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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

OluTimehin Adegbeye: Who belongs in a city? | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sibling

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

synonym : brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**
Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

polygamy

n. the practice of having more than one spouse at the same time

synonym : bigamy, multiple marriages

(1) abolish **polygamy**, (2) **polygamy** law

The practice of **polygamy** has been controversial and debated for centuries.

advantageous

adj. providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial

synonym : beneficial, favorable, profitable

(1) **advantageous** conditions, (2) **advantageous** interest rate

The new job opportunity offered by the company is highly **advantageous**.

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.

unskilled

adj. lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise

synonym: inexperienced, untrained, amateur

(1) **unskilled** salesperson, (2) **unskilled** job

The **unskilled** worker struggled to keep up with the fast-paced manufacturing job.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

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

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

contradictory

adj. containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements

synonym: conflicting, opposing, inconsistent

(1) apparently **contradictory**, (2) **contradictory** evidence

His statements were **contradictory**, leaving the audience confused.

evangelist

n. a person who seeks to convert others to their religious beliefs, especially through public preaching

synonym: preacher, missionary, revivalist

(1) television **evangelist**, (2) technology **evangelist**

The religious **evangelist** traveled the world, spreading the gospel and winning converts.

ubiquitous

adj. being or existing everywhere at once

synonym: universal, omnipresent, everywhere

(1) **ubiquitous** computing, (2) **ubiquitous** across ecosystems

Sugar is **ubiquitous** in food.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

lagoon

n. a shallow stretch of water separated from a larger body of water by sandbanks or coral reefs; a small saltwater lake near a sea or an ocean

synonym: pond, pool, bayou

(1) **lagoon** island, (2) **lagoon** paradise

The mangroves around the **lagoon** provide a habitat for a unique ecosystem

alumni

n. (the plural form of "alumnus" or "alumna") former students or graduates of an educational institution or program

synonym: graduates, former students, alum

(1) **alumni** network, (2) **alumni** relations

Many **alumni** of our college have become successful in their chosen fields.

illustrious

adj. famous, respected, and honored

synonym: famous, renowned, distinguished

(1) an **illustrious** achievement, (2) **illustrious** figure

The **illustrious** scientist won the Nobel Prize for his groundbreaking work.

surveyor

n. an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land

synonym: assessor, cartographer

(1) land **surveyor**, (2) geographical **surveyor**

The **surveyors** asked various related questions about the land.

bustle

v. to move or act energetically and noisily; (noun) a rapid active commotion

synonym: hurry, rush, flurry

(1) **bustle** around a kitchen, (2) hustle- **bustle** lifestyle

The city **bustled** with activity as people rushed to work.

descendant

n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal

synonym: child, offspring, heir

(1) **descendant** of a pioneer, (2) third-generation

descendant

Those warriors' **descendants** are still skilled archers.

emergent

adj. starting to exist or view, or to become known

synonym: coming, appearing, developing

(1) **emergent** repair of an aorta, (2) an **emergent** republic

Extensive areas of **emergent** plants are usually called marsh.

aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

synonym: ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

megacity

n. a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people

(1) **megacity** pollution, (2) **megacity** project

The fishing village grew rapidly into a bustling **megacity**.

eradicate

v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

synonym: destroy, eliminate, exterminate

(1) **eradicate** the deficit, (2) **eradicate** racial discrimination

We are trying to **eradicate** this disease from the world.

demolish

v. to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something

synonym : destroy, wreck, level

(1) **demolish** a myth, (2) **demolish** a bridge

The city decided to **demolish** the old, unsafe building and build a new one.

basil

n. an herb with fragrant, green leaves that is used to flavor many different types of food, especially Italian and Thai cuisine

synonym : herb

(1) freshly chopped **basil**, (2) **basil** leaves

The **basil** in the garden was ready to be picked for tonight's pasta dish.

drown

v. to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater

synonym : douse, drench, overwhelm

(1) **drown** in a bath, (2) I was **drowned** in work

Floods have the potential to **drown** any subsurface animals easily.

presume

v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance

synonym : assume, suppose, guess

(1) **presume** innocence, (2) **presume** on his tolerance

I **presume** you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.

enthusiastically

adv. in a way that shows intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval

synonym : fervently, eagerly, passionately

(1) **enthusiastically** applauded, (2) discuss **enthusiastically**

The study participants **enthusiastically** participated in the discussion, showing genuine interest.

periwinkle

n. a small creeping evergreen plant with blue, purple, or white flowers; a type of sea snail with a spiral shell

synonym : periwinkle plant, snail, color

(1) **periwinkle** plant, (2) **periwinkle** blue

I picked some **periwinkles** at the beach and used them for decoration.

