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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Heather Lanier: "Good" and "bad" are incomplete stories we tell ourselves | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

parable

n. a short allegorical story designed to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson

synonym: allegory, fable, tale

(1) **parable** story, (2) biblical **parable**

Jesus quoted **parables** to teach important lessons to his disciples.

shrug

v. to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

(1) **shrug** off the importance, (2) **shrug** his shoulders sadly
I respect her ability to **shrug** off harsh criticism.

loosen

v. to make something less tight, firm, or fixed; to free from restraint or constraint; to relax

synonym: relax, slacken, untie

(1) **loosen** grip, (2) **loosen** knot

Please **loosen** the screws on the back panel so we can access the inside of the machine.

wholehearted

adj. sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment

synonym: passionate, enthusiastic, devoted

(1) **wholehearted** support, (2) **wholehearted** commitment

She put her **wholehearted** effort into finishing the project on time.

superhero

n. a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

(1) **superhero** movies, (2) **superhero** comics

Superman is a classic **superhero** known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.

pediatrics

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children

synonym: pedology, child health

(1) **pediatrics** department, (2) **pediatrics** clinic

I am studying **pediatrics** in medical school because I love working with children.

onyx

n. a semiprecious or precious stone, typically black or white with bands of alternating colors; a variety of fine-grained chalcedony

synonym: black gem, black stone

(1) black **onyx**, (2) **onyx** stone

She adorned her necklace with a beautiful **onyx** pendant.

equanimity

n. a state of calmness, stability, and composure, particularly in the face of stress, adversity, or challenging situations

synonym: calmness, composure, equilibrium

(1) achieve perfect **equanimity**, (2) lose **equanimity**

The CEO's **equanimity** during the crisis helped reassure the investors and employees.

unequivocal

adj. admitting of no doubt; having only one meaning or interpretation and leading to only one conclusion

synonym: apparent, absolute, undeniable

(1) **unequivocal** evidence, (2) receive an **unequivocal** answer

It is **unequivocal** that human activities are the cause of global warming.

reggae

n. a genre of music that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s, characterized by its rhythmic and syncopated style, prominent bass lines, and lyrics often addressing social or political themes

(1) **reggae** music, (2) **reggae** artist

The band played the perfect blend of **reggae** and jazz at the music festival.

smirk

v. to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner

synonym: grin, sneer, simper

(1) **smirk** confidently, (2) **smirk** after playing a prank

He couldn't help but **smirk** when he heard her absurd excuse.

neurological

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

synonym: nervous, neural, brain-related

(1) fever with **neurological** signs, (2) **neurological** symptoms

The patient was diagnosed with a **neurological** disorder affecting their motor skills.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym: sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

neurology

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system

synonym: brain science, nervous system, neuropathology

(1) cognitive **neurology**, (2) **neurology** department
She is studying clinical **neurology** to become a brain surgeon.

jostle

v. to push, elbow, or bump against someone or something in a forceful or crowded way; to compete with or struggle against another person or group for space, resources, or attention

synonym : push, bump, elbow

(1) **jostle** for position, (2) **jostle** my elbow

I had to **jostle** through the crowded concert to get to the front of the stage.

bully

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

synonym : tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak

The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

dangle

v. to hang or swing loosely, especially in a way that suggests instability or lack of support; to tempt or tantalize by holding out the prospect of something desirable but uncertain

synonym : swing, hang, drape

(1) **dangle** a carrot, (2) **dangle** a pendant

The earring on her earlobe would **dangle** as she moved her head.

devise

v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

synonym : create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

splint

n. a rigid or flexible device used to immobilize or support a broken or injured bone or joint, often made of wood, metal, or other sturdy materials and commonly used in first aid or medical settings

synonym : brace, support

(1) **splint** bandage, (2) arm **splint**

After my skiing accident, I had to wear a leg **splint** for several weeks.

disastrous

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

synonym : catastrophic, destructive, fatal

(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely **disastrous** effect

The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.

blueprint

n. a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine

synonym : draft, prototype, sketch

(1) **blueprint** for economic reform, (2) architect's **blueprint**

A business plan is a **blueprint** for your success.

