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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Laura Galante: How (and why) Russia hacked the US election | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

despise

- v. to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something

synonym: hate, loathe, detest

(1) **despise** a particular food, (2) secretly **despise**

I **despise** injustice and those who perpetrate it.

constrain

- v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something

synonym: restrict, limit, confine

(1) **constrain** his freedom, (2) **constrain** information flow

The political situation **constrained** the country's economic growth and foreign relations.

hypocrisy

- n. the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform

synonym: insincerity, dissembling, duplicity

(1) without **hypocrisy**, (2) self-serving **hypocrisy**

The commentaries often criticized the government's political **hypocrisy**.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym: formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

corruptible

adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

synonym: bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

puppet

n. a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else

synonym: marionette, dummy, mannequin

(1) **puppet** theater, (2) corporate **puppet**

The politician was merely a **puppet** for the wealthy elite.

infiltrate

v. to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly

synonym: penetrate, sneak in, invade

(1) **infiltrate** the bloodstream, (2) **infiltrate** a community

The spy was able to **infiltrate** the enemy's headquarters undetected.

impersonate

v. to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire

synonym: imitate, mimic, copy

(1) **impersonate** a government official, (2) **impersonate** a character

The comedian is famous for his ability to **impersonate** famous politicians.

cyber

adj. relating to or involving computers, computer networks, or virtual reality

synonym : digital, computer, Internet

(1) **cyber** bullying, (2) **cyber** crime

Cyber espionage between countries can have serious consequences.

outshine

v. to be more brilliant, striking, or impressive than; to outdo or excel

synonym : surpass, excel, outdo

(1) **outshine** his teacher, (2) **outshine** expectations

The new singer **outshined** all the others on stage with her powerful voice.

attache

n. a person who works at an embassy, usually having a specialized area of responsibility; a shallow and rectangular briefcase

synonym : diplomat, envoy, briefcase

(1) a commercial **attache**, (2) black **attache** case

A prime minister talked with a military **attache** of the country's embassy.

undeniable

adj. not possible to deny; true or certain

synonym : absolute, definite, indubitable

(1) an **undeniable** fact, (2) an **undeniable** masterpiece

Her influence on teenagers is **undeniable**.

espionage

n. the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents

synonym : spying, intelligence gathering

(1) **espionage** tactics, (2) industrial **espionage**

The cyber **espionage** operation was the work of a foreign government's army of hackers.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
synonym: intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

specter

n. a ghostly or haunting image or apparition; a threatening or ominous presence that causes fear or anxiety

synonym: ghost, phantom, apparition

(1) **specter** of death, (2) political **specter**

The **specter** of unemployment loomed over the young graduates as they exited the university.

meddle

v. to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own

synonym: interfere, intrude, tamper

(1) **meddle** in relationships, (2) **meddle** with the evidence

She always tries to **meddle** in other people's affairs, and it's starting to get annoying.

wield

v. to possess and exercise power, authority, etc

synonym: exert, manage, handle

(1) **wield** her authority, (2) **wield** a bad influence

They **wielded** enormous power and influence.

cybersecurity

n. the practice of protecting computers, servers, mobile devices, electronic systems, networks, and data from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction

synonym: information security, cyber protection

(1) **cybersecurity** threat, (2) **cybersecurity** measures

As the use of technology continues to increase in everyday life, **cybersecurity** awareness and education become even

more important

deem

v. to consider or decide something in a particular way
synonym: believe, consider, suppose

(1) **deem** socially responsible, (2) **deem** wrong or inappropriate

Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were **deemed** unsafe.

consequent

adj. resulting or following as a result of something else;
(noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else

synonym: resulting, following, logical

(1) **consequent** increase, (2) the fallacy of affirming the **consequent**

The increase in demand for the product led to a **consequent** rise in its price.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict
Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

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.

hashtag

n. a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic

(1) marked with a **hashtag**, (2) trending **hashtag**

Our brand's campaign uses a unique **hashtag** to track engagement and reach.

unfettered

adj. not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled

synonym : unrestricted, free, unchained

(1) **unfettered** access, (2) **unfettered** capitalism

The athlete felt **unfettered** by her recent injury and performed with ease.

curate

n. a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

synonym : minister, caretaker, (verb) arrange

(1) perpetual **curate**, (2) **curate** an art website

The art museum has hired a **curate** to select and display pieces from its collection.

panorama

n. an unobstructed and wide view of an area or surrounding, typically seen from a high point or distance; a comprehensive or panoramic survey or presentation of a subject or topic

synonym : view, vista, landscape

(1) 360-degree **panorama**, (2) stunning **panorama**

The top of the hill offered a breathtaking **panorama** of the city below.

insidious

adj. tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

synonym : sly, cunning, subtle

(1) **insidious** plot, (2) **insidious** behavior

The disease has an **insidious** onset, making it difficult to diagnose.

decipher

v. to read or understand something that is written in code or in a difficult or obscure way

synonym : interpret, decode, translate

(1) **decipher** code, (2) **decipher** message

He spent hours trying to **decipher** the ancient text.

chum

n. a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish

synonym: friend, companion, mate

(1) school **chum**, (2) new **chum**

He always had a **chum** to play with when he was a child.

dissect

v. to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail

synonym: analyze, examine, study

(1) **dissect** the data, (2) **dissect** a personality

The scientist **dissected** the frog to study its internal organs.

impropriety

n. the state or quality of being improper; an act, behavior, or expression that is considered inappropriate, indecent, or morally offensive; a violation of accepted standards, rules, or norms

synonym: incorrectness, misconduct, indiscretion

(1) **impropriety** in conduct, (2) slight **impropriety**

The lawyer was accused of **impropriety** for tampering with evidence.

camouflage

n. an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

synonym: guise, mask, cloak

(1) **camouflage** clothing, (2) work as **camouflage**

They utilized branches of trees as **camouflage**.

reflex

n. an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli

synonym: reaction, response, instinct

(1) **reflex** test, (2) knee **reflex**

My leg kicked involuntarily when the doctor tapped my knee with the **reflex** hammer.

invade

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

synonym: intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

diplomat

n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

synonym: envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**

The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

kingmaker

n. a person or group who has the power to shape or influence the outcome of a situation, particularly a political one, by choosing or supporting a particular candidate or leader who then gains significant power or influence

synonym: influencer, puppeteer

(1) economic **kingmaker**, (2) media **kingmaker**

The **kingmaker** behind the scenes played a crucial role in shaping the country's political landscape.

ensue

v. to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something

synonym: follow, occur, result

(1) **ensue** within a few years, (2) predict what will **ensue**

A power outage **ensued** after the storm knocked out the electricity.

backlash

n. a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact

synonym: reaction, retaliation, counteraction

(1) political **backlash**, (2) the **backlash** from the community

The company faced a **backlash** from customers after the

recall.

fissure

n. a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization

synonym : crack, crevice, gap

(1) pulmonary **fissure**, (2) **fissure** in the relationship

The **fissure** in the rock was too narrow to squeeze through.

feckless

adj. lacking purpose, initiative, or effectiveness; irresponsible or careless in attitudes or actions; without skill, determination, or vigor

synonym : careless, irresponsible, ineffective

(1) **feckless** decision-making, (2) **feckless** attempt

His **feckless** behavior at work led to his termination from the company.

seductive

adj. tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief

synonym : alluring, tempting, enticing

(1) a **seductive** smile, (2) **seductive** behavior

The actor's **seductive** gaze drew the audience's attention on stage.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

quaint

adj. attractively or charmingly old-fashioned or unusual often used to describe something with a pleasingly unusual or

quirky appearance or manner

synonym: charming, picturesque, eccentric

(1) **quaint** village, (2) **quaint** cottage

The **quaint** old town was full of historic buildings and charming shops.

