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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

greet

v. to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone

synonym: welcome, salute, acknowledge

(1) **greet** a customer, (2) **greet** an idea

He **greeted** his friends with a warm smile and a hug.

sprinkler

n. a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting

synonym: sprayer, irrigation system

(1) road **sprinkler**, (2) **sprinkler** irrigation

The **sprinkler** system kept the lawn green and healthy.

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.

swag

n. a decorative arrangement of fabric or material; stolen goods or loot; a slang term for confident style or coolness

synonym: booty, loot, plunder

(1) stolen **swag**, (2) **swag** outfit

The rapper showed off his new **swag** during his performance on stage.

niece

n. a daughter of one's sibling, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law

(1) a bouncing **niece**, (2) play with her **niece**

My **niece** is a talented artist who has won several awards for her drawings.

blazing

adj. burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive

synonym: burning, fiery, scorching

(1) **blazing** fury, (2) **blazing** fire

The **blazing** sun beat down on the desert.

meltdown

n. a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically

synonym: collapse, disaster, failure

(1) **meltdown** disaster, (2) economic **meltdown**

The nuclear **meltdown** in the country was a disaster with far-reaching consequences.

cutout

n. a shape or outline that has been cut or carved out of a material, such as cardboard or wood; a person or thing that has been removed or eliminated from a group or situation; a hole or gap in a fenced or barricaded area for access or viewing

synonym: silhouette, shape, form

(1) **cutout** from magazines, (2) **cutout** of flowers

The artist used a star **cutout** to make a unique art piece.

snowflake

n. a small, thin, delicate piece of snow; a person, especially a young person, who is perceived as overly sensitive, easily offended, or with an inflated sense of

entitlement

synonym : flake, crystal, ice pellet

(1) delicate **snowflake**, (2) **snowflake** pattern

The Christmas tree was beautifully decorated with delicate **snowflake** ornaments.

glitter

v. to shine with bright, sparkling light; to reflect light in a way that sparkles and shines

synonym : sparkle, glisten, shine

(1) **glitter** against her skin, (2) **glitter** in her eyes

Her dress **glittered** in the sunlight as she walked down the street.

icicle

n. a hanging, tapering formation of ice that is formed by the freezing of dripping water, often seen hanging from the eaves of buildings or cliffs, especially in cold weather conditions

synonym : spike

(1) melting **icicle**, (2) sharp **icicles**

The **icicles** hanging from the roof were beautiful to look at.

vantage

n. a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage

synonym : advantage, benefit, edge

(1) strategic **vantage**, (2) gain a **vantage**

From our **vantage** point, we could see the whole city skyline.

rivet

n. a short metal pin or bolt with a flat head used for joining things together

synonym : bolt, fastener, clinch

(1) **rivet** gun, (2) button-head **rivet**

The **rivets** on the airplane's wings were inspected to ensure they were secure.

unfurl

v. to spread out or open something, such as a flag, sail, or wings, by shaking, shaking out, or extending it; to reveal

or become revealed or disclosed

synonym: unfold, expand, spread out

(1) **unfurl** my banner, (2) **unfurl** the sails

The flag slowly **unfurled** in the wind atop the flagpole.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

decadence

n. a state of moral or cultural decline or decay; a period of decline or decay; a period of great moral or cultural decline

synonym: degeneration, corruption, depravity

(1) **decadence** of society, (2) moral **decadence**

Society was in a state of **decadence** and moral decay.

mesmerize

v. to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of

synonym: captivate, trance, enchant

(1) **mesmerize** a subject, (2) **mesmerize** with magic

The magician's performance **mesmerized** the audience.

haggard

adj. looking exhausted, worn out, or gaunt, as from fatigue, illness, or overwork; having a worn or wild appearance, as if from lack of food or rest

synonym: gaunt, emaciated, exhausted

(1) **haggard** complexion, (2) **haggard** appearance

The prisoners looked **haggard** and emaciated due to the inhumane conditions in the jail.

distracted

adj. having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried

synonym: preoccupied, inattentive, absent-minded

(1) get **distracted** by an urgent matter, (2) **distracted** by a conversation

I was so **distracted** by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

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.

proponent

n. a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause

synonym : advocate, devotee, follower

(1) enthusiastic **proponent**, (2) **proponent** of world peace

Einstein was a **proponent** of the theory of relativity.

disbeliever

n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

synonym : non-believer, skeptic, doubter

(1) persuade a **disbeliever**, (2) stubborn **disbeliever**

Despite the evidence, she remained a **disbeliever** in the theory of evolution.

individuality

n. the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind

synonym : personality, distinctiveness, eccentricity

(1) your **individuality**, (2) emphasize **individuality**

He has a strong sense of **individuality**.

