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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Carlos Reif: Why do we kiss under mistletoe? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

mistletoe

n. a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it

(1) hang the **mistletoe**, (2) **mistletoe** decoration

According to tradition, kissing under the **mistletoe** during the holidays brings good luck.

scurry

v. to move hurriedly and with little or no grace, often with sudden changes in direction

synonym: hasten, rush, dart

(1) **scurry** back and forth, (2) **scurry** about aimlessly

The squirrels tried to **scurry** up the tree to avoid the dog.

opportune

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

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

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

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

festive

adj. relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful

synonym: festal, celebratory, jovial

(1) **festive** clothing, (2) **festive** atmosphere

The city is decorated with **festive** lights and decorations for the holiday season.

intertwine

v. to twist together or become twisted together

synonym: interweave, interlace, entwine

(1) **intertwine** thread, (2) **intertwine** story

The vines **intertwine** to form a thick canopy overhead.

captivate

v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of

synonym: enchant, charm, fascinate

(1) **captivate** public sentiment, (2) **captivate** the mind

The magician **captivated** the audience with his illusions.

druid

n. a member of an ancient Celtic order of priests, often associated with nature worship and divination

synonym: pagan, shaman, spiritualist

(1) **druid** ritual, (2) **druid** priestess

The ancient **druids** believed in the power of nature and conducted rituals to honor it.

bestow

v. to give something to somebody, especially as an honor or present

synonym: give, grant, present

(1) **bestow** the name, (2) **bestow** a warm praise

He did not **bestow** one thought on his dead friend.

mystical

adj. relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding

synonym: occult, esoteric, enigmatic

(1) **mystical** intuition, (2) **mystical** belief

While meditating, he had a **mystical** experience and felt a sense of unity with the universe.

inanimate

adj. not having life or spirit; not animate

synonym: lifeless, inert, passive

(1) **inanimate** nature, (2) **inanimate** matter

The **inanimate** object was not capable of movement or feeling.

vow

v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn

synonym: promise, pledge, swear

(1) **vow** allegiance to the new king, (2) **vow** never to give up

They **vowed** to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.

fervor

n. intense and passionate feeling or enthusiasm for something

synonym: passion, zeal, enthusiasm

(1) the **fervor** for a cause, (2) religious **fervor**

The protesters marched with **fervor**, demanding change from their government.

overlook

v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

synonym: disregard, look down, supervise

(1) **overlook** a street, (2) **overlook** that fact

We cannot **overlook** an opportunity for great success.

mischievous

adj. causing or showing a fondness for playfully causing trouble; harmful or troublesome, especially in a playful or amusing way

synonym: naughty, prankish, impish

(1) **mischievous** grin, (2) **mischievous** sense of humor

The **mischievous** child played pranks on his siblings all day long.

pierce

v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument

synonym: jab, penetrate, stab

(1) **pierce** the armored shells, (2) **pierce** a mystery

The extreme cold **pierced** our bones.

carve

v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

synonym: sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

resurrect

v. to bring back to life or bring into existence again

synonym: revive, bring back, bring to life

(1) **resurrect** the dead, (2) **resurrect** an argument

They tried to **resurrect** the ancient tradition.

truce

n. a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement

synonym: ceasefire, armistice, peace

(1) temporary **truce**, (2) break a **truce**

The two sides agreed to a **truce** and set down their weapons.

colonist

n. a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area

synonym: settler, pioneer, inhabitant

(1) space **colonist**, (2) American **colonist**

The first **colonists** arrived in the New World in the early 17th century.

drape

v. to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material

synonym: cover, hang, arrange

(1) **drape** a coat, (2) **drape** a curtain

She **draped** a shawl over her shoulders to keep warm.

bough

n. a branch of a tree, especially a large or main branch

synonym: branch, limb, twig

(1) **bough** of a tree, (2) snowy **bough**

The squirrel scampered up the **bough** to reach the nuts on

the tree.

parasitic

adj. living off another organism to the detriment of the host
synonym : symbiotic, dependent, exploitative

(1) **parasitic** relationship, (2) brood- **parasitic** bird

The **parasitic** plant was able to survive by stealing nutrients from its host.

penetrate

v. to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance

synonym : pierce, stab, go through

(1) **penetrate** a cell, (2) **penetrate** quickly into the skin

Western ideology slowly **penetrates** through the eastern countries.

siphon

n. a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container

synonym : tube, hose, pipe

(1) **siphon** off political funds, (2) **siphon** jet

The **siphon** pipe in my aquarium helps to keep the water clean and clear by removing debris and waste.