cyberspace

n. the electronic space where computer-mediated communication and interactions occur often used to refer to the internet or virtual reality environments

synonym: Internet, virtual reality, online world

(1) **cyberspace** security, (2) virtual **cyberspace**

Hackers are constantly trying to exploit vulnerabilities in **cyberspace** for their gain.

encrypt

v. to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons

synonym: encode, cipher, scramble

(1) **encrypt** data, (2) **encrypt** message

To protect their sensitive information, many businesses **encrypt** their files.

authenticate

v. to confirm or verify the validity or authenticity of something; to prove or establish that something is genuine or true

synonym: confirm, validate, verify

(1) **authenticate** documents, (2) **authenticate** software license

The security system requires users to **authenticate** their identity before gaining access.

adaptable

adj. able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

synonym: flexible, adjustable, elastic

(1) **adaptable** enough for the environment, (2) an

adaptable person

We seek a candidate who possesses **adaptable** fighting potential.

falsehood

n. a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading

synonym: lie, untruth, deception

(1) spread **falsehoods**, (2) palpable **falsehood**

The media exposed the politician's **falsehoods**.

unflinching

adj. not showing fear or hesitation in the face of danger or adversity; steadfast and resolute

synonym: resolute, steadfast, unwavering

(1) **unflinching** commitment, (2) **unflinching** gaze

His **unflinching** courage in the face of danger was impressive.

Session 2: Spelling

1. unf_____ng gaze *adj.* not showing fear or hesitation in the face of danger or adversity; steadfast and resolute
2. unf_____ed capitalism *adj.* not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled
3. cyb_____ity measures *n.* the practice of protecting computers, servers, mobile devices, electronic systems, networks, and data from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction
4. political sp_____r *n.* a ghostly or haunting image or apparition; a threatening or ominous presence that causes fear or anxiety
5. an und_____le fact *adj.* not possible to deny; true or certain
6. qu___t village *adj.* attractively or charmingly old-fashioned or unusual often used to describe something with a pleasingly unusual or quirky appearance or manner
7. sp_____r of death *n.* a ghostly or haunting image or apparition; a threatening or ominous presence that causes fear or anxiety
8. the ba_____sh from the community *n.* a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact
9. self-serving hy_____sy *n.* the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform

ANSWERS: 1. unflinching, 2. unfettered, 3. cybersecurity, 4. specter, 5. undeniable, 6. quaint, 7. specter, 8. backlash, 9. hypocrisy

10. school c__m *n.* a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish
11. marked with a ha____g *n.* a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic
12. en__e within a few years *v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
13. trending ha____g *n.* a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic
14. media ki____er *n.* a person or group who has the power to shape or influence the outcome of a situation, particularly a political one, by choosing or supporting a particular candidate or leader who then gains significant power or influence
15. se____ve behavior *adj.* tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief
16. a se____ve smile *adj.* tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief
17. sma____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

ANSWERS: 10. chum, 11. hashtag, 12. ensue, 13. hashtag, 14. kingmaker, 15. seductive, 16. seductive, 17. smartphone

18. en____t message *v.* to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons
19. fi____e in the relationship *n.* a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization
20. cyb____ce security *n.* the electronic space where computer-mediated communication and interactions occur often used to refer to the internet or virtual reality environments
21. new c__m *n.* a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish
22. cyb____ity threat *n.* the practice of protecting computers, servers, mobile devices, electronic systems, networks, and data from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction
23. d__m socially responsible *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
24. an op____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
25. de____e a particular food *v.* to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something

ANSWERS: 18. encrypt, 19. fissure, 20. cyberspace, 21. chum, 22. cybersecurity, 23. deem, 24. opportune, 25. despise

26. black at_____e case *n.* a person who works at an embassy, usually having a specialized area of responsibility; a shallow and rectangular briefcase
27. in_____us plot *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
28. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
29. corporate pu___t *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
30. pulmonary fi_____e *n.* a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization
31. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
32. stunning pa_____ma *n.* an unobstructed and wide view of an area or surrounding, typically seen from a high point or distance; a comprehensive or panoramic survey or presentation of a subject or topic
33. cam_____ge clothing *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