able-bodied

adj. having a healthy and strong body capable of physical activities; not suffering from physical disabilities that limit movement or strength

synonym : capable, fit, healthy

(1) **able-bodied** worker, (2) **able-bodied** athlete

The job posting required an **able-bodied** person for heavy lifting.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym : open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

wiggle

v. to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements

synonym : wiggle, jiggle, squirm

(1) **wiggle** her lips, (2) **wiggle** with excitement

Her hips **wiggle** as she walks.

limber

v. to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity

synonym : stretch, warm up, flex

(1) **limber** up with some stretching exercises, (2) **limber** my body

You need to **limber** up before starting to exercise to prevent injury.

rejoice

v. to feel or express great joy or happiness; to celebrate or express gratitude for a happy or positive situation or event

synonym : enjoy, delight, celebrate

(1) **rejoice** over a victory, (2) **rejoice** at the moment

We should all **rejoice** in the good things life has to offer.

yank

v. to pull something or someone forcefully with a sudden movement

synonym : draw, jerk, tug

(1) **yank** out a tooth, (2) **yank** at a rope

He tried to **yank** the memories from his brain.

congenital

adj. existing from birth; often used to describe a condition or trait that is inherited or present from the moment of birth

synonym : innate, inborn, inherent

(1) **congenital** disease, (2) **congenital** disorder

Congenital heart defects can often be diagnosed before a baby is born.

hail

v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with

enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

synonym : greet, salute, welcome

(1) **hail** the victorious team with cheers, (2) **hail** forecast
People in the area were forced to **hail** a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.

blockbuster

n. a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money

synonym : hit, success, smash

(1) **blockbuster** movie, (2) international **blockbuster**
The new action movie is expected to be a **blockbuster** hit.

stereotype

n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

(1) avoid **stereotype**, (2) negative **stereotypes**
Changing **stereotypes** about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.

institutionalize

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

synonym : formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws
The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

lifesaving

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

(1) **lifesaving** efforts, (2) **lifesaving** device
The patient needs a **lifesaving** transplant operation.

retarded

adj. (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn

synonym : delayed, impeded, slow

(1) **retarded** growth, (2) **retarded** child

The project was delayed due to some technical problems, and it was considered **retarded**.

insidious

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

synonym: sly, cunning, subtle

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

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

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

angelic

adj. resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance

synonym: heavenly, celestial, divine

(1) **angelic** face, (2) **angelic** choir

The singer's **angelic** voice brought tears to the audience's eyes.

ableism

n. discrimination or prejudice against people with disabilities; the belief that non-disabled individuals are superior to those with disabilities

synonym: discrimination, bias, prejudice

(1) **ableism** awareness, (2) **ableism** discrimination

Many people with disabilities face **ableism** daily in the workplace or public spaces.

posit

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

synonym: assert, declare, assume

(1) **posit** the existence of life after death, (2) **posit** the premise

We should **posit** several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

giddy

adj. feeling dizzy or lightheaded; inclined to be easily excited or amused; lacking seriousness or stability

synonym: dizzy, lightheaded, vertiginous

(1) **giddy** with excitement, (2) a **giddy** ride

The rollercoaster ride left her feeling **giddy** and disoriented.

halo

n. a circular band of light around the head of a saint or holy person in the art, often representing a spiritual aura; a circular band of light around the sun or moon, especially during an eclipse

synonym: aura, nimbus, glory

(1) **halo** effect, (2) **halo** around the moon

The painting of the saint had a golden **halo** surrounding her head, symbolizing her holiness.

pageant

n. a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition

synonym: parade, spectacle, show

(1) **pageant** queen, (2) national **pageant**

The beauty **pageant** contestants all looked stunning in their gowns.

insinuate

v. to suggest or imply something indirectly or subtly; to insert something gradually or subtly

synonym: hint, suggest, imply

(1) **insinuate** ideas, (2) **insinuate** doubt

He tried to **insinuate** that he was innocent, but nobody believed him.

rascal

n. a mischievous or playful person often used affectionately; a rogue or scoundrel

synonym : scoundrel, rogue, scamp

(1) mischievous **rascal**, (2) street **rascal**

Despite being a **rascal** in his youth, he grew up to be a respectable man.