colonize

v. to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

synonym : settle, occupy, inhabit

(1) **colonize** planets, (2) **colonize** for cultivation

European powers **colonized** much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

disperse

v. to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so

synonym : dissipate, spread, scatter

(1) **disperse** false information, (2) **disperse** the protesters

Before authorities **dispersed** the protesters, they yelled

slogans.

excrete

v. to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland

synonym: eliminate, expel, secrete

(1) **excrete** a sticky liquid, (2) **excrete** waste products

The body **excretes** excess salt through urine to maintain proper electrolyte balance.

indigestible

adj. not easily digested or broken down by the body; difficult or impossible to understand or comprehend

synonym: unpalatable, inedible, unsavory

(1) **indigestible** food, (2) **indigestible** substance

The dish was filled with so much spice that it became **indigestible** for me.

germinate

v. to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts

synonym: sprout, grow, develop

(1) days to **germinate**, (2) **germinate** the idea

The seeds **germinated** quickly in the warm soil.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

foliage

n. the leaves of a plant or tree, especially in large quantities or as seen from a distance; natural greenery, often used for decorative purposes

synonym: leaves, greenery, flora

(1) colorful **foliage**, (2) autumn **foliage**

The vibrant **foliage** on the vines made the winery look even more beautiful.

superstitious

adj. believing in or influenced by superstitions, which are usually based on irrational or supernatural beliefs; showing excessive reverence for traditional or cultural beliefs that lack a rational basis

synonym : irrational, unfounded, mystical

(1) **superstitious** fear, (2) **superstitious** behavior

Some people are **superstitious** and believe in good luck charms and omens.

ancestor

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

synonym : forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

parasite

n. an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense

synonym : hitchhiker, leech, saprophyte

(1) blood-sucking **parasite**, (2) **parasite** disease

Tapeworms are **parasites** that live in the intestines of humans and animals.

keystone

n. the central stone at the top of an arch, which holds all other stones in place

synonym : linchpin, mainstay, cornerstone

(1) **keystone** for success, (2) the **keystone** of campaign reform

The **keystone** of the arch held the structure together.

elk

n. a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size

synonym : moose, deer, stag

(1) **elk** population, (2) **elk** hunting

We saw a group of **elk** grazing in the field near our cabin in the mountains.

squirrel

n. a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world

synonym: rodent, chipmunk, tree-dweller

(1) agile **squirrel**, (2) gray **squirrel**

The **squirrels** in the park were very friendly and came right up to us looking for food.

chipmunk

n. a small, striped rodent native to North America and Asia, characterized by a short bushy tail and large cheek pouches used for storing food

synonym: ground squirrel, striped squirrel

(1) **chipmunk** cheeks, (2) playful **chipmunk**

I saw a cute **chipmunk** scurrying across the lawn.

porcupine

n. a large, slow-moving, spiny mammal that is covered in sharp quills and is native to Asia, Africa, and certain parts of the Americas

synonym: hedgehog, echidna, spiny mammal

(1) **porcupine** movement, (2) **porcupine** habitat

The quills on a **porcupine's** back are used for defense.

robin

n. a small bird from the thrush family, typically having a red breast and found across Europe, Asia, and North America

synonym: thrush, red-breast, redbird

(1) **robin** eggs, (2) **robin's** nest

I love listening to the cheerful song of the **robin** in my garden.

bluebird

n. a small, predominantly blue-colored bird, often symbolizing happiness and cheerfulness

(1) **bluebird** feathers, (2) **bluebird** habitat

I awoke to the sweet sound of a **bluebird** singing outside my window.

mourning

n. the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving

synonym: grieving, sorrow, lamentation

(1) **mourning** period, (2) **mourning** ritual

She wore black clothing as a symbol of **mourning** for her grandmother.

juniper

n. a type of evergreen shrub or small tree belonging to the cypress family, typically characterized by needle-like or scale-like leaves and bearing small, berry-like cones

synonym: cedar, fir, pine

(1) **juniper** berries, (2) **juniper** shrub

The scent of the **juniper** tree filled the air as we hiked through the forest.

sprout

v. to grow or develop new parts typically leaves or shoots, from a plant; to emerge, develop, or arise gradually or suddenly

synonym: germinate, grow, bud

(1) **sprout** seeds, (2) **sprout** wings

The flowers in the garden began to **sprout** after the first rain of the season.

flourish

v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

synonym: boom, advance, succeed

(1) **flourish** economically, (2) **flourish** worldwide

The Ottoman Empire **flourished** for over five centuries.

