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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Manoush Zomorodi: How boredom can lead to your most brilliant ideas | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

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**.

gadget

n. a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
synonym: appliance, gimmick, device

(1) a handy **gadget**, (2) time-saving **gadget**

I found the kitchen **gadget** that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.

colic

n. a condition typically occurring in infants, characterized by severe and often fluctuating pain in the abdomen caused by intestinal or digestive disturbances

synonym: cramp, spasm, gripe

(1) **colic** symptoms, (2) **colic** relief

New parents often struggle to soothe their infants with **colic**.

stroll

v. to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim

synonym: amble, roam, mope

(1) **stroll** across a street, (2) **stroll** through the countryside

We could **stroll** into town if you like.

moth

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

(1) **moth** larva, (2) **moth** attracted to the light

The **moth** is a serious threat to the farm's output.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

synonym : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

brainstorming

n. a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas

(1) **brainstorming** session, (2) do a **brainstorming** about a new product

Many companies employ **brainstorming** as a good way of generating innovative ideas.

unearth

v. to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

synonym : discover, uncover, expose

(1) **unearth** burial mound, (2) **unearth** a mystery

The detective **unearthed** a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.

coworker

n. a person who works with another in the same company or organization

synonym : colleague, peer, associate

(1) **coworker** relationship, (2) argue with a **coworker**

My ex- **coworker** and I had different working styles but managed to get along.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

ignite

v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning

synonym : light, set fire to, ignite

(1) **ignite** a boom, (2) **ignite** passion

He **ignited** the fireworks with a single spark.

autopilot

n. a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft

synonym : self-pilot, self-driving, self-navigating

(1) **autopilot** function, (2) aircraft **autopilot**

The airplane was on **autopilot** during the long flight.

boredom

n. a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation

synonym : ennui, tedium, monotony

(1) **boredom** relief, (2) chronic **boredom**

The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off **boredom**.

daydreaming

n. the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you

synonym : reverie, cloud-castle, imagination

(1) stimulate **daydreaming**, (2) the mental process of **daydreaming**

I often waste a lot of time **daydreaming**.

subconscious

adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

synonym: unconscious, latent, hidden

(1) **subconscious** influence, (2) **subconscious** behavior

The **subconscious** mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.

MRI

n. (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body

(1) **MRI** brain image, (2) cardiac **MRI**

The **MRI** machine uses powerful magnets to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

disparate

adj. very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way

synonym: different, distinct, separate

(1) **disparate** impact, (2) physically **disparate** location

The organization worked to bring together **disparate** groups in the community.

nag

v. to annoy or irritate someone persistently with repeated complaints, requests, or criticism; (noun) an old or over-worked horse

synonym: hassle, bother, badger

(1) **nag** about the minor thing, (2) **nag** political leaders

She couldn't stop **nagging** her husband to take out the trash.

autobiographical

adj. relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative

synonym: self-written, self-told, personal

(1) **autobiographical** narrative, (2) **autobiographical**

memory

The author wrote an **autobiographical** novel about growing up in a small town.

neurochemical

adj. of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity

(1) **neurochemical** substances, (2) **neurochemical** mechanism

Our study focuses on **neurochemical** changes in the brain.

multitasking

n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

synonym: juggling, multihandling, parallelism

(1) computer **multitasking**, (2) **multitasking** ability

She could finish all her work on time because of her **multitasking** skills.

deplete

v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

synonym: exhaust, consume, use up

(1) **deplete** customer confidence, (2) **deplete** glycogen stores

If we continue to **deplete** the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.

reclaim

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

synonym: recoup, regain, retake

(1) **reclaim** a competitive position, (2) **reclaim** land from the sea

You may be entitled to **reclaim** some tax.

mindless

adj. lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed

synonym: senseless, thoughtless, irresponsible

(1) **mindless** task, (2) **mindless** entertainment

Mindless scrolling on social media can be a time waster.

app

n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

synonym : application, software

(1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**

The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.

ironic

adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

synonym : sarcastic, wry, sardonic

(1) **ironic** result, (2) an **ironic** turn of events

It was **ironic** that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

bard

n. a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song

synonym : poet, minstrel, troubadour

(1) medieval **bard**, (2) a famous **bard**

The **bard's** performance at the festival was the highlight of the event.

inbox

n. an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept

(1) **inbox** full of emails, (2) **inbox** folder

After you register, you will receive an email with a coupon shortly in your **inbox**.

