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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Rainn Wilson: Ideas worth dating | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

toll *n.* money that you have to pay to use a particular road, bridge, etc.; (verb) to ring slowly
synonym : fee, cost, expense
(1) a **toll** road, (2) **toll** a bell at his death
There is no **toll** car park nearby.

employ *v.* to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of
synonym : hire, engage, use
(1) **employ** job seekers, (2) **employ** a new method
When making arrests, police officers frequently **employ** excessive force.

therapeutic *adj.* relating to or involved in the treatment of illness or injury
synonym : healing, remedial, curative
(1) **therapeutic** massage, (2) **therapeutic** administration
Yoga is known to have **therapeutic** benefits for the mind and body.

defiant *adj.* showing bold resistance or disobedience to authority, rules, or norms
synonym : rebellious, disobedient, insubordinate
(1) a **defiant** attitude, (2) **defiant** eye
The **defiant** student refused to follow the teacher's

instructions and continued to talk during class.

exposed

adj. having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism

synonym: endangered, revealed, disclosed

(1) **exposed** to radiation, (2) an **exposed** rock

Tech companies often employ **exposed** ducts and other materials in their office interiors.

crappy

adj. of poor quality; not satisfactory

synonym: poor, unsatisfactory, inferior

(1) **crappy** service, (2) **crappy** Spanish

The food at the restaurant was **crappy** and overpriced.

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.

lexicographer

n. a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases

synonym: lexicologist, dictionary maker

(1) academic **lexicographer**, (2) famous **lexicographer**

The well-respected **lexicographer** published an innovative new dictionary that redefined the way words are defined

dictionary

n. a reference book containing an alphabetical list of words and their definitions, as well as information about their origins, usage, and pronunciation

synonym: lexicon, glossary, vocabulary

(1) **dictionary** definition, (2) online **dictionary**

I need to purchase a new English **dictionary**.

beau

n. a male partner or companion, especially a boyfriend or suitor; a wealthy or fashionable man who is attractive to

women

synonym: suitor, admirer, boyfriend

(1) charming **beau**, (2) online **beau**

She met her handsome **beau** at a coffee shop in the city.

near-sighted

adj. having difficulty seeing objects at a distance; myopic

synonym: myopic, short-sighted

(1) **near-sighted** glasses, (2) **near-sightedness** correction

His **near-sighted** vision made it difficult for him to drive at night.

brain

n. the organ inside the head that is responsible for one's movement, thought, memory, and feeling

synonym: intellect, mind, encephalon

(1) basic **brain** function, (2) permanent **brain** damage

X-rays revealed a small tumor in his **brain**.

meaningless

adj. having no meaning, direction, or purpose

synonym: pointless, absurd, senseless

(1) a **meaningless** endeavor, (2) do a **meaningless** task

This experiment's results are **meaningless** because the other conditions are not identical.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

shepherd

n. a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area

synonym: herder, flock-keeper, sheepdog

(1) **shepherd** boy, (2) sheep without a **shepherd**

The **shepherd's** dog helped keep the sheep in line and

protect them from predators.

bonobo

n. a species of great ape that is native to the Congo Basin in Africa, known for its intelligence, social behavior, and peaceful temperament

synonym : ape, chimpanzee, monkey

(1) endangered **bonobo**, (2) **bonobo** habitat

The **bonobo** sanctuary is dedicated to protecting and rehabilitating these endangered primates.

chimpanzee

n. a small, very intelligent ape found in west and central Africa with black or brown fur

synonym : ape, chimp, pan troglodytes

(1) **chimpanzee** behavior, (2) **chimpanzee** society

Many zoos have **chimpanzee** exhibits, allowing visitors to observe these intelligent primates up close.

relative

adj. considered and evaluated through comparison with something else

synonym : comparative, proximate, congeneric

(1) a remote **relative**, (2) **relative** factors

Most countries prohibit sexual activity between certain close **relatives**.

frequent

adj. happening constantly

synonym : periodic, recurring, routine

(1) **frequent** absence, (2) **frequent** use

His heartaches are less **frequent** now.

promiscuous

adj. having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person

synonym : indiscriminate, loose, promiscuous

(1) **promiscuous** bathing, (2) **promiscuous** lifestyle

He was known for his **promiscuous** behavior.

conflict

n. a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals

synonym: clash, discord, competition

(1) the **conflict** between good and evil, (2) the longstanding **conflict**

He and I often had **conflicts**, not only in personality but also in ideology.

resolve

v. to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty

synonym: decide, determine, fix

(1) **resolve** a dispute, (2) **resolve** the computer error

This company **resolves** its battery problem completely.

odds

n. the degree or probability that a particular thing will or will not happen

synonym: chances, likelihoods, probabilities

(1) **odds** in favor, (2) **odds** of business

What are the **odds** that he will survive?