imitate

v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

synonym: mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. op_____ne occasion | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 2. pe_____te quickly into the skin | <i>v.</i> to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance |
| 3. ge_____te the idea | <i>v.</i> to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts |
| 4. be___w a warm praise | <i>v.</i> to give something to somebody, especially as an honor or present |
| 5. re_____nt population | <i>adj.</i> able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions |
| 6. the ke_____ne of campaign reform | <i>n.</i> the central stone at the top of an arch, which holds all other stones in place |
| 7. dr__e a coat | <i>v.</i> to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material |
| 8. colorful fo_____e | <i>n.</i> the leaves of a plant or tree, especially in large quantities or as seen from a distance; natural greenery, often used for decorative purposes |
| 9. ro__n eggs | <i>n.</i> a small bird from the thrush family, typically having a red breast and found across Europe, Asia, and North America |
| 10. v_w allegiance to the new king | <i>v.</i> to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn |

ANSWERS: 1. opportune, 2. penetrate, 3. germinate, 4. bestow, 5. resilient, 6. keystone, 7. drape, 8. foliage, 9. robin, 10. vow

11. break a tr__e *n.* a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement
12. ch____nk cheeks *n.* a small, striped rodent native to North America and Asia, characterized by a short bushy tail and large cheek pouches used for storing food
13. the fe___r for a cause *n.* intense and passionate feeling or enthusiasm for something
14. po_____ne habitat *n.* a large, slow-moving, spiny mammal that is covered in sharp quills and is native to Asia, Africa, and certain parts of the Americas
15. pa_____ic relationship *adj.* living off another organism to the detriment of the host
16. si___n off political funds *n.* a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container
17. hang the mi_____oe *n.* a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it
18. space co_____st *n.* a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area

ANSWERS: 11. truce, 12. chipmunk, 13. fervor, 14. porcupine, 15. parasitic, 16. siphon, 17. mistletoe, 18. colonist

19. mo_____ng period *n.* the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving
20. blood-sucking pa_____te *n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
21. e_k population *n.* a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size
22. bl_____rd habitat *n.* a small, predominantly blue-colored bird, often symbolizing happiness and cheerfulness
23. snowy bo__h *n.* a branch of a tree, especially a large or main branch
24. days to ge_____te *v.* to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts
25. fl_____sh worldwide *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
26. ov_____ok that fact *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
27. sc_____y about aimlessly *v.* to move hurriedly and with little or no grace, often with sudden changes in direction
28. bo__h of a tree *n.* a branch of a tree, especially a large or main branch
29. sp_____t wings *v.* to grow or develop new parts typically leaves or shoots, from a plant; to emerge, develop, or arise gradually or suddenly

ANSWERS: 19. mourning, 20. parasite, 21. elk, 22. bluebird, 23. bough, 24. germinate, 25. flourish, 26. overlook, 27. scurry, 28. bough, 29. sprout

30. dr__d priestess *n.* a member of an ancient Celtic order of priests, often associated with nature worship and divination
31. in_____te matter *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
32. ind_____ble food *adj.* not easily digested or broken down by the body; difficult or impossible to understand or comprehend
33. re_____ct the dead *v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
34. ca_____te the mind *v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of
35. mi_____oe decoration *n.* a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it
36. autumn fo_____e *n.* the leaves of a plant or tree, especially in large quantities or as seen from a distance; natural greenery, often used for decorative purposes
37. v_w never to give up *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
38. pi___e the armored shells *v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
39. ex_____e a sticky liquid *v.* to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland
40. fl_____sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

ANSWERS: 30. druid, 31. inanimate, 32. indigestible, 33. resurrect, 34. captivate, 35. mistletoe, 36. foliage, 37. vow, 38. pierce, 39. excrete, 40. flourish

41. ov_____ok a street
v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
42. co_____ze planets
v. to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
43. ex_____e waste products
v. to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland
44. e_k hunting
n. a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size
45. ke_____ne for success
n. the central stone at the top of an arch, which holds all other stones in place
46. pa_____te disease
n. an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
47. religious fe____r
n. intense and passionate feeling or enthusiasm for something
48. sup_____ous fear
adj. believing in or influenced by superstitions, which are usually based on irrational or supernatural beliefs; showing excessive reverence for traditional or cultural beliefs that lack a rational basis
49. si____n jet
n. a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container

ANSWERS: 41. overlook, 42. colonize, 43. excrete, 44. elk, 45. keystone, 46. parasite, 47. fervor, 48. superstitious, 49. siphon

50. my_____al belief *adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
51. sc____y back and forth *v.* to move hurriedly and with little or no grace, often with sudden changes in direction
52. mis_____us grin *adj.* causing or showing a fondness for playfully causing trouble; harmful or troublesome, especially in a playful or amusing way
53. int_____ne thread *v.* to twist together or become twisted together
54. earliest human an_____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
55. pi____e a mystery *v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
56. dr__e a curtain *v.* to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material
57. ro__n's nest *n.* a small bird from the thrush family, typically having a red breast and found across Europe, Asia, and North America
58. ca_____te public sentiment *v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of
59. sp____t seeds *v.* to grow or develop new parts typically leaves or shoots, from a plant; to emerge, develop, or arise gradually or suddenly

ANSWERS: 50. mystical, 51. scurry, 52. mischievous, 53. intertwine, 54. ancestor, 55. pierce, 56. drape, 57. robin, 58. captivate, 59. sprout

60. di_____se false information *v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so
61. gray sq_____el *n.* a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world
62. fe_____e atmosphere *adj.* relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful
63. ju_____r berries *n.* a type of evergreen shrub or small tree belonging to the cypress family, typically characterized by needle-like or scale-like leaves and bearing small, berry-like cones
64. an_____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
65. int_____ne story *v.* to twist together or become twisted together
66. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
67. fe_____e clothing *adj.* relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful
68. re_____ct an argument *v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
69. pe_____te a cell *v.* to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance
70. mis_____us sense of humor *adj.* causing or showing a fondness for playfully causing trouble; harmful or troublesome, especially in a playful or amusing way
71. di_____se the protesters *v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so

ANSWERS: 60. disperse, 61. squirrel, 62. festive, 63. juniper, 64. ancestor, 65. intertwine, 66. resilient, 67. festive, 68. resurrect, 69. penetrate, 70. mischievous, 71. disperse

72. sup_____ous behavior *adj.* believing in or influenced by superstitions, which are usually based on irrational or supernatural beliefs; showing excessive reverence for traditional or cultural beliefs that lack a rational basis
73. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
74. bl_____rd feathers *n.* a small, predominantly blue-colored bird, often symbolizing happiness and cheerfulness
75. ca__e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
76. in_____te nature *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
77. ca__e a statue *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
78. my_____al intuition *adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
79. American co_____st *n.* a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area
80. be___w the name *v.* to give something to somebody, especially as an honor or present
81. dr__d ritual *n.* a member of an ancient Celtic order of priests, often associated with nature worship and divination
82. ju_____r shrub *n.* a type of evergreen shrub or small tree belonging to the cypress family, typically characterized by needle-like or scale-like leaves and bearing small, berry-like cones

ANSWERS: 72. superstitious, 73. opportune, 74. bluebird, 75. carve, 76. inanimate, 77. carve, 78. mystical, 79. colonist, 80. bestow, 81. druid, 82. juniper

83. im_____e painting styles *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
84. ind_____ble substance *adj.* not easily digested or broken down by the body; difficult or impossible to understand or comprehend
85. co_____ze for cultivation *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
86. mo_____ng ritual *n.* the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving
87. im_____e animal sounds *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
88. brood-pa_____ic bird *adj.* living off another organism to the detriment of the host
89. po_____ne movement *n.* a large, slow-moving, spiny mammal that is covered in sharp quills and is native to Asia, Africa, and certain parts of the Americas
90. temporary tr___e *n.* a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement
91. agile sq_____el *n.* a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world
92. playful ch_____nk *n.* a small, striped rodent native to North America and Asia, characterized by a short bushy tail and large cheek pouches used for storing food

ANSWERS: 83. imitate, 84. indigestible, 85. colonize, 86. mourning, 87. imitate, 88. parasitic, 89. porcupine, 90. truce, 91. squirrel, 92. chipmunk

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The body _____ excess salt through urine to maintain proper electrolyte balance.
 - v. to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland

2. He did not _____ one thought on his dead friend.
 - v. to give something to somebody, especially as an honor or present

3. Some people are _____ and believe in good luck charms and omens.
 - adj. believing in or influenced by superstitions, which are usually based on irrational or supernatural beliefs; showing excessive reverence for traditional or cultural beliefs that lack a rational basis

4. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
 - adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

5. She wore black clothing as a symbol of _____ for her grandmother.
 - n. the act or expression of sorrow or grief for someone who has died; a period of time set aside for such grieving

6. The quills on a _____ back are used for defense.
 - n. a large, slow-moving, spiny mammal that is covered in sharp quills and is native to Asia, Africa, and certain parts of the Americas

7. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
 - adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

ANSWERS: 1. excretes, 2. bestow, 3. superstitious, 4. opportune, 5. mourning, 6. porcupine's, 7. resilient

8. The first _____ arrived in the New World in the early 17th century.
n. a person who lives in or is sent to establish a colony (= a country or an area that is governed by a more powerful entity) a new country or area
9. Western ideology slowly _____ through the eastern countries.
v. to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance
10. The _____ of the arch held the structure together.
n. the central stone at the top of an arch, which holds all other stones in place
11. The two sides agreed to a _____ and set down their weapons.
n. a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement
12. We saw a group of ____ grazing in the field near our cabin in the mountains.
n. a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size
13. The protesters marched with _____ demanding change from their government.
n. intense and passionate feeling or enthusiasm for something
14. The magician _____ the audience with his illusions.
v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of
15. The scent of the _____ tree filled the air as we hiked through the forest.
n. a type of evergreen shrub or small tree belonging to the cypress family, typically characterized by needle-like or scale-like leaves and bearing small, berry-like cones

ANSWERS: 8. colonists, 9. penetrates, 10. keystone, 11. truce, 12. elk, 13. fervor, 14. captivated, 15. juniper

16. The flowers in the garden began to _____ after the first rain of the season.
v. to grow or develop new parts typically leaves or shoots, from a plant; to emerge, develop, or arise gradually or suddenly
17. The _____ in the park were very friendly and came right up to us looking for food.
n. a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world
18. The extreme cold _____ our bones.
v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
19. The _____ object was not capable of movement or feeling.
adj. not having life or spirit; not animate
20. The ancient _____ believed in the power of nature and conducted rituals to honor it.
n. a member of an ancient Celtic order of priests, often associated with nature worship and divination
21. He _____ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.
v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
22. The city is decorated with _____ lights and decorations for the holiday season.
adj. relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful
23. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.
n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

ANSWERS: 16. sprout, 17. squirrels, 18. pierced, 19. inanimate, 20. druids, 21. imitated, 22. festive, 23. ancestor

24. I awoke to the sweet sound of a _____ singing outside my window.
n. a small, predominantly blue-colored bird, often symbolizing happiness and cheerfulness
25. The Ottoman Empire _____ for over five centuries.
v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
26. This statue is _____ from a single tree trunk.
v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
27. The _____ plant was able to survive by stealing nutrients from its host.
adj. living off another organism to the detriment of the host
28. The _____ pipe in my aquarium helps to keep the water clean and clear by removing debris and waste.
n. a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container
29. The squirrels tried to _____ up the tree to avoid the dog.
v. to move hurriedly and with little or no grace, often with sudden changes in direction
30. The squirrel scampered up the _____ to reach the nuts on the tree.
n. a branch of a tree, especially a large or main branch
31. We cannot _____ an opportunity for great success.
v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

ANSWERS: 24. bluebird, 25. flourished, 26. carved, 27. parasitic, 28. siphon, 29. scurry, 30. bough, 31. overlook

32. They tried to _____ the ancient tradition.

v. to bring back to life or bring into existence again

33. I love listening to the cheerful song of the _____ in my garden.

n. a small bird from the thrush family, typically having a red breast and found across Europe, Asia, and North America

34. While meditating, he had a _____ experience and felt a sense of unity with the universe.

adj. relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding

35. European powers _____ much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

v. to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

36. The seeds _____ quickly in the warm soil.

v. to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts

37. She _____ a shawl over her shoulders to keep warm.

v. to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material

38. The vines _____ to form a thick canopy overhead.

v. to twist together or become twisted together

39. The vibrant _____ on the vines made the winery look even more beautiful.

n. the leaves of a plant or tree, especially in large quantities or as seen from a distance; natural greenery, often used for decorative purposes

ANSWERS: 32. resurrect, 33. robin, 34. mystical, 35. colonized, 36. germinated, 37. draped, 38. intertwine, 39. foliage

40. Before authorities _____ the protesters, they yelled slogans.
v. to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so
41. Tapeworms are _____ that live in the intestines of humans and animals.
n. an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
42. The _____ child played pranks on his siblings all day long.
adj. causing or showing a fondness for playfully causing trouble; harmful or troublesome, especially in a playful or amusing way
43. According to tradition, kissing under the _____ during the holidays brings good luck.
n. a parasitic plant that grows on the branches of certain trees, typically used as a decoration during the winter holiday season, often associated with the tradition of kissing underneath it
44. I saw a cute _____ scurrying across the lawn.
n. a small, striped rodent native to North America and Asia, characterized by a short bushy tail and large cheek pouches used for storing food
45. The dish was filled with so much spice that it became _____ for me.
adj. not easily digested or broken down by the body; difficult or impossible to understand or comprehend
46. They _____ to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.
v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn

ANSWERS: 40. dispersed, 41. parasites, 42. mischievous, 43. mistletoe, 44. chipmunk, 45. indigestible, 46. vowed