

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Gretchen Carlson: How we can end sexual harassment at work | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/gretchen\\_carlson\\_how\\_we\\_can\\_end\\_sexual\\_harassment\\_at\\_work](https://www.ted.com/talks/gretchen_carlson_how_we_can_end_sexual_harassment_at_work)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### horrific

*adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying

*synonym*: terrifying, alarming, shocking

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

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

### horrify

*v.* to shock or disgust greatly

*synonym*: shock, dismay, terrify

(1) **horrify** audience, (2) **horrify** victims

The series of terrorist attacks **horrify** the entire nation.

### scrub

*v.* to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent

*synonym*: clean, wash, sanitize

(1) **scrub** off graffiti, (2) **scrub** dirt from potatoes

She decided to **scrub** the kitchen floor to remove all the dirt and grime.

### excruciating

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

*synonym*: agonizing, unbearable, torturous

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

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

## abyss

*n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void  
*synonym* : chasm, cavity, gulf

(1) the **abyss** of time, (2) an **abyss** of hopelessness  
The deep sea is an **abyss** of mystery and discovery.

## miraculous

*adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected  
*synonym* : amazing, astonishing, awesome

(1) a **miraculous** encounter, (2) go through a **miraculous** change  
He made a **miraculous** recovery.

## agony

*n.* extreme physical or mental pain or suffering, often prolonged or intense  
*synonym* : anguish, torment, suffering

(1) severe **agony**, (2) emotional **agony**  
The athlete fell to the ground in **agony** after injuring their ankle.

## sham

*n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not  
*synonym* : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**  
The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

## voiceless

*adj.* without a voice or the ability to speak  
*synonym* : mute, silent, speechless

(1) **voiceless** consonant, (2) **voiceless** minority  
The **voiceless** screams of the victims could be heard in the distance.

## notepad

*n.* (also scratchpad) a small pad of paper or a digital device used for taking notes  
*synonym* : notebook, memo pad, scratch pad

(1) digital **notepad**, (2) small **notepad**

I always keep a **notepad** and pen in my bag to jot down ideas throughout the day.

## vile

*adj.* highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence

*synonym*: disgusting, repulsive, despicable

(1) **vile** behavior, (2) **vile** language

The **vile** smell coming from the dumpster was unbearable.

## troublemaker

*n.* a person who intentionally causes difficulties or problems for others, often by disruptive or provocative behavior; a person who tends to create or attract trouble or controversy

*synonym*: troublemonger, instigator, agitator

(1) **troublemaker** kid, (2) accused **troublemaker**

The teacher had to reprimand the **troublemaker** in class constantly.

## subordinate

*adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

*synonym*: inferior, secondary, subservient

(1) **subordinate** position, (2) **subordinate** role

The CEO's **subordinate** employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

## startling

*adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

*synonym*: alarming, astonishing, shocking

(1) **startling** earthquake shocks, (2) **startling** discovery

He describes the story with **startling** reality.

## harass

*v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome

### attention

*synonym* : pester, annoy, bother

(1) **harass** the enemy, (2) **harass** with constant criticism

She was constantly **harassed** by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.

### demean

v. to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated

*synonym* : lower, degrade, humiliate

(1) **demean** the value, (2) **demean** the reputation

You shouldn't **demean** yourself by taking on tasks beneath your skill level.

### demote

v. to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities

*synonym* : downgrade, lower, demerit

(1) **demote** an employee, (2) **demote** a song from the top charts

His poor performance caused the coach to **demote** him to the bench.

### blacklist

n. a list of names or entities that are seen as undesirables or perceived as a threat, often compiled by a government or organization and used to restrict access or opportunities

*synonym* : ban, exclusion, proscription

(1) banking **blacklist**, (2) personal **blacklist**

The software uses a robust **blacklist** to prevent access to malicious websites and protect users from online threats.

### publicize

v. to make information or news publicly known or communicated, to promote or spread awareness of

*synonym* : advertise, promote, announce

(1) **publicize** event, (2) **publicize** research findings

The company hired a PR firm to **publicize** its new product.