verge

n. the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border

synonym: brink, edge, margin

(1) **verge** of bankruptcy, (2) on the **verge** of tears

He stood on the **verge** of a major discovery.

epic

n. a long and eventful or heroic history, story, poem, or film; (adjective) very imposing or impressive

synonym: legendary, mythical, classical

(1) heroic **epic**, (2) **epic** battle

The military **epic** between the two armies was one for the history books.

outcome

n. the result or effect of an action, event, etc.

synonym: result, consequence, effect

(1) improved student **outcomes**, (2) a desirable **outcome**

They awaited news of the **outcome** of the election.

extraordinary

adj. exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual

synonym: exceptional, noteworthy, astonishing

(1) **extraordinary** ability, (2) **extraordinary** weather

He narrated the **extraordinary** story of his adventure.

achieve

v. to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do

synonym: accomplish, attain, reach

(1) **achieve** success, (2) **achieve** milestones

I will work hard to **achieve** my goals and realize my dreams.

Arthurian

adj. relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him

(1) the **Arthurian** cycle, (2) **Arthurian** romances

The **Arthurian** legends of King Arthur and the knights of the Round Table are popular literary motifs.

mathematics

n. the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement

synonym: arithmetic, calculation, calculus

(1) a good grounding in **mathematics**, (2) **mathematics** competition

He has a flair for **mathematics**.

pi

n. a mathematical constant that is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, approximately equal to 3.14159

(1) the mathematical constant **pi**, (2) number **pi**

He can recite **pi** to 1000 digits.

decision

n. the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options

synonym: choice, determination, judgment

(1) **decision** authority, (2) a selfish **decision**

She was struggling to make a **decision** between two job offers.

powerless

adj. lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change

synonym: helpless, impotent, feeble

(1) **powerless** position, (2) **powerless** in the organization

During the hurricane, we felt **powerless** against the winds and rain.

chain

n. a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle

synonym: series, string, link

(1) **chain** reaction, (2) supply **chain**

The **chain** on my bike broke, leaving me stranded.

decide

v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

synonym: choose, determine, settle

(1) **decide** a question, (2) **decide** on a course of action

She couldn't **decide** whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

solver

n. a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem

synonym: thinker

(1) puzzle- **solver**, (2) linear **solver**

The flow **solver** is validated against the experiment.

tackle

v. to try to deal with a complex problem or situation

synonym: deal with, dive into, work on

(1) **tackle** the issue, (2) help **tackle** climate change

The government is determined to **tackle** sharp inflation.

hell

n. the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place

synonym: inferno, agony, misery

(1) run like **hell**, (2) **hell** broke loose

The battlefield became **hell** on earth.

clink

v. to make a sharp, ringing sound by striking one hard object against another; to make a sound like metal hitting glass

synonym: clatter, clang, rattle

(1) **clink** ice cubes, (2) **clink** their medals together in celebration

The bartender used a spoon to **clink** against the glass to signal that it was the last call.

Session 2: Spelling

1. po_____ss in the organization *adj.* lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change
2. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
3. ve__e of bankruptcy *n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
4. chi_____ee society *n.* a small, very intelligent ape found in west and central Africa with black or brown fur
5. pro_____us lifestyle *adj.* having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person
6. permanent br__n damage *n.* the organ inside the head that is responsible for one's movement, thought, memory, and feeling
7. fr_____nt absence *adj.* happening constantly
8. o__s in favor *n.* the degree or probability that a particular thing will or will not happen
9. o__s of business *n.* the degree or probability that a particular thing will or will not happen

ANSWERS: 1. powerless, 2. germ, 3. verge, 4. chimpanzee, 5. promiscuous, 6. brain, 7. frequent, 8. odds, 9. odds

10. a mea_____ss endeavor *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
11. run like h__l *n.* the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place
12. online b__u *n.* a male partner or companion, especially a boyfriend or suitor; a wealthy or fashionable man who is attractive to women
13. ta___e the issue *v.* to try to deal with a complex problem or situation
14. do a mea_____ss task *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
15. su_____ro comics *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
16. ac_____e milestones *v.* to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do
17. help ta___e climate change *v.* to try to deal with a complex problem or situation
18. the_____ic administration *adj.* relating to or involved in the treatment of illness or injury
19. puzzle-so___r *n.* a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem

ANSWERS: 10. meaningless, 11. hell, 12. beau, 13. tackle, 14. meaningless, 15. superhero, 16. achieve, 17. tackle, 18. therapeutic, 19. solver

20. re_____e a dispute *v.* to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty
21. sh_____rd boy *n.* a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area
22. chi_____ee behavior *n.* a small, very intelligent ape found in west and central Africa with black or brown fur
23. a remote re_____ve *adj.* considered and evaluated through comparison with something else
24. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
25. improved student ou_____es *n.* the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
26. on the ve__e of tears *n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
27. mat_____cs competition *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
28. cr___y Spanish *adj.* of poor quality; not satisfactory
29. a desirable ou_____e *n.* the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
30. re_____e the computer error *v.* to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty

ANSWERS: 20. resolve, 21. shepherd, 22. chimpanzee, 23. relative, 24. germ, 25. outcome, 26. verge, 27. mathematics, 28. crappy, 29. outcome, 30. resolve

31. nea_____ted glasses *adj.* having difficulty seeing objects at a distance; myopic
32. fr_____nt use *adj.* happening constantly
33. h__l broke loose *n.* the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place
34. a t__l road *n.* money that you have to pay to use a particular road, bridge, etc.; (verb) to ring slowly
35. po_____ss position *adj.* lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change
36. re_____ve factors *adj.* considered and evaluated through comparison with something else
37. famous lex_____her *n.* a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases
38. cl__k their medals together in celebration *v.* to make a sharp, ringing sound by striking one hard object against another; to make a sound like metal hitting glass
39. a good grounding in mat_____cs *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
40. an ex_____d rock *adj.* having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism
41. pro_____us bathing *adj.* having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person

ANSWERS: 31. near-sighted, 32. frequent, 33. hell, 34. toll, 35. powerless, 36. relative, 37. lexicographer, 38. clink, 39. mathematics, 40. exposed, 41. promiscuous

42. a de____t attitude *adj.* showing bold resistance or disobedience to authority, rules, or norms
43. the Ar_____an cycle *adj.* relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him
44. sheep without a sh_____rd *n.* a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area
45. linear so____r *n.* a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem
46. t__l a bell at his death *n.* money that you have to pay to use a particular road, bridge, etc.; (verb) to ring slowly
47. a selfish de_____on *n.* the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options
48. supply ch____n *n.* a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle
49. ac_____e success *v.* to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do
50. ext_____ary ability *adj.* exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual
51. the co_____ct between good and evil *n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals

ANSWERS: 42. defiant, 43. Arthurian, 44. shepherd, 45. solver, 46. toll, 47. decision, 48. chain, 49. achieve, 50. extraordinary, 51. conflict

52. the longstanding co_____ct *n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals
53. online dic_____ry *n.* a reference book containing an alphabetical list of words and their definitions, as well as information about their origins, usage, and pronunciation
54. ch__n reaction *n.* a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle
55. endangered bo____o *n.* a species of great ape that is native to the Congo Basin in Africa, known for its intelligence, social behavior, and peaceful temperament
56. cl__k ice cubes *v.* to make a sharp, ringing sound by striking one hard object against another; to make a sound like metal hitting glass
57. em____y job seekers *v.* to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of
58. the mathematical constant pi *n.* a mathematical constant that is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, approximately equal to 3.14159
59. e__c battle *n.* a long and eventful or heroic history, story, poem, or film; (adjective) very imposing or impressive
60. de_____t eye *adj.* showing bold resistance or disobedience to authority, rules, or norms

ANSWERS: 52. conflict, 53. dictionary, 54. chain, 55. bonobo, 56. clink, 57. employ, 58. pi, 59. epic, 60. defiant

61. basic br__n function *n.* the organ inside the head that is responsible for one's movement, thought, memory, and feeling
62. ext_____ary weather *adj.* exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual
63. dic_____ry definition *n.* a reference book containing an alphabetical list of words and their definitions, as well as information about their origins, usage, and pronunciation
64. de_____on authority *n.* the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options
65. de___e a question *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
66. su_____ro movies *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
67. number pi *n.* a mathematical constant that is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, approximately equal to 3.14159
68. de___e on a course of action *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
69. academic lex_____her *n.* a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases

ANSWERS: 61. brain, 62. extraordinary, 63. dictionary, 64. decision, 65. decide, 66. superhero, 67. pi, 68. decide, 69. lexicographer

70. cr___y service *adj.* of poor quality; not satisfactory
71. ex_____d to radiation *adj.* having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism
72. charming b__u *n.* a male partner or companion, especially a boyfriend or suitor; a wealthy or fashionable man who is attractive to women
73. the _____ic massage *adj.* relating to or involved in the treatment of illness or injury
74. nea_____tedness correction *adj.* having difficulty seeing objects at a distance; myopic
75. heroic e__c *n.* a long and eventful or heroic history, story, poem, or film; (adjective) very imposing or impressive
76. Ar_____an romances *adj.* relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him
77. bo___o habitat *n.* a species of great ape that is native to the Congo Basin in Africa, known for its intelligence, social behavior, and peaceful temperament
78. em___y a new method *v.* to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of

ANSWERS: 70. crappy, 71. exposed, 72. beau, 73. therapeutic, 74. near-sighted, 75. epic, 76. Arthurian, 77. bonobo, 78. employ