evict

v. to expel someone from a property, especially with the support of the law

synonym : oust, expel, eject

(1) **evict** a person from his home, (2) **evict** squatter

The landlord may **evict** tenants for violations of the lease agreement.

unconstitutional

adj. not in accordance with the constitution (= the set of fundamental principles or established precedents) of a country or state

synonym : illegal, unlawful, invalid

(1) **unconstitutional** violation, (2) **unconstitutional** action

The law was determined to be **unconstitutional** by the court.

slum

n. a heavily populated urban area characterized by poor, run-down housing and infrastructure, often associated with poverty and social neglect

synonym : shantytown, slumdwelling, ghetto

(1) **slum** area, (2) **slum** dwellers

The government needs to invest more in affordable housing options to reduce the number of people living in **slums**.

shanty

n. a small, crudely built, usually temporary house or dwelling; often used to describe a rough or inexpensive structure

synonym : shack, hut, cabin

(1) **shanty-style** lodging, (2) makeshift **shanty**

The beach **shanty** provided temporary shelter for the stranded tourists.

imperfectly

adv. in a faulty or incomplete way

synonym : amiss, insufficiently, clumsily

(1) **imperfectly** developed, (2) **imperfectly** known disease

He created an **imperfectly** shaped torso.

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.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym : spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

dweller

n. a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location

synonym : resident, occupant, inhabitant

(1) city **dweller**, (2) rural **dweller**

The mountain **dweller** lived off the land and had a deep connection to nature.

innovate

v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

synonym : bring in, introduce, found

(1) **innovate** a new method, (2) **innovate** the quality of his life

Companies developing self-driving cars consistently **innovate** the emerging technologies.

remittance

n. the act of sending money or paying a debt; a sum of money sent as payment or as a gift

synonym: payment, transfer, remittal

(1) electronic **remittance**, (2) monthly **remittance**

The **remittance** of the payment was delayed due to a technical error.

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.

entrench

v. to establish or settle something firmly and securely, especially an idea, practice, or position; to occupy a trench or secured area

synonym: establish, fortify, secure

(1) **entrench** power, (2) **entrench** beliefs

The general tried to **entrench** his troops on the hill to avoid the attack.

tacit

adj. understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication

synonym: implicit, unspoken, inferred

(1) **tacit** support, (2) **tacit** consent

Their friendship was based on a **tacit** understanding of each other's needs and desires.

expendable

adj. able to be consumed, used up, or sacrificed without consequence; dispensable or disposable; unnecessary or redundant

synonym: disposable, dispensable, replaceable

(1) **expendable** income, (2) **expendable** assets

In war, those in power often view soldiers as **expendable**

resources.

hawk

n. a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations

synonym : militarist, jingo, aggressor

(1) cast off a **hawk**, (2) congressional **hawk**

That team signed a center forward who was a ball- **hawk**.

extort

v. to obtain something, often money, through force, threats, or coercion

synonym : coerce, blackmail, squeeze

(1) **extort** information, (2) **extort** a confession

The criminals tried to **extort** money from the business owner by threatening to burn down the store.

detain

v. to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving

synonym : hold, keep, detainment

(1) **detain** a terrorist, (2) **detain** for investigation

The police **detained** the suspect for questioning.

prostitute

n. a person, typically a woman, who engages in sexual activity in exchange for payment

synonym : hooker, harlot, whore

(1) **prostitute** street, (2) a male **prostitute**

She turned to **prostitute** to make ends meet.

scapegoat

v. to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause

synonym : blame, accuse, fault

(1) **scapegoat** the new employee, (2) political **scapegoat**

Some politicians try to **scapegoat** specific groups of people

to distract from their shortcomings.

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.

intimidation

n. the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action

synonym: frightening, bullying, harassment

(1) act of **intimidation**, (2) fear of **intimidation**

Using **intimidation** tactics in the workplace is unacceptable and should not be tolerated.

extinct

adj. no longer in existence

synonym: dead, obsolete, abolished

(1) **extinct** by human activity, (2) long- **extinct** volcano

Many species have become **extinct** due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

queer

adj. strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way

synonym: strange, odd, unusual

(1) **queer** money, (2) **queer** fashion

The behavior of the clown at the party was quite **queer**.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. a det_____nt of crop yields | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 2. I was dr__ned in work | <i>v.</i> to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater |
| 3. play with my si____gs | <i>n.</i> a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents |
| 4. monthly rem____ce | <i>n.</i> the act of sending money or paying a debt; a sum of money sent as payment or as a gift |
| 5. hustle-bu___e lifestyle | <i>v.</i> to move or act energetically and noisily; (noun) a rapid active commotion |
| 6. an em____nt republic | <i>adj.</i> starting to exist or view, or to become known |
| 7. imp_____ly known disease | <i>adv.</i> in a faulty or incomplete way |
| 8. environmental det_____nt | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 9. ta__t support | <i>adj.</i> understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication |
| 10. bu___e around a kitchen | <i>v.</i> to move or act energetically and noisily; (noun) a rapid active commotion |
| 11. ubi____us across ecosystems | <i>adj.</i> being or existing everywhere at once |

ANSWERS: 1. determinant, 2. drown, 3. sibling, 4. remittance, 5. bustle, 6. emergent, 7. imperfectly, 8. determinant, 9. tacit, 10. bustle, 11. ubiquitous

12. imp_____ly developed *adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
13. fear of int_____ion *n.* the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action
14. exp_____le income *adj.* able to be consumed, used up, or sacrificed without consequence; dispensable or disposable; unnecessary or redundant
15. qu__r fashion *adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
16. ex___t a confession *v.* to obtain something, often money, through force, threats, or coercion
17. di_____ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
18. qu__r money *adj.* strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
19. freshly chopped ba__l *n.* an herb with fragrant, green leaves that is used to flavor many different types of food, especially Italian and Thai cuisine
20. al___i network *n.* (the plural form of "alumnus" or "alumna") former students or graduates of an educational institution or program
21. congressional h__k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
22. no asp_____on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

ANSWERS: 12. imperfectly, 13. intimidation, 14. expendable, 15. queer, 16. extort, 17. distract, 18. queer, 19. basil, 20. alumni, 21. hawk, 22. aspiration

23. have a si____g quarrel *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
24. rural dw____r *n.* a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location
25. discuss ent_____lly *adv.* in a way that shows intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval
26. s__m area *n.* a heavily populated urban area characterized by poor, run-down housing and infrastructure, often associated with poverty and social neglect
27. ev__t a person from his home *v.* to expel someone from a property, especially with the support of the law
28. ubi____us computing *adj.* being or existing everywhere at once
29. de____sh a bridge *v.* to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something
30. de____n for investigation *v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving
31. city dw____r *n.* a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location
32. per____le plant *n.* a small creeping evergreen plant with blue, purple, or white flowers; a type of sea snail with a spiral shell
33. ad____le enough for the environment *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

ANSWERS: 23. sibling, 24. dweller, 25. enthusiastically, 26. slum, 27. evict, 28. ubiquitous, 29. demolish, 30. detain, 31. dweller, 32. periwinkle, 33. adaptable

34. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
35. po_____my law *n.* the practice of having more than one spouse at the same time
36. third-generation des_____nt *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
37. ent_____lly applauded *adv.* in a way that shows intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval
38. er_____te racial discrimination *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
39. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
40. er_____te the deficit *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
41. act of int_____ion *n.* the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action
42. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
43. en_____ch power *v.* to establish or settle something firmly and securely, especially an idea, practice, or position; to occupy a trench or secured area
44. a male pro_____te *n.* a person, typically a woman, who engages in sexual activity in exchange for payment

ANSWERS: 34. opportune, 35. polygamy, 36. descendant, 37. enthusiastically, 38. eradicate, 39. resilient, 40. eradicate, 41. intimidation, 42. resilient, 43. entrench, 44. prostitute

45. adv_____ous conditions *adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
46. abolish po_____my *n.* the practice of having more than one spouse at the same time
47. la____n island *n.* a shallow stretch of water separated from a larger body of water by sandbanks or coral reefs; a small saltwater lake near a sea or an ocean
48. s__m dwellers *n.* a heavily populated urban area characterized by poor, run-down housing and infrastructure, often associated with poverty and social neglect
49. sc_____at the new employee *v.* to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause
50. geographical su_____or *n.* an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land
51. apparently con_____ory *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
52. television eva_____st *n.* a person who seeks to convert others to their religious beliefs, especially through public preaching
53. in_____te the quality of his life *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

ANSWERS: 45. advantageous, 46. polygamy, 47. lagoon, 48. slum, 49. scapegoat, 50. surveyor, 51. contradictory, 52. evangelist, 53. innovate

54. des_____nt of a pioneer *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
55. pro_____te street *n.* a person, typically a woman, who engages in sexual activity in exchange for payment
56. exp_____le assets *adj.* able to be consumed, used up, or sacrificed without consequence; dispensable or disposable; unnecessary or redundant
57. in_____te a new method *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
58. pr_____e innocence *v.* to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance
59. ex____t information *v.* to obtain something, often money, through force, threats, or coercion
60. technology eva_____st *n.* a person who seeks to convert others to their religious beliefs, especially through public preaching
61. 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
62. un_____ed salesperson *adj.* lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise

ANSWERS: 54. descendant, 55. prostitute, 56. expendable, 57. innovate, 58. presume, 59. extort, 60. evangelist, 61. troublemaker, 62. unskilled

63. ev__t squatter *v.* to expel someone from a property, especially with the support of the law
64. electronic rem_____ce *n.* the act of sending money or paying a debt; a sum of money sent as payment or as a gift
65. di_____ct attention from the real issue *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
66. long-ex_____t volcano *adj.* no longer in existence
67. ta__t consent *adj.* understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication
68. an ill_____us achievement *adj.* famous, respected, and honored
69. unc_____nal violation *adj.* not in accordance with the constitution (= the set of fundamental principles or established precedents) of a country or state
70. ill_____us figure *adj.* famous, respected, and honored
71. la___n paradise *n.* a shallow stretch of water separated from a larger body of water by sandbanks or coral reefs; a small saltwater lake near a sea or an ocean
72. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
73. me_____ty project *n.* a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people
74. makeshift sh___y *n.* a small, crudely built, usually temporary house or dwelling; often used to describe a rough or inexpensive structure

ANSWERS: 63. evict, 64. remittance, 65. distract, 66. extinct, 67. tacit, 68. illustrious, 69. unconstitutional, 70. illustrious, 71. lagoon, 72. improvisation, 73. megacity, 74. shanty

75. ex_____t by human activity *adj.* no longer in existence
76. em_____nt repair of an aorta *adj.* starting to exist or view, or to become known
77. de_____n a terrorist *v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving
78. unc_____nal action *adj.* not in accordance with the constitution (= the set of fundamental principles or established precedents) of a country or state
79. con_____ory evidence *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
80. asp_____on into the lungs *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
81. land su_____or *n.* an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land
82. cast off a h__k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
83. pr_____e on his tolerance *v.* to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance
84. an ad_____le person *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
85. de_____sh a myth *v.* to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something

ANSWERS: 75. extinct, 76. emergent, 77. detain, 78. unconstitutional, 79. contradictory, 80. aspiration, 81. surveyor, 82. hawk, 83. presume, 84. adaptable, 85. demolish

86. ba__l leaves *n.* an herb with fragrant, green leaves that is used to flavor many different types of food, especially Italian and Thai cuisine
87. 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
88. dr__n in a bath *v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
89. me_____ty pollution *n.* a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people
90. adv_____ous interest rate *adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
91. al___i relations *n.* (the plural form of "alumnus" or "alumna") former students or graduates of an educational institution or program
92. un_____ed job *adj.* lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise
93. sh___y-style lodging *n.* a small, crudely built, usually temporary house or dwelling; often used to describe a rough or inexpensive structure
94. en_____ch beliefs *v.* to establish or settle something firmly and securely, especially an idea, practice, or position; to occupy a trench or secured area

ANSWERS: 86. basil, 87. troublemaker, 88. drown, 89. megacity, 90. advantageous, 91. alumni, 92. unskilled, 93. shanty, 94. entrench

95. per_____le blue *n.* a small creeping evergreen plant with blue, purple, or white flowers; a type of sea snail with a spiral shell
96. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
97. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
98. political sc_____at *v.* to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause

ANSWERS: 95. periwinkle, 96. improvisation, 97. opportune, 98. scapegoat

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Those warriors' _____ are still skilled archers.
n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
2. The beach _____ provided temporary shelter for the stranded tourists.
n. a small, crudely built, usually temporary house or dwelling; often used to describe a rough or inexpensive structure
3. That team signed a center forward who was a ball-_____.
n. a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
4. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
5. His statements were _____ leaving the audience confused.
adj. containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
6. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.
v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
7. The study participants _____ participated in the discussion, showing genuine interest.
adv. in a way that shows intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval
8. Many _____ of our college have become successful in their chosen fields.
n. (the plural form of "alumnus" or "alumna") former students or graduates of an educational institution or program

ANSWERS: 1. descendants, 2. shanty, 3. hawk, 4. aspiration, 5. contradictory, 6. distract, 7. enthusiastically, 8. alumni

9. Some politicians try to _____ specific groups of people to distract from their shortcomings.
- v.* to unfairly blame or punish someone for the misdeeds or mistakes of others, often to deflect attention or avoid accountability; (noun) a person or group that is unfairly blamed for the problems or misfortunes of others, typically to divert attention or responsibility from the actual cause
10. The mountain _____ lived off the land and had a deep connection to nature.
- n.* a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location
11. The general tried to _____ his troops on the hill to avoid the attack.
- v.* to establish or settle something firmly and securely, especially an idea, practice, or position; to occupy a trench or secured area
12. In war, those in power often view soldiers as _____ resources.
- adj.* able to be consumed, used up, or sacrificed without consequence; dispensable or disposable; unnecessary or redundant
13. Extensive areas of _____ plants are usually called marsh.
- adj.* starting to exist or view, or to become known
14. The practice of _____ has been controversial and debated for centuries.
- n.* the practice of having more than one spouse at the same time
15. The fishing village grew rapidly into a bustling _____.
- n.* a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people
16. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

ANSWERS: 9. scapegoat, 10. dweller, 11. entrench, 12. expendable, 13. emergent, 14. polygamy, 15. megacity, 16. improvisation

17. The landlord may _____ tenants for violations of the lease agreement.
v. to expel someone from a property, especially with the support of the law
18. He created an _____ shaped torso.
adv. in a faulty or incomplete way
19. I picked some _____ at the beach and used them for decoration.
n. a small creeping evergreen plant with blue, purple, or white flowers; a type of sea snail with a spiral shell
20. Sugar is _____ in food.
adj. being or existing everywhere at once
21. The city decided to _____ the old, unsafe building and build a new one.
v. to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something
22. The _____ asked various related questions about the land.
n. an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land
23. The _____ scientist won the Nobel Prize for his groundbreaking work.
adj. famous, respected, and honored
24. The mangroves around the _____ provide a habitat for a unique ecosystem
n. a shallow stretch of water separated from a larger body of water by sandbanks or coral reefs; a small saltwater lake near a sea or an ocean
25. Children often copy their parents or elder _____.
n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

ANSWERS: 17. evict, 18. imperfectly, 19. periwinkles, 20. ubiquitous, 21. demolish, 22. surveyors, 23. illustrious, 24. lagoon, 25. siblings

26. The city _____ with activity as people rushed to work.

v. to move or act energetically and noisily; (noun) a rapid active commotion

27. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

28. The _____ of the payment was delayed due to a technical error.

n. the act of sending money or paying a debt; a sum of money sent as payment or as a gift

29. The religious _____ traveled the world, spreading the gospel and winning converts.

n. a person who seeks to convert others to their religious beliefs, especially through public preaching

30. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

31. The police _____ the suspect for questioning.

v. to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving

32. Many species have become _____ due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

adj. no longer in existence

33. Companies developing self-driving cars consistently _____ the emerging technologies.

v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

ANSWERS: 26. bustled, 27. opportune, 28. remittance, 29. evangelist, 30. determinant, 31. detained, 32. extinct, 33. innovate

34. We seek a candidate who possesses _____ fighting potential.
adj. able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
35. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
36. We are trying to _____ this disease from the world.
v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
37. The behavior of the clown at the party was quite _____.
adj. strange or odd, typically in an interesting or attractive way
38. Their friendship was based on a _____ understanding of each other's needs and desires.
adj. understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication
39. The government needs to invest more in affordable housing options to reduce the number of people living in _____.
n. a heavily populated urban area characterized by poor, run-down housing and infrastructure, often associated with poverty and social neglect
40. The _____ in the garden was ready to be picked for tonight's pasta dish.
n. an herb with fragrant, green leaves that is used to flavor many different types of food, especially Italian and Thai cuisine
41. 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

ANSWERS: 34. adaptable, 35. resilient, 36. eradicate, 37. queer, 38. tacit, 39. slums, 40. basil, 41. troublemaker

42. Using _____ tactics in the workplace is unacceptable and should not be tolerated.
- n.* the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action
43. The law was determined to be _____ by the court.
- adj.* not in accordance with the constitution (= the set of fundamental principles or established precedents) of a country or state
44. The criminals tried to _____ money from the business owner by threatening to burn down the store.
- v.* to obtain something, often money, through force, threats, or coercion
45. The _____ worker struggled to keep up with the fast-paced manufacturing job.
- adj.* lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise
46. Floods have the potential to _____ any subsurface animals easily.
- v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
47. The new job opportunity offered by the company is highly _____.
- adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
48. I _____ you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.
- v.* to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance

ANSWERS: 42. intimidation, 43. unconstitutional, 44. extort, 45. unskilled, 46. drown, 47. advantageous, 48. presume

49. She turned to _____ to make ends meet.

- n.* a person, typically a woman, who engages in sexual activity in exchange for payment

ANSWERS: 49. prostitute