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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kathy Hull: Stories from a home for terminally ill children | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

mundane

adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

synonym : ordinary, everyday, prosaic

(1) **mundane** affairs, (2) **mundane** objects

After returning from the war, he had a pretty **mundane** life.

furry

adj. covered in fur or a furry material; resembling fur

synonym : hairy, fuzzy, feathered

(1) the **furry** skin, (2) have **furry** leaves

The stuffed animal was so **furry** and soft that it was hard to resist hugging it.

pediatrics

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children

synonym : pedology, child health

(1) **pediatrics** department, (2) **pediatrics** clinic

I am studying **pediatrics** in medical school because I love working with children.

palliate

v. to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause

synonym : extenuate, soothe, relieve

(1) **palliate** symptoms, (2) attempts to **palliate**

The charity provided meals and shelter to **palliate** the suffering of the homeless population.

respite

n. a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities

synonym: break, interval, pause

(1) **respite** care, (2) a short **respite**

The vacation gave her a much-needed **respite** from work.

dignify

v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

synonym: elevate, ennoble, honor

(1) **dignify** the role, (2) **dignify** the occasion

It's important to **dignify** other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.

elevate

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

synonym: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

rumble

v. to make a low, heavy continuous sound

synonym: roar, growl, grumble

(1) **rumble** an order, (2) **rumble** down the dirt track

The thunder **rumbled** in the distance.

reverb

n. an audio effect that produces a sound that is reflected off surfaces in an enclosed space, creating a sense of space or ambiance; the natural echoing or reverberation of sound in a large or open space

synonym: echo, sound reflection

(1) **reverb** effect, (2) **reverb** chamber

The singer's voice had a natural **reverb** that sounded beautiful in the acoustically-designed church.

beep

v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

synonym : bleep, honk, buzz

(1) **beep** out a warning, (2) **beep** the horn

The timer **beeped**, reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.

excruciating

adj. extremely painful, intense, or distressing; causing great physical or emotional suffering

synonym : agonizing, unbearable, torturous

(1) **excruciating** ordeal, (2) **excruciating** embarrassment

The **excruciating** pain in his ankle made it difficult to walk.

nurture

v. to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing

synonym : boost, cultivate, enable

(1) **nurture** love, (2) **nurture** his talents

Schools should **nurture** children's mutual interest spirit.

outdo

v. to do better than someone; to surpass

synonym : excel, surpass, outshine

(1) **outdo** him in trickery, (2) **outdo** the competition

He tried to **outdo** his rival by breaking the world record.

heartbreak

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

synonym : grief, sorrow, bitterness

(1) ease her **heartbreak**, (2) go through **heartbreak**

They had experienced the **heartbreak** of losing two children due to premature births.

anomaly

n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand

synonym : abnormality, irregularity, deviation

(1) **anomaly** detection, (2) global temperature **anomaly**
The sudden drop in the stock market was an **anomaly** that puzzled many investors.

mourn

v. to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone

synonym: grieve, lament, weep

(1) **mourn** with deep grief, (2) **mourn** death

We **mourned** the loss of our dear friend at the memorial service.

testament

n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

synonym: proof, testimony, testimonial

(1) give properties by **testament**, (2) **testament** to the superior quality

His wealth is a **testament** to his success.

hospice

n. a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support

synonym: palliative care, nursing home, care center

(1) **hospice** care, (2) home **hospice**

The **hospice** team includes nurses, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers who work together to provide comprehensive care.

frightening

adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

synonym: scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience

The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

paralyze

v. to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel

synonym: immobilize, disable, numb

(1) **paralyze** a city, (2) **paralyze** a person
The venom from the snake bite **paralyzed** his arm.

debilitating

adj. weakening or damaging; causing a loss of strength, energy, or success

synonym : weakening, exhausting

(1) **debilitating** virus, (2) **debilitating** effect
His **debilitating** illness made it difficult for him to leave the house.

comprehend

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

synonym : understand, grasp, apprehend

(1) **comprehend** English, (2) **comprehend** instructions
She struggled to **comprehend** complex math problems.

unparalleled

adj. without parallel, equal in size, amount, quality, etc.; better or worse than any other

synonym : outstanding, phenomenal, remarkable

(1) **unparalleled** views, (2) an **unparalleled** achievement
Several American technology companies have achieved **unparalleled** success in terms of customer numbers.

