a specified way

26. He has always shown great _____ to his friends and family.

n. the quality of being devoted or faithful to someone or something

27. The majority of students actively _____ in the college's intramural sports program.

v. to take part in something

28. He is _____ in his thoughts.

adj. willing to respect or allow many different types of beliefs or behavior;
open-minded

29. The more _____ you are, the more people around you look at you with envy and jealousy.

adj. extremely clever, skilled, or impressive

30. A lack of education can be a significant _____ in today's job market.

n. a drawback or a negative aspect of something; (verb) to put someone or something in an unfavorable position

31. I will introduce you to how to _____ the leading causes of the malfunction.

v. to recognize someone or something and say or prove who or what they are

32. I _____ for reasons already stated above.

v. to have or express a different opinion, idea, etc.

ANSWERS: 24. convincing, 25. regarded, 26. loyalty, 27. participated, 28. liberal, 29. brilliant, 30. disadvantage, 31. identify, 32. disagree

33. The shark's powerful _____ allowed it to swim at high speeds.
n. a thin flat part on the body of a fish or other aquatic animal used for propulsion or balance
34. I'm not _____ in our victory.
adj. feeling sure about your abilities or qualities or having trust in people, plans, or the future
35. The study provided _____ proof of the effectiveness of the new drug.
adj. serving to provide a final solution or to end a situation; final and not able to be changed
36. They took the _____ step toward reconciliation.
adj. of or happening at the beginning; (noun) the first letter of a word, especially a person's name
37. _____ is better than argument.
n. a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
38. Initially, we must _____ all project-related expenses.
v. to study or consider a person or object attentively and thoroughly to learn something about them
39. We need to _____ the next steps for the project during our meeting tomorrow.
v. to talk about or examine in detail through conversation or debate; to exchange ideas, opinions, or information on a particular topic
40. She had an _____ towards the arts.
n. a tendency or disposition to think, feel, or act in a certain way; a preference or bias; a degree of sloping

ANSWERS: 33. fins, 34. confident, 35. definitive, 36. initial, 37. Proof, 38. examine, 39. discuss, 40. inclination

41. When making arrests, police officers frequently _____ excessive force.
v. to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of
42. The company's hiring criteria emphasize personality, not a person's _____.
n. the details of a person's social heritage, such as family, vocational or educational experience; past information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem
43. Police will _____ random breath testing for drunk driving.
v. to organize and carry out a particular activity
44. The teacher told the students to memorize the math _____.
n. a group of symbols, letters, or numbers that represent a rule, law, or mathematical statement
45. We must _____ a new system to streamline our workflow and increase efficiency.
v. to grow or expand; to improve or refine through a process of progress and refinement, often to achieve greater sophistication or complexity; to elaborate or add detail to something that is in the process of being created
46. He tried to _____ his experience to the group, but they couldn't understand.
v. to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something
47. I don't want to _____ for second best.
v. to reach an agreement of disagreement

ANSWERS: 41. employ, 42. background, 43. conduct, 44. formula, 45. develop, 46. relate, 47. settle

48. The sudden news _____ their plans for the weekend.
v. to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
49. We _____ a cease-fire.
v. to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning
50. The _____ of human thought is diverse.
n. the range of one's perceptions, thoughts, or actions, or a subject that
51. The third _____ was far more successful.
n. an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult
52. The public is _____ that the prime minister has committed fraud.
adj. completely certain about something; having a strong belief or conviction in a particular religion
53. She was disbarred for her _____ in fraud.
adj. attracting, pleasant, or charming
54. The _____ academy was known for its strict discipline and training.
adj. relating to or characteristic of members of the armed forces; of or relating to war or warfare
55. The _____ demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.
n. the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

ANSWERS: 48. upended, 49. concluded, 50. scope, 51. attempt, 52. convinced, 53. engaging, 54. military, 55. statistics