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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Adam Spencer: Why I fell in love with monster prime numbers | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

announcer

n. a person who introduces and speaks on television or radio programs or provides commentary or information at a live event

synonym: emcee, broadcaster, commentator

(1) public address **announcer**, (2) radio **announcer**

The sports **announcer** provided live commentary during the game.

prodigious

adj. remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent

synonym: extraordinary, remarkable, exceptional

(1) a **prodigious** storm, (2) **prodigious** talent

The **prodigious** artist's work was featured in a major museum exhibition.

embarrass

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

impractical

adj. not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome

synonym : impracticable, unrealizable, unfeasible

(1) **impractical** idea, (2) **impractical** solution

It is **impractical** to expect everyone to work for free.

aphorism

n. a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood

synonym : maxim, adage, proverb

(1) **aphorism** writer, (2) famous **aphorism**

"A penny saved is a penny earned" is a well-known **aphorism** about the value of frugality.

peg

n. a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object

synonym : pin, dowel, spike

(1) **peg** in the ground, (2) **peg** an exchange rate

The sheep were tagged with numbered plastic **pegs** in their ears.

politely

adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others

synonym : courteously, respectfully, graciously

(1) **politely** ask, (2) nodded **politely**

She **politely** declined the invitation to the party, saying she had other plans.

hoop

n. a circular band or ring, often made of metal or wood, used as a toy, a part of the equipment, or a decoration

synonym : ring, circle, band

(1) **hoop** earring, (2) basketball **hoop**

The circus clown jumped through a fiery **hoop** as the audience gasped in amazement.

junction

n. a critical point or moment in time, often indicating a key decision or turning point; a place or point of connection, such as a joint or seam

synonym: turning point, crossroads, crisis

(1) the **junction** of Eastern and Western cultures,

(2) decisive **junction**

At this **junction** in the project, we must reassess our plans and make some changes.

nanosecond

n. one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second

(1) **nanosecond** response, (2) **nanosecond** laser pulse

The processor performs calculations on the **nanosecond** timescale.

numb

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

synonym: dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

symphony

n. a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements

synonym: orchestra, harmony, concert

(1) a **symphony** orchestra, (2) a beautiful **symphony**

The frequent performances of the **symphony** prove its popularity.

cram

v. to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space

synonym: stuff, pack, jam

(1) **cram** more circuits into chips, (2) **cram** five people into a car

She had to **cram** for the final exam and stayed up all night

studying.

suffice

v. to be enough or sufficient; to meet the needs or requirements of something or someone; to satisfy or fulfill a purpose

synonym: satisfy, meet, be enough

(1) **suffice** to live, (2) **suffice** as evidence

Would one cup of flour **suffice** for this recipe?

primacy

n. the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority

synonym: supremacy, dominance, leadership

(1) military **primacy**, (2) **primacy** of economics

New competitors threatened the company's **primacy** in the market.

quill

n. a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing

synonym: feather, plume, spike

(1) **quill-like** hairs, (2) porcupine **quill**

The historian carefully examined the **quill** pen to determine its age and origin.

brute

n. a violent, wild, or feral animal; a person who is cruel, uncivilized, or lacking in intelligence or sensitivity; a physical force or power

synonym: beast, savage, animal

(1) **brute** beasts, (2) **brute** force

The **brute** behavior of the football players caused the game to be canceled.

chalk

n. a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards

synonym: white rock, limestone, gypsum

(1) a piece of **chalk**, (2) **chalk** on a blackboard
The kids used colored **chalk** to create a mural on the pavement.

frisson

n. a sudden intense feeling or thrill, often accompanied by shivers or goosebumps, typically brought on by excitement, anticipation, or a strong emotional response
synonym: shiver, thrill, goosebumps

(1) sense of **frisson**, (2) spine-tingling **frisson**
The scary movie gave me a **frisson** of fear, sending shivers down my spine.

berserk

adj. in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner
synonym: crazed, frenzied, wild

(1) run **berserk**, (2) a **berserk** rage
The fans went **berserk** when their team scored the winning goal in the game's final seconds.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned
synonym: later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**
We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

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.

dwarf

n. a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star
synonym: midget, lilliputian, pygmy

(1) a potted **dwarf** tree, (2) a wise old **dwarf**

The **dwarf** planet Pluto is much smaller than earth and orbits the sun.

snatch

v. to take or grab something suddenly or quickly

synonym : grab, seize, capture

(1) **snatch** a hasty meal, (2) **snatch** up her purse

He **snatches** victory from the jaws of defeat in the game's final seconds.

serendipity

n. the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery

synonym : luck, chance, fortune

(1) **serendipity** moment, (2) **serendipity** discovery

The discovery of penicillin was a result of **serendipity**.

tweet

n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym : peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**

We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

shiver

v. to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly

synonym : quiver, tremble, shake

(1) **shiver** with delight, (2) **shiver** in fear

I **shiver** in the cold winter air as I wait for the train.

subtract

v. to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole

synonym : deduct, take away, remove

(1) **subtract** numbers, (2) **subtract** one from the total

I need to **subtract** the cost of my expenses from my income to see how much money I have left.

geeky

adj. characterized by an intense interest or expertise in a particular subject or hobby, sometimes to the detriment

of social skills or other interests

synonym : nerdy, dorky

(1) **geeky** gadgets, (2) **geeky** interests

He had a **geeky** sense of humor and loved to make puns.

writ

n. a written legal order or command

synonym : legal document, order, legal process

(1) a **writ** of summons, (2) issue a **writ**

He was served with a **writ** of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.

abbreviate

v. to shorten a word or phrase by leaving out some of the letters or syllables; to make something shorter or more concise

synonym : shorten, truncate, condense

(1) **abbreviate** words, (2) **abbreviate** a long document

I will **abbreviate** the title of the article to save space.

phenomenal

adj. extremely good or impressive; outstanding

synonym : extraordinary, remarkable, impressive

(1) **phenomenal** success, (2) **phenomenal** growth

The athlete's **phenomenal** performance broke all previous records.

grunt

v. to make a short, low noise in the throat

synonym : groan, mutter, murmur

(1) **grunt** a laugh, (2) **grunt** in discontent

She **grunted** and stopped drinking coffee.

unravel

v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it

synonym : separate, unknot, ravel

(1) **unravel** a knit, (2) **unravel** a plot

Detectives are still attempting to **unravel** the mystery of his death.

astronomical

adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

synonym : huge, vast, enormous

(1) **astronomical** observation, (2) **astronomical** numbers