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I need to purchase a new English _____.
n. a reference book containing an alphabetical list of words and their definitions, as well as information about their origins, usage, and pronunciation
2. She met her handsome _____ at a coffee shop in the city.
n. a male partner or companion, especially a boyfriend or suitor; a wealthy or fashionable man who is attractive to women
3. The bartender used a spoon to _____ against the glass to signal that it was the last call.
v. to make a sharp, ringing sound by striking one hard object against another; to make a sound like metal hitting glass
4. His heartaches are less _____ now.
adj. happening constantly
5. The _____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
6. The _____ legends of King Arthur and the knights of the Round Table are popular literary motifs.
adj. relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him
7. The _____ sanctuary is dedicated to protecting and rehabilitating these endangered primates.
n. a species of great ape that is native to the Congo Basin in Africa, known for its intelligence, social behavior, and peaceful temperament

ANSWERS: 1. dictionary, 2. beau, 3. clink, 4. frequent, 5. germ, 6. Arthurian, 7. bonobo

8. He stood on the _____ of a major discovery.
- n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
9. The government is determined to _____ sharp inflation.
- v.* to try to deal with a complex problem or situation
10. The battlefield became _____ on earth.
- n.* the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place
11. The _____ student refused to follow the teacher's instructions and continued to talk during class.
- adj.* showing bold resistance or disobedience to authority, rules, or norms
12. His _____ vision made it difficult for him to drive at night.
- adj.* having difficulty seeing objects at a distance; myopic
13. He has a flair for _____.
- n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
14. X-rays revealed a small tumor in his _____.
- n.* the organ inside the head that is responsible for one's movement, thought, memory, and feeling
15. Tech companies often employ _____ ducts and other materials in their office interiors.
- adj.* having no protection or shield from something, such as bad weather, attack, or criticism

ANSWERS: 8. verge, 9. tackle, 10. hell, 11. defiant, 12. near-sighted, 13. mathematics, 14. brain, 15. exposed

16. There is no _____ car park nearby.

n. money that you have to pay to use a particular road, bridge, etc.; (verb) to ring slowly

17. The flow _____ is validated against the experiment.

n. a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem

18. The military _____ between the two armies was one for the history books.

n. a long and eventful or heroic history, story, poem, or film; (adjective) very imposing or impressive

19. They awaited news of the _____ of the election.

n. the result or effect of an action, event, etc.

20. 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

21. What are the _____ that he will survive?

n. the degree or probability that a particular thing will or will not happen

22. This company _____ its battery problem completely.

v. to find a suitable answer to the problems or difficulty

23. Many zoos have _____ exhibits, allowing visitors to observe these intelligent primates up close.

n. a small, very intelligent ape found in west and central Africa with black or brown fur

ANSWERS: 16. toll, 17. solver, 18. epic, 19. outcome, 20. superhero, 21. odds, 22. resolves, 23. chimpanzee

24. He was known for his _____ behavior.

adj. having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; not selective of a single class or person

25. During the hurricane, we felt _____ against the winds and rain.

adj. lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change

26. The food at the restaurant was _____ and overpriced.

adj. of poor quality; not satisfactory

27. He narrated the _____ story of his adventure.

adj. exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual

28. The well-respected _____ published an innovative new dictionary that redefined the way words are defined

n. a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases

29. Most countries prohibit sexual activity between certain close _____.

adj. considered and evaluated through comparison with something else

30. The _____ on my bike broke, leaving me stranded.

n. a series of connected links or objects; a system or group of interconnected elements; a restraint or shackle

31. She couldn't _____ whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

ANSWERS: 24. promiscuous, 25. powerless, 26. crappy, 27. extraordinary, 28. lexicographer, 29. relatives, 30. chain, 31. decide

32. When making arrests, police officers frequently _____ excessive force.
v. to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of
33. She was struggling to make a _____ between two job offers.
n. the act or process of making up someone's mind about something; a choice or judgment reached after considering options
34. Yoga is known to have _____ benefits for the mind and body.
adj. relating to or involved in the treatment of illness or injury
35. I will work hard to _____ my goals and realize my dreams.
v. to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do
36. He can recite ___ to 1000 digits.
n. a mathematical constant that is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, approximately equal to 3.14159
37. This experiment's results are _____ because the other conditions are not identical.
adj. having no meaning, direction, or purpose
38. He and I often had _____ not only in personality but also in ideology.
n. a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals
39. The _____ dog helped keep the sheep in line and protect them from predators.
n. a person who tends and guards sheep, especially in a rural area

ANSWERS: 32. employ, 33. decision, 34. therapeutic, 35. achieve, 36. pi, 37. meaningless, 38. conflicts, 39. shepherd's

ANSWERS: