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Christen Reighter: I don't want children -- stop telling me I'll change my mind | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

muse

n. a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists

synonym : source of inspiration, minstrel, versifier

(1) **muse** inspiration, (2) creative **muse**

She gazed out the window, deep in thought, as if waiting for her **muse** to strike.

intrude

v. to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something

synonym : impose, obtrude, interlope

(1) **intrude** on his personal space, (2) **intrude** on other people's conversations

The loud music from the party next door **intruded** into my peaceful evening at home.

buzzword

n. a word or phrase that is fashionable or popular within a particular industry, field, or culture, often used to convey a sense of innovation or sophistication

synonym : cant, catchphrase, trendy word

(1) **buzzword** bingo, (2) business **buzzwords**

Synergy has become such a **buzzword** in the business world that it has lost its meaning.

abstain

v. to choose not to do something, especially something that one wants to do

synonym: refrain, desist, forbear

(1) **abstain** on a vote, (2) **abstain** from food

She chose to **abstain** from alcohol at the party.

moth

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

(1) **moth** larva, (2) **moth** attracted to the light

The **moth** is a serious threat to the farm's output.

prioritize

v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

synonym: rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

vilify

v. to speak or write about someone or something in a way that is likely to make people have a very low opinion of them

synonym: defame, slander, malign

(1) **vilify** the press, (2) publicly **vilify**

The media has been **vilifying** the politician for his controversial statements.

hereditary

adj. passed down from one generation to another through inheritance

synonym: inherited, transmitted, genetic

(1) a **hereditary** disease, (2) **hereditary** property

A **hereditary** condition is a medical condition caused by a genetic mutation passed down from one's parents.

lifesaving

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

(1) **lifesaving** efforts, (2) **lifesaving** device

The patient needs a **lifesaving** transplant operation.

overpopulation

n. a situation in which the number of people or living organisms in a particular area or environment exceeds the carrying capacity or resources of that area or environment

synonym: population explosion, demographic burden, overcrowding

(1) **overpopulation** problem, (2) **overpopulation** crisis

Many animal species are at risk of extinction due to human **overpopulation** and habitat destruction.

sterilize

v. to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation

synonym: disinfect, sanitize, cleanse

(1) **sterilize** chemically, (2) **sterilize** surfaces

The nurse **sterilized** the instruments before the surgery to prevent any infections.

ligation

n. a surgical procedure or technique that involves tying off or closing blood vessels, ducts, or other anatomical structures using ligatures or other means to stop bleeding or restrict the flow of fluids

synonym: tying, closure

(1) **ligation** of blood vessels, (2) tubal **ligation**

The surgeon conducted a **ligation** procedure to tie off the blood vessels during the surgery.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

synonym: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items

without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

dishearten

v. to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize

synonym: discourage, dismay, demoralize

(1) **dishearten** employees, (2) **dishearten** the hopeful job applicant

The team's loss in the semifinals did not **dishearten** their determination to return stronger next season.

blatant

adj. completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior

synonym: obvious, flagrant, conspicuous

(1) **blatant** hypocrisy, (2) **blatant** disregard

Fact-checkers quickly exposed the politician's **blatant** lie.

disrespect

n. an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something

synonym: impoliteness, rudeness, insult

(1) mean no **disrespect**, (2) **disrespect** for a customer
His **disrespectful** behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.

condescending

adj. having or showing a feeling of superiority; patronizing

synonym: patronizing, superior, haughty

(1) **condescending** tone, (2) **condescending** smile

He had a **condescending** attitude towards those less fortunate than himself.

perplexity

n. confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled

synonym: confusion, bewilderment, uncertainty

(1) a **perplexity** issue, (2) resolve **perplexity**

The **perplexity** of the situation left everyone at a loss for words.

daunting

adj. looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something

synonym : intimidating, stunning, disheartening

(1) face the **daunting** reality, (2) seem like a **daunting** task
My homework was **daunting** and complex, but it was also intriguing.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym : cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

whim

n. a sudden idea or desire, especially one that cannot be reasonably explained

synonym : fancy, caprice, whimsy

(1) at the **whim** of circumstance, (2) **whim** of youth
He quit his job on a **whim** and moved to a new city.

reactionary

adj. relating to or advocating a return to a previous state of affairs or method of doing things, typically one that is seen as outdated or regressive

synonym : conservative, backward, regressive

(1) **reactionary** forces, (2) **reactionary** attitudes

The school's administration has a **reactionary** stance on student protests and free speech.

interlace

v. to intertwine or weave together in a pattern or design; to connect or link closely or intricately; to intermix or intermingle

synonym : weave, intertwine, enlace

(1) **interlace** fingers, (2) **interlace** strands of hair

The dancers **interlaced** their movements seamlessly,

creating a stunning choreography.

inflated

adj. swollen or blown up, especially with air or gas;
excessively or unreasonably high

synonym : enlarged, swollen, distended

(1) **inflated** prices, (2) an **inflated** balloon

The athlete's ego became **inflated** by their success.

interrogative

adj. relating to or used for asking questions; having the
nature or function of an interrogation

synonym : questioning, inquiring

(1) **interrogative** expression, (2) **interrogative** sentence

The teacher used an **interrogative** tone to ask the students a question.

childbearing

n. the act of giving birth to or bearing a child (or children),
often in the context of medical or demographic research
or public policy

synonym : accouchement, childbirth, maternity

(1) **childbearing** capacity, (2) **childbearing** at a later age

Many women delay **childbearing** until their careers are established.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

synonym : health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**

We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

gamble

v. to take risky action in the hope of being successful; to
play or game for money or other stakes

synonym : bet, venture, wager

(1) **gamble** \$100 on the race, (2) **gamble** away my fortune

Will you **gamble** on the result of the fight?

paternalism

n. the practice or belief of governing or managing
individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to

be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy

synonym : guardianship, fatherliness

(1) **paternalism** in healthcare, (2) critique of **paternalism**

The CEO's leadership style was characterized by **paternalism** towards his employees.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym : suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

offend

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

synonym : insult, hurt, anger

(1) **offend** his sensibilities, (2) **offend** a customer

His rude comments **offended** many people at the party.

belittle

v. to speak or write about someone or something in a way that shows a lack of respect

synonym : degrade, demean, disparage

(1) **belittle** his ability, (2) **belittle** through talk

He **belittled** her in front of the office, making her feel small and insignificant.

clench

v. to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress

synonym : grasp, clasp, tighten

(1) **clench** teeth, (2) **clench** muscles

He **clenched** his fist in anger when he heard the bad news.

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.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym: pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus

Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

smallpox

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

synonym: variola

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

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

waver

v. to move in a quivering manner; to become weak

synonym: lurch, sway, wobble

(1) **waver** in purpose, (2) **waver** between work and private life

She didn't **waver** in her decision to pursue her dream career, despite the challenges.

disapproval

n. the act of not liking or agreeing with something; an inclination to withhold approval from some person or group

synonym: condemnation, reproach, censure

(1) showing **disapproval**, (2) **disapproval** rate

Her **disapproval** of his actions was evident in her cold demeanor.

cling

v. to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something

synonym: stick, adhere, attach

(1) **cling** onto power, (2) **cling** tightly to the skin

He **clings** to the hope that he will find a job soon.

firsthand

adv. from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source

synonym : direct

(1) hear customer's voices **firsthand**, (2) conduct **firsthand** research

The manager tried to hear customers' voices **firsthand**.

womanhood

n. the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman

synonym : femininity, womanliness, womanly nature

(1) **womanhood** experience, (2) embrace **womanhood**

The celebration of **womanhood** is often disregarded in male-dominated industries.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

synonym : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

forego

v. to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation

synonym : antecede, precede, relinquish

(1) **forego** dessert, (2) **forego** the privilege

The company decided to **forego** the expensive advertising campaign and instead rely on word of mouth.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. sm____ox epidemic | <i>n.</i> a highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, weakness, spots on the skin, and often death |
| 2. a sense of wel_____ng | <i>n.</i> the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous |
| 3. cl__g onto power | <i>v.</i> to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something |
| 4. dis_____al rate | <i>n.</i> the act of not liking or agreeing with something; an inclination to withhold approval from some person or group |
| 5. in___t a computer with a virus | <i>v.</i> to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism |
| 6. int_____ive sentence | <i>adj.</i> relating to or used for asking questions; having the nature or function of an interrogation |
| 7. dis_____en employees | <i>v.</i> to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize |
| 8. chi_____ing capacity | <i>n.</i> the act of giving birth to or bearing a child (or children), often in the context of medical or demographic research or public policy |
| 9. seem like a da_____ng task | <i>adj.</i> looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something |

ANSWERS: 1. smallpox, 2. well-being, 3. cling, 4. disapproval, 5. infect, 6. interrogative, 7. dishearten, 8. childbearing, 9. daunting

10. hear customer's voices fi_____nd *adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
11. mean no dis_____ct *n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
12. lif_____ng efforts *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
13. publicly vi____y *v.* to speak or write about someone or something in a way that is likely to make people have a very low opinion of them
14. con_____ing tone *adj.* having or showing a feeling of superiority; patronizing
15. dis_____en the hopeful job applicant *v.* to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize
16. ove_____ion crisis *n.* a situation in which the number of people or living organisms in a particular area or environment exceeds the carrying capacity or resources of that area or environment
17. in____t other animal species *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
18. li_____on of blood vessels *n.* a surgical procedure or technique that involves tying off or closing blood vessels, ducts, or other anatomical structures using ligatures or other means to stop bleeding or restrict the flow of fluids
19. ove_____ion problem *n.* a situation in which the number of people or living organisms in a particular area or environment exceeds the carrying capacity or resources of that area or environment

ANSWERS: 10. firsthand, 11. disrespect, 12. lifesaving, 13. vilify, 14. condescending, 15. dishearten, 16. overpopulation, 17. infect, 18. ligation, 19. overpopulation

20. of___d a customer *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
21. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
22. cl___h teeth *v.* to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress
23. w___m of youth *n.* a sudden idea or desire, especially one that cannot be reasonably explained
24. chi_____ing at a later age *n.* the act of giving birth to or bearing a child (or children), often in the context of medical or demographic research or public policy
25. dis_____ct for a customer *n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
26. of___d his sensibilities *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
27. her_____ry property *adj.* passed down from one generation to another through inheritance
28. in_____ce fingers *v.* to intertwine or weave together in a pattern or design; to connect or link closely or intricately; to intermix or intermingle
29. a per_____ty issue *n.* confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled
30. bu_____rd bingo *n.* a word or phrase that is fashionable or popular within a particular industry, field, or culture, often used to convey a sense of innovation or sophistication

ANSWERS: 20. offend, 21. opportune, 22. clench, 23. whim, 24. childbearing, 25. disrespect, 26. offend, 27. hereditary, 28. interlace, 29. perplexity, 30. buzzword

31. m__h larva *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
32. ga___e \$100 on the race *v.* to take risky action in the hope of being successful; to play or game for money or other stakes
33. sm_____ox vaccine *n.* a highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, weakness, spots on the skin, and often death
34. be_____le his ability *v.* to speak or write about someone or something in a way that shows a lack of respect
35. in_____ce strands of hair *v.* to intertwine or weave together in a pattern or design; to connect or link closely or intricately; to intermix or intermingle
36. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
37. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
38. vi___y the press *v.* to speak or write about someone or something in a way that is likely to make people have a very low opinion of them
39. wo_____od experience *n.* the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman

ANSWERS: 31. moth, 32. gamble, 33. smallpox, 34. belittle, 35. interlace, 36. determinant, 37. determinant, 38. vilify, 39. womanhood

40. at the w__m of circumstance *n.* a sudden idea or desire, especially one that cannot be reasonably explained
41. con_____ing smile *adj.* having or showing a feeling of superiority; patronizing
42. p__e a smoother road *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
43. rea_____ry attitudes *adj.* relating to or advocating a return to a previous state of affairs or method of doing things, typically one that is seen as outdated or regressive
44. in_____e on other people's conversations *v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something
45. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
46. conduct fi_____nd research *adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
47. lif_____ng device *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
48. bl_____t disregard *adj.* completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior
49. critique of pat_____sm *n.* the practice or belief of governing or managing individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy

ANSWERS: 40. whim, 41. condescending, 42. pave, 43. reactionary, 44. intrude, 45. moth, 46. firsthand, 47. lifesaving, 48. blatant, 49. paternalism

50. resolve per_____ty *n.* confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled
51. cl___h muscles *v.* to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress
52. showing dis_____al *n.* the act of not liking or agreeing with something; an inclination to withhold approval from some person or group
53. the wel_____ng of a nation *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
54. pri_____ze tasks *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
55. st_____ze surfaces *v.* to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation
56. fo___o the privilege *v.* to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation
57. an in_____ed balloon *adj.* swollen or blown up, especially with air or gas; excessively or unreasonably high
58. face the da_____ng reality *adj.* looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something
59. bl_____t hypocrisy *adj.* completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior
60. creative m___e *n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists

ANSWERS: 50. perplexity, 51. clench, 52. disapproval, 53. well-being, 54. prioritize, 55. sterilize, 56. forego, 57. inflated, 58. daunting, 59. blatant, 60. muse

61. ab____n from food *v.* to choose not to do something, especially something that one wants to do
62. int____ive expression *adj.* relating to or used for asking questions; having the nature or function of an interrogation
63. 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
64. wa__r in purpose *v.* to move in a quivering manner; to become weak
65. op____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
66. wa__r between work and private life *v.* to move in a quivering manner; to become weak
67. pri____ze people over cars *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
68. embrace wo____od *n.* the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman
69. ab____n on a vote *v.* to choose not to do something, especially something that one wants to do
70. in____e on his personal space *v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something

ANSWERS: 61. abstain, 62. interrogative, 63. clown, 64. waver, 65. opportune, 66. waver, 67. prioritize, 68. womanhood, 69. abstain, 70. intrude

71. be____le through talk *v.* to speak or write about someone or something in a way that shows a lack of respect
72. fo____o dessert *v.* to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation
73. rea______ry forces *adj.* relating to or advocating a return to a previous state of affairs or method of doing things, typically one that is seen as outdated or regressive
74. st____ze chemically *v.* to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation
75. ga____e away my fortune *v.* to take risky action in the hope of being successful; to play or game for money or other stakes
76. m__e inspiration *n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists
77. cl__g tightly to the skin *v.* to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
78. a her____ry disease *adj.* passed down from one generation to another through inheritance
79. p__e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

ANSWERS: 71. belittle, 72. forego, 73. reactionary, 74. sterilize, 75. gamble, 76. muse, 77. cling, 78. hereditary, 79. pave

80. business bu_____rds *n.* a word or phrase that is fashionable or popular within a particular industry, field, or culture, often used to convey a sense of innovation or sophistication
81. pat_____sm in healthcare *n.* the practice or belief of governing or managing individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy
82. in_____ed prices *adj.* swollen or blown up, especially with air or gas; excessively or unreasonably high
83. 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
84. tubal li_____on *n.* a surgical procedure or technique that involves tying off or closing blood vessels, ducts, or other anatomical structures using ligatures or other means to stop bleeding or restrict the flow of fluids
85. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
86. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something

ANSWERS: 80. buzzword, 81. paternalism, 82. inflated, 83. clown, 84. ligation, 85. empower, 86. empower

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The media has been _____ the politician for his controversial statements.
v. to speak or write about someone or something in a way that is likely to make people have a very low opinion of them

2. He _____ his fist in anger when he heard the bad news.
v. to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress

3. The school's administration has a _____ stance on student protests and free speech.
adj. relating to or advocating a return to a previous state of affairs or method of doing things, typically one that is seen as outdated or regressive

4. Many animal species are at risk of extinction due to human _____ and habitat destruction.
n. a situation in which the number of people or living organisms in a particular area or environment exceeds the carrying capacity or resources of that area or environment

5. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

6. The _____ of the situation left everyone at a loss for words.
n. confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled

7. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.
n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

ANSWERS: 1. vilifying, 2. clenched, 3. reactionary, 4. overpopulation, 5. paved, 6. perplexity, 7. well-being

8. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

9. The company decided to _____ the expensive advertising campaign and instead rely on word of mouth.

v. to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation

10. Synergy has become such a _____ in the business world that it has lost its meaning.

n. a word or phrase that is fashionable or popular within a particular industry, field, or culture, often used to convey a sense of innovation or sophistication

11. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

12. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

13. The teacher used an _____ tone to ask the students a question.

adj. relating to or used for asking questions; having the nature or function of an interrogation

14. The team's loss in the semifinals did not _____ their determination to return stronger next season.

v. to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize

ANSWERS: 8. opportune, 9. forego, 10. buzzword, 11. determinant, 12. offended, 13. interrogative, 14. dishearten

15. My homework was _____ and complex, but it was also intriguing.
adj. looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something
16. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.
v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
17. The organization _____ the needs of the community in its decision-making.
v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
18. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
19. The manager tried to hear customers' voices _____.
adv. from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
20. The surgeon conducted a _____ procedure to tie off the blood vessels during the surgery.
n. a surgical procedure or technique that involves tying off or closing blood vessels, ducts, or other anatomical structures using ligatures or other means to stop bleeding or restrict the flow of fluids
21. The dancers _____ their movements seamlessly, creating a stunning choreography.
v. to intertwine or weave together in a pattern or design; to connect or link closely or intricately; to intermix or intermingle
22. He quit his job on a _____ and moved to a new city.
n. a sudden idea or desire, especially one that cannot be reasonably explained

ANSWERS: 15. daunting, 16. infect, 17. prioritized, 18. empowered, 19. firsthand, 20. ligation, 21. interlaced, 22. whim

23. He _____ her in front of the office, making her feel small and insignificant.
- v.* to speak or write about someone or something in a way that shows a lack of respect
24. He _____ to the hope that he will find a job soon.
- v.* to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
25. 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
26. The celebration of _____ is often disregarded in male-dominated industries.
- n.* the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman
27. Her _____ of his actions was evident in her cold demeanor.
- n.* the act of not liking or agreeing with something; an inclination to withhold approval from some person or group
28. Fact-checkers quickly exposed the politician's _____ lie.
- adj.* completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior
29. She chose to _____ from alcohol at the party.
- v.* to choose not to do something, especially something that one wants to do
30. An outbreak of _____ occurred in the 1920s.
- n.* a highly contagious viral disease characterized by fever, weakness, spots on the skin, and often death

ANSWERS: 23. belittled, 24. clings, 25. clown, 26. womanhood, 27. disapproval, 28. blatant, 29. abstain, 30. smallpox

31. The CEO's leadership style was characterized by _____ towards his employees.
- n.* the practice or belief of governing or managing individuals or groups in a manner that is considered to be nurturing or protective but also limiting or controlling their freedom and autonomy
32. Many women delay _____ until their careers are established.
- n.* the act of giving birth to or bearing a child (or children), often in the context of medical or demographic research or public policy
33. His _____ behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.
- n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
34. The athlete's ego became _____ by their success.
- adj.* swollen or blown up, especially with air or gas; excessively or unreasonably high
35. She gazed out the window, deep in thought, as if waiting for her _____ to strike.
- n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists
36. She didn't _____ in her decision to pursue her dream career, despite the challenges.
- v.* to move in a quivering manner; to become weak
37. A _____ condition is a medical condition caused by a genetic mutation passed down from one's parents.
- adj.* passed down from one generation to another through inheritance

ANSWERS: 31. paternalism, 32. childbearing, 33. disrespectful, 34. inflated, 35. muse, 36. waver, 37. hereditary

38. The patient needs a _____ transplant operation.

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

39. The loud music from the party next door _____ into my peaceful evening at home.

v. to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something

40. The nurse _____ the instruments before the surgery to prevent any infections.

v. to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation

41. Will you _____ on the result of the fight?

v. to take risky action in the hope of being successful; to play or game for money or other stakes

42. The _____ is a serious threat to the farm's output.

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

43. He had a _____ attitude towards those less fortunate than himself.

adj. having or showing a feeling of superiority; patronizing

ANSWERS: 38. lifesaving, 39. intruded, 40. sterilized, 41. gamble, 42. moth, 43. condescending