neurology

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system

synonym : brain science, nervous system, neuropathology

(1) cognitive **neurology**, (2) **neurology** department
She is studying clinical **neurology** to become a brain surgeon.

lavender

n. a fragrant herb of the mint family, typically having purple or blue flowers, sometimes used for its soothing scent in aromatherapy or as a flavoring in cooking and baking

(1) **lavender** fields, (2) **lavender-scented** bath products
I love the soothing scent of **lavender** essential oil.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym: brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

astonishment

n. a feeling of very great surprise

synonym: wonder, surprise, amazement

(1) blink in **astonishment**, (2) struck with **astonishment**

They stood rooted in **astonishment** for a while.

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**.

outlive

v. to live longer than another person

synonym: continue, outlast, survive

(1) **outlive** its usefulness, (2) **outlive** our child

She **outlived** her husband for many years.

prognosis

n. the likely outcome or course of a disease or illness based on medical analysis and examination of the patient; a forecast or prediction of future events or developments

synonym: prospect, forecast, diagnosis

(1) **prognosis** of cancer, (2) poor **prognosis**

The doctor gave a positive **prognosis** for her recovery from the illness.

hummingbird

n. a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction

(1) **hummingbird** feeder, (2) **hummingbird** nest

Watching a **hummingbird** at a flower is like observing a

miniature ballet of nature.

pumpkin

n. large, round, yellow or orange fruit with a thick rind and pulpy interior, often carved into a Halloween decoration or used as a base for pies, soups, or other dishes

synonym : gourd, squash, vegetable

(1) **pumpkin** soup, (2) **pumpkin** pie

The **pumpkin** festival was filled with giant carved pumpkins on display and pumpkin-themed food stalls.

decorate

v. to add beauty or distinction to something by the addition of ornament, art, etc

synonym : adorn, embellish, beautify

(1) **decorate** a wall, (2) **decorate** for Christmas

They **decorated** the room with balloons and streamers for the birthday party.

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.

boa

n. a type of large, nonvenomous snake that is often found in tropical regions, which kills its prey by suffocation, wrapping its body tightly around the animal until it can no longer breathe; a type of scarf or neckwear that is made from feathers, fur, or a combination of both

(1) red tail **boa**, (2) **boa** coat

The **boa** constrictor wrapped itself tightly around its prey.

sparkle

v. to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy

synonym : shine, glimmer, twinkle

(1) **sparkle** like a gem, (2) **sparkle** from receiving light

The diamond **sparkled** in the sunlight.

tiara

n. a jeweled ornamental crown typically worn by women on formal occasions

synonym: diadem, crown, coronet

(1) **tiara** crown, (2) diamond **tiara**

The princess wore a **tiara** adorned with precious jewels to the ball.

greet

v. to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone

synonym: welcome, salute, acknowledge

(1) **greet** a customer, (2) **greet** an idea

He **greeted** his friends with a warm smile and a hug.

horrific

adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying

synonym: terrifying, alarming, shocking

(1) **horrific** experience, (2) **horrific** condition

The accident scene was **horrific**, with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.

freestanding

adj. not attached to a wall or other structure; not supported by anything

synonym: self-supporting, autonomous, independent

(1) **freestanding** fireplace, (2) **freestanding** enterprise

The **freestanding** sculpture was placed in the park's center for all to see.

dichotomy

n. a division or contrast between two things that are or are represented as being opposed or entirely different; a sharp contrast between two opposing and mutually exclusive categories or concepts

synonym: division, duality, contrast

(1) moral **dichotomy**, (2) psychological **dichotomy**

The **dichotomy** between good and evil is common in literature and philosophy.

rehabilitate

v. to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period

of illness, addiction, or imprisonment

synonym : reform, restore, renovate

(1) **rehabilitate** prisoners, (2) **rehabilitate** wildlife

The organization works to **rehabilitate** drug addicts and help them rebuild their lives.

enchant

v. to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone

synonym : charm, captivate, bewitch

(1) **enchant** the audience, (2) **enchant** the crowd

The fairy's spell **enchanted** the prince, making him fall asleep for 100 years.

atrophy

n. a decrease in size of a muscle, organ, etc., caused by disease or disuse

synonym : disintegration, degeneration, wasting away

(1) weakness with **atrophy**, (2) **atrophy** of the muscles

Daily exercise and adequate sleep are necessary to prevent the progression of **atrophy**.

promenade

n. a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern

synonym : stroll, walkway, boulevard

(1) evening **promenade**, (2) **promenade** in the park

The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful **promenade** for tourists and locals alike.

boutonniere

n. a small floral decoration worn on the lapel of a suit or jacket, typically by men, for formal occasions such as weddings or proms

(1) **boutonniere** pins, (2) floral **boutonniere**

He looked dapper, wearing a suit and a **boutonniere** on his lapel.

tuxedo

n. (also "tux") a formal suit of clothing for men, typically consisting of a black jacket with satin lapels and trousers with a stripe down the side, worn with a bow tie

synonym : black tie, dinner jacket, formalwear

(1) black **tuxedo**, (2) **tuxedo** jacket

The waiter wore a freshly pressed **tuxedo** to serve at the upscale restaurant.

lapel

n. the flat or folded part of the collar on a suit coat or other jacket that is turned back against the neck; a similar broad part of a garment, typically one that is not turned up

synonym : collar, label, badge

(1) vintage **lapel**, (2) **lapel** microphone

He adjusted the pin on his **lapel** before giving his speech.

flurry

n. a sudden and brief burst of activity or emotion; a light snowfall with gusty winds and swirling snowflakes; a rapid or disorganized movement of small objects, such as leaves or petals

synonym : burst, storm, bustle

(1) **flurry** of activity, (2) **flurry** of emails

A **flurry** of snowflakes fell from the sky as we stepped outside.

abolish

v. to do away with completely; to put an end to

synonym : cancel, repeal, annul

(1) **abolish** slavery, (2) **abolish** censorship

The government voted to **abolish** the outdated law.

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.

bravery

n. courage in the face of danger

synonym : courage, valor, heroism

(1) **bravery** against the enemy, (2) **bravery** under fire
His **bravery** in the face of danger saved the lives of his comrades.

Session 2: Spelling

1. fl___y of activity *n.* a sudden and brief burst of activity or emotion; a light snowfall with gusty winds and swirling snowflakes; a rapid or disorganized movement of small objects, such as leaves or petals
2. en_____t the crowd *v.* to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
3. pu_____n pie *n.* large, round, yellow or orange fruit with a thick rind and pulpy interior, often carved into a Halloween decoration or used as a base for pies, soups, or other dishes
4. ease her hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
5. di_____y the occasion *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
6. fl___y of emails *n.* a sudden and brief burst of activity or emotion; a light snowfall with gusty winds and swirling snowflakes; a rapid or disorganized movement of small objects, such as leaves or petals
7. re___b effect *n.* an audio effect that produces a sound that is reflected off surfaces in an enclosed space, creating a sense of space or ambiance; the natural echoing or reverberation of sound in a large or open space

ANSWERS: 1. flurry, 2. enchant, 3. pumpkin, 4. heartbreak, 5. dignify, 6. flurry, 7. reverb

8. diamond ti__a *n.* a jeweled ornamental crown typically worn by women on formal occasions
9. la____er-scented bath products *n.* a fragrant herb of the mint family, typically having purple or blue flowers, sometimes used for its soothing scent in aromatherapy or as a flavoring in cooking and baking
10. evening pr____de *n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
11. pa____te symptoms *v.* to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause
12. attempts to pa____te *v.* to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause
13. nu____e love *v.* to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing
14. have fu__y leaves *adj.* covered in fur or a furry material; resembling fur
15. a short re____e *n.* a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities

ANSWERS: 8. tiara, 9. lavender, 10. promenade, 11. palliate, 12. palliate, 13. nurture, 14. furry, 15. respite

16. de____te a wall *v.* to add beauty or distinction to something by the addition of ornament, art, etc
17. ho____ic condition *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
18. ru____e an order *v.* to make a low, heavy continuous sound
19. te____nt to the superior quality *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
20. ab____h slavery *v.* to do away with completely; to put an end to
21. an unp____led achievement *adj.* without parallel, equal in size, amount, quality, etc.; better or worse than any other
22. fre____ing enterprise *adj.* not attached to a wall or other structure; not supported by anything
23. ne____gy department *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
24. psychological di____my *n.* a division or contrast between two things that are or are represented as being opposed or entirely different; a sharp contrast between two opposing and mutually exclusive categories or concepts
25. black tu____o *n.* (also "tux") a formal suit of clothing for men, typically consisting of a black jacket with satin lapels and trousers with a stripe down the side, worn with a bow tie