ANSWERS: 26. attache, 27. insidious, 28. invade, 29. puppet, 30. fissure, 31. institutionalize, 32. panorama, 33. camouflage

34. an und_____le masterpiece *adj.* not possible to deny; true or certain
35. imp_____te a character *v.* to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire
36. palpable fa_____od *n.* a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading
37. secretly de_____e *v.* to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something
38. an ad_____le person *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
39. imp_____ty in conduct *n.* the state or quality of being improper; an act, behavior, or expression that is considered inappropriate, indecent, or morally offensive; a violation of accepted standards, rules, or norms
40. en_____t data *v.* to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons
41. aut_____ate software license *v.* to confirm or verify the validity or authenticity of something; to prove or establish that something is genuine or true

ANSWERS: 34. undeniable, 35. impersonate, 36. falsehood, 37. despise, 38. adaptable, 39. impropriety, 40. encrypt, 41. authenticate

42. cor_____le judges *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
43. predict what will en__e *v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
44. d__m wrong or inappropriate *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
45. industrial es_____ge *n.* the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents
46. wi__d her authority *v.* to possess and exercise power, authority, etc
47. in_____us behavior *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
48. cy__r crime *adj.* relating to or involving computers, computer networks, or virtual reality
49. unf_____ng commitment *adj.* not showing fear or hesitation in the face of danger or adversity; steadfast and resolute
50. 360-degree pa_____ma *n.* an unobstructed and wide view of an area or surrounding, typically seen from a high point or distance; a comprehensive or panoramic survey or presentation of a subject or topic
51. ad_____le enough for the environment *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

ANSWERS: 42. corruptible, 43. ensue, 44. deem, 45. espionage, 46. wield, 47. insidious, 48. cyber, 49. unflinching, 50. panorama, 51. adaptable

52. expel a di____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
53. qu____t cottage *adj.* attractively or charmingly old-fashioned or unusual often used to describe something with a pleasingly unusual or quirky appearance or manner
54. perpetual cu____e *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
55. co_____in information flow *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
56. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
57. es_____ge tactics *n.* the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents
58. fe____ss attempt *adj.* lacking purpose, initiative, or effectiveness; irresponsible or careless in attitudes or actions; without skill, determination, or vigor

ANSWERS: 52. diplomat, 53. quaint, 54. curate, 55. constrain, 56. institutionalize, 57. espionage, 58. feckless

59. wi__d a bad influence *v.* to possess and exercise power, authority, etc
60. aut_____ate documents *v.* to confirm or verify the validity or authenticity of something; to prove or establish that something is genuine or true
61. unf_____ed access *adj.* not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled
62. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
63. me___e with the evidence *v.* to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
64. ou_____ne expectations *v.* to be more brilliant, striking, or impressive than; to outdo or excel
65. without hy_____sy *n.* the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform
66. imp_____te a government official *v.* to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire
67. spread fa_____ods *n.* a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading

ANSWERS: 59. wield, 60. authenticate, 61. unfettered, 62. smartphone, 63. meddle, 64. outshine, 65. hypocrisy, 66. impersonate, 67. falsehood

68. inf_____te a community *v.* to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly
69. de_____er message *v.* to read or understand something that is written in code or in a difficult or obscure way
70. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
71. de_____er code *v.* to read or understand something that is written in code or in a difficult or obscure way
72. the fallacy of affirming the
con_____nt *adj.* resulting or following as a result of something else; (noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else
73. cu_____e an art website *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
74. di_____t the data *v.* to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail
75. di_____t a personality *v.* to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail

ANSWERS: 68. infiltrate, 69. decipher, 70. rev, 71. decipher, 72. consequent, 73. curate, 74. dissect, 75. dissect

76. me___e in relationships *v.* to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
77. slight imp_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being improper; an act, behavior, or expression that is considered inappropriate, indecent, or morally offensive; a violation of accepted standards, rules, or norms
78. re___x test *n.* an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli
79. inf_____te the bloodstream *v.* to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly
80. a commercial at_____e *n.* a person who works at an embassy, usually having a specialized area of responsibility; a shallow and rectangular briefcase
81. political ba_____sh *n.* a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact
82. cy__r bullying *adj.* relating to or involving computers, computer networks, or virtual reality
83. work as cam_____ge *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

ANSWERS: 76. meddle, 77. impropriety, 78. reflex, 79. infiltrate, 80. attache, 81. backlash, 82. cyber, 83. camouflage

84. ou____ne his teacher *v.* to be more brilliant, striking, or impressive than; to outdo or excel
85. knee re____x *n.* an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli
86. allied di____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
87. virtual cyb____ce *n.* the electronic space where computer-mediated communication and interactions occur often used to refer to the internet or virtual reality environments
88. op____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
89. am____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
90. co____in his freedom *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
91. am____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
92. con____nt increase *adj.* resulting or following as a result of something else; (noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else

ANSWERS: 84. outshine, 85. reflex, 86. diplomat, 87. cyberspace, 88. opportune, 89. amplify, 90. constrain, 91. amplify, 92. consequent

93. fe____ss decision-making *adj.* lacking purpose, initiative, or effectiveness; irresponsible or careless in attitudes or actions; without skill, determination, or vigor
94. cor____le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
95. pu____t theater *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
96. in____e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
97. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
98. economic ki____er *n.* a person or group who has the power to shape or influence the outcome of a situation, particularly a political one, by choosing or supporting a particular candidate or leader who then gains significant power or influence

ANSWERS: 93. feckless, 94. corruptible, 95. puppet, 96. invade, 97. rev, 98. kingmaker

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She always tries to _____ in other people's affairs, and it's starting to get annoying.
 - v. to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own

2. The security system requires users to _____ their identity before gaining access.
 - v. to confirm or verify the validity or authenticity of something; to prove or establish that something is genuine or true

3. _____ espionage between countries can have serious consequences.
 - adj. relating to or involving computers, computer networks, or virtual reality

4. The commentaries often criticized the government's political _____.
 - n. the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform

5. The actor's _____ gaze drew the audience's attention on stage.
 - adj. tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief

6. He spent hours trying to _____ the ancient text.
 - v. to read or understand something that is written in code or in a difficult or obscure way

7. The new singer _____ all the others on stage with her powerful voice.
 - v. to be more brilliant, striking, or impressive than; to outdo or excel

ANSWERS: 1. meddle, 2. authenticate, 3. Cyber, 4. hypocrisy, 5. seductive, 6. decipher, 7. outshined

8. The senior _____ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.
- n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
9. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.
- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
10. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
11. The comedian is famous for his ability to _____ famous politicians.
- v.* to pretend to be someone else, often with the intent to deceive or defraud; to imitate the mannerisms or speech of another person as a form of tribute or satire
12. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
- v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
13. We seek a candidate who possesses _____ fighting potential.
- adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
14. They utilized branches of trees as _____.
- n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

ANSWERS: 8. diplomat, 9. rev, 10. opportune, 11. impersonate, 12. invade, 13. adaptable, 14. camouflage

15. The _____ in the rock was too narrow to squeeze through.
- n.* a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization
16. To protect their sensitive information, many businesses _____ their files.
- v.* to convert information or data into a code, thereby making it unreadable without a key or password; to conceal or obscure information in a way that makes it inaccessible to unauthorized persons
17. My leg kicked involuntarily when the doctor tapped my knee with the _____ hammer.
- n.* an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli
18. The top of the hill offered a breathtaking _____ of the city below.
- n.* an unobstructed and wide view of an area or surrounding, typically seen from a high point or distance; a comprehensive or panoramic survey or presentation of a subject or topic
19. His _____ courage in the face of danger was impressive.
- adj.* not showing fear or hesitation in the face of danger or adversity; steadfast and resolute
20. As the use of technology continues to increase in everyday life, _____ awareness and education become even more important
- n.* the practice of protecting computers, servers, mobile devices, electronic systems, networks, and data from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction
21. The _____ behind the scenes played a crucial role in shaping the country's political landscape.
- n.* a person or group who has the power to shape or influence the outcome of a situation, particularly a political one, by choosing or supporting a particular candidate or leader who then gains significant power or influence

ANSWERS: 15. fissure, 16. encrypt, 17. reflex, 18. panorama, 19. unflinching, 20. cybersecurity, 21. kingmaker

22. A prime minister talked with a military _____ of the country's embassy.
n. a person who works at an embassy, usually having a specialized area of responsibility; a shallow and rectangular briefcase
23. Her influence on teenagers is _____.
adj. not possible to deny; true or certain
24. The scientist _____ the frog to study its internal organs.
v. to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail
25. The athlete felt _____ by her recent injury and performed with ease.
adj. not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled
26. Our brand's campaign uses a unique _____ to track engagement and reach.
n. a word or phrase preceded by the symbol #, used on social media websites and applications to identify messages on a specific topic
27. I _____ injustice and those who perpetrate it.
v. to feel strong dislike or contempt for someone or something, often because of a perceived fault or failing; to have a low or unfavorable opinion of something
28. He always had a _____ to play with when he was a child.
n. a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish
29. The _____ old town was full of historic buildings and charming shops.
adj. attractively or charmingly old-fashioned or unusual often used to describe something with a pleasingly unusual or quirky appearance or manner
30. The lawyer was accused of _____ for tampering with evidence.
n. the state or quality of being improper; an act, behavior, or expression that is considered inappropriate, indecent, or morally offensive; a violation of accepted standards, rules, or norms

ANSWERS: 22. attache, 23. undeniable, 24. dissected, 25. unfettered, 26. hashtag, 27. despise, 28. chum, 29. quaint, 30. impropriety

31. The art museum has hired a _____ to select and display pieces from its collection.

n. a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

32. The politician was merely a _____ for the wealthy elite.

n. a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else

33. The political situation _____ the country's economic growth and foreign relations.

v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something

34. Bureaucracies are more _____ than other systems or organizations.

adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

35. Hackers are constantly trying to exploit vulnerabilities in _____ for their gain.

n. the electronic space where computer-mediated communication and interactions occur often used to refer to the internet or virtual reality environments

36. The increase in demand for the product led to a _____ rise in its price.

adj. resulting or following as a result of something else; (noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else

37. His _____ behavior at work led to his termination from the company.

adj. lacking purpose, initiative, or effectiveness; irresponsible or careless in attitudes or actions; without skill, determination, or vigor

ANSWERS: 31. curate, 32. puppet, 33. constrained, 34. corruptible, 35. cyberspace, 36. consequent, 37. feckless

38. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
- v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
39. The company faced a _____ from customers after the recall.
- n.* a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact
40. The _____ of unemployment loomed over the young graduates as they exited the university.
- n.* a ghostly or haunting image or apparition; a threatening or ominous presence that causes fear or anxiety
41. Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were _____ unsafe.
- v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
42. The spy was able to _____ the enemy's headquarters undetected.
- v.* to enter or penetrate a group, organization, or place covertly or secretly, usually with a specific purpose or goal in mind; to spread or diffuse through something gradually or subtly
43. The disease has an _____ onset, making it difficult to diagnose.
- adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
44. You might need to _____ this point.
- v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
45. The cyber _____ operation was the work of a foreign government's army of hackers.
- n.* the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents

ANSWERS: 38. institutionalize, 39. backlash, 40. specter, 41. deemed, 42. infiltrate, 43. insidious, 44. amplify, 45. espionage

46. A power outage _____ after the storm knocked out the electricity.
v. to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
47. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
48. They _____ enormous power and influence.
v. to possess and exercise power, authority, etc
49. The media exposed the politician's _____.
n. a statement or belief that is untrue, often intentionally deceptive or misleading

ANSWERS: 46. ensued, 47. smartphones, 48. wielded, 49. falsehoods