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Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado: To solve old problems, study new species | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- eel** *n.* a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins
(1) glass **eel**, (2) electric **eel**
The fisherman caught a slippery **eel** while out on the lake.
- vineyard** *n.* a farm where grapes are grown to produce wine
(1) a productive **vineyard**, (2) **vineyard** worker
Vineyards stretch as far as the eye can see.
- drone** *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
synonym: hum, whirr, idler
(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**
He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
- plankton** *n.* tiny forms of plant and animal life that live in water or air on which other animals feed
(1) **plankton** blooms, (2) **plankton** community
Plankton is generally the foundation of the ocean food chain.

jellyfish

n. a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging

synonym: medusa, sea nettle, moon jelly

(1) spineless **jellyfish**, (2) **jellyfish** sting

The beach was filled with hundreds of **jellyfish**, so swimming was not recommended.

asexual

adj. lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations

synonym: neutral, sexless, unisex

(1) **asexual** community, (2) **asexual** individual

Asexual reproduction is a common trait found in certain species of plants and animals.

progeny

n. the descendants or offspring of a person, animal, or plant

synonym: offspring, children, descendants

(1) **progeny** viral DNA, (2) **progeny** of plants

The royal family has much **progeny** scattered across the globe.

ancestry

n. the family or the ethnic descent that you come from

synonym: ancestor, family, descent

(1) a distinguished **ancestry**, (2) prehuman **ancestry**

He looked down on the royal **ancestry** of the neighboring country.

invertebrate

n. a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks

synonym: animal, mollusk, worm

(1) **invertebrate** species, (2) study of **invertebrates**

Many species of marine **invertebrates**, such as corals and sponges, are important components of ocean ecosystems.

profoundly

adv. to a great or complete degree; deeply

synonym: deeply, greatly, completely

(1) **profoundly** insightful, (2) sleep **profoundly**

The novel affected her **profoundly**, causing her to question her beliefs and values.

derision

n. contemptuous ridicule or mockery

synonym: ridicule, mockery, satire

(1) laugh in **derision**, (2) public **derision**

The proposal was met with **derision** from the opposition.

crave

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

synonym: desire, yearn, long for

(1) **crave** chocolate, (2) **crave** advice from others

She **craves** success and is always pushing herself to do better.

baffle

v. to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something

synonym: perplex, astound, hinder

(1) **baffle** his plan, (2) **baffle** outside noises

The paradox **baffled** most philosophers.

aggrandize

v. to make someone or something appear more important, powerful, or successful than they are; to exaggerate or embellish someone or something's achievements, reputation, or status

synonym: augment, enhance, magnify

(1) **aggrandize** a story, (2) **aggrandize** the company's reputation

The CEO is trying to **aggrandize** his power by buying out rival companies.

vantage

n. a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage

synonym : advantage, benefit, edge

(1) strategic **vantage**, (2) gain a **vantage**

From our **vantage** point, we could see the whole city skyline.

illuminate

v. to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity

synonym : brighten, light, adorn

(1) **illuminate** a dark hall, (2) **illuminate** my understanding

That biologist **illuminated** the mechanism of heredity.

inroad

n. an advance, progression, or incursion into unfamiliar territory, typically involving force or aggression; a significant or detrimental effect or invasion on a person, organization, or situation

synonym : incursion, invasion, intrusion

(1) **inroad** on privacy, (2) **inroad** on individual rights

The company made significant **inroads** into the international market with its innovative products.

optimism

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

synonym : positiveness, sanguinity, bullishness

(1) sense of **optimism**, (2) political **optimism**

There is considerable **optimism** that the economy will recover soon.

degenerate

v. (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition

synonym : deteriorate, decline, decay

(1) **degenerate** into a disagreement, (2) **degenerate** into recession

The once-thriving city has **degenerated** into a crime-ridden slum.

undesirable

adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance

synonym: objectionable, distasteful, unwanted

(1) **undesirable** outcome, (2) **undesirable** behavior

The smell of the garbage was very **undesirable**.

tame

v. to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training

synonym: domesticate, soften, (adjective) harmless

(1) **tame** a wild beast, (2) a **tame** animal

We have to **tame** substantial financial deficits at first.

unremarkable

adj. ordinary and not particularly interesting

synonym: commonplace, unmemorable, mundane

(1) completely ordinary and **unremarkable**,

(2) **unremarkable** in looks

He was very busy at work but otherwise led an **unremarkable** life.

disparage

v. to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly

synonym: derogate, belittle, criticize

(1) **disparage** my work, (2) **disparage** a company's reputation

He didn't want to **disparage** his colleague in front of their boss.

pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

synonym: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

relentless

adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks

synonym: unyielding, tireless, unremitting

(1) **relentless** attack, (2) face **relentless** pressure

The athlete's **relentless** training paid off in the end.

quantify

v. to express or measure something in numerical terms

synonym: measure, express, determine

(1) **quantify** the results, (2) **quantify** blood flow

He tried to **quantify** the amount of product that was needed to complete the job.

interrogate

v. to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

synonym: question, examine, probe

(1) **interrogate** an enemy soldier, (2) **interrogated** by police

The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately **interrogate** the witness.

confine

v. to restrict the movement of someone or something

synonym: restrict, limit, contain

(1) **confine** themselves solely, (2) **confine** the scope of use

The animal was **confined** in a small cage.

unsatisfying

adj. not fulfilling someone's desires, expectations, or needs; incomplete or inadequate.

synonym: disappointing, dissatisfying, subpar

(1) **unsatisfying** labor, (2) **unsatisfying** reality

The meal was **unsatisfying** and left her feeling hungry an hour later.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym: surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

sliver

n. a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

synonym: splinter, shard, fragment

(1) **sliver** of wood, (2) **sliver** of metal

I had to be careful not to step on a **sliver** of glass on the floor.

oceanic

adj. relating to or characteristic of the ocean or its inhabitants; having to do with the vast expanse of saltwater that covers most of the Earth's surface

synonym: marine, pelagic, sea

(1) **oceanic** climate, (2) **oceanic** exploration

The **oceanic** waves crashed against the shore, creating a mesmerizing sight.

unexplored

adj. not yet examined, investigated, or studied; lacking in knowledge or information; unknown or undiscovered

synonym: uncharted, undiscovered, untapped

(1) **unexplored** ideas, (2) **unexplored** cave

There are many **unexplored** regions of the ocean that scientists hope to study soon.

sorely

adv. to a great extent; greatly or severely; in a way that causes pain, distress, or hardship

synonym: severely, acutely, greatly

(1) **sorely** missed, (2) **sorely** in need

I was **sorely** disappointed when my favorite team lost the game.

starfish

n. marine invertebrate that belongs to the phylum Echinodermata, characterized by a five-armed body shape that resembles a star, typically found on or near the seafloor

synonym: sea star, echinoderm, asteroid

(1) **starfish** arm, (2) **starfish** habitat

The **starfish's** unique shape helps it to escape from predators quickly.

astound

v. to surprise or shock someone with wonder very much
synonym: amaze, astonish, surprise

(1) **astound** everyone, (2) **astound** the viewer

The final result was nothing short of **astounding**.

flatworm

n. a type of simple, soft-bodied invertebrate animal with a flat, ribbon-like shape, including tapeworms and planarians

synonym: tapeworm, planarian, platyhelminthe

(1) **flatworm** regeneration, (2) parasitic **flatworm**

Some **flatworm** species are capable of asexual reproduction, allowing them to colonize new environments rapidly.

Mediterranean

n. the sea encircled by southern Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia

(1) **Mediterranean** agriculture, (2) **Mediterranean** climate

They plan to take a **Mediterranean** cruise.

magician

n. a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects

synonym: illusionist, conjurer, wizard

(1) **magician's** hat, (2) street **magician**

The children were delighted with the **magician's** clever tricks.

amputation

n. the act of cutting off a part of the body surgically

(1) **amputation** of leg, (2) hand **amputation**

Amputation of the limb is a last resort for the patient.

biomedical

adj. relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare

synonym : medical, clinical, health-related

(1) **biomedical** assay, (2) cutting-edge **biomedical**

Biomedical engineering focuses on developing new medical technologies and innovations to improve patient health outcomes.

brunt

n. the force or impact of something, often used to describe the full force of an attack or criticism

synonym : force, pressure, impact

(1) bear the **brunt**, (2) the **brunt** of criticism

The **brunt** of the storm hit the coastal towns the hardest.

garner

v. to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention

synonym : acquire, collect, obtain

(1) **garner** good reviews, (2) **garner** attention

He used his charm and charisma to **garner** support for his campaign.

litany

n. a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests

(1) **litany** of prayers, (2) **litany** of excuses

The **litany** of complaints from unhappy customers reminded us that we needed to improve our service.

intractable

adj. difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate

synonym : obstinate, stubborn, unyielding

(1) **intractable** pain, (2) **intractable** situation

The **intractable** problem defied a solution.

inhabit

v. to live in a specific location; to reside

synonym : settle, occupy, populate

(1) **inhabit** a cave, (2) **inhabit** the stomach

I have no idea what sort of folks **inhabit** the neighborhood.

impede

v. to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress

synonym: hinder, obstruct, block

(1) **impede** a close relationship, (2) **impede** development

The traffic jam **impeded** our progress to reach the destination on time.

astray

adv. away from the right path or direction

synonym: off course, misdirected, wayward

(1) led **astray** by superstition, (2) gone **astray**

He wandered **astray** from the path and got lost in the forest.

multicellular

adj. characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)

synonym: multicelled, many-celled, complex

(1) **multicellular** tissues, (2) **multicellular** life

Multicellular organisms are composed of many specialized cells working together.

ancestral

adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past

synonym: hereditary, inherited, patrimonial

(1) an **ancestral** graveyard, (2) **ancestral** roots

The **ancestral** home has been in the family for generations.

desiccate

v. to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly

synonym: dehydrate, dry up, exsiccate

(1) **desiccate** food, (2) **desiccated** milk

The bricks were **desiccated** by the hot air completely.

majestic

adj. impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner; stately

synonym: grand, stately, regal

(1) a **majestic** figure, (2) a **majestic** sense of purpose

The **majestic** mountain range was a sight to behold.

armament

n. weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense

synonym : weaponry, munitions, arms

(1) **armament** race, (2) naval **armament**

The government is poised to increase its **armament** budget for the coming fiscal year.

clueless

adj. lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

synonym : uninformed, unaware, ignorant

(1) **clueless** in many ways, (2) **clueless** about the situation
She was completely **clueless** as to how to solve the problem.

paraphrase

v. to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

synonym : rephrase, reword, reinterpret

(1) **paraphrase** a poem into prose, (2) **paraphrase** the meaning

He **paraphrased** the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.

inextricable

adj. unable to be separated or escaped from

synonym : inescapable, inseparable, entangled

(1) an **inextricable** part of life, (2) form an **inextricable** bond

The knot was **inextricable**, and she had to use scissors to cut it.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym : braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story

The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

beckon

v. to gesture or signal someone to come nearer or follow;
to encourage or entice someone to do something; to
seem attractive or desirable

synonym : signal, summon, gesture

(1) **beckon** with a hand, (2) **beckon** a taxi

The warm sun and gentle breeze **beckoned** us to spend the
day outside.

Session 2: Spelling

1. deg_____te into a disagreement *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
2. cl_____ss in many ways *adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation
3. ba___e his plan *v.* to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something
4. form an ine_____ble bond *adj.* unable to be separated or escaped from
5. oc_____c climate *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the ocean or its inhabitants; having to do with the vast expanse of saltwater that covers most of the Earth's surface
6. amp_____on of leg *n.* the act of cutting off a part of the body surgically
7. pro_____ly insightful *adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply
8. ga___r good reviews *v.* to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention
9. face rel_____ss pressure *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
10. cutting-edge bio_____al *adj.* relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare

ANSWERS: 1. degenerate, 2. clueless, 3. baffle, 4. inextricable, 5. oceanic, 6. amputation, 7. profoundly, 8. garner, 9. relentless, 10. biomedical

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|---------------------------------|---|
| 11. public de_____on | <i>n.</i> contemptuous ridicule or mockery |
| 12. the speaker's dr__e | <i>n.</i> a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control |
| 13. rel_____ss attack | <i>adj.</i> persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks |
| 14. in___d on individual rights | <i>n.</i> an advance, progression, or incursion into unfamiliar territory, typically involving force or aggression; a significant or detrimental effect or invasion on a person, organization, or situation |
| 15. uns_____ing labor | <i>adj.</i> not fulfilling someone's desires, expectations, or needs; incomplete or inadequate. |
| 16. hand amp_____on | <i>n.</i> the act of cutting off a part of the body surgically |
| 17. fl_____rm regeneration | <i>n.</i> a type of simple, soft-bodied invertebrate animal with a flat, ribbon-like shape, including tapeworms and planarians |
| 18. je_____sh sting | <i>n.</i> a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging |
| 19. ill_____te a dark hall | <i>v.</i> to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity |
| 20. de_____te food | <i>v.</i> to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly |

ANSWERS: 11. derision, 12. drone, 13. relentless, 14. inroad, 15. unsatisfying, 16. amputation, 17. flatworm, 18. jellyfish, 19. illuminate, 20. desiccate

21. deg_____te into recession *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
22. an ine_____ble part of life *adj.* unable to be separated or escaped from
23. so____y missed *adv.* to a great extent; greatly or severely; in a way that causes pain, distress, or hardship
24. cl_____ss about the situation *adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation
25. glass e_l *n.* a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins
26. in_____t a cave *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
27. gone as____y *adv.* away from the right path or direction
28. inv_____ate species *n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
29. pre_____on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
30. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
31. di_____ge a company's reputation *v.* to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly

ANSWERS: 21. degenerate, 22. inextricable, 23. sorely, 24. clueless, 25. eel, 26. inhabit, 27. astray, 28. invertebrate, 29. pretension, 30. astonishing, 31. disparage

32. mul_____lar tissues *adj.* characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)
33. ba___e outside noises *v.* to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something
34. political op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
35. li___y of excuses *n.* a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests
36. parasitic fl_____rm *n.* a type of simple, soft-bodied invertebrate animal with a flat, ribbon-like shape, including tapeworms and planarians
37. as_____l individual *adj.* lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations
38. di_____ge my work *v.* to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly
39. laugh in de_____on *n.* contemptuous ridicule or mockery

ANSWERS: 32. multicellular, 33. baffle, 34. optimism, 35. litany, 36. flatworm, 37. asexual, 38. disparage, 39. derision

40. completely ordinary and unr_____ble *adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting
41. study of inv_____ates *n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
42. sleep pro_____ly *adv.* to a great or complete degree; deeply
43. int_____ted by police *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
44. par_____se the meaning *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
45. und_____le outcome *adj.* not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance
46. pl_____on community *n.* tiny forms of plant and animal life that live in water or air on which other animals feed
47. electric e_l *n.* a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins
48. a distinguished an_____ry *n.* the family or the ethnic descent that you come from
49. pl_____on blooms *n.* tiny forms of plant and animal life that live in water or air on which other animals feed
50. an an_____al graveyard *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past

ANSWERS: 40. unremarkable, 41. invertebrate, 42. profoundly, 43. interrogate, 44. paraphrase, 45. undesirable, 46. plankton, 47. eel, 48. ancestry, 49. plankton, 50. ancestral

51. prehuman an____ry *n.* the family or the ethnic descent that you come from
52. we__e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
53. co_____e the scope of use *v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
54. spineless je_____sh *n.* a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging
55. qu_____fy the results *v.* to express or measure something in numerical terms
56. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
57. sense of op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
58. in_____t the stomach *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
59. t__e a wild beast *v.* to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
60. naval ar_____nt *n.* weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense
61. dr__e flight *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

ANSWERS: 51. ancestry, 52. weave, 53. confine, 54. jellyfish, 55. quantify, 56. astonishing, 57. optimism, 58. inhabit, 59. tame, 60. armament, 61. drone

62. agg_____ze the company's reputation
v. to make someone or something appear more important, powerful, or successful than they are; to exaggerate or embellish someone or something's achievements, reputation, or status
63. de_____ted milk
v. to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly
64. co_____e themselves solely
v. to restrict the movement of someone or something
65. pr_____y viral DNA
n. the descendants or offspring of a person, animal, or plant
66. uns_____ing reality
adj. not fulfilling someone's desires, expectations, or needs; incomplete or inadequate.
67. im_____e a close relationship
v. to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
68. mul_____lar life
adj. characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)
69. im_____e development
v. to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
70. the br__t of criticism
n. the force or impact of something, often used to describe the full force of an attack or criticism
71. Med_____ean climate
n. the sea encircled by southern Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia
72. ga____r attention
v. to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention

ANSWERS: 62. aggrandize, 63. desiccate, 64. confine, 65. progeny, 66. unsatisfying, 67. impede, 68. multicellular, 69. impede, 70. brunt, 71. Mediterranean, 72. garner

73. as____d the viewer *v.* to surprise or shock someone with wonder very much
74. int_____te an enemy soldier *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
75. ill_____te my understanding *v.* to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity
76. a productive vi_____rd *n.* a farm where grapes are grown to produce wine
77. ma_____an's hat *n.* a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects
78. led as____y by superstition *adv.* away from the right path or direction
79. li____y of prayers *n.* a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests
80. st_____sh habitat *n.* marine invertebrate that belongs to the phylum Echinodermata, characterized by a five-armed body shape that resembles a star, typically found on or near the seafloor
81. bear the br__t *n.* the force or impact of something, often used to describe the full force of an attack or criticism

ANSWERS: 73. astound, 74. interrogate, 75. illuminate, 76. vineyard, 77. magician, 78. astray, 79. litany, 80. starfish, 81. brunt

82. sl___r of wood *n.* a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something
83. gain a va_____e *n.* a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage
84. baseless pre_____on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
85. unr_____ble in looks *adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting
86. une_____ed cave *adj.* not yet examined, investigated, or studied; lacking in knowledge or information; unknown or undiscovered
87. agg_____ze a story *v.* to make someone or something appear more important, powerful, or successful than they are; to exaggerate or embellish someone or something's achievements, reputation, or status
88. as_____d everyone *v.* to surprise or shock someone with wonder very much
89. qu_____fy blood flow *v.* to express or measure something in numerical terms
90. a ma_____ic figure *adj.* impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner; stately

ANSWERS: 82. sliver, 83. vantage, 84. pretension, 85. unremarkable, 86. unexplored, 87. aggrandize, 88. astound, 89. quantify, 90. majestic

91. strategic va_____e *n.* a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage
92. so____y in need *adv.* to a great extent; greatly or severely; in a way that causes pain, distress, or hardship
93. int_____le situation *adj.* difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
94. cr__e advice from others *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
95. be____n a taxi *v.* to gesture or signal someone to come nearer or follow; to encourage or entice someone to do something; to seem attractive or desirable
96. st_____sh arm *n.* marine invertebrate that belongs to the phylum Echinodermata, characterized by a five-armed body shape that resembles a star, typically found on or near the seafloor
97. cr__e chocolate *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
98. we__e on a loom *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
99. a ma_____ic sense of purpose *adj.* impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner; stately
100. as_____l community *adj.* lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations

ANSWERS: 91. vantage, 92. sorely, 93. intractable, 94. crave, 95. beckon, 96. starfish, 97. crave, 98. weave, 99. majestic, 100. asexual

101. int_____le pain *adj.* difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
102. und_____le behavior *adj.* not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance
103. ar_____nt race *n.* weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense
104. a t__e animal *v.* to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
105. be___n with a hand *v.* to gesture or signal someone to come nearer or follow; to encourage or entice someone to do something; to seem attractive or desirable
106. pr_____y of plants *n.* the descendants or offspring of a person, animal, or plant
107. Med_____ean agriculture *n.* the sea encircled by southern Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia
108. in___d on privacy *n.* an advance, progression, or incursion into unfamiliar territory, typically involving force or aggression; a significant or detrimental effect or invasion on a person, organization, or situation
109. sl___r of metal *n.* a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

ANSWERS: 101. intractable, 102. undesirable, 103. armament, 104. tame, 105. beckon, 106. progeny, 107. Mediterranean, 108. inroad, 109. sliver

110. an_____al roots *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
111. bio_____al assay *adj.* relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare
112. une_____ed ideas *adj.* not yet examined, investigated, or studied; lacking in knowledge or information; unknown or undiscovered
113. par_____se a poem into prose *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
114. vi_____rd worker *n.* a farm where grapes are grown to produce wine
115. street ma_____an *n.* a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects
116. oc_____c exploration *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the ocean or its inhabitants; having to do with the vast expanse of saltwater that covers most of the Earth's surface

ANSWERS: 110. ancestral, 111. biomedical, 112. unexplored, 113. paraphrase, 114. vineyard, 115. magician, 116. oceanic

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. We have to _____ substantial financial deficits at first.
 - v.* to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training

2. _____ organisms are composed of many specialized cells working together.
 - adj.* characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)

3. Many species of marine _____ such as corals and sponges, are important components of ocean ecosystems.
 - n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks

4. The royal family has much _____ scattered across the globe.
 - n.* the descendants or offspring of a person, animal, or plant

5. The children were delighted with the _____ clever tricks.
 - n.* a person who performs magic tricks or illusions to entertain an audience; typically involves sleight of hand or deception to create seemingly impossible or supernatural effects

6. She was completely _____ as to how to solve the problem.
 - adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

7. The _____ waves crashed against the shore, creating a mesmerizing sight.
 - adj.* relating to or characteristic of the ocean or its inhabitants; having to do with the vast expanse of saltwater that covers most of the Earth's surface

ANSWERS: 1. tame, 2. Multicellular, 3. invertebrates, 4. progeny, 5. magician's, 6. clueless, 7. oceanic

8. He looked down on the royal _____ of the neighboring country.
n. the family or the ethnic descent that you come from
9. _____ reproduction is a common trait found in certain species of plants and animals.
adj. lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations
10. The athlete's _____ training paid off in the end.
adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
11. His _____ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
12. I was _____ disappointed when my favorite team lost the game.
adv. to a great extent; greatly or severely; in a way that causes pain, distress, or hardship
13. The _____ problem defied a solution.
adj. difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
14. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
15. Some _____ species are capable of asexual reproduction, allowing them to colonize new environments rapidly.
n. a type of simple, soft-bodied invertebrate animal with a flat, ribbon-like shape, including tapeworms and planarians

ANSWERS: 8. ancestry, 9. Asexual, 10. relentless, 11. pretensions, 12. sorely, 13. intractable, 14. astonishing, 15. flatworm

16. The paradox _____ most philosophers.

- v.* to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something

17. The fisherman caught a slippery ____ while out on the lake.

- n.* a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins

18. He didn't want to _____ his colleague in front of their boss.

- v.* to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly

19. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.

- v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

20. There are many _____ regions of the ocean that scientists hope to study soon.

- adj.* not yet examined, investigated, or studied; lacking in knowledge or information; unknown or undiscovered

21. _____ is generally the foundation of the ocean food chain.

- n.* tiny forms of plant and animal life that live in water or air on which other animals feed

22. _____ engineering focuses on developing new medical technologies and innovations to improve patient health outcomes.

- adj.* relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare

ANSWERS: 16. baffled, 17. eel, 18. disparage, 19. weaves, 20. unexplored, 21. Plankton, 22. Biomedical

23. That biologist _____ the mechanism of heredity.
- v. to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity
24. The CEO is trying to _____ his power by buying out rival companies.
- v. to make someone or something appear more important, powerful, or successful than they are; to exaggerate or embellish someone or something's achievements, reputation, or status
25. The animal was _____ in a small cage.
- v. to restrict the movement of someone or something
26. There is considerable _____ that the economy will recover soon.
- n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
27. _____ of the limb is a last resort for the patient.
- n. the act of cutting off a part of the body surgically
28. The final result was nothing short of _____.
- v. to surprise or shock someone with wonder very much
29. He was very busy at work but otherwise led an _____ life.
- adj. ordinary and not particularly interesting
30. The _____ of complaints from unhappy customers reminded us that we needed to improve our service.
- n. a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests

ANSWERS: 23. illuminated, 24. aggrandize, 25. confined, 26. optimism, 27. Amputation, 28. astounding, 29. unremarkable, 30. litany

31. They plan to take a _____ cruise.

n. the sea encircled by southern Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia

32. The government is poised to increase its _____ budget for the coming fiscal year.

n. weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense

33. She _____ success and is always pushing herself to do better.

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

34. The once-thriving city has _____ into a crime-ridden slum.

v. (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition

35. The novel affected her _____ causing her to question her beliefs and values.

adv. to a great or complete degree; deeply

36. The company made significant _____ into the international market with its innovative products.

n. an advance, progression, or incursion into unfamiliar territory, typically involving force or aggression; a significant or detrimental effect or invasion on a person, organization, or situation

37. The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately _____ the witness.

v. to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

38. The _____ home has been in the family for generations.

adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past

ANSWERS: 31. Mediterranean, 32. armament, 33. craves, 34. degenerated, 35. profoundly, 36. inroads, 37. interrogate, 38. ancestral

39. The warm sun and gentle breeze _____ us to spend the day outside.
- v. to gesture or signal someone to come nearer or follow; to encourage or entice someone to do something; to seem attractive or desirable
40. He used his charm and charisma to _____ support for his campaign.
- v. to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention
41. The bricks were _____ by the hot air completely.
- v. to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly
42. I have no idea what sort of folks _____ the neighborhood.
- v. to live in a specific location; to reside
43. The traffic jam _____ our progress to reach the destination on time.
- v. to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
44. The _____ unique shape helps it to escape from predators quickly.
- n. marine invertebrate that belongs to the phylum Echinodermata, characterized by a five-armed body shape that resembles a star, typically found on or near the seafloor
45. The smell of the garbage was very _____.
- adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance
46. He heard a _____ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
- n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

ANSWERS: 39. beckoned, 40. garner, 41. desiccated, 42. inhabit, 43. impeded, 44. starfish's, 45. undesirable, 46. drone

47. The _____ of the storm hit the coastal towns the hardest.

n. the force or impact of something, often used to describe the full force of an attack or criticism

48. _____ stretch as far as the eye can see.

n. a farm where grapes are grown to produce wine

49. The proposal was met with _____ from the opposition.

n. contemptuous ridicule or mockery

50. The meal was _____ and left her feeling hungry an hour later.

adj. not fulfilling someone's desires, expectations, or needs; incomplete or inadequate.

51. The _____ mountain range was a sight to behold.

adj. impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner; stately

52. He wandered _____ from the path and got lost in the forest.

adv. away from the right path or direction

53. The knot was _____ and she had to use scissors to cut it.

adj. unable to be separated or escaped from

54. The beach was filled with hundreds of _____ so swimming was not recommended.

n. a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging

55. He _____ the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.

v. to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

ANSWERS: 47. brunt, 48. Vineyards, 49. derision, 50. unsatisfying, 51. majestic, 52. astray, 53. inextricable, 54. jellyfish, 55. paraphrased

56. I had to be careful not to step on a _____ of glass on the floor.

- n.* a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

57. From our _____ point, we could see the whole city skyline.

- n.* a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage

58. He tried to _____ the amount of product that was needed to complete the job.

- v.* to express or measure something in numerical terms

ANSWERS: 56. sliver, 57. vantage, 58. quantify