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.

annoy

v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

synonym : aggravate, irritate, unsettle

(1) **annoy** at the time, (2) **annoy** everyone else

Her constant chatter was starting to **annoy** the neighbors.

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.

preposition

n. a word or group of words that shows the relationship of a noun or pronoun to another word in a sentence, indicating location, time, direction, or manner (e.g., in, on, at, above, before, after)

synonym : connective, particle, word

(1) English **preposition**, (2) complex **preposition**

When learning a new language, understanding the use of **prepositions** can be quite challenging.

apropos

adj. concerning a particular topic; fitting or appropriate in a given situation; (adverb) at the right time; incidentally or by the way

synonym : concerning, relevant, (adverb) timely

(1) **apropos** expression, (2) arrived **apropos**
His **apropos-of-nothing** comment about the weather caught everyone off guard during the business meeting.

Session 2: Spelling

1. arm sp___t
n. a rigid or flexible device used to immobilize or support a broken or injured bone or joint, often made of wood, metal, or other sturdy materials and commonly used in first aid or medical settings
2. wi___e her lips
v. to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements
3. lo___n grip
v. to make something less tight, firm, or fixed; to free from restraint or constraint; to relax
4. English pre_____on
n. a word or group of words that shows the relationship of a noun or pronoun to another word in a sentence, indicating location, time, direction, or manner (e.g., in, on, at, above, before, after)
5. black o__x
n. a semiprecious or precious stone, typically black or white with bands of alternating colors; a variety of fine-grained chalcedony
6. ped_____cs clinic
n. the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
7. achieve perfect equ_____ty
n. a state of calmness, stability, and composure, particularly in the face of stress, adversity, or challenging situations

ANSWERS: 1. splint, 2. wiggle, 3. loosen, 4. preposition, 5. onyx, 6. pediatrics, 7. equanimity

8. sh__g off the importance *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
9. sm__k after playing a prank *v.* to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner
10. absolutely dis_____us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
11. mischievous ra___l *n.* a mischievous or playful person often used affectionately; a rogue or scoundrel
12. a gi__y ride *adj.* feeling dizzy or lightheaded; inclined to be easily excited or amused; lacking seriousness or stability
13. bu__y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
14. don't dis_____nt me *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
15. re_____e at the moment *v.* to feel or express great joy or happiness; to celebrate or express gratitude for a happy or positive situation or event
16. an_____c choir *adj.* resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance

ANSWERS: 8. shrug, 9. smirk, 10. disastrous, 11. rascal, 12. giddy, 13. bully, 14. disappoint, 15. rejoice, 16. angelic

17. su_____ro movies *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
18. gi__y with excitement *adj.* feeling dizzy or lightheaded; inclined to be easily excited or amused; lacking seriousness or stability
19. lose equ_____ty *n.* a state of calmness, stability, and composure, particularly in the face of stress, adversity, or challenging situations
20. pa_____e story *n.* a short allegorical story designed to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson
21. re_____ed child *adj.* (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn
22. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
23. o__x stone *n.* a semiprecious or precious stone, typically black or white with bands of alternating colors; a variety of fine-grained chalcedony
24. receive an une_____al answer *adj.* admitting of no doubt; having only one meaning or interpretation and leading to only one conclusion
25. blo_____er movie *n.* a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money
26. arrived ap_____s *adj.* concerning a particular topic; fitting or appropriate in a given situation; (adverb) at the right time; incidentally or by the way

ANSWERS: 17. superhero, 18. giddy, 19. equanimity, 20. parable, 21. retarded, 22. intellect, 23. onyx, 24. unequivocal, 25. blockbuster, 26. apropos

27. ped_____cs department *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
28. neu_____cal symptoms *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
29. su_____ro comics *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
30. con_____al disorder *adj.* existing from birth; often used to describe a condition or trait that is inherited or present from the moment of birth
31. da___e a carrot *v.* to hang or swing loosely, especially in a way that suggests instability or lack of support; to tempt or tantalize by holding out the prospect of something desirable but uncertain
32. sh__g his shoulders sadly *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
33. de___e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
34. street ra___l *n.* a mischievous or playful person often used affectionately; a rogue or scoundrel
35. h__o around the moon *n.* a circular band of light around the head of a saint or holy person in the art, often representing a spiritual aura; a circular band of light around the sun or moon, especially during an eclipse

