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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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

sight

n. the ability to see; anything that is seen

synonym: vision, spectacle, view

(1) an unexpected **sight**, (2) dull **sight**

Many famous **sights** are within walking distance.

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.

beneath

adv. in or to a lower place than someone or something

synonym : down, under, low

(1) the ground **beneath** my feet, (2) **beneath** contempt

A great stretch of the lake lay **beneath** them.

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.

tradition

n. a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society

synonym : custom, practice, ritual

(1) a **tradition** of a culture, (2) against **tradition**

It is a **tradition** in many families to have a big Thanksgiving dinner with all their relatives.

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.

mythology

n. a collection of myths (= traditional stories accepted as history) or the study of myths

synonym : folklore, legend, fable

(1) tale from **mythology**, (2) ancient **mythology**

He studies Greek and Roman **mythology**.

biology

n. the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things

(1) evolutionary **biology**, (2) cell and molecular **biology**

In junior high school, we had to dissect a frog in **biology** class.

intriguing

adj. arousing curiosity or interest, often due to a mysterious or complex quality; fascinating or captivating

synonym : fascinating, captivating, arresting

(1) **intriguing** concept, (2) **intriguing** character

The novel's plot was **intriguing** and kept readers in their seats.

ancient

adj. relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old

synonym : archaic, age-old, obsolete

(1) pre-Christian **ancient**, (2) **ancient** stories

They have been living near water since **ancient** times.

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.

legend

n. an old story that may or may not be accurate regarding some persons and events; a well-known person who is admired by others for a long time, particularly in a particular field

synonym : fable, fiction, myth

(1) basketball **legend**, (2) **legend** of King Arthur

Many of the **legends** of the famous general came about hundreds of years after his death.

myth

n. an ancient story or set of stories accepted as history, especially explaining the worldview of a people

synonym : fable, legend, lore

(1) the **myth** of an old religion, (2) perpetuate a **myth**

With the financial bubble bursting, the **myth** of economic growth in investment banking collapsed.

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.

priest

n. a person who performs religious duties and ceremonies, especially in the Christian faith

synonym: clergyman, minister, pastor

(1) **priest** in clerical garb, (2) faithful **priest**

He was ordained as a **priest** in the Catholic Church.

heaven

n. (of various religious and mythological traditions) a place or state of existence considered to be the abode of the divine, the afterlife, or a higher realm of being; a state of great happiness, contentment, or beauty

synonym: paradise, nirvana, utopia

(1) ascend to **heaven**, (2) **heaven** on earth

He felt like **heaven** when he tasted the delicious chocolate cake.

unlikely

adj. not probable or likely to happen

synonym: doubtful, questionable, far-fetched

(1) **unlikely** event, (2) it is **unlikely** that he would win the game

The passage of the bill is **unlikely**.

branch

n. a division of a tree or woody shrub that grows out from the trunk or a main stem; a division of some larger or more complex organization

synonym: limb, twig, bough

(1) **branch** office, (2) a **branch** pipe

The **branch** of the tree had fallen and blocked the road.

healing

n. the process of becoming or making somebody or something well again

synonym : recovery, recuperation, convalescence

(1) natural **healing** ability, (2) part of the **healing** process
Each ancient tribe has its **healing** traditions.

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.

fertility

n. the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants

synonym : richness, pregnancy, productivity

(1) soil **fertility**, (2) **fertility** above replacement

The sperm count is used as an indicator of male **fertility**.

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.

goddess

n. a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored

synonym : deity, divinity, idol

(1) a **goddess** of beauty, (2) winged **goddess** of victory

The festival was held in honor of the harvest **goddess**.

command

n. authority, control, or mastery over something, often referring to military or leadership contexts; a directive, order, or instruction; expertise or confidence in a specific area; (verb) to give an authoritative order or instruction, or to be in charge or control of something

synonym : control, authority, leadership

(1) **command** and control, (2) **command** a battery

The general gave a **command** to his troops to prepare for

battle.

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.

oversight

n. the act of supervising or watching over something; a mistake caused by not paying enough attention to something

synonym : supervision, monitoring, failure

(1) environmental **oversight**, (2) **oversight** committee

Due to careless **oversight**, the product was not inspected before it was shipped to the customers.

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.

arrow

n. a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow

synonym : shaft, dart, projectile

(1) **arrow** pointing, (2) **arrow** diagram

The archer aimed his **arrow** carefully at the target.

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.

pity

n. a feeling of sorrow and compassion caused by the suffering or misfortunes of others; an object of contempt or disdain

synonym : sympathy, compassion, mercy

(1) allow self- **pity**, (2) **pity** speech

It is a **pity** that the concert had to be canceled due to the storm.