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.

harmonious

adj. characterized by harmony or agreement; free from conflict or disagreement; pleasing or soothing in sound or tone

synonym: concordant, consistent, melodious

(1) **harmonious** relationship, (2) **harmonious** blend
The painting's **harmonious** composition and balance of colors made it a masterpiece.

utopia

n. an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity

synonym: paradise, heaven, Arcadia

(1) perfect **utopia**, (2) a **utopia** for an engineer
The concept of **utopia** is often viewed as an impossible or unrealistic goal, as it goes beyond what is currently possible.

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church
Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

hijab

n. a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck

synonym: veil, headscarf, cover

(1) woman's **hijab**, (2) **hijab** garment
Many Muslim women wear a **hijab** as a symbol of their religious beliefs.

devout

adj. deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety

synonym : pious, religious, faithful

(1) **devout** Buddhist, (2) act in a **devout** manner

The **devout** monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.

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.

lull

n. a period of calm or quiet; a temporary cessation of activity, noise, or music; a soothing sound or movement that induces sleep or relaxation

synonym : calm, stillness, tranquility

(1) **lull** in the battle, (2) the **lull** before the storm

The waves crashing against the shore had a soothing **lull** on the listeners.

bravado

n. a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere

synonym : boldness, swagger, arrogance

(1) lose my **bravado**, (2) heroic **bravado**

The show of **bravado** by the bully only served to mask his insecurity and fear.

macho

adj. characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive

synonym : masculine, aggressive, virile

(1) **macho** culture, (2) maintain a **macho** image

His **macho** posturing was just a cover for his insecurities and lack of confidence.

smug

adj. excessively pleased with oneself; self-righteously complacent

synonym: self-satisfied, complacent, self-assured

(1) in a **smug** manner, (2) **smug** attitude

She felt **smug** about her performance in the competition.

lifeline

n. a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help

synonym: savior, support, safety net

(1) **lifeline** support, (2) emotional **lifeline**

My best friend has been my **lifeline** throughout all of my hardships.

trump

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

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

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

homophobia

n. a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity

synonym: prejudice, discrimination, bigotry

(1) **homophobia** awareness, (2) **homophobia** in sports

The politician's remarks about same-sex marriage revealed his deep-seated **homophobia**.

xenophobia

n. extreme fear or hatred of people from other countries

synonym: fear, hatred, aversion

(1) suffer from **xenophobia**, (2) linguistic **xenophobia**

The **xenophobia** in society makes it hard for immigrants to assimilate and integrate.

apathy

n. lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
synonym: affectlessness, dispassion, indifference

(1) **apathy** in the election, (2) political **apathy**

The global economic crisis has led to pervasive **apathy** and powerlessness.

cowardice

n. the state or quality of lacking the courage or bravery to face danger, pain, or difficulty; the act of showing fear or running away from danger or difficulty

synonym: fearfulness, dastardliness, timidity

(1) **cowardice** in battle, (2) politics of **cowardice**

People who show **cowardice** in the face of danger are not always weak but may lack experience.

fluff

n. soft, light particles or fibers that are often shed from fabrics or stuffing materials; excessively or trivially sentimental language or ideas that lack substance or depth; (verb) to make something soft, light, or loose by shaking or stirring it up; to make a mistake or blunder, especially while performing or speaking in public

synonym: down, fuzz, lint

(1) **fluff** ball, (2) **fluff** formation

The teddy bear's fur was so soft and full of **fluff**.

grit

n. very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles

synonym: determination, fortitude, courage

(1) **grit** determination, (2) **grit** washer

She has a lot of **grit** and determination to succeed.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

swirl

v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern

synonym : spin, whirl, turn

(1) **swirl** the wine, (2) **swirl** up dirt and dust

The chef expertly **swirled** the sauce onto the plate.