ANSWERS: 16. decorate, 17. horrific, 18. rumble, 19. testament, 20. abolish, 21. unparalleled, 22. freestanding, 23. neurology, 24. dichotomy, 25. tuxedo

26. ru___e down the dirt track *v.* to make a low, heavy continuous sound
27. br____y against the enemy *n.* courage in the face of danger
28. home ho_____e *n.* a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support
29. ho_____e care *n.* a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support
30. reh_____ate wildlife *v.* to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment
31. exc_____ing embarrassment *adj.* extremely painful, intense, or distressing; causing great physical or emotional suffering
32. b_a coat *n.* a type of large, nonvenomous snake that is often found in tropical regions, which kills its prey by suffocation, wrapping its body tightly around the animal until it can no longer breathe; a type of scarf or neckwear that is made from feathers, fur, or a combination of both

ANSWERS: 26. rumble, 27. bravery, 28. hospice, 29. hospice, 30. rehabilitate, 31. excruciating, 32. boa

33. ped_____cs clinic *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
34. bou_____re pins *n.* a small floral decoration worn on the lapel of a suit or jacket, typically by men, for formal occasions such as weddings or proms
35. cast fri_____ng eyes *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
36. red tail b_a *n.* a type of large, nonvenomous snake that is often found in tropical regions, which kills its prey by suffocation, wrapping its body tightly around the animal until it can no longer breathe; a type of scarf or neckwear that is made from feathers, fur, or a combination of both
37. b__p out a warning *v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
38. deb_____ing virus *adj.* weakening or damaging; causing a loss of strength, energy, or success
39. hum_____rd feeder *n.* a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction
40. exc_____ing ordeal *adj.* extremely painful, intense, or distressing; causing great physical or emotional suffering
41. com_____nd English *v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

ANSWERS: 33. pediatrics, 34. boutonniere, 35. frightening, 36. boa, 37. beep, 38. debilitating, 39. hummingbird, 40. excruciating, 41. comprehend

42. pu____n soup *n.* large, round, yellow or orange fruit with a thick rind and pulpy interior, often carved into a Halloween decoration or used as a base for pies, soups, or other dishes
43. sp____e from receiving light *v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
44. pa____ze a city *v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
45. mo__n death *v.* to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone
46. ex____e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
47. give properties by te____nt *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
48. floral bou____re *n.* a small floral decoration worn on the lapel of a suit or jacket, typically by men, for formal occasions such as weddings or proms
49. jazz imp____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
50. go through hea____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
51. el____e a close relationship *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
52. nu____e his talents *v.* to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing

ANSWERS: 42. pumpkin, 43. sparkle, 44. paralyze, 45. mourn, 46. excite, 47. testament, 48. boutonniere, 49. improvisation, 50. heartbreak, 51. elevate, 52. nurture

64. 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
65. global temperature an_____y *n.* something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand
66. st_____ze blood sugar levels *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
67. gr__t an idea *v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
68. poor pr_____is *n.* the likely outcome or course of a disease or illness based on medical analysis and examination of the patient; a forecast or prediction of future events or developments
69. ped_____cs department *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
70. ab_____h censorship *v.* to do away with completely; to put an end to
71. ou__o him in trickery *v.* to do better than someone; to surpass
72. struck with ast_____ent *n.* a feeling of very great surprise
73. fre_____ing fireplace *adj.* not attached to a wall or other structure; not supported by anything
74. at_____y of the muscles *n.* a decrease in size of a muscle, organ, etc., caused by disease or disuse

ANSWERS: 64. pretension, 65. anomaly, 66. stabilize, 67. greet, 68. prognosis, 69. pediatrics, 70. abolish, 71. outdo, 72. astonishment, 73. freestanding, 74. atrophy

75. ou____e our child *v.* to live longer than another person
76. pa____ze a person *v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
77. mu____e objects *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
78. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
79. pr_____is of cancer *n.* the likely outcome or course of a disease or illness based on medical analysis and examination of the patient; a forecast or prediction of future events or developments
80. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
81. el____e educational standards *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
82. re____e care *n.* a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities
83. di____y the role *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
84. re___b chamber *n.* an audio effect that produces a sound that is reflected off surfaces in an enclosed space, creating a sense of space or ambiance; the natural echoing or reverberation of sound in a large or open space