## shove

*v.* to push someone or something in a rough way

*synonym* : push, jab, elbow

(1) **shove** a person aside, (2) **shove** hamburger into my mouth

He forcibly **shoved** the flyer into my bag.

## crotch

*n.* the part of the body between the legs where they join the torso, including the area around the genitals

*synonym* : groin, loin, genitals

(1) **crotch** portion, (2) **crotch** of trousers

She kicked him hard in the **crotch**.

## trump

*n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

(1) **trump** card, (2) choose **trump**

The **trump** suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.

## downhill

*adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner

*synonym* : downslope

(1) ski **downhill**, (2) walk **downhill** to the beach

The family's finances have been going **downhill** since they lost their main source of income.

## bracing

*adj.* refreshing or invigorating; designed to provide support or stability

*synonym* : invigorating, refreshing, stimulating

(1) **bracing** air, (2) **bracing** walk

The athlete performed some **bracing** exercises to warm up before the game.

## petrify

*v.* to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding

*synonym* : fossilize, mineralize, calcify

(1) **petrify** with fear, (2) **petrify** into stone

The thought of public speaking will **petrify** her.

## envision

*v.* to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future

*synonym* : anticipate, foresee, picture

(1) **envision** the future, (2) **envision** the project's success  
We cannot **envision** her as President.

## mogul

*n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry

*synonym* : big shot, bigwig, executive

(1) real-estate **mogul**, (2) business **mogul**

He is a media **mogul** and owns several major newspapers.

## allegation

*n.* an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law

*synonym* : claim, assertion, declaration

(1) baseless **allegations**, (2) **allegation** of corruption

The **allegation** of fraud against the politician damaged his reputation.

## provocative

*adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately

*synonym* : instigating, provoking, inciting

(1) **provocative** questions, (2) a **provocative** smile

His **provocative** style frequently sparked controversies.

## grope

*v.* to feel one's way by touching, typically because one cannot see

*synonym* : fumble, feel, pat

(1) **grope** after the truth, (2) **grope** for an answer

He was forced to **grope** in the dark for the light switch.

## untold

*adj.* not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured

*synonym*: countless, immeasurable, innumerable

(1) **untold** riches, (2) an **untold** number of people

The **untold** stories of the disaster victims need to be heard to understand the impact fully.

## bystander

*n.* a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene

*synonym*: spectator, observer, witness

(1) innocent **bystander**, (2) shocked **bystander**

The **bystander** effect is a phenomenon where people are less likely to intervene in an emergency if others are present.

## perpetrator

*n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception

*synonym*: culprit, wrongdoer, offender

(1) **perpetrator** identity, (2) culprit **perpetrator**

The police have not yet caught the **perpetrator** of the crime.

## teeny

*adj.* extremely small; tiny

*synonym*: tiny, mini, minuscule

(1) **teeny** bit, (2) so **teeny** tiny

The ring was so **teeny** that it almost looked like a toy.

## unheard

*adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention

*synonym*: unknown, obscure

(1) an **unheard** story, (2) previously **unheard-of** economic development

The **unheard** melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.

## arbitrator

*n.* a person or entity chosen to settle a dispute or disagreement impartially; someone who acts as a mediator or judge in a conflict to make a final decision

*synonym*: mediator, umpire, adjudicator

(1) **arbitrator's** decision, (2) court-appointed **arbitrator**

The disputing parties have agreed to appoint an independent **arbitrator** to settle their differences.

## diligent

*adj.* showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties

*synonym* : active, engaged, assiduous

(1) a **diligent** person, (2) a **diligent** search of the files

The **diligent** detective investigated all clues.

## capitol

*n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress

*synonym* : government building, legislative center

(1) the nation's **capitol**, (2) **Capitol** Hill hearing

The **capitol** building was a stunning example of classical architecture, with its marble columns and grand dome.