ANSWERS: 27. pediatrics, 28. neurological, 29. superhero, 30. congenital, 31. dangle, 32. shrug, 33. devise, 34. rascal, 35. halo

36. ab____m awareness *n.* discrimination or prejudice against people with disabilities; the belief that non-disabled individuals are superior to those with disabilities
37. wi___e with excitement *v.* to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements
38. li___r up with some stretching exercises *v.* to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity
39. re____ed growth *adj.* (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn
40. y__k out a tooth *v.* to pull something or someone forcefully with a sudden movement
41. h__l the victorious team with cheers *v.* to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky
42. ap____s expression *adj.* concerning a particular topic; fitting or appropriate in a given situation; (adverb) at the right time; incidentally or by the way
43. in____us behavior *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
44. bl____nt for economic reform *n.* a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine

ANSWERS: 36. ableism, 37. wiggle, 38. limber, 39. retarded, 40. yank, 41. hail, 42. apropos, 43. insidious, 44. blueprint

45. negative ste_____pes *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
46. national pa_____t *n.* a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition
47. lo____n knot *v.* to make something less tight, firm, or fixed; to free from restraint or constraint; to relax
48. une_____al evidence *adj.* admitting of no doubt; having only one meaning or interpretation and leading to only one conclusion
49. con_____al disease *adj.* existing from birth; often used to describe a condition or trait that is inherited or present from the moment of birth
50. ne_____gy department *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
51. international blo_____er *n.* a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money
52. architect's bl_____nt *n.* a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine
53. re____e artist *n.* a genre of music that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s, characterized by its rhythmic and syncopated style, prominent bass lines, and lyrics often addressing social or political themes

ANSWERS: 45. stereotype, 46. pageant, 47. loosen, 48. unequivocal, 49. congenital, 50. neurology, 51. blockbuster, 52. blueprint, 53. reggae

54. abl_____ed worker *adj.* having a healthy and strong body capable of physical activities; not suffering from physical disabilities that limit movement or strength
55. cognitive ne_____gy *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
56. have dis_____us consequences *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
57. h__l forecast *v.* to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky
58. h__o effect *n.* a circular band of light around the head of a saint or holy person in the art, often representing a spiritual aura; a circular band of light around the sun or moon, especially during an eclipse
59. an__y at the time *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
60. y__k at a rope *v.* to pull something or someone forcefully with a sudden movement
61. an_____c face *adj.* resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance
62. sh__e a person aside *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way

ANSWERS: 54. able-bodied, 55. neurology, 56. disastrous, 57. hail, 58. halo, 59. annoy, 60. yank, 61. angelic, 62. shove

63. de___e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
64. 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
65. in_____te doubt *v.* to suggest or imply something indirectly or subtly; to insert something gradually or subtly
66. jo___e for position *v.* to push, elbow, or bump against someone or something in a forceful or crowded way; to compete with or struggle against another person or group for space, resources, or attention
67. who_____ted commitment *adj.* sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment
68. 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
69. in_____te ideas *v.* to suggest or imply something indirectly or subtly; to insert something gradually or subtly
70. pa_____t queen *n.* a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition

ANSWERS: 63. devise, 64. app, 65. insinuate, 66. jostle, 67. wholehearted, 68. app, 69. insinuate, 70. pageant

71. un___d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
72. un___d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
73. po__t the premise *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
74. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
75. li___r my body *v.* to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity
76. lif_____ng efforts *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
77. avoid ste_____pe *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
78. in_____us plot *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
79. abl_____ed athlete *adj.* having a healthy and strong body capable of physical activities; not suffering from physical disabilities that limit movement or strength

ANSWERS: 71. unfold, 72. unfold, 73. posit, 74. institutionalize, 75. limber, 76. lifesaving, 77. stereotype, 78. insidious, 79. able-bodied