ANSWERS: 75. outlive, 76. paralyze, 77. mundane, 78. improvisation, 79. prognosis, 80. excite, 81. elevate, 82. respite, 83. dignify, 84. reverb

85. en____t the audience *v.* to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
86. pr_____de in the park *n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
87. cognitive ne_____gy *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
88. moral di_____my *n.* a division or contrast between two things that are or are represented as being opposed or entirely different; a sharp contrast between two opposing and mutually exclusive categories or concepts
89. com_____nd instructions *v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
90. unp_____led views *adj.* without parallel, equal in size, amount, quality, etc.; better or worse than any other
91. ti__a crown *n.* a jeweled ornamental crown typically worn by women on formal occasions
92. la__l microphone *n.* the flat or folded part of the collar on a suit coat or other jacket that is turned back against the neck; a similar broad part of a garment, typically one that is not turned up
93. ou_____e its usefulness *v.* to live longer than another person

ANSWERS: 85. enchant, 86. promenade, 87. neurology, 88. dichotomy, 89. comprehend, 90. unparalleled, 91. tiara, 92. lapel, 93. outlive

94. an____y detection *n.* something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand
95. fri_____ng experience *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
96. b__p the horn *v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
97. ho____ic experience *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
98. mo__n with deep grief *v.* to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone
99. la_____er fields *n.* a fragrant herb of the mint family, typically having purple or blue flowers, sometimes used for its soothing scent in aromatherapy or as a flavoring in cooking and baking
100. ou__o the competition *v.* to do better than someone; to surpass
101. gr__t a customer *v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
102. tu____o jacket *n.* (also "tux") a formal suit of clothing for men, typically consisting of a black jacket with satin lapels and trousers with a stripe down the side, worn with a bow tie
103. hum_____rd nest *n.* a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction

ANSWERS: 94. anomaly, 95. frightening, 96. beep, 97. horrific, 98. mourn, 99. lavender, 100. outdo, 101. greet, 102. tuxedo, 103. hummingbird

104. blink in ast_____ent

n. a feeling of very great surprise

ANSWERS: 104. astonishment

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I love the soothing scent of _____ essential oil.
 - n.* a fragrant herb of the mint family, typically having purple or blue flowers, sometimes used for its soothing scent in aromatherapy or as a flavoring in cooking and baking

2. The charity provided meals and shelter to _____ the suffering of the homeless population.
 - v.* to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause

3. The venom from the snake bite _____ his arm.
 - v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel

4. The diamond _____ in the sunlight.
 - v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy

5. The doctor gave a positive _____ for her recovery from the illness.
 - n.* the likely outcome or course of a disease or illness based on medical analysis and examination of the patient; a forecast or prediction of future events or developments

6. The singer's voice had a natural _____ that sounded beautiful in the acoustically-designed church.
 - n.* an audio effect that produces a sound that is reflected off surfaces in an enclosed space, creating a sense of space or ambiance; the natural echoing or reverberation of sound in a large or open space

7. The _____ pain in his ankle made it difficult to walk.
 - adj.* extremely painful, intense, or distressing; causing great physical or emotional suffering

ANSWERS: 1. lavender, 2. palliate, 3. paralyzed, 4. sparkled, 5. prognosis, 6. reverb, 7. excruciating

8. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
9. I am studying _____ in medical school because I love working with children.
n. the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
10. 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
11. The sudden drop in the stock market was an _____ that puzzled many investors.
n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand
12. The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful _____ for tourists and locals alike.
n. a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
13. Schools should _____ children's mutual interest spirit.
v. to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing
14. The stuffed animal was so _____ and soft that it was hard to resist hugging it.
adj. covered in fur or a furry material; resembling fur
15. The _____ festival was filled with giant carved pumpkins on display and pumpkin-themed food stalls.
n. large, round, yellow or orange fruit with a thick rind and pulpy interior, often carved into a Halloween decoration or used as a base for pies, soups, or other dishes

ANSWERS: 8. stabilizes, 9. pediatrics, 10. improvisation, 11. anomaly, 12.