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.

itch v. to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it
synonym: scratch, tingle, irritate
(1) **itch** constantly, (2) **itch** to speak
I can't stop **itching** my arm because of the mosquito bite.

embarrass v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate
(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project
He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

stairway n. a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
synonym: staircase, steps
(1) **stairway** railing, (2) narrow **stairway**
The grand entrance hall had a magnificent marble **stairway** that curved gracefully upwards.

vine n. a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems
(1) a green **vine**, (2) **vine** of ore
A **vine** remains productive throughout the year.

swoop v. to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon
synonym: dart, pounce
(1) **swoop** down the water slide, (2) **swoop** up the escalator
The eagle **swooped** down from the sky to catch its prey.

empower v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
synonym: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

taskmaster

n. a person who assigns, controls, or supervises tasks or work assignments; someone who is strict or demanding in assigning tasks or expecting high levels of productivity or performance

synonym: overseer, supervisor, disciplinarian

(1) demanding **taskmaster**, (2) **taskmaster** attitude

The strict **taskmaster** demanded nothing but perfection from his employees.

imaginative

adj. having or showing new and creative ideas

synonym: creative, innovative, inventive

(1) capable of **imaginative** creation, (2) **imaginative** as a child

She is a hard worker but not very **imaginative**.

societal

adj. relating to society or social relationships

synonym: social, communal, cultural

(1) **societal** norms, (2) **societal** expectations

The **societal** pressure to conform is strong in this community.

disparity

n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things

synonym: difference, inequality, gap

(1) the **disparity** between theory and reality, (2) income **disparity**

There is a significant **disparity** in pay between men and women in the company.

hibernation

n. a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter

synonym: dormancy, torpor, sleep

(1) **hibernation** period, (2) artificial **hibernation**

Many animals go into **hibernation** during the winter to conserve energy and survive the harsh conditions.

offline

adj. not connected to the internet

synonym: disconnected, not connected, unplugged

(1) **offline** course, (2) **offline** mode

The computer is **offline** and cannot be accessed at the moment.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym: divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

brilliance

n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining

synonym: splendor, glory, luster

(1) **brilliance** of diamond, (2) economic **brilliance**

The scientist's **brilliance** led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. hib_____on period | <i>n.</i> a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter |
| 2. knee re___x | <i>n.</i> an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli |
| 3. p__e a smoother road | <i>v.</i> to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use |
| 4. neu_____cal mechanism | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity |
| 5. so_____al norms | <i>adj.</i> relating to society or social relationships |
| 6. em_____ss my project | <i>v.</i> to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed |
| 7. re___x test | <i>n.</i> an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli |
| 8. in__x full of emails | <i>n.</i> an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept |
| 9. stimulate day_____ng | <i>n.</i> the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you |

ANSWERS: 1. hibernation, 2. reflex, 3. pave, 4. neurochemical, 5. societal, 6. embarrass, 7. reflex, 8. inbox, 9. daydreaming

10. mi____ss task *adj.* lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed
11. ig___e a boom *v.* to set on fire; to cause to start burning
12. sw__p up the escalator *v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon
13. a handy ga___t *n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
14. m__h larva *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
15. ima_____ve as a child *adj.* having or showing new and creative ideas
16. de_____e glycogen stores *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
17. an ir___c turn of events *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
18. argue with a co_____er *n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization
19. medieval b__d *n.* a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song

ANSWERS: 10. mindless, 11. ignite, 12. swoop, 13. gadget, 14. moth, 15. imaginative, 16. deplete, 17. ironic, 18. coworker, 19. bard

20. chronic bo____m *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
21. st____ay railing *n.* a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
22. ig____e passion *v.* to set on fire; to cause to start burning
23. di____ct attention from the real issue *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
24. the mental process of day_____ng *n.* the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you
25. co__c relief *n.* a condition typically occurring in infants, characterized by severe and often fluctuating pain in the abdomen caused by intestinal or digestive disturbances
26. of_____e course *adj.* not connected to the internet
27. bri_____ce of diamond *n.* the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
28. rise nearly hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
29. computer mul_____ing *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
30. di_____te impact *adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way