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.

transform

v. to change in outward structure or looks;

synonym : alter, convert, change

(1) **transform** an education system, (2) **transform** heat into power

My father's death **transformed** my life completely.

symbol

n. something visible that is used to represent something else

synonym : mark, character, insignia

(1) **symbol** color, (2) **symbol** for happiness

The dragon is considered a **symbol** of bravery.

mandate

n. an official or authoritative instruction or command; a commission or authority to carry out a particular task

synonym : command, instruction, authority

(1) **mandate** obligation, (2) an Imperial **mandate**

The **mandate** given to the new government is to improve the economy.

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.

embrace

v. to accept something willingly and enthusiastically;
(noun) the act of clasping another person in the arms as in greeting or affection

synonym : grasp, hold tightly, accept

(1) **embrace** an opportunity, (2) a warm **embrace**

The woods **embrace** the house.

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.

tale

n. a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure

synonym: canard, fiction, fable

(1) a fairy **tale**, (2) **tale** of horror

Ghosts in folk **tales** are almost always malicious.

magic

n. beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

synonym: fascination, illusion, wizardry

(1) a **magic** spell, (2) she is **magic**

He performed **magic** tricks with sophisticated moves.

imaginary

adj. existing only in someone's mind

synonym: fictional, ideal, fantastical

(1) **imaginary** number, (2) **imaginary** pregnancy

Little children tend to have **imaginary** friends.

inspire

v. to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative

synonym: boost, encourage, enlighten

(1) **inspire** a feeling of curiosity, (2) **inspire** him to write a novel

The unique style of this martial arts **inspired** many action film producers.

decoration

n. the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements

synonym: adornment, ornament, embellishment

(1) colorful **decorations**, (2) chocolate **decorations** for cakes

The room was filled with beautiful **decorations** for the wedding reception.

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.

rely

v. to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.

synonym: depend, count, lean

(1) **rely** on convenience stores, (2) **rely** entirely on him

Babies heavily **rely** on others for food.

modify

v. to change something slightly, such as a plan, option, law, etc., especially to make it more suitable for a particular purpose

synonym: adjust, alter, revise

(1) genetically **modify** food, (2) **modify** my behavior

We use adverbs to **modify** verbs and adjectives.

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.

bark

n. the hard outer layer of a tree; a sound made by dogs or some other animals

synonym: skin, husk, crust

(1) trees with rough **bark**, (2) **bark** at the moon

He removed the **bark** from the tree.

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.

mineral

n. a solid inorganic substance occurring in nature having a definite chemical composition

(1) vitamin and **minerals**, (2) **mineral** rights

The robust economy of the country is based on its **mineral** resources.

trunk

n. the main stem or body of a tree which its branches grow

synonym: body, chest, torso

(1) the **trunk** of the tree, (2) the **trunk** of the body

Destructive fungi thrive in moist environments, such as those seen in wounds on the **trunk**.

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.

creature

n. a living being, especially an animal

synonym: being, animal, organism

(1) **creature** of habit, (2) artificial **creature**

The deep sea **creature** was unlike anything the scientists had ever seen before.

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.

sticky

adj. made of or covered with an adhesive substance; hot or warm and humid

synonym: adhesive, gluey, clingy

(1) **sticky** weather, (2) **sticky** situation

A peculiar **sticky** material coated the foliage.

rid

v. to make someone or something free of unwanted or unpleasant tasks, objects, or person

synonym: do away with, free, clear

(1) get **rid** of the rats, (2) **rid** the body of waste products

We must **rid** ourselves of pollution.

glue

n. a sticky substance used for joining things together; a bonding agent made from animal or synthetic materials

synonym: adhesive, paste, gum

(1) **glue** stick, (2) epoxy **glue**

The carpenter applied **glue** to the cabinet joints before nailing them together.

wipe

v. to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid

synonym: clean, brush, swab

(1) **Wipe** off dirt, (2) **wipe** with water

Please **wipe** your sweat with this towel.

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.

lush

adj. produced or growing in extreme abundance, often in an attractive way; having strong sexual appeal

synonym : leafy, overgrown, dense

(1) **lush** and fertile land, (2) the abundance of **lush** vegetation

This area has an environment of **lush** greenery and water courses.

surrounding

adj. that is near or around, or closely encircling something

synonym : circumferent, encircling, neighboring

(1) **surrounding** areas, (2) a fence **surrounding** a castle

The **surrounding** mountains make the city difficult to be invaded.

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.

magical

adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers

synonym : enchanting, occult, supernatural

(1) **magical** place, (2) **magical** powers

When I was a child, my mother often cast **magical** spells to ease my pain whenever I was injured.

diversity

n. the quality or fact of many different types of things or people being included in something; a range of different things or people

synonym : variety, multiplicity, variousness

(1) the **diversity** policy of the university, (2) lingual **diversity**

He was impressed by the range and **diversity** of the collection.

wildlife

n. animals, birds, insects, etc. that grow independently of people and live in natural conditions

(1) **wildlife** sanctuary, (2) bird and other **wildlife**

The conservation area has an abundance of **wildlife**.