promenade, 13. nurture, 14. furry, 15. pumpkin

16. His wealth is a _____ to his success.
n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
17. After returning from the war, he had a pretty _____ life.
adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
18. The ____ constrictor wrapped itself tightly around its prey.
n. a type of large, nonvenomous snake that is often found in tropical regions, which kills its prey by suffocation, wrapping its body tightly around the animal until it can no longer breathe; a type of scarf or neckwear that is made from feathers, fur, or a combination of both
19. They stood rooted in _____ for a while.
n. a feeling of very great surprise
20. The _____ between good and evil is common in literature and philosophy.
n. a division or contrast between two things that are or are represented as being opposed or entirely different; a sharp contrast between two opposing and mutually exclusive categories or concepts
21. The organization works to _____ drug addicts and help them rebuild their lives.
v. to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment
22. 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

ANSWERS: 16. testament, 17. mundane, 18. boa, 19. astonishment, 20. dichotomy, 21. rehabilitate, 22. pretensions

23. Watching a _____ at a flower is like observing a miniature ballet of nature.
- n.* a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction
24. The _____ team includes nurses, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers who work together to provide comprehensive care.
- n.* a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support
25. The _____ sculpture was placed in the park's center for all to see.
- adj.* not attached to a wall or other structure; not supported by anything
26. The news of her promotion _____ her.
- v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
27. Several American technology companies have achieved _____ success in terms of customer numbers.
- adj.* without parallel, equal in size, amount, quality, etc.; better or worse than any other
28. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.
- n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
29. The news of the pandemic was a _____ reminder of the fragility of human health.
- adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

ANSWERS: 23. hummingbird, 24. hospice, 25. freestanding, 26. excited, 27. unparalleled, 28. heartbreak, 29. frightening

30. It's important to _____ other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.
- v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
31. The fairy's spell _____ the prince, making him fall asleep for 100 years.
- v. to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
32. Eating food in a hurry _____ blood glucose levels.
- v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
33. Daily exercise and adequate sleep are necessary to prevent the progression of _____.
- n. a decrease in size of a muscle, organ, etc., caused by disease or disuse
34. The government voted to _____ the outdated law.
- v. to do away with completely; to put an end to
35. She is studying clinical _____ to become a brain surgeon.
- n. the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
36. She _____ her husband for many years.
- v. to live longer than another person
37. He looked dapper, wearing a suit and a _____ on his lapel.
- n. a small floral decoration worn on the lapel of a suit or jacket, typically by men, for formal occasions such as weddings or proms

ANSWERS: 30. dignify, 31. enchanted, 32. elevates, 33. atrophy, 34. abolish, 35. neurology, 36. outlived, 37. boutonniere

38. We _____ the loss of our dear friend at the memorial service.
v. to feel or express sorrow, grief, or sadness, especially over the death of someone
39. The princess wore a _____ adorned with precious jewels to the ball.
n. a jeweled ornamental crown typically worn by women on formal occasions
40. He adjusted the pin on his _____ before giving his speech.
n. the flat or folded part of the collar on a suit coat or other jacket that is turned back against the neck; a similar broad part of a garment, typically one that is not turned up
41. She struggled to _____ complex math problems.
v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
42. The accident scene was _____ with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.
adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
43. He tried to _____ his rival by breaking the world record.
v. to do better than someone; to surpass
44. They _____ the room with balloons and streamers for the birthday party.
v. to add beauty or distinction to something by the addition of ornament, art, etc
45. The waiter wore a freshly pressed _____ to serve at the upscale restaurant.
n. (also "tux") a formal suit of clothing for men, typically consisting of a black jacket with satin lapels and trousers with a stripe down the side, worn with a bow tie

ANSWERS: 38. mourned, 39. tiara, 40. lapel, 41. comprehend, 42. horrific, 43. outdo, 44. decorated, 45. tuxedo

46. The timer _____ reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.
- v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
47. A _____ of snowflakes fell from the sky as we stepped outside.
- n.* a sudden and brief burst of activity or emotion; a light snowfall with gusty winds and swirling snowflakes; a rapid or disorganized movement of small objects, such as leaves or petals
48. His _____ in the face of danger saved the lives of his comrades.
- n.* courage in the face of danger
49. The vacation gave her a much-needed _____ from work.
- n.* a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities
50. The thunder _____ in the distance.
- v.* to make a low, heavy continuous sound
51. He _____ his friends with a warm smile and a hug.
- v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
52. His _____ illness made it difficult for him to leave the house.
- adj.* weakening or damaging; causing a loss of strength, energy, or success

ANSWERS: 46. beeped, 47. flurry, 48. bravery, 49. respite, 50. rumbled, 51. greeted, 52. debilitating