ANSWERS: 20. boredom, 21. stairway, 22. ignite, 23. distract, 24. daydreaming, 25. colic, 26. offline, 27. brilliance, 28. hundredfold, 29. multitasking, 30. disparate

31. in__x folder *n.* an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept
32. em_____ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
33. st___l across a street *v.* to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim
34. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
35. M_l brain image *n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body
36. un_____h burial mound *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
37. aut_____cal memory *adj.* relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative
38. artificial hib_____on *n.* a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter
39. ir___c result *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
40. st___l through the countryside *v.* to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim

ANSWERS: 31. inbox, 32. embarrass, 33. stroll, 34. empower, 35. MRI, 36. unearth, 37. autobiographical, 38. hibernation, 39. ironic, 40. stroll

41. re_____m land from the sea *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
42. of_____e mode *adj.* not connected to the internet
43. i__h to speak *v.* to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it
44. demanding tas_____er *n.* a person who assigns, controls, or supervises tasks or work assignments; someone who is strict or demanding in assigning tasks or expecting high levels of productivity or performance
45. a green v__e *n.* a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems
46. killer a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
47. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
48. a famous b__d *n.* a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song
49. sub_____ous behavior *adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
50. mul_____ing ability *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

ANSWERS: 41. reclaim, 42. offline, 43. itch, 44. taskmaster, 45. vine, 46. app, 47. smartphone, 48. bard, 49. subconscious, 50. multitasking

51. neu_____cal substances *adj.* of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity
52. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
53. mi_____ss entertainment *adj.* lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed
54. income di_____ty *n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
55. capable of ima_____ve creation *adj.* having or showing new and creative ideas
56. aircraft au_____ot *n.* a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft
57. sub_____ous influence *adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
58. n_g political leaders *v.* to annoy or irritate someone persistently with repeated complaints, requests, or criticism; (noun) an old or over-worked horse
59. do a bra_____ing about a new product *n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas

ANSWERS: 51. neurochemical, 52. moth, 53. mindless, 54. disparity, 55. imaginative, 56. autopilot, 57. subconscious, 58. nag, 59. brainstorming

60. n_g about the minor thing *v.* to annoy or irritate someone persistently with repeated complaints, requests, or criticism; (noun) an old or over-worked horse
61. v__e of ore *n.* a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems
62. physically di_____te location *adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
63. au_____ot function *n.* a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft
64. the di_____ty between theory and reality *n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
65. cannot log in to the a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
66. co__c symptoms *n.* a condition typically occurring in infants, characterized by severe and often fluctuating pain in the abdomen caused by intestinal or digestive disturbances
67. cardiac M_l *n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body
68. time-saving ga___t *n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job

ANSWERS: 60. nag, 61. vine, 62. disparate, 63. autopilot, 64. disparity, 65. app, 66. colic, 67. MRI, 68. gadget

69. di_____ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
70. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
71. economic bri_____ce *n.* the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
72. sw__p down the water slide *v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon
73. aut_____cal narrative *adj.* relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative
74. bra_____ing session *n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
75. so_____al expectations *adj.* relating to society or social relationships
76. bo_____m relief *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
77. un_____h a mystery *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
78. de_____e customer confidence *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

ANSWERS: 69. distract, 70. neuroscience, 71. brilliance, 72. swoop, 73. autobiographical, 74. brainstorming, 75. societal, 76. boredom, 77. unearth, 78. deplete

79. narrow st_____ay *n.* a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
80. re_____m a competitive position *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
81. co_____er relationship *n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization
82. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
83. p__e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
84. tas_____er attitude *n.* a person who assigns, controls, or supervises tasks or work assignments; someone who is strict or demanding in assigning tasks or expecting high levels of productivity or performance
85. improve hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
86. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
87. i__h constantly *v.* to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it
88. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

ANSWERS: 79. stairway, 80. reclaim, 81. coworker, 82. smartphone, 83. pave, 84. taskmaster, 85. hundredfold, 86. empower, 87. itch, 88. neuroscience

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
2. The grand entrance hall had a magnificent marble _____ that curved gracefully upwards.
n. a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
3. He _____ the fireworks with a single spark.
v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning
4. I often waste a lot of time _____.
n. the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you
5. The scientist's _____ led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.
n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
6. The organization worked to bring together _____ groups in the community.
adj. very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
7. She is a hard worker but not very _____.
adj. having or showing new and creative ideas

ANSWERS: 1. smartphones, 2. stairway, 3. ignited, 4. daydreaming, 5. brilliance, 6. disparate, 7. imaginative

8. The _____ mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.
adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
9. The _____ performance at the festival was the highlight of the event.
n. a poet, especially one who composes poems in a traditional oral style; a singer or minstrel who tells stories through song
10. After you register, you will receive an email with a coupon shortly in your _____.
n. an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept
11. The detective _____ a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.
v. to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
12. There is a significant _____ in pay between men and women in the company.
n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
13. She could finish all her work on time because of her _____ skills.
n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
14. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
15. The strict _____ demanded nothing but perfection from his employees.
n. a person who assigns, controls, or supervises tasks or work assignments; someone who is strict or demanding in assigning tasks or expecting high levels of productivity or performance

ANSWERS: 8. subconscious, 9. bard's, 10. inbox, 11. unearthed, 12. disparity, 13. multitasking, 14. empowered, 15. taskmaster

16. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.
adj. a hundred times as great or as much
17. The airplane was on _____ during the long flight.
n. a system that automatically controls the operation of an aircraft or spacecraft
18. The eagle _____ down from the sky to catch its prey.
v. to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon
19. We could _____ into town if you like.
v. to walk somewhere in a slow, relaxed way and with no apparent aim
20. New parents often struggle to soothe their infants with _____.
n. a condition typically occurring in infants, characterized by severe and often fluctuating pain in the abdomen caused by intestinal or digestive disturbances
21. Our study focuses on _____ changes in the brain.
adj. of or relating to chemical processes occurring in neural activity or chemical substance that participates in neural activity
22. The author wrote an _____ novel about growing up in a small town.
adj. relating to or based on the experiences, thoughts, or life story of oneself; about one's own life history or personal narrative
23. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

ANSWERS: 16. hundredfold, 17. autopilot, 18. swooped, 19. stroll, 20. colic, 21. neurochemical, 22. autobiographical, 23. paved

24. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
- n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
25. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.
- v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
26. The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off _____.
- n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
27. The _____ is a serious threat to the farm's output.
- n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
28. Many companies employ _____ as a good way of generating innovative ideas.
- n.* a group activity or business method in which a group of people meet and think about something at the same time to solve a problem or to create good ideas
29. It was _____ that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.
- adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
30. Many animals go into _____ during the winter to conserve energy and survive the harsh conditions.
- n.* a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter

ANSWERS: 24. neuroscience, 25. embarrass, 26. boredom, 27. moth, 28. brainstorming, 29. ironic, 30. hibernation

31. You may be entitled to _____ some tax.

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

32. The ____ machine uses powerful magnets to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

n. (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body

33. The _____ pressure to conform is strong in this community.

adj. relating to society or social relationships

34. If we continue to _____ the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.

v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

35. I found the kitchen _____ that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.

n. a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job

36. A ____ remains productive throughout the year.

n. a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems

37. I can't stop _____ my arm because of the mosquito bite.

v. to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it

38. 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

ANSWERS: 31. reclaim, 32. MRI, 33. societal, 34. deplete, 35. gadget, 36. vine, 37. itching, 38. reflex

39. My ex-_____ and I had different working styles but managed to get along.
n. a person who works with another in the same company or organization
40. _____ scrolling on social media can be a time waster.
adj. lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed
41. The computer is _____ and cannot be accessed at the moment.
adj. not connected to the internet
42. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.
v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
43. She couldn't stop _____ her husband to take out the trash.
v. to annoy or irritate someone persistently with repeated complaints, requests, or criticism; (noun) an old or over-worked horse
44. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the _____ release.
n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

ANSWERS: 39. coworker, 40. Mindless, 41. offline, 42. distract, 43. nagging, 44. app's