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.

dive

v. to jump into the water with your head and arms going in first, or to move down to a deeper level underwater

synonym : dip, leap, plunge

(1) **dive** into anime communities, (2) **dive** off a cliff

The sperm whale can **dive** to 1,000 meters.

butterfly

n. a diurnal insect typically has a slender body with knobbed antennae and broad, colorful wings

(1) **butterfly** effect, (2) the life cycle of a **butterfly**

He enjoys collecting **butterfly** specimens.

dense

adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

synonym : heavy, thick, idiotic

(1) nutrient- **dense** foods, (2) **dense** forests

The entire mountain is covered in **dense** rainforest.

bush

n. a plant growing thickly with many small branches and several stiff stems coming up from the root

synonym : copse, scrub, brushwood

(1) trees and **bushes**, (2) a **bush** of hair

I am going to trim this **bush** off.

nest

n. a structure in which animals lay their eggs or give birth to their young

synonym : roost, perch, burrow

(1) bird's **nest**, (2) a **nest** of thieves

The female birds build a **nest** and lay their eggs in May.

- locate** v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
synonym : discover, find, place
(1) **locate** a missing pet, (2) **locate** a tumor
The robot can accurately **locate** construction material.
- relation** n. the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another
synonym : association, linkage, connection
(1) **relation** between cause and effect, (2) **relation** of inclusion
The industrial **relations** laws were passed with little to no alteration.
- instance** n. a particular example or single occurrence of something
synonym : example, sample, illustration
(1) for **instance**, (2) notable **instance**
These articles cite five **instances** of climate change.
- 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.
- influence** n. the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself

synonym : power, leverage, effect

(1) **influence** a child's future, (2) **influence** the daily life
The former emperor had a particular **influence** even after he abdicated.

ecosystem

n. all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment

(1) marine **ecosystem**, (2) change the **ecosystem**

Human conservation efforts often fail unexpectedly because they disturb the balance of the **ecosystem**.

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.

icon

n. a picture or statue of a holy person considered to be a sacred thing; a little icon on the screen of a computer or smartphone that denotes an application or a file

synonym : figure, hero, idol

(1) **icon** for young people, (2) television **icon**

Some comic book characters are considered gay **icons**.

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. chocolate dec_____ons for cakes *n.* the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements
2. pa_____ic relationship *adj.* living off another organism to the detriment of the host
3. int_____ne thread *v.* to twist together or become twisted together
4. l__h and fertile land *adj.* produced or growing in extreme abundance, often in an attractive way; having strong sexual appeal
5. evolutionary bi_____y *n.* the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
6. an unexpected si__t *n.* the ability to see; anything that is seen
7. brood-pa_____ic bird *adj.* living off another organism to the detriment of the host
8. epoxy g__e *n.* a sticky substance used for joining things together; a bonding agent made from animal or synthetic materials
9. be_____h contempt *adv.* in or to a lower place than someone or something
10. ar__w pointing *n.* a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow
11. fl_____sh worldwide *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

ANSWERS: 1. decoration, 2. parasitic, 3. intertwine, 4. lush, 5. biology, 6. sight, 7. parasitic, 8. glue, 9. beneath, 10. arrow, 11. flourish

12. gray sq____el *n.* a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world
13. lo___e a missing pet *v.* to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
14. ov_____ok a street *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
15. bo__h of a tree *n.* a branch of a tree, especially a large or main branch
16. ca__e a statue *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
17. ca_____te the mind *v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of
18. it is un_____ly that he would win the game *adj.* not probable or likely to happen
19. re_____on of inclusion *n.* the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another
20. a warm em_____e *v.* to accept something willingly and enthusiastically; (noun) the act of clasping another person in the arms as in greeting or affection
21. fl_____sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
22. e_k population *n.* a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size
23. un_____ly event *adj.* not probable or likely to happen

ANSWERS: 12. squirrel, 13. locate, 14. overlook, 15. bough, 16. carve, 17. captivate, 18. unlikely, 19. relation, 20. embrace, 21. flourish, 22. elk, 23. unlikely

24. pe_____te a cell *v.* to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance
25. cr_____re of habit *n.* a living being, especially an animal
26. the tr__k of the body *n.* the main stem or body of a tree which its branches grow
27. pr___t in clerical garb *n.* a person who performs religious duties and ceremonies, especially in the Christian faith
28. 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
29. an_____t stories *adj.* relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old
30. 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
31. bird's n__t *n.* a structure in which animals lay their eggs or give birth to their young
32. be___w the name *v.* to give something to somebody, especially as an honor or present
33. w__e with water *v.* to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid
34. in_____ce a child's future *n.* the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself

ANSWERS: 24. penetrate, 25. creature, 26. trunk, 27. priest, 28. mistletoe, 29. ancient, 30. mourning, 31. nest, 32. bestow, 33. wipe, 34. influence

35. television i__n *n.* a picture or statue of a holy person considered to be a sacred thing; a little icon on the screen of a computer or smartphone that denotes an application or a file
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. wi_____fe sanctuary *n.* animals, birds, insects, etc. that grow independently of people and live in natural conditions
38. cell and molecular bi_____y *n.* the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
39. di_____se false information *v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so
40. pi_____e a mystery *v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
41. religious fe____r *n.* intense and passionate feeling or enthusiasm for something
42. get r_d of the rats *v.* to make someone or something free of unwanted or unpleasant tasks, objects, or person
43. re_____ct the dead *v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
44. pre-Christian an_____t *adj.* relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old
45. st____y weather *adj.* made of or covered with an adhesive substance; hot or warm and humid

ANSWERS: 35. icon, 36. foliage, 37. wildlife, 38. biology, 39. disperse, 40. pierce, 41. fervor, 42. rid, 43. resurrect, 44. ancient, 45. sticky

46. an____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
47. co____ze for cultivation *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
48. 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
49. the m__h of an old religion *n.* an ancient story or set of stories accepted as history, especially explaining the worldview of a people
50. the ground be____h my feet *adv.* in or to a lower place than someone or something
51. sy____l color *n.* something visible that is used to represent something else
52. 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
53. ro__n eggs *n.* a small bird from the thrush family, typically having a red breast and found across Europe, Asia, and North America
54. sur____ng areas *adj.* that is near or around, or closely encircling something
55. d__e into anime communities *v.* to jump into the water with your head and arms going in first, or to move down to a deeper level underwater

ANSWERS: 46. ancestor, 47. colonize, 48. juniper, 49. myth, 50. beneath, 51. symbol, 52. mistletoe, 53. robin, 54. surrounding, 55. dive

56. an Imperial ma_____e *n.* an official or authoritative instruction or command; a commission or authority to carry out a particular task
57. bl_____rd feathers *n.* a small, predominantly blue-colored bird, often symbolizing happiness and cheerfulness
58. in_____ce the daily life *n.* the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself
59. co_____d a battery *n.* authority, control, or mastery over something, often referring to military or leadership contexts; a directive, order, or instruction; expertise or confidence in a specific area; (verb) to give an authoritative order or instruction, or to be in charge or control of something
60. 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
61. im_____e animal sounds *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
62. environmental ov_____ht *n.* the act of supervising or watching over something; a mistake caused by not paying enough attention to something
63. 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

ANSWERS: 56. mandate, 57. bluebird, 58. influence, 59. command, 60. mischievous, 61. imitate, 62. oversight, 63. robin

64. ar__w diagram *n.* a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow
65. tr_____rm heat into power *v.* to change in outward structure or looks;
66. in_____te matter *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
67. the ke_____ne of campaign reform *n.* the central stone at the top of an arch, which holds all other stones in place
68. 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
69. perpetuate a m__h *n.* an ancient story or set of stories accepted as history, especially explaining the worldview of a people
70. fe_____ty above replacement *n.* the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants
71. she is ma__c *n.* beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers
72. dull si__t *n.* the ability to see; anything that is seen
73. a fence sur_____ng a castle *adj.* that is near or around, or closely encircling something
74. genetically mo___y food *v.* to change something slightly, such as a plan, option, law, etc., especially to make it more suitable for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 64. arrow, 65. transform, 66. inanimate, 67. keystone, 68. colonist, 69. myth, 70. fertility, 71. magic, 72. sight, 73. surrounding, 74. modify

75. a b__h of hair *n.* a plant growing thickly with many small branches and several stiff stems coming up from the root
76. a ma__c spell *n.* beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers
77. a go____s of beauty *n.* a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored
78. bird and other wi____fe *n.* animals, birds, insects, etc. that grow independently of people and live in natural conditions
79. 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
80. ov____ht committee *n.* the act of supervising or watching over something; a mistake caused by not paying enough attention to something
81. ex____e a sticky liquid *v.* to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland
82. marine ec____em *n.* all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment
83. colorful dec____ons *n.* the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements

ANSWERS: 75. bush, 76. magic, 77. goddess, 78. wildlife, 79. drape, 80. oversight, 81. excrete, 82. ecosystem, 83. decoration

84. e_k hunting *n.* a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size
85. faithful pr___t *n.* a person who performs religious duties and ceremonies, especially in the Christian faith
86. the abundance of l__h vegetation *adj.* produced or growing in extreme abundance, often in an attractive way; having strong sexual appeal
87. my____al intuition *adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
88. de__e forests *adj.* containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
89. dr__d ritual *n.* a member of an ancient Celtic order of priests, often associated with nature worship and divination
90. for in____ce *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
91. a n__t of thieves *n.* a structure in which animals lay their eggs or give birth to their young
92. in____e him to write a novel *v.* to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative
93. sy___l for happiness *n.* something visible that is used to represent something else
94. a hard and re____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
95. sc___y about aimlessly *v.* to move hurriedly and with little or no grace, often with sudden changes in direction

ANSWERS: 84. elk, 85. priest, 86. lush, 87. mystical, 88. dense, 89. druid, 90. instance, 91. nest, 92. inspire, 93. symbol, 94. resilient, 95. scurry

96. the life cycle of a bu_____ly *n.* a diurnal insect typically has a slender body with knobbed antennae and broad, colorful wings
97. 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
98. v_w never to give up *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
99. re_____on between cause and effect *n.* the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another
100. natural he_____g ability *n.* the process of becoming or making somebody or something well again
101. he____n on earth *n.* (of various religious and mythological traditions) a place or state of existence considered to be the abode of the divine, the afterlife, or a higher realm of being; a state of great happiness, contentment, or beauty
102. the tr__k of the tree *n.* the main stem or body of a tree which its branches grow
103. dr__e a coat *v.* to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material
104. ke_____ne for success *n.* the central stone at the top of an arch, which holds all other stones in place
105. ov_____ok that fact *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

ANSWERS: 96. butterfly, 97. siphon, 98. vow, 99. relation, 100. healing, 101. heaven, 102. trunk, 103. drape, 104. keystone, 105. overlook

106. r__y entirely on him *v.* to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.
107. t__e of horror *n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
108. fe_____e clothing *adj.* relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful
109. di_____se the protesters *v.* to spread out or distribute over a broad region, or to cause something to do so
110. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
111. sc___y back and forth *v.* to move hurriedly and with little or no grace, often with sudden changes in direction
112. pa_____te disease *n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
113. mo___y my behavior *v.* to change something slightly, such as a plan, option, law, etc., especially to make it more suitable for a particular purpose
114. 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
115. pe_____te quickly into the skin *v.* to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance

ANSWERS: 106. rely, 107. tale, 108. festive, 109. disperse, 110. opportune, 111. scurry, 112. parasite, 113. modify, 114. colonist, 115. penetrate

116. earliest human an____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
117. b__k at the moon *n.* the hard outer layer of a tree; a sound made by dogs or some other animals
118. a tr_____on of a culture *n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society
119. p__y speech *n.* a feeling of sorrow and compassion caused by the suffering or misfortunes of others; an object of contempt or disdain
120. colorful 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
121. 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
122. ind_____ble substance *adj.* not easily digested or broken down by the body; difficult or impossible to understand or comprehend
123. mis_____us grin *adj.* causing or showing a fondness for playfully causing trouble; harmful or troublesome, especially in a playful or amusing way
124. be___w a warm praise *v.* to give something to somebody, especially as an honor or present

ANSWERS: 116. ancestor, 117. bark, 118. tradition, 119. pity, 120. foliage, 121. chipmunk, 122. indigestible, 123. mischievous, 124. bestow

125. bu_____ly effect *n.* a diurnal insect typically has a slender body with knobbed antennae and broad, colorful wings
126. ancient my_____gy *n.* a collection of myths (= traditional stories accepted as history) or the study of myths
127. 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
128. W___e off dirt *v.* to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid
129. ge_____te the idea *v.* to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts
130. 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
131. v_w allegiance to the new king *v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
132. i__n for young people *n.* a picture or statue of a holy person considered to be a sacred thing; a little icon on the screen of a computer or smartphone that denotes an application or a file
133. fe_____e atmosphere *adj.* relating to or characteristic of a festival or celebration; joyful, lively, and colorful
134. nutrient-de___e foods *adj.* containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

ANSWERS: 125. butterfly, 126. mythology, 127. truce, 128. wipe, 129. germinate, 130. truce, 131. vow, 132. icon, 133. festive, 134. dense

135. in_____e a feeling of curiosity *v.* to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative
136. mi_____l rights *n.* a solid inorganic substance occurring in nature having a definite chemical composition
137. 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
138. pi_____e the armored shells *v.* to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
139. st_____y situation *adj.* made of or covered with an adhesive substance; hot or warm and humid
140. my_____al belief *adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
141. the fe_____r for a cause *n.* intense and passionate feeling or enthusiasm for something
142. int_____ng character *adj.* arousing curiosity or interest, often due to a mysterious or complex quality; fascinating or captivating
143. ma_____l powers *adj.* produced by or containing supernatural powers
144. ind_____ble food *adj.* not easily digested or broken down by the body; difficult or impossible to understand or comprehend
145. against tr_____on *n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society

ANSWERS: 135. inspire, 136. mineral, 137. superstitious, 138. pierce, 139. sticky, 140. mystical, 141. fervor, 142. intriguing, 143. magical, 144. indigestible, 145. tradition

146. a fairy t__e *n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
147. in_____te nature *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
148. bl_____rd habitat *n.* a small, predominantly blue-colored bird, often symbolizing happiness and cheerfulness
149. change the ec_____em *n.* all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment
150. tale from my_____gy *n.* a collection of myths (= traditional stories accepted as history) or the study of myths
151. em_____e an opportunity *v.* to accept something willingly and enthusiastically; (noun) the act of clasping another person in the arms as in greeting or affection
152. co_____ze planets *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
153. basketball le____d *n.* an old story that may or may not be accurate regarding some persons and events; a well-known person who is admired by others for a long time, particularly in a particular field
154. winged go_____s of victory *n.* a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored
155. im_____ry pregnancy *adj.* existing only in someone's mind

ANSWERS: 146. tale, 147. inanimate, 148. bluebird, 149. ecosystem, 150. mythology, 151. embrace, 152. colonize, 153. legend, 154. goddess, 155. imaginary

156. agile sq_____el *n.* a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world
157. soil fe_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants
158. re_____ct an argument *v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
159. br____h office *n.* a division of a tree or woody shrub that grows out from the trunk or a main stem; a division of some larger or more complex organization
160. 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
161. the di_____ty policy of the university *n.* the quality or fact of many different types of things or people being included in something; a range of different things or people
162. trees and b__hes *n.* a plant growing thickly with many small branches and several stiff stems coming up from the root
163. vitamin and mi_____ls *n.* a solid inorganic substance occurring in nature having a definite chemical composition
164. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
165. lingual di_____ty *n.* the quality or fact of many different types of things or people being included in something; a range of different things or people

ANSWERS: 156. squirrel, 157. fertility, 158. resurrect, 159. branch, 160. porcupine, 161. diversity, 162. bush, 163. mineral, 164. resilient, 165. diversity

166. g__e stick *n.* a sticky substance used for joining things together; a bonding agent made from animal or synthetic materials
167. 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
168. snowy bo__h *n.* a branch of a tree, especially a large or main branch
169. ma_____e obligation *n.* an official or authoritative instruction or command; a commission or authority to carry out a particular task
170. days to ge_____te *v.* to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts
171. artificial cr_____re *n.* a living being, especially an animal
172. 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
173. ca__e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
174. int_____ne story *v.* to twist together or become twisted together
175. trees with rough b__k *n.* the hard outer layer of a tree; a sound made by dogs or some other animals
176. allow self-p__y *n.* a feeling of sorrow and compassion caused by the suffering or misfortunes of others; an object of contempt or disdain

ANSWERS: 166. glue, 167. chipmunk, 168. bough, 169. mandate, 170. germinate, 171. creature, 172. juniper, 173. carve, 174. intertwine, 175. bark, 176. pity

177. 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
178. le___d of King Arthur *n.* an old story that may or may not be accurate regarding some persons and events; a well-known person who is admired by others for a long time, particularly in a particular field
179. a br___h pipe *n.* a division of a tree or woody shrub that grows out from the trunk or a main stem; a division of some larger or more complex organization
180. 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
181. blood-sucking pa____te *n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
182. im____ry number *adj.* existing only in someone's mind
183. d__e off a cliff *v.* to jump into the water with your head and arms going in first, or to move down to a deeper level underwater
184. r__y on convenience stores *v.* to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.

ANSWERS: 177. siphon, 178. legend, 179. branch, 180. sprout, 181. parasite, 182. imaginary, 183. dive, 184. rely

195. 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
196. part of the he_____g process *n.* the process of becoming or making somebody or something well again
197. notable in_____ce *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
198. r_d the body of waste products *v.* to make someone or something free of unwanted or unpleasant tasks, objects, or person
199. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
200. im_____e painting styles *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
201. 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
202. tr_____rm an education system *v.* to change in outward structure or looks;

ANSWERS: 195. porcupine, 196. healing, 197. instance, 198. rid, 199. opportune, 200. imitate, 201. superstitious, 202. transform

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The Ottoman Empire _____ for over five centuries.
v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
2. 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
3. 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
4. He _____ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.
v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
5. 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
6. 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
7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. flourished, 2. robin, 3. juniper, 4. imitated, 5. superstitious, 6. festive, 7. chipmunk

8. The passage of the bill is _____.

adj. not probable or likely to happen

9. The robot can accurately _____ construction material.

v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something

10. The novel's plot was _____ and kept readers in their seats.

adj. arousing curiosity or interest, often due to a mysterious or complex quality; fascinating or captivating

11. Some comic book characters are considered gay _____.

n. a picture or statue of a holy person considered to be a sacred thing; a little icon on the screen of a computer or smartphone that denotes an application or a file

12. The industrial _____ laws were passed with little to no alteration.

n. the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another

13. I awoke to the sweet sound of a _____ singing outside my window.

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

14. The seeds _____ quickly in the warm soil.

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

15. 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

16. Please _____ your sweat with this towel.

v. to clean or dry something by rubbing with a piece of cloth or paper or one's hand and removing dirt, food, or liquid

ANSWERS: 8. unlikely, 9. locate, 10. intriguing, 11. icons, 12. relations, 13. bluebird, 14. germinated, 15. colonists, 16. wipe

17. With the financial bubble bursting, the _____ of economic growth in investment banking collapsed.
- n.* an ancient story or set of stories accepted as history, especially explaining the worldview of a people
18. The general gave a _____ to his troops to prepare for battle.
- n.* authority, control, or mastery over something, often referring to military or leadership contexts; a directive, order, or instruction; expertise or confidence in a specific area; (verb) to give an authoritative order or instruction, or to be in charge or control of something
19. 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
20. The carpenter applied _____ to the cabinet joints before nailing them together.
- n.* a sticky substance used for joining things together; a bonding agent made from animal or synthetic materials
21. He was impressed by the range and _____ of the collection.
- n.* the quality or fact of many different types of things or people being included in something; a range of different things or people
22. The robust economy of the country is based on its _____ resources.
- n.* a solid inorganic substance occurring in nature having a definite chemical composition
23. The vines _____ to form a thick canopy overhead.
- v.* to twist together or become twisted together

ANSWERS: 17. myth, 18. command, 19. mistletoe, 20. glue, 21. diversity, 22. mineral, 23. intertwine

24. The protesters marched with _____ demanding change from their government.
n. intense and passionate feeling or enthusiasm for something
25. This statue is _____ from a single tree trunk.
v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
26. 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
27. We cannot _____ an opportunity for great success.
v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
28. The entire mountain is covered in _____ rainforest.
adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
29. The woods _____ the house.
v. to accept something willingly and enthusiastically; (noun) the act of clasping another person in the arms as in greeting or affection
30. The dragon is considered a _____ of bravery.
n. something visible that is used to represent something else
31. 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

ANSWERS: 24. fervor, 25. carved, 26. keystone, 27. overlook, 28. dense, 29. embrace, 30. symbol, 31. parasites

32. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

33. A great stretch of the lake lay _____ them.

adv. in or to a lower place than someone or something

34. He performed _____ tricks with sophisticated moves.

n. beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

35. 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

36. He was ordained as a _____ in the Catholic Church.

n. a person who performs religious duties and ceremonies, especially in the Christian faith

37. The sperm whale can _____ to 1,000 meters.

v. to jump into the water with your head and arms going in first, or to move down to a deeper level underwater

38. 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

39. He did not _____ one thought on his dead friend.

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

ANSWERS: 32. resilient, 33. beneath, 34. magic, 35. foliage, 36. priest, 37. dive, 38. colonized, 39. bestow

40. The _____ mountains make the city difficult to be invaded.
adj. that is near or around, or closely encircling something
41. The sperm count is used as an indicator of male _____.
n. the state or quality of being able to produce babies, young animals, fruit, or new plants
42. The _____ plant was able to survive by stealing nutrients from its host.
adj. living off another organism to the detriment of the host
43. 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
44. It is a _____ in many families to have a big Thanksgiving dinner with all their relatives.
n. a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society
45. I am going to trim this _____ off.
n. a plant growing thickly with many small branches and several stiff stems coming up from the root
46. Babies heavily _____ on others for food.
v. to require a specific thing or the assistance and support of someone or something to continue, run properly, or succeed.
47. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.
n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

ANSWERS: 40. surrounding, 41. fertility, 42. parasitic, 43. mischievous, 44. tradition, 45. bush, 46. rely, 47. ancestor

48. 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
49. 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
50. We use adverbs to _____ verbs and adjectives.
v. to change something slightly, such as a plan, option, law, etc., especially to make it more suitable for a particular purpose
51. The _____ object was not capable of movement or feeling.
adj. not having life or spirit; not animate
52. They _____ to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.
v. to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
53. They tried to _____ the ancient tradition.
v. to bring back to life or bring into existence again
54. A peculiar _____ material coated the foliage.
adj. made of or covered with an adhesive substance; hot or warm and humid
55. The extreme cold _____ our bones.
v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
56. Western ideology slowly _____ through the eastern countries.
v. to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance

ANSWERS: 48. mourning, 49. mystical, 50. modify, 51. inanimate, 52. vowed, 53. resurrect, 54. sticky, 55. pierced, 56. penetrates

57. 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
58. Destructive fungi thrive in moist environments, such as those seen in wounds on the _____.
- n.* the main stem or body of a tree which its branches grow
59. Each ancient tribe has its _____ traditions.
- n.* the process of becoming or making somebody or something well again
60. They have been living near water since _____ times.
- adj.* relating to the long ago, particularly the historical period preceding the fall of the Western Roman Empire; very old
61. The archer aimed his _____ carefully at the target.
- n.* a thin, pointed projectile designed to be shot from a bow; a symbol or pointer that is shaped like an arrow
62. We must ___ ourselves of pollution.
- v.* to make someone or something free of unwanted or unpleasant tasks, objects, or person
63. 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
64. Many famous _____ are within walking distance.
- n.* the ability to see; anything that is seen

ANSWERS: 57. scurry, 58. trunk, 59. healing, 60. ancient, 61. arrow, 62. rid, 63. indigestible, 64. sights

65. The room was filled with beautiful _____ for the wedding reception.
- n.* the act of adding something that is intended to make something more attractive; an award or honor that is given to someone in recognition of their achievements
66. 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
67. In junior high school, we had to dissect a frog in _____ class.
- n.* the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
68. He felt like _____ when he tasted the delicious chocolate cake.
- n.* (of various religious and mythological traditions) a place or state of existence considered to be the abode of the divine, the afterlife, or a higher realm of being; a state of great happiness, contentment, or beauty
69. The magician _____ the audience with his illusions.
- v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of
70. 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
71. He studies Greek and Roman _____.
- n.* a collection of myths (= traditional stories accepted as history) or the study of myths
72. The _____ given to the new government is to improve the economy.
- n.* an official or authoritative instruction or command; a commission or authority to carry out a particular task

ANSWERS: 65. decorations, 66. elk, 67. biology, 68. heaven, 69. captivated, 70. sprout, 71. mythology, 72. mandate

73. The festival was held in honor of the harvest _____.
- n.* a female god, especially in ancient mythology; a woman who is worshipped or adored
74. This area has an environment of _____ greenery and water courses.
- adj.* produced or growing in extreme abundance, often in an attractive way; having strong sexual appeal
75. 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
76. The deep sea _____ was unlike anything the scientists had ever seen before.
- n.* a living being, especially an animal
77. He enjoys collecting _____ specimens.
- n.* a diurnal insect typically has a slender body with knobbed antennae and broad, colorful wings
78. Many of the _____ of the famous general came about hundreds of years after his death.
- n.* an old story that may or may not be accurate regarding some persons and events; a well-known person who is admired by others for a long time, particularly in a particular field
79. The conservation area has an abundance of _____.
- n.* animals, birds, insects, etc. that grow independently of people and live in natural conditions

ANSWERS: 73. goddess, 74. lush, 75. porcupine's, 76. creature, 77. butterfly, 78. legends, 79. wildlife

80. When I was a child, my mother often cast _____ spells to ease my pain whenever I was injured.

adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers

81. Before authorities _____ the protesters, they yelled slogans.

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

82. 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

83. Human conservation efforts often fail unexpectedly because they disturb the balance of the _____.

n. all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment

84. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

85. The squirrel scampered up the _____ to reach the nuts on the tree.

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

86. The _____ of the tree had fallen and blocked the road.

n. a division of a tree or woody shrub that grows out from the trunk or a main stem; a division of some larger or more complex organization

87. 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

ANSWERS: 80. magical, 81. dispersed, 82. druids, 83. ecosystem, 84. opportune, 85. bough, 86. branch, 87. siphon

88. He removed the _____ from the tree.

n. the hard outer layer of a tree; a sound made by dogs or some other animals

89. The unique style of this martial arts _____ many action film producers.

v. to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative

90. These articles cite five _____ of climate change.

n. a particular example or single occurrence of something

91. Due to careless _____ the product was not inspected before it was shipped to the customers.

n. the act of supervising or watching over something; a mistake caused by not paying enough attention to something

92. 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

93. The female birds build a _____ and lay their eggs in May.

n. a structure in which animals lay their eggs or give birth to their young

94. 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

95. 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

ANSWERS: 88. bark, 89. inspired, 90. instances, 91. oversight, 92. excretes, 93. nest, 94. draped, 95. truce

96. It is a _____ that the concert had to be canceled due to the storm.
- n.* a feeling of sorrow and compassion caused by the suffering or misfortunes of others; an object of contempt or disdain
97. 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
98. My father's death _____ my life completely.
- v.* to change in outward structure or looks;
99. The former emperor had a particular _____ even after he abdicated.
- n.* the ability to affect someone's or something's character, growth, or behavior, or the effect itself
100. Little children tend to have _____ friends.
- adj.* existing only in someone's mind
101. Ghosts in folk _____ are almost always malicious.
- n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure

ANSWERS: 96. pity, 97. squirrels, 98. transformed, 99. influence, 100. imaginary, 101. tales