80. re___e music *n.* a genre of music that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s, characterized by its rhythmic and syncopated style, prominent bass lines, and lyrics often addressing social or political themes
81. ab____m discrimination *n.* discrimination or prejudice against people with disabilities; the belief that non-disabled individuals are superior to those with disabilities
82. re_____e over a victory *v.* to feel or express great joy or happiness; to celebrate or express gratitude for a happy or positive situation or event
83. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
84. fever with neu_____cal signs *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
85. who_____ted support *adj.* sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment
86. sp___t bandage *n.* a rigid or flexible device used to immobilize or support a broken or injured bone or joint, often made of wood, metal, or other sturdy materials and commonly used in first aid or medical settings
87. po__t the existence of life after death *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

ANSWERS: 80. reggae, 81. ableism, 82. rejoice, 83. disappoint, 84. neurological, 85. wholehearted, 86. splint, 87. posit

88. an__y everyone else *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
89. sh__e hamburger into my mouth *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
90. biblical pa_____e *n.* a short allegorical story designed to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson
91. sm__k confidently *v.* to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner
92. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
93. complex pre_____on *n.* a word or group of words that shows the relationship of a noun or pronoun to another word in a sentence, indicating location, time, direction, or manner (e.g., in, on, at, above, before, after)
94. jo___e my elbow *v.* to push, elbow, or bump against someone or something in a forceful or crowded way; to compete with or struggle against another person or group for space, resources, or attention
95. lif_____ng device *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
96. bu__y the weak *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

ANSWERS: 88. annoy, 89. shove, 90. parable, 91. smirk, 92. institutionalize, 93. preposition, 94. jostle, 95. lifesaving, 96. bully

97. da___e a pendant

v. to hang or swing loosely, especially in a way that suggests instability or lack of support; to tempt or tantalize by holding out the prospect of something desirable but uncertain

98. human in_____ct

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

ANSWERS: 97. dangle, 98. intellect

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The singer's _____ voice brought tears to the audience's eyes.
adj. resembling or having the qualities of an angel, such as purity, kindness, and gentle beauty; divine or heavenly; having an innocent, unspoiled appearance
2. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
3. She adorned her necklace with a beautiful _____ pendant.
n. a semiprecious or precious stone, typically black or white with bands of alternating colors; a variety of fine-grained chalcedony
4. Her constant chatter was starting to _____ the neighbors.
v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
5. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.
v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
6. They had to _____ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
7. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

ANSWERS: 1. angelic, 2. disappoint, 3. onyx, 4. annoy, 5. posit, 6. devise, 7. unfolded

8. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
- v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
9. After my skiing accident, I had to wear a leg _____ for several weeks.
- n. a rigid or flexible device used to immobilize or support a broken or injured bone or joint, often made of wood, metal, or other sturdy materials and commonly used in first aid or medical settings
10. She put her _____ effort into finishing the project on time.
- adj. sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment
11. He tried to _____ that he was innocent, but nobody believed him.
- v. to suggest or imply something indirectly or subtly; to insert something gradually or subtly
12. Her hips _____ as she walks.
- v. to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements
13. The new action movie is expected to be a _____ hit.
- n. a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money
14. People in the area were forced to _____ a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.
- v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

ANSWERS: 8. institutionalize, 9. splint, 10. wholehearted, 11. insinuate, 12. wiggle, 13. blockbuster, 14. hail

15. The project was delayed due to some technical problems, and it was considered _____.

adj. (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn

16. I had to _____ through the crowded concert to get to the front of the stage.

v. to push, elbow, or bump against someone or something in a forceful or crowded way; to compete with or struggle against another person or group for space, resources, or attention

17. The earring on her earlobe would _____ as she moved her head.

v. to hang or swing loosely, especially in a way that suggests instability or lack of support; to tempt or tantalize by holding out the prospect of something desirable but uncertain

18. I respect her ability to _____ off harsh criticism.

v. to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

19. _____ heart defects can often be diagnosed before a baby is born.

adj. existing from birth; often used to describe a condition or trait that is inherited or present from the moment of birth