frazzle

v. to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (noun) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork

synonym : exhaust, wear out, (noun) fatigue

(1) **frazzle** my nerves, (2) **frazzle-free** hair

The long hours of studying for the exam **frazzled** my brain.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym : detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

tirade

n. a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation

synonym : rant, diatribe, harangue

(1) **tirade** against him, (2) launch a **tirade**

The politician went on a **tirade** about the opposition party's policies.

fury

n. intense and often violent anger

synonym : rage, wrath, ire

(1) market **fury**, (2) **fury** of the storm

The crowd's **fury** was palpable as they shouted and protested against the government's decision.

apologetic

adj. feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something

synonym : sorry, regretful, remorseful

(1) **apologetic** tone, (2) **apologetic** letter

He was **apologetic** for being late to the meeting.

disarm

v. to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary

synonym: demilitarize, neutralize

(1) **disarm** opponents, (2) **disarm** a bomb

The police were able to **disarm** the suspect without any violence.

boulder

n. a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion

synonym: rock, stone, clump

(1) **boulder** field, (2) lava **boulder**

The hikers had to climb over a **boulder** that was blocking their path.

Session 2: Spelling

1. gl____r against her skin
v. to shine with bright, sparkling light; to reflect light in a way that sparkles and shines
2. l__l in the battle
n. a period of calm or quiet; a temporary cessation of activity, noise, or music; a soothing sound or movement that induces sleep or relaxation
3. launch a ti____e
n. a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation
4. sw__l up dirt and dust
v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern
5. receive an une____al answer
adj. admitting of no doubt; having only one meaning or interpretation and leading to only one conclusion
6. di____m a bomb
v. to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
7. 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
8. fr____e my nerves
v. to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (noun) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork

ANSWERS: 1. glitter, 2. lull, 3. tirade, 4. swirl, 5. unequivocal, 6. disarm, 7. stereotype, 8. frazzle

9. gl____r in her eyes *v.* to shine with bright, sparkling light; to reflect light in a way that sparkles and shines
10. gr__t an idea *v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
11. play with her ni__e *n.* a daughter of one's sibling, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law
12. suffer from xen____ia *n.* extreme fear or hatred of people from other countries
13. enthusiastic pr____nt *n.* a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause
14. di___m opponents *v.* to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
15. sp____er irrigation *n.* a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting
16. stolen s__g *n.* a decorative arrangement of fabric or material; stolen goods or loot; a slang term for confident style or coolness
17. fl__f formation *n.* soft, light particles or fibers that are often shed from fabrics or stuffing materials; excessively or trivially sentimental language or ideas that lack substance or depth; (verb) to make something soft, light, or loose by shaking or stirring it up; to make a mistake or blunder, especially while performing or speaking in public

ANSWERS: 9. glitter, 10. greet, 11. niece, 12. xenophobia, 13. proponent, 14. disarm, 15. sprinkler, 16. swag, 17. fluff

18. bo____r field *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
19. economic me____wn *n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
20. hi__b garment *n.* a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck
21. ca____ic in his tastes *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
22. g__t determination *n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
23. melting ic____e *n.* a hanging, tapering formation of ice that is formed by the freezing of dripping water, often seen hanging from the eaves of buildings or cliffs, especially in cold weather conditions
24. ma__o culture *adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
25. sn____ke pattern *n.* a small, thin, delicate piece of snow; a person, especially a young person, who is perceived as overly sensitive, easily offended, or with an inflated sense of entitlement

ANSWERS: 18. boulder, 19. meltdown, 20. hijab, 21. Catholic, 22. grit, 23. icicle, 24. macho, 25. snowflake

26. gain a va____e *n.* a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage
27. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
28. heroic br____o *n.* a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere
29. a bouncing ni__e *n.* a daughter of one's sibling, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law
30. the l__l before the storm *n.* a period of calm or quiet; a temporary cessation of activity, noise, or music; a soothing sound or movement that induces sleep or relaxation
31. f__y of the storm *n.* intense and often violent anger
32. fr____e-free hair *v.* to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (noun) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork
33. s__g outfit *n.* a decorative arrangement of fabric or material; stolen goods or loot; a slang term for confident style or coolness
34. cu__t from magazines *n.* a shape or outline that has been cut or carved out of a material, such as cardboard or wood; a person or thing that has been removed or eliminated from a group or situation; a hole or gap in a fenced or barricaded area for access or viewing

ANSWERS: 26. vantage, 27. sham, 28. bravado, 29. niece, 30. lull, 31. fury, 32. frazzle, 33. swag, 34. cutout

35. sharp ic___es *n.* a hanging, tapering formation of ice that is formed by the freezing of dripping water, often seen hanging from the eaves of buildings or cliffs, especially in cold weather conditions
36. li_____ne support *n.* a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help
37. de_____ce of society *n.* a state of moral or cultural decline or decay; a period of decline or decay; a period of great moral or cultural decline
38. market f__y *n.* intense and often violent anger
39. con_____ory evidence *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
40. me_____ze with magic *v.* to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
41. ha_____d complexion *adj.* looking exhausted, worn out, or gaunt, as from fatigue, illness, or overwork; having a worn or wild appearance, as if from lack of food or rest
42. hom_____ia in sports *n.* a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity

ANSWERS: 35. icicle, 36. lifeline, 37. decadence, 38. fury, 39. contradictory, 40. mesmerize, 41. haggard, 42. homophobia

43. bl____g fire *adj.* burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive
44. har_____us relationship *adj.* characterized by harmony or agreement; free from conflict or disagreement; pleasing or soothing in sound or tone
45. in a s__g manner *adj.* excessively pleased with oneself; self-righteously complacent
46. apo_____ic letter *adj.* feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something
47. woman's hi__b *n.* a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck
48. choose tr__p *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
49. moral de_____ce *n.* a state of moral or cultural decline or decay; a period of decline or decay; a period of great moral or cultural decline
50. stubborn dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
51. s__g attitude *adj.* excessively pleased with oneself; self-righteously complacent
52. delicate sn_____ke *n.* a small, thin, delicate piece of snow; a person, especially a young person, who is perceived as overly sensitive, easily offended, or with an inflated sense of entitlement

ANSWERS: 43. blazing, 44. harmonious, 45. smug, 46. apologetic, 47. hijab, 48. trump, 49. decadence, 50. disbeliever, 51. smug, 52. snowflake

53. sw__l the wine *v.* to move in a circular or spiral pattern
54. tr__p card *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
55. apparently con_____ory *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
56. ex____e in popularity *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
57. maintain a ma__o image *adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
58. co_____ce in battle *n.* the state or quality of lacking the courage or bravery to face danger, pain, or difficulty; the act of showing fear or running away from danger or difficulty
59. ap__y in the election *n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
60. the Ca_____ic Church *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
61. your ind_____ity *n.* the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind
62. cu__t of flowers *n.* a shape or outline that has been cut or carved out of a material, such as cardboard or wood; a person or thing that has been removed or eliminated from a group or situation; a hole or gap in a fenced or barricaded area for access or viewing

ANSWERS: 53. swirl, 54. trump, 55. contradictory, 56. explode, 57. macho, 58. cowardice, 59. apathy, 60. Catholic, 61. individuality, 62. cutout

63. em____y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
64. perfect ut____a *n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
65. un____l my banner *v.* to spread out or open something, such as a flag, sail, or wings, by shaking, shaking out, or extending it; to reveal or become revealed or disclosed
66. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
67. une_____al evidence *adj.* admitting of no doubt; having only one meaning or interpretation and leading to only one conclusion
68. ri__t gun *n.* a short metal pin or bolt with a flat head used for joining things together
69. un____l the sails *v.* to spread out or open something, such as a flag, sail, or wings, by shaking, shaking out, or extending it; to reveal or become revealed or disclosed
70. emphasize ind_____ity *n.* the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind
71. ha____d appearance *adj.* looking exhausted, worn out, or gaunt, as from fatigue, illness, or overwork; having a worn or wild appearance, as if from lack of food or rest

ANSWERS: 63. empathy, 64. utopia, 65. unfurl, 66. opportune, 67. unequivocal, 68. rivet, 69. unfurl, 70. individuality, 71. haggard

72. lose my br____o *n.* a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere
73. persuade a dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
74. a ut___a for an engineer *n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
75. 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
76. har_____us blend *adj.* characterized by harmony or agreement; free from conflict or disagreement; pleasing or soothing in sound or tone
77. ex_____e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
78. ti___e against him *n.* a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation
79. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
80. button-head ri__t *n.* a short metal pin or bolt with a flat head used for joining things together
81. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 72. bravado, 73. disbeliever, 74. utopia, 75. stereotype, 76. harmonious, 77. explode, 78. tirade, 79. excite, 80. rivet, 81. excite

82. full of em____y *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
83. get dis_____ed by an urgent matter *adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
84. bl_____g fury *adj.* burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive
85. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
86. dis_____ed by a conversation *adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
87. road sp_____er *n.* a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting
88. politics of co_____ce *n.* the state or quality of lacking the courage or bravery to face danger, pain, or difficulty; the act of showing fear or running away from danger or difficulty
89. de___t Buddhist *adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
90. lava bo_____r *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion

ANSWERS: 82. empathy, 83. distracted, 84. blazing, 85. sham, 86. distracted, 87. sprinkler, 88. cowardice, 89. devout, 90. boulder

91. strategic va_____e
n. a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage
92. an op_____ne remark
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
93. hom_____ia awareness
n. a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity
94. act in a de_____t manner
adj. deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
95. pr_____nt of world peace
n. a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause
96. gr__t a customer
v. to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
97. me_____ze a subject
v. to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
98. me_____wn disaster
n. a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
99. fl__f ball
n. soft, light particles or fibers that are often shed from fabrics or stuffing materials; excessively or trivially sentimental language or ideas that lack substance or depth; (verb) to make something soft, light, or loose by shaking or stirring it up; to make a mistake or blunder, especially while performing or speaking in public

ANSWERS: 91. vantage, 92. opportune, 93. homophobia, 94. devout, 95. proponent, 96. greet, 97. mesmerize, 98. meltdown, 99. fluff

100. emotional li____ne *n.* a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help
101. linguistic xen____ia *n.* extreme fear or hatred of people from other countries
102. apo____ic tone *adj.* feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something
103. political ap____y *n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
104. g__t washer *n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles

ANSWERS: 100. lifeline, 101. xenophobia, 102. apologetic, 103. apathy, 104. grit

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ on the airplane's wings were inspected to ensure they were secure.
n. a short metal pin or bolt with a flat head used for joining things together
2. Einstein was a _____ of the theory of relativity.
n. a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause
3. Many Muslim women wear a _____ as a symbol of their religious beliefs.
n. a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck
4. The politician went on a _____ about the opposition party's policies.
n. a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation
5. My _____ is a talented artist who has won several awards for her drawings.
n. a daughter of one's sibling, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law
6. The teddy bear's fur was so soft and full of _____.
n. soft, light particles or fibers that are often shed from fabrics or stuffing materials; excessively or trivially sentimental language or ideas that lack substance or depth; (verb) to make something soft, light, or loose by shaking or stirring it up; to make a mistake or blunder, especially while performing or speaking in public
7. Despite the evidence, she remained a _____ in the theory of evolution.
n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
8. The hikers had to climb over a _____ that was blocking their path.
n. a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion

ANSWERS: 1. rivets, 2. proponent, 3. hijab, 4. tirade, 5. niece, 6. fluff, 7. disbeliever, 8. boulder

9. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.
adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
10. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
11. Her dress _____ in the sunlight as she walked down the street.
v. to shine with bright, sparkling light; to reflect light in a way that sparkles and shines
12. His statements were _____ leaving the audience confused.
adj. containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
13. The data he prepared was completely _____.
n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
14. He _____ his friends with a warm smile and a hug.
v. to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
15. I was so _____ by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.
adj. having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
16. The politician's remarks about same-sex marriage revealed his deep-seated _____.
n. a strong fear, aversion, or hostility towards people who are homosexual or towards homosexuality itself; discrimination or prejudice against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity

ANSWERS: 9. catholic, 10. Empathy, 11. glittered, 12. contradictory, 13. sham, 14. greeted, 15. distracted, 16. homophobia

17. The show of _____ by the bully only served to mask his insecurity and fear.
- n.* a bold, swaggering display of courage or confidence that is intended to impress or intimidate people, often in a way that is exaggerated or insincere
18. 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
19. My best friend has been my _____ throughout all of my hardships.
- n.* a line, rope, or cable used to support or rescue a person in danger or distress; vital or necessary support, connection, or source of help
20. From our _____ point, we could see the whole city skyline.
- n.* a position or place that provides a commanding or advantageous view or perspective; a favorable position or advantage
21. The _____ sun beat down on the desert.
- adj.* burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive
22. She has a lot of _____ and determination to succeed.
- n.* very small pieces of stone or sand; mental toughness and determination or perseverance in the face of challenges or obstacles
23. The _____ monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.
- adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
24. People who show _____ in the face of danger are not always weak but may lack experience.
- n.* the state or quality of lacking the courage or bravery to face danger, pain, or difficulty; the act of showing fear or running away from danger or difficulty

ANSWERS: 17. bravado, 18. stereotypes, 19. lifeline, 20. vantage, 21. blazing, 22. grit, 23. devout, 24. cowardice

25. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

26. The artist used a star _____ to make a unique art piece.

n. a shape or outline that has been cut or carved out of a material, such as cardboard or wood; a person or thing that has been removed or eliminated from a group or situation; a hole or gap in a fenced or barricaded area for access or viewing

27. The waves crashing against the shore had a soothing _____ on the listeners.

n. a period of calm or quiet; a temporary cessation of activity, noise, or music; a soothing sound or movement that induces sleep or relaxation

28. The chef expertly _____ the sauce onto the plate.

v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern

29. The _____ system kept the lawn green and healthy.

n. a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting

30. The news of her promotion _____ her.

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

31. The crowd's _____ was palpable as they shouted and protested against the government's decision.

n. intense and often violent anger

32. He was _____ for being late to the meeting.

adj. feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something

ANSWERS: 25. opportune, 26. cutout, 27. lull, 28. swirled, 29. sprinkler, 30. excited, 31. fury, 32. apologetic

33. The police were able to _____ the suspect without any violence.
- v.* to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
34. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.
- v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
35. The long hours of studying for the exam _____ my brain.
- v.* to exhaust or wear out someone or something to the point of being completely worn or frayed; (noun) a state of extreme exhaustion or depletion, often caused by stress or overwork
36. Society was in a state of _____ and moral decay.
- n.* a state of moral or cultural decline or decay; a period of decline or decay; a period of great moral or cultural decline
37. The _____ in society makes it hard for immigrants to assimilate and integrate.
- n.* extreme fear or hatred of people from other countries
38. The prisoners looked _____ and emaciated due to the inhumane conditions in the jail.
- adj.* looking exhausted, worn out, or gaunt, as from fatigue, illness, or overwork; having a worn or wild appearance, as if from lack of food or rest
39. The rapper showed off his new _____ during his performance on stage.
- n.* a decorative arrangement of fabric or material; stolen goods or loot; a slang term for confident style or coolness

ANSWERS: 33. disarm, 34. exploded, 35. frazzled, 36. decadence, 37. xenophobia, 38. haggard, 39. swag

40. The flag slowly _____ in the wind atop the flagpole.
- v.* to spread out or open something, such as a flag, sail, or wings, by shaking, shaking out, or extending it; to reveal or become revealed or disclosed
41. The _____ suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.
- n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
42. The nuclear _____ in the country was a disaster with far-reaching consequences.
- n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
43. The magician's performance _____ the audience.
- v.* to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
44. The _____ hanging from the roof were beautiful to look at.
- n.* a hanging, tapering formation of ice that is formed by the freezing of dripping water, often seen hanging from the eaves of buildings or cliffs, especially in cold weather conditions
45. The Christmas tree was beautifully decorated with delicate _____ ornaments.
- n.* a small, thin, delicate piece of snow; a person, especially a young person, who is perceived as overly sensitive, easily offended, or with an inflated sense of entitlement
46. She felt _____ about her performance in the competition.
- adj.* excessively pleased with oneself; self-righteously complacent

ANSWERS: 40. unfurled, 41. trump, 42. meltdown, 43. mesmerized, 44. icicles, 45. snowflake, 46. smug

47. The concept of _____ is often viewed as an impossible or unrealistic goal, as it goes beyond what is currently possible.
- n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
48. His _____ posturing was just a cover for his insecurities and lack of confidence.
- adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
49. He has a strong sense of _____.
- n.* the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind
50. 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
51. The global economic crisis has led to pervasive _____ and powerlessness.
- n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
52. The painting's _____ composition and balance of colors made it a masterpiece.
- adj.* characterized by harmony or agreement; free from conflict or disagreement; pleasing or soothing in sound or tone

ANSWERS: 47. utopia, 48. macho, 49. individuality, 50. unequivocal, 51. apathy, 52. harmonious