## senator

*n.* a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate

*synonym* : legislator, politician, representative

(1) junior **senator**, (2) **senator** term

The hawkish **senator** gave a speech on the new bill in the Senate.

## apolitical

*adj.* not related to or involving politics or political affairs; free from political beliefs, bias, or affiliation

*synonym* : nonpartisan, impartial, unbiased

(1) **apolitical** stance, (2) **apolitical** organization

The nonprofit organization remains **apolitical** and does not endorse any political candidates.

## paramount

*adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position

*synonym* : central, major, crucial

(1) the lord **paramount**, (2) **paramount** to all the others

This country became a country of **paramount** geostrategic importance to us.



## Christ

*n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

*synonym* : Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

**Christmas** is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

## underestimate

*v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

*synonym* : underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

## contagious

*adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease

*synonym* : infectious, transmissible, communicable

(1) **contagious** enthusiasm, (2) **contagious** virus

The disease is highly **contagious** and spreads quickly.

## intimidate

*v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

*synonym* : frighten, threaten, terrify

(1) **intimidate** an opponent, (2) effectively **intimidate** a thief

The boss tried to **intimidate** his subordinate with threats.

## relic

*n.* an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value

*synonym* : whiff, vestige, antique

(1) historical **relic**, (2) holy **relics**

This bronze sword is a **relic** of ancient times.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. personal bl\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a list of names or entities that are seen as undesirables or perceived as a threat, often compiled by a government or organization and used to restrict access or opportunities
2. innocent by\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene
3. go through a mir\_\_\_\_\_us change *adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
4. a pro\_\_\_\_\_ve smile *adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately
5. sh\_\_e hamburger into my mouth *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
6. per\_\_\_\_\_or identity *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
7. sc\_\_b off graffiti *v.* to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent
8. court-appointed arb\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* a person or entity chosen to settle a dispute or disagreement impartially; someone who acts as a mediator or judge in a conflict to make a final decision
9. v\_\_e language *adj.* highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence

ANSWERS: 1. blacklist, 2. bystander, 3. miraculous, 4. provocative, 5. shove, 6. perpetrator, 7. scrub, 8. arbitrator, 9. vile

10. exc\_\_\_\_\_ing ordeal *adj.* extremely painful, intense, or distressing; causing great physical or emotional suffering
11. de\_\_\_e an employee *v.* to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities
12. an ab\_\_\_s of hopelessness *n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
13. v\_\_\_e behavior *adj.* highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence
14. ski do\_\_\_\_\_ll *adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner
15. pe\_\_\_\_\_y with fear *v.* to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding
16. de\_\_\_n the value *v.* to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated
17. tro\_\_\_\_\_ker kid *n.* a person who intentionally causes difficulties or problems for others, often by disruptive or provocative behavior; a person who tends to create or attract trouble or controversy
18. te\_\_\_y bit *adj.* extremely small; tiny
19. real-estate mo\_\_\_l *n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry

ANSWERS: 10. excruciating, 11. demote, 12. abyss, 13. vile, 14. downhill, 15. petrify, 16. demean, 17. troublemaker, 18. teeny, 19. mogul

20. the lord pa\_\_\_\_\_nt *adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position
21. apo\_\_\_\_\_al organization *adj.* not related to or involving politics or political affairs; free from political beliefs, bias, or affiliation
22. Ca\_\_\_\_\_l Hill hearing *n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress
23. a di\_\_\_\_\_nt person *adj.* showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties
24. shocked by\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene
25. pe\_\_\_\_\_y into stone *v.* to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding
26. choose tr\_\_p *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
27. pu\_\_\_\_\_ze event *v.* to make information or news publicly known or communicated, to promote or spread awareness of
28. int\_\_\_\_\_te an opponent *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
29. apo\_\_\_\_\_al stance *adj.* not related to or involving politics or political affairs; free from political beliefs, bias, or affiliation
30. ha\_\_\_s the enemy *v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention

ANSWERS: 20. paramount, 21. apolitical, 22. capitol, 23. diligent, 24. bystander, 25. petrify, 26. trump, 27. publicize, 28. intimidate, 29. apolitical, 30. harass

31. und\_\_\_\_\_ate an enemy      *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
32. tr\_\_p card      *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
33. culprit per\_\_\_\_\_or      *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
34. banking bl\_\_\_\_\_st      *n.* a list of names or entities that are seen as undesirables or perceived as a threat, often compiled by a government or organization and used to restrict access or opportunities
35. con\_\_\_\_\_us enthusiasm      *adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease
36. the nation's ca\_\_\_\_\_l      *n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress
37. an un\_\_\_d number of people      *adj.* not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured
38. se\_\_\_\_\_r term      *n.* a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate
39. gr\_\_e for an answer      *v.* to feel one's way by touching, typically because one cannot see
40. br\_\_\_\_\_g walk      *adj.* refreshing or invigorating; designed to provide support or stability
41. business mo\_\_l      *n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry
42. cr\_\_\_h portion      *n.* the part of the body between the legs where they join the torso, including the area around the genitals

ANSWERS: 31. underestimate, 32. trump, 33. perpetrator, 34. blacklist, 35. contagious, 36. capitol, 37. untold, 38. senator, 39. grope, 40. bracing, 41. mogul, 42. crotch

43. turn out to be all s\_\_m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
44. sc\_\_b dirt from potatoes *v.* to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent
45. con\_\_\_\_\_us virus *adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease
46. st\_\_\_\_\_ng earthquake shocks *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
47. vo\_\_\_\_\_ss consonant *adj.* without a voice or the ability to speak
48. emotional ag\_\_y *n.* extreme physical or mental pain or suffering, often prolonged or intense
49. sub\_\_\_\_\_te role *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
50. before Ch\_\_\_\_t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
51. an un\_\_\_\_\_d story *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
52. sh\_\_e a person aside *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
53. ho\_\_\_\_\_y audience *v.* to shock or disgust greatly

ANSWERS: 43. sham, 44. scrub, 45. contagious, 46. startling, 47. voiceless, 48. agony, 49. subordinate, 50. Christ, 51. unheard, 52. shove, 53. horrify

54. br\_\_\_\_g air *adj.* refreshing or invigorating; designed to provide support or stability
55. a mir\_\_\_\_\_us encounter *adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
56. accused tro\_\_\_\_\_ker *n.* a person who intentionally causes difficulties or problems for others, often by disruptive or provocative behavior; a person who tends to create or attract trouble or controversy
57. digital no\_\_\_\_\_d *n.* (also scratchpad) a small pad of paper or a digital device used for taking notes
58. arb\_\_\_\_\_or's decision *n.* a person or entity chosen to settle a dispute or disagreement impartially; someone who acts as a mediator or judge in a conflict to make a final decision
59. sub\_\_\_\_\_te position *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
60. un\_\_\_\_d riches *adj.* not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured
61. cr\_\_\_\_h of trousers *n.* the part of the body between the legs where they join the torso, including the area around the genitals
62. junior se\_\_\_\_\_r *n.* a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate
63. historical re\_\_c *n.* an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value

ANSWERS: 54. bracing, 55. miraculous, 56. troublemaker, 57. notepad, 58. arbitrator, 59. subordinate, 60. untold, 61. crotch, 62. senator, 63. relic

64. walk do\_\_\_\_\_ll to the beach *adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner
65. a s\_\_m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
66. previously un\_\_\_\_\_d-of economic development *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
67. small no\_\_\_\_\_d *n.* (also scratchpad) a small pad of paper or a digital device used for taking notes
68. so te\_\_y tiny *adj.* extremely small; tiny
69. de\_\_\_n the reputation *v.* to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated
70. en\_\_\_\_\_on the future *v.* to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future
71. all\_\_\_\_\_on of corruption *n.* an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law
72. ho\_\_\_\_\_ic condition *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
73. pa\_\_\_\_\_nt to all the others *adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position

ANSWERS: 64. downhill, 65. sham, 66. unheard, 67. notepad, 68. teeny, 69. demean, 70. envision, 71. allegation, 72. horrific, 73. paramount



74. the ab\_\_s of time *n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
75. vo\_\_\_\_\_ss minority *adj.* without a voice or the ability to speak
76. baseless all\_\_\_\_\_ons *n.* an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law
77. severe ag\_\_y *n.* extreme physical or mental pain or suffering, often prolonged or intense
78. pu\_\_\_\_\_ze research findings *v.* to make information or news publicly known or communicated, to promote or spread awareness of
79. exc\_\_\_\_\_ing embarrassment *adj.* extremely painful, intense, or distressing; causing great physical or emotional suffering
80. und\_\_\_\_\_ate the probability *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
81. en\_\_\_\_\_on the project's success *v.* to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future
82. teaching of Ch\_\_\_\_t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
83. effectively int\_\_\_\_\_te a thief *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
84. de\_\_\_e a song from the top charts *v.* to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities

ANSWERS: 74. abyss, 75. voiceless, 76. allegation, 77. agony, 78. publicize, 79. excruciating, 80. underestimate, 81. envision, 82. Christ, 83. intimidate, 84. demote

85. ho\_\_\_\_y victims *v.* to shock or disgust greatly
86. holy re\_\_cs *n.* an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value
87. st\_\_\_\_\_ng discovery *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
88. a di\_\_\_\_\_nt search of the files *adj.* showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties
89. pro\_\_\_\_\_ve questions *adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately
90. ha\_\_\_\_s with constant criticism *v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention
91. ho\_\_\_\_ic experience *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
92. gr\_\_e after the truth *v.* to feel one's way by touching, typically because one cannot see

ANSWERS: 85. horrify, 86. relic, 87. startling, 88. diligent, 89. provocative, 90. harass, 91. horrific, 92. grope

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He is a media \_\_\_\_\_ and owns several major newspapers.  
*n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in business or industry
2. The family's finances have been going \_\_\_\_\_ since they lost their main source of income.  
*adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner
3. The thought of public speaking will \_\_\_\_\_ her.  
*v.* to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding
4. She decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the kitchen floor to remove all the dirt and grime.  
*v.* to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent
5. The nonprofit organization remains \_\_\_\_\_ and does not endorse any political candidates.  
*adj.* not related to or involving politics or political affairs; free from political beliefs, bias, or affiliation
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ building was a stunning example of classical architecture, with its marble columns and grand dome.  
*n.* a building that houses a legislative assembly, especially the US Congress
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ pain in his ankle made it difficult to walk.  
*adj.* extremely painful, intense, or distressing; causing great physical or emotional suffering

ANSWERS: 1. mogul, 2. downhill, 3. petrify, 4. scrub, 5. apolitical, 6. capitol, 7. excruciating

8. She kicked him hard in the \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* the part of the body between the legs where they join the torso, including the area around the genitals

9. He describes the story with \_\_\_\_\_ reality.

- adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

10. She was constantly \_\_\_\_\_ by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.

- v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention

11. The hawkish \_\_\_\_\_ gave a speech on the new bill in the Senate.

- n.* a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate

12. His \_\_\_\_\_ style frequently sparked controversies.

- adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately

13. The boss tried to \_\_\_\_\_ his subordinate with threats.

- v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

14. The disputing parties have agreed to appoint an independent \_\_\_\_\_ to settle their differences.

- n.* a person or entity chosen to settle a dispute or disagreement impartially; someone who acts as a mediator or judge in a conflict to make a final decision

15. The \_\_\_\_\_ screams of the victims could be heard in the distance.

- adj.* without a voice or the ability to speak

ANSWERS: 8. crotch, 9. startling, 10. harassed, 11. senator, 12. provocative, 13. intimidate, 14. arbitrator, 15. voiceless

16. The athlete fell to the ground in \_\_\_\_\_ after injuring their ankle.  
*n.* extreme physical or mental pain or suffering, often prolonged or intense
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ of fraud against the politician damaged his reputation.  
*n.* an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law
18. The series of terrorist attacks \_\_\_\_\_ the entire nation.  
*v.* to shock or disgust greatly
19. The disease is highly \_\_\_\_\_ and spreads quickly.  
*adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease
20. The \_\_\_\_\_ detective investigated all clues.  
*adj.* showing or characterized by care and effort in your work or duties
21. The \_\_\_\_\_ melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.  
*adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
22. The deep sea is an \_\_\_\_\_ of mystery and discovery.  
*n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
23. This bronze sword is a \_\_\_\_\_ of ancient times.  
*n.* an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value
24. \_\_\_\_\_ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.  
*n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

ANSWERS: 16. agony, 17. allegation, 18. horrify, 19. contagious, 20. diligent, 21. unheard, 22. abyss, 23. relic, 24. Christmas

25. His poor performance caused the coach to \_\_\_\_\_ him to the bench.

- v.* to lower in rank, position, or status; to reduce or downgrade someone's authority or responsibilities

26. The accident scene was \_\_\_\_\_ with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.

- adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying

27. The ring was so \_\_\_\_\_ that it almost looked like a toy.

- adj.* extremely small; tiny

28. He made a \_\_\_\_\_ recovery.

- adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected

29. The athlete performed some \_\_\_\_\_ exercises to warm up before the game.

- adj.* refreshing or invigorating; designed to provide support or stability

30. He forcibly \_\_\_\_\_ the flyer into my bag.

- v.* to push someone or something in a rough way

31. They frequently \_\_\_\_\_ their abilities and felt inferior.

- v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

32. This country became a country of \_\_\_\_\_ geostrategic importance to us.

- adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position

33. The company hired a PR firm to \_\_\_\_\_ its new product.

- v.* to make information or news publicly known or communicated, to promote or spread awareness of

ANSWERS: 25. demote, 26. horrific, 27. teeny, 28. miraculous, 29. bracing, 30. shoved, 31. underestimated, 32. paramount, 33. publicize

34. I always keep a \_\_\_\_\_ and pen in my bag to jot down ideas throughout the day.  
*n.* (also scratchpad) a small pad of paper or a digital device used for taking notes
35. He was forced to \_\_\_\_\_ in the dark for the light switch.  
*v.* to feel one's way by touching, typically because one cannot see
36. The \_\_\_\_\_ effect is a phenomenon where people are less likely to intervene in an emergency if others are present.  
*n.* a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene
37. The \_\_\_\_\_ suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.  
*n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
38. The teacher had to reprimand the \_\_\_\_\_ in class constantly.  
*n.* a person who intentionally causes difficulties or problems for others, often by disruptive or provocative behavior; a person who tends to create or attract trouble or controversy
39. The data he prepared was completely \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
40. The \_\_\_\_\_ smell coming from the dumpster was unbearable.  
*adj.* highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence
41. The police have not yet caught the \_\_\_\_\_ of the crime.  
*n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception

ANSWERS: 34. notepad, 35. grope, 36. bystander, 37. trump, 38. troublemaker, 39. sham, 40. vile, 41. perpetrator

42. The CEO's \_\_\_\_\_ employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

*adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

43. The software uses a robust \_\_\_\_\_ to prevent access to malicious websites and protect users from online threats.

*n.* a list of names or entities that are seen as undesirables or perceived as a threat, often compiled by a government or organization and used to restrict access or opportunities

44. The \_\_\_\_\_ stories of the disaster victims need to be heard to understand the impact fully.

*adj.* not yet revealed or known; not having been counted or measured

45. We cannot \_\_\_\_\_ her as President.

*v.* to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future

46. You shouldn't \_\_\_\_\_ yourself by taking on tasks beneath your skill level.

*v.* to lower or damage someone's dignity, honor, or reputation; to treat someone disrespectfully, often in a way that makes them feel inferior or humiliated

ANSWERS: 42. subordinate, 43. blacklist, 44. untold, 45. envision, 46. demean