20. The disease has an _____ onset, making it difficult to diagnose.

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

21. The patient was diagnosed with a _____ disorder affecting their motor skills.

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

ANSWERS: 15. retarded, 16. jostle, 17. dangle, 18. shrug, 19. Congenital, 20. insidious, 21. neurological

22. When learning a new language, understanding the use of _____ can be quite challenging.

n. a word or group of words that shows the relationship of a noun or pronoun to another word in a sentence, indicating location, time, direction, or manner (e.g., in, on, at, above, before, after)

23. The rollercoaster ride left her feeling _____ and disoriented.

adj. feeling dizzy or lightheaded; inclined to be easily excited or amused; lacking seriousness or stability

24. It is _____ that human activities are the cause of global warming.

adj. admitting of no doubt; having only one meaning or interpretation and leading to only one conclusion

25. He tried to _____ the memories from his brain.

v. to pull something or someone forcefully with a sudden movement

26. He forcibly _____ the flyer into my bag.

v. to push someone or something in a rough way

27. The emission of hazardous substances has _____ effects on the ecology of a region.

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

28. His _____ comment about the weather caught everyone off guard during the business meeting.

adj. concerning a particular topic; fitting or appropriate in a given situation; (adverb) at the right time; incidentally or by the way

29. The schoolyard _____ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

ANSWERS: 22. prepositions, 23. giddy, 24. unequivocal, 25. yank, 26. shoved, 27.

disastrous, 28. apropos-of-nothing, 29. bully

30. Despite being a _____ in his youth, he grew up to be a respectable man.
- n.* a mischievous or playful person often used affectionately; a rogue or scoundrel
31. We should all _____ in the good things life has to offer.
- v.* to feel or express great joy or happiness; to celebrate or express gratitude for a happy or positive situation or event
32. Superman is a classic _____ known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.
- n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
33. Please _____ the screws on the back panel so we can access the inside of the machine.
- v.* to make something less tight, firm, or fixed; to free from restraint or constraint; to relax
34. The beauty _____ contestants all looked stunning in their gowns.
- n.* a public spectacle or display, often involving colorful costumes, music, and elaborate sets; a contest in which people participate, often involving a parade, talent show, or beauty competition
35. I am studying _____ in medical school because I love working with children.
- n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
36. A business plan is a _____ for your success.
- n.* a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine
37. 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: 30. rascal, 31. rejoice, 32. superhero, 33. loosen, 34. pageant, 35. pediatrics, 36. blueprint, 37. app's

38. Jesus quoted _____ to teach important lessons to his disciples.
- n.* a short allegorical story designed to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson
39. Changing _____ about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.
- n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
40. You need to _____ up before starting to exercise to prevent injury.
- v.* to make or become more flexible, particularly with exercise or stretching; to prepare oneself mentally or physically for a task or activity
41. The CEO's _____ during the crisis helped reassure the investors and employees.
- n.* a state of calmness, stability, and composure, particularly in the face of stress, adversity, or challenging situations
42. Many people with disabilities face _____ daily in the workplace or public spaces.
- n.* discrimination or prejudice against people with disabilities; the belief that non-disabled individuals are superior to those with disabilities
43. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
44. She is studying clinical _____ to become a brain surgeon.
- n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system

ANSWERS: 38. parables, 39. stereotypes, 40. limber, 41. equanimity, 42. ableism, 43. intellect, 44. neurology

45. The patient needs a _____ transplant operation.

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

46. The band played the perfect blend of _____ and jazz at the music festival.

n. a genre of music that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s, characterized by its rhythmic and syncopated style, prominent bass lines, and lyrics often addressing social or political themes

47. He couldn't help but _____ when he heard her absurd excuse.

v. to smile in a way that suggests one is pleased or amused by someone or something, often in a smug or self-satisfied manner

48. The job posting required an _____ person for heavy lifting.

adj. having a healthy and strong body capable of physical activities; not suffering from physical disabilities that limit movement or strength

49. The painting of the saint had a golden _____ surrounding her head, symbolizing her holiness.

n. a circular band of light around the head of a saint or holy person in the art, often representing a spiritual aura; a circular band of light around the sun or moon, especially during an eclipse

ANSWERS: 45. lifesaving, 46. reggae, 47. smirk, 48. able-bodied, 49. halo