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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Elon Musk: The future we're building -- and boring | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

musky

adj. having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss

synonym: musty, earthy, pungent

(1) **musky** aroma, (2) **musky** perfume

The **musky** scent of the old book filled the air of the dusty library.

ironic

adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

synonym: sarcastic, wry, sardonic

(1) **ironic** result, (2) an **ironic** turn of events

It was **ironic** that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

congest

v. to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid

synonym: clog, choke, crowd

(1) **congest** in a vein, (2) **congest** a highway

The roads to the airport were heavily **congested**.

visualize

v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

synonym : imagine, picture, envision

(1) **visualize** data, (2) **visualize** flying through space

She tried to **visualize** the layout of the new house in her mind.

lax

adj. not strict or severe; relaxed or lenient

synonym : loose, slack, relaxed

(1) **lax** border controls, (2) **lax** attitude

The **lax** security measures allowed the thief to enter the building easily.

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.

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

sectional

adj. relating to or based on a particular section or division, often referring to a specific geographic area, group, or segment; characterized by divisions or separations

synonym : divisive, factional, segmental

(1) **sectional** couch, (2) **sectional** analysis

The report is divided into several **sectional** parts for convenience in reading.

snail

n. a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body

synonym : escargot, slug, whelk

(1) **snail** mail, (2) **snail** pace

The gardener found a **snail** slowly making its way through the lettuce patch.

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.

guillotine

n. a machine or device used for beheading, typically consisting of a tall upright frame with a suspended angled blade that is released to fall and sever the victim's head from their body; a method or process that produces swift and decisive action or change

synonym : decapitator, chopper

(1) **guillotine** blade, (2) metal **guillotine**

Due to budget constraints, the department was under a financial **guillotine**, making it necessary to reduce spending drastically.

collide

v. to hit something violently when moving

synonym : clash, slam, contradict

(1) **collide** head-on, (2) **collide** in midair

The interests of the two countries **collide**.

cautiously

adv. in a careful and controlled way, especially to avoid problems or danger

synonym : carefully, warily, prudently

(1) **cautiously** optimistic, (2) proceed **cautiously**

He **cautiously** approached the cliff's edge, aware of the dangers of falling.

smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

synonym : great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results

The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

detectable

adj. capable of being discovered or identified

synonym : perceptible, noticeable, observable

(1) a barely **detectable** change, (2) **detectable** by the human ear

The object is **detectable** at ultraviolet wavelengths.

intern

v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

synonym : apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

secondhand

adj. having been previously owned or used by someone else

synonym : used, pre-owned, recycled

(1) **secondhand** car, (2) **secondhand** information

He was excited to find a vintage suit at the **secondhand** shop for a fraction of the price of a new one.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

electrification

n. the process of installing electrical equipment or infrastructure, especially in a place that previously only had non-electrical equipment or infrastructure; the act of supplying electrical energy to an object or system, causing it to become electrically charged;

(1) railway **electrification**, (2) **electrification** current
The village was excited about the **electrification** of their community, which would bring light to their homes.

automaker

n. a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles

synonym: carmaker, vehicle maker, automobilist

(1) Japanese **automaker**, (2) luxury **automaker**

The **automaker's** sales have increased by 10% this quarter, thanks to strong consumer demand.

dabble

v. to engage in an activity in a casual or superficial way; to dip a foot or hand briefly into a liquid

synonym: toy with, tinker with, play at

(1) **dabble** in a hobby, (2) **dabble** at French

They often **dabble** in new business ventures but only commit partially.

unveil

v. to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time

synonym: reveal, uncover, expose

(1) **unveil** a monument, (2) **unveil** a comprehensive plan

The company plans to **unveil** its new product at the trade show next week.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

autopilot

n. a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft

synonym: self-pilot, self-driving, self-navigating

(1) **autopilot** function, (2) aircraft **autopilot**

The airplane was on **autopilot** during the long flight.

superhuman

adj. possessing abilities or characteristics that exceed those of normal humans; beyond human capacity or capability

synonym : supernatural, inhuman, beyond human

(1) **superhuman** beings, (2) **superhuman** effort

The athlete's **superhuman** strength allowed him to lift twice his body weight.

steer

v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

synonym : guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

seduce

v. to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship

synonym : tempt, lure, entice

(1) **seduce** him into crime, (2) **seduce** her mind

He tried to **seduce** her with his charm and good looks.

probabilistic

adj. characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks

synonym : probable, statistical, likely

(1) **probabilistic** model, (2) **probabilistic** approach

In a **probabilistic** system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym : interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

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.

long-range

adj. relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities

synonym: far-reaching, extended, distant

(1) **long-range** radar, (2) **long-range** weather forecast

The military uses **long-range** missiles to hit targets from far away.

tug

v. to pull something quickly and hard, often several times

synonym: draw, jerk, pull

(1) **tug** a rope, (2) **tug** at his hand

This movie **tugs** at everyone's heartstrings.

uphill

adj. sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope

synonym: skyward, ascending, difficult

(1) an **uphill** road, (2) an **uphill** task

The road is **uphill** for a while.

spry

adj. active and lively, especially in a nimble or agile way; showing quickness and agility despite age or physical condition

synonym: nimble, agile, lively

(1) **spry** movement, (2) **spry** elderly

The **spry** older man impressed everyone with his agility on the dance floor.

nimble

adj. quick and light in movement or action

synonym : agile, quick, flexible

(1) **nimble** handling, (2) **nimble-minded** person

His **nimble** movements allowed him to navigate the crowded streets with ease.

vaporware

n. a product, typically software or hardware, that is heavily promoted or announced but never actually released or made available to the public

synonym : paperware, imaginary product

(1) notorious **vaporware**, (2) overhyped **vaporware**

The highly anticipated video game turned out to be **vaporware**, as it was never actually released.

maneuver

n. a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage

synonym : gimmick, trick, action

(1) political **maneuvers**, (2) made a great **maneuver**

In this class, we learn the basic **maneuver** of the plane.

louver

n. a window or door with horizontal slats that can be adjusted to allow light and air to pass through while preventing rain, direct sunlight, and sight of the interior

synonym : slat, blade, shutter

(1) horizontal **louver**, (2) **louver** door

The **louver** window allowed air to flow through the room while keeping out the rain.

lithium

n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

synonym : lithy, Li, salt

(1) **lithium** carbonate, (2) **lithium** mining

Lithium-ion batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.

strobe

n. a device that produces a rapid series of intense flashes of light, often used in photography or entertainment; an instrument for studying the motion of a rapidly moving object by flashing a light on it at regular intervals

synonym: flash, flicker

(1) **strobe** flash, (2) **strobe** effect

A **strobe** light lit up the party, creating a pulsing and energetic atmosphere.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym: smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

booster

n. something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something

synonym: promoter, supporter, advocate

(1) metabolism **booster**, (2) morale **booster**

The energy drink is marketed as a **booster** to help athletes perform better.

skyscraper

n. a very tall building, typically one in a city

synonym: high-rise, tower

(1) **skyscraper** apartment house, (2) steel-framed **skyscraper**

The 50-floor **skyscraper** loomed over the city, dwarfing the other buildings.

blazing

adj. burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive

synonym: burning, fiery, scorching

(1) **blazing** fury, (2) **blazing** fire

The **blazing** sun beat down on the desert.

interplanetary

adj. relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication

synonym : interstellar, planetary, celestial

(1) **interplanetary** debris, (2) **interplanetary** exploration

Scientists are working on developing **interplanetary** travel to explore other planets in our solar system.

aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

synonym : ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

spaceship

n. (especially in science fiction) a spacecraft designed to carry a crew into interstellar space

synonym : starship, rocket, spacecraft

(1) a **spaceship** to survey the moon, (2) alien **spaceship**

They launched a crewless **spaceship** into space.

depress

v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active

synonym : sadden, discourage, deflate

(1) **depress** their spirits, (2) **depress** crop prices

The economic recession **depressed** the housing market.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym : divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

tautological

adj. characterized by repeating the same idea in different words or phrases; involving unnecessary repetition or redundancy

synonym : repetitive, redundant, circular

(1) **tautological** statement, (2) **tautological** reasoning

Saying "old antique" is **tautological** since antiques are already old by definition.

spacefaring

n. the act or practice of traveling or exploring outer space, typically to advance scientific knowledge, develop new technologies, or establish a human presence beyond Earth; the ability to travel and explore space

synonym : space navigation, space exploration, spaceflight

(1) **spacefaring** nation, (2) the future of **spacefaring** exploration

Spacefaring technology has allowed us to explore the vast expanse of the universe.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym : spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym : demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

aqueduct

n. a structure constructed to carry water over a long distance, typically consisting of a series of arches or elevated channels supported by pillars or towers

synonym : conduit, canal, channel

(1) **aqueduct** system, (2) mountain **aqueduct**

The ancient Romans built an **aqueduct** to transport water to the city.

telepathy

n. the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses

synonym: mind-reading, esp, thought transference

(1) **telepathy** test, (2) **telepathy** experiment

The comic book hero had a **telepathy** power, which allowed him to read and control minds, making him a formidable foe

savior

n. a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth

synonym: hero, rescuer, redeemer

(1) political **savior**, (2) pray to the **savior**

The guru of that religion thought of himself as a **savior**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. tau_____cal statement
adj. characterized by repeating the same idea in different words or phrases; involving unnecessary repetition or redundancy
2. de_____s their spirits
v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active
3. a barely det_____le change
adj. capable of being discovered or identified
4. de_____e his public image
v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
5. sup_____an beings
adj. possessing abilities or characteristics that exceed those of normal humans; beyond human capacity or capability
6. pray to the sa____r
n. a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth
7. l_x border controls
adj. not strict or severe; relaxed or lenient
8. se_____al couch
adj. relating to or based on a particular section or division, often referring to a specific geographic area, group, or segment; characterized by divisions or separations

ANSWERS: 1. tautological, 2. depress, 3. detectable, 4. degrade, 5. superhuman, 6. savior, 7. lax, 8. sectional

9. di____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
10. se____e him into crime *v.* to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
11. un____l a comprehensive plan *v.* to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time
12. bl____g fury *adj.* burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive
13. in____n civilians *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
14. ind____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
15. improve hun____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
16. cau____ly optimistic *adv.* in a careful and controlled way, especially to avoid problems or danger
17. un____l a monument *v.* to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time
18. s__y movement *adj.* active and lively, especially in a nimble or agile way; showing quickness and agility despite age or physical condition
19. de____e environmental quality *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

ANSWERS: 9. disrupt, 10. seduce, 11. unveil, 12. blazing, 13. intern, 14. industrious, 15. hundredfold, 16. cautiously, 17. unveil, 18. spry, 19. degrade

20. sn__l mail *n.* a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
21. co____t a highway *v.* to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid
22. pro_____tic model *adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
23. 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
24. aq____ct system *n.* a structure constructed to carry water over a long distance, typically consisting of a series of arches or elevated channels supported by pillars or towers
25. metal gui_____ne *n.* a machine or device used for beheading, typically consisting of a tall upright frame with a suspended angled blade that is released to fall and sever the victim's head from their body; a method or process that produces swift and decisive action or change
26. st___e flash *n.* a device that produces a rapid series of intense flashes of light, often used in photography or entertainment; an instrument for studying the motion of a rapidly moving object by flashing a light on it at regular intervals

ANSWERS: 20. snail, 21. congest, 22. probabilistic, 23. tease, 24. aqueduct, 25. guillotine, 26. strobe

27. overhyped va_____re *n.* a product, typically software or hardware, that is heavily promoted or announced but never actually released or made available to the public
28. se_____al analysis *adj.* relating to or based on a particular section or division, often referring to a specific geographic area, group, or segment; characterized by divisions or separations
29. an up____l task *adj.* sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope
30. ex____e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
31. sup_____an effort *adj.* possessing abilities or characteristics that exceed those of normal humans; beyond human capacity or capability
32. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
33. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
34. gui_____ne blade *n.* a machine or device used for beheading, typically consisting of a tall upright frame with a suspended angled blade that is released to fall and sever the victim's head from their body; a method or process that produces swift and decisive action or change
35. co_____e head-on *v.* to hit something violently when moving

ANSWERS: 27. vaporware, 28. sectional, 29. uphill, 30. excite, 31. superhuman, 32. industrious, 33. improvisation, 34. guillotine, 35. collide

36. di_____ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
37. de_____s crop prices *v.* to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active
38. au_____ot function *n.* a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft
39. Japanese au_____er *n.* a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles
40. pro_____tic approach *adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
41. asp_____on into the lungs *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
42. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
43. steel-framed sky_____er *n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city
44. tau_____cal reasoning *adj.* characterized by repeating the same idea in different words or phrases; involving unnecessary repetition or redundancy
45. li_____m carbonate *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
46. made a great ma_____er *n.* a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage

ANSWERS: 36. distract, 37. depress, 38. autopilot, 39. automaker, 40. probabilistic, 41. aspiration, 42. improvisation, 43. skyscraper, 44. tautological, 45. lithium, 46. maneuver

47. mu__y perfume *adj.* having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss
48. an ir___c turn of events *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
49. metabolism bo_____r *n.* something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
50. an up___l road *adj.* sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope
51. te_____hy test *n.* the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses
52. t_g a rope *v.* to pull something quickly and hard, often several times
53. railway ele_____ion *n.* the process of installing electrical equipment or infrastructure, especially in a place that previously only had non-electrical equipment or infrastructure; the act of supplying electrical energy to an object or system, causing it to become electrically charged;
54. sky_____er apartment house *n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city

ANSWERS: 47. musky, 48. ironic, 49. booster, 50. uphill, 51. telepathy, 52. tug, 53. electrification, 54. skyscraper

55. l_x attitude *adj.* not strict or severe; relaxed or lenient
56. di____ct attention from the real issue *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
57. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
58. lon_____ge weather forecast *adj.* relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities
59. medical in____n *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
60. lon_____ge radar *adj.* relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities
61. ex____e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
62. da____e in a hobby *v.* to engage in an activity in a casual or superficial way; to dip a foot or hand briefly into a liquid
63. 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
64. da____e at French *v.* to engage in an activity in a casual or superficial way; to dip a foot or hand briefly into a liquid

ANSWERS: 55. lax, 56. distract, 57. blur, 58. long-range, 59. intern, 60. long-range, 61. excite, 62. dabble, 63. drone, 64. dabble

65. morale bo____r *n.* something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
66. mountain aq____ct *n.* a structure constructed to carry water over a long distance, typically consisting of a series of arches or elevated channels supported by pillars or towers
67. rise nearly hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
68. the future of spa_____ng exploration *n.* the act or practice of traveling or exploring outer space, typically to advance scientific knowledge, develop new technologies, or establish a human presence beyond Earth; the ability to travel and explore space
69. a sm____ng blow *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
70. sec_____nd car *adj.* having been previously owned or used by someone else
71. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
72. vi_____ze flying through space *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
73. proceed cau_____ly *adv.* in a careful and controlled way, especially to avoid problems or danger
74. vi_____ze data *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

ANSWERS: 65. booster, 66. aqueduct, 67. hundredfold, 68. spacefaring, 69. smashing, 70. secondhand, 71. electrify, 72. visualize, 73. cautiously, 74. visualize

75. ir___c result *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
76. te_____hy experiment *n.* the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses
77. s__y elderly *adj.* active and lively, especially in a nimble or agile way; showing quickness and agility despite age or physical condition
78. political sa___r *n.* a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth
79. st__r a conversation *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
80. no asp_____on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
81. ni___e-minded person *adj.* quick and light in movement or action
82. ele_____ion current *n.* the process of installing electrical equipment or infrastructure, especially in a place that previously only had non-electrical equipment or infrastructure; the act of supplying electrical energy to an object or system, causing it to become electrically charged;

ANSWERS: 75. ironic, 76. telepathy, 77. spry, 78. savior, 79. steer, 80. aspiration, 81. nimble, 82. electrification

83. int_____ary exploration *adj.* relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication
84. the speaker's dr__e *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
85. give sm_____ng results *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
86. lo___r door *n.* a window or door with horizontal slats that can be adjusted to allow light and air to pass through while preventing rain, direct sunlight, and sight of the interior
87. a sp_____ip to survey the moon *n.* (especially in science fiction) a spacecraft designed to carry a crew into interstellar space
88. li_____m mining *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
89. 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
90. bl_____g fire *adj.* burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive
91. alien sp_____ip *n.* (especially in science fiction) a spacecraft designed to carry a crew into interstellar space

ANSWERS: 83. interplanetary, 84. drone, 85. smashing, 86. louver, 87. spaceship, 88. lithium, 89. tease, 90. blazing, 91. spaceship

92. se___e her mind *v.* to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
93. det_____le by the human ear *adj.* capable of being discovered or identified
94. sec_____nd information *adj.* having been previously owned or used by someone else
95. horizontal lo___r *n.* a window or door with horizontal slats that can be adjusted to allow light and air to pass through while preventing rain, direct sunlight, and sight of the interior
96. notorious va_____re *n.* a product, typically software or hardware, that is heavily promoted or announced but never actually released or made available to the public
97. 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
98. di_____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
99. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
100. spa_____ng nation *n.* the act or practice of traveling or exploring outer space, typically to advance scientific knowledge, develop new technologies, or establish a human presence beyond Earth; the ability to travel and explore space

ANSWERS: 92. seduce, 93. detectable, 94. secondhand, 95. louver, 96. vaporware, 97. rebuttal, 98. disrupt, 99. electrify, 100. spacefaring

101. b__r image	<i>n.</i> a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
102. luxury au_____er	<i>n.</i> a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles
103. political ma_____ers	<i>n.</i> a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage
104. sn__l pace	<i>n.</i> a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
105. mu__y aroma	<i>adj.</i> having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss
106. re_____al to the argument	<i>n.</i> 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
107. co_____e in midair	<i>v.</i> to hit something violently when moving
108. ni___e handling	<i>adj.</i> quick and light in movement or action
109. st__r a steady course	<i>v.</i> to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
110. co_____t in a vein	<i>v.</i> to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid
111. int_____ary debris	<i>adj.</i> relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication

ANSWERS: 101. blur, 102. automaker, 103. maneuver, 104. snail, 105. musky, 106. rebuttal, 107. collide, 108. nimble, 109. steer, 110. congest, 111. interplanetary

112. st___e effect *n.* a device that produces a rapid series of intense flashes of light, often used in photography or entertainment; an instrument for studying the motion of a rapidly moving object by flashing a light on it at regular intervals
113. aircraft au_____ot *n.* a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft
114. t_g at his hand *v.* to pull something quickly and hard, often several times

ANSWERS: 112. strobe, 113. autopilot, 114. tug

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
2. In a _____ system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance.
adj. characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
3. The highly anticipated video game turned out to be _____ as it was never actually released.
n. a product, typically software or hardware, that is heavily promoted or announced but never actually released or made available to the public
4. Saying "old antique" is _____ since antiques are already old by definition.
adj. characterized by repeating the same idea in different words or phrases; involving unnecessary repetition or redundancy
5. His _____ movements allowed him to navigate the crowded streets with ease.
adj. quick and light in movement or action
6. The _____ security measures allowed the thief to enter the building easily.
adj. not strict or severe; relaxed or lenient
7. This movie _____ at everyone's heartstrings.
v. to pull something quickly and hard, often several times

ANSWERS: 1. excited, 2. probabilistic, 3. vaporware, 4. tautological, 5. nimble, 6. lax, 7. tugs

8. 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
9. The ancient Romans built an _____ to transport water to the city.
n. a structure constructed to carry water over a long distance, typically consisting of a series of arches or elevated channels supported by pillars or towers
10. The object is _____ at ultraviolet wavelengths.
adj. capable of being discovered or identified
11. A _____ light lit up the party, creating a pulsing and energetic atmosphere.
n. a device that produces a rapid series of intense flashes of light, often used in photography or entertainment; an instrument for studying the motion of a rapidly moving object by flashing a light on it at regular intervals
12. They often _____ in new business ventures but only commit partially.
v. to engage in an activity in a casual or superficial way; to dip a foot or hand briefly into a liquid
13. He tried to _____ her with his charm and good looks.
v. to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
14. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
15. The athlete's _____ strength allowed him to lift twice his body weight.
adj. possessing abilities or characteristics that exceed those of normal humans; beyond human capacity or capability

ANSWERS: 8. rebuttal, 9. aqueduct, 10. detectable, 11. strobe, 12. dabble, 13. seduce, 14. blur, 15. superhuman

16. The _____ sun beat down on the desert.

adj. burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive

17. The road is _____ for a while.

adj. sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope

18. The report is divided into several _____ parts for convenience in reading.

adj. relating to or based on a particular section or division, often referring to a specific geographic area, group, or segment; characterized by divisions or separations

19. The energy drink is marketed as a _____ to help athletes perform better.

n. something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something

20. The company plans to _____ its new product at the trade show next week.

v. to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time

21. 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

22. They launched a crewless _____ into space.

n. (especially in science fiction) a spacecraft designed to carry a crew into interstellar space

23. The interests of the two countries _____.

v. to hit something violently when moving

ANSWERS: 16. blazing, 17. uphill, 18. sectional, 19. booster, 20. unveil, 21. drone, 22. spaceship, 23. collide

24. The gardener found a _____ slowly making its way through the lettuce patch.
n. a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
25. The comic book hero had a _____ power, which allowed him to read and control minds, making him a formidable foe
n. the supposed ability to communicate directly with someone else's mind without the need for words or physical gestures; the transfer of thoughts or emotions from one person to another by means other than the physical senses
26. It was _____ that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.
adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
27. The military uses _____ missiles to hit targets from far away.
adj. relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities
28. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.
adj. a hundred times as great or as much
29. 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
30. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
31. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.
v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

ANSWERS: 24. snail, 25. telepathy, 26. ironic, 27. long-range, 28. hundredfold, 29. tease, 30. aspiration, 31. degrade

32. The navy _____ ships of defeated nations.

- v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

33. Scientists are working on developing _____ travel to explore other planets in our solar system.

- adj.* relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication

34. The roads to the airport were heavily _____.

- v.* to make something blocked or crowded so as to hinder or prevent freedom of movement or flow of liquid

35. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.

- v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

36. The _____ window allowed air to flow through the room while keeping out the rain.

- n.* a window or door with horizontal slats that can be adjusted to allow light and air to pass through while preventing rain, direct sunlight, and sight of the interior

37. _____ technology has allowed us to explore the vast expanse of the universe.

- n.* the act or practice of traveling or exploring outer space, typically to advance scientific knowledge, develop new technologies, or establish a human presence beyond Earth; the ability to travel and explore space

38. She tried to _____ the layout of the new house in her mind.

- v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

ANSWERS: 32. interned, 33. interplanetary, 34. congested, 35. distract, 36. louver, 37. Spacefaring, 38. visualize

39. In this class, we learn the basic _____ of the plane.

n. a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage

40. The _____ scent of the old book filled the air of the dusty library.

adj. having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss

41. The _____ older man impressed everyone with his agility on the dance floor.

adj. active and lively, especially in a nimble or agile way; showing quickness and agility despite age or physical condition

42. The _____ sales have increased by 10% this quarter, thanks to strong consumer demand.

n. a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles

43. The economic recession _____ the housing market.

v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active

44. The band's new album was a _____ success, reaching the top of the charts.

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

45. The 50-floor _____ loomed over the city, dwarfing the other buildings.

n. a very tall building, typically one in a city

46. The guru of that religion thought of himself as a _____.

n. a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth

ANSWERS: 39. maneuver, 40. musky, 41. spry, 42. automaker's, 43. depressed, 44. smashing, 45. skyscraper, 46. savior

47. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
48. The village was excited about the _____ of their community, which would bring light to their homes.
- n.* the process of installing electrical equipment or infrastructure, especially in a place that previously only had non-electrical equipment or infrastructure; the act of supplying electrical energy to an object or system, causing it to become electrically charged;
49. The captain told him to _____ the ship north.
- v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
50. He was excited to find a vintage suit at the _____ shop for a fraction of the price of a new one.
- adj.* having been previously owned or used by someone else
51. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
- v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
52. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
53. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

ANSWERS: 47. improvisation, 48. electrification, 49. steer, 50. secondhand, 51. electrify, 52. industrious, 53. disrupt

54. The airplane was on _____ during the long flight.

n. a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft

55. He _____ approached the cliff's edge, aware of the dangers of falling.

adv. in a careful and controlled way, especially to avoid problems or danger

56. Due to budget constraints, the department was under a financial _____ making it necessary to reduce spending drastically.

n. a machine or device used for beheading, typically consisting of a tall upright frame with a suspended angled blade that is released to fall and sever the victim's head from their body; a method or process that produces swift and decisive action or change

57. _____ batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.

n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

ANSWERS: 54. autopilot, 55. cautiously, 56. guillotine, 57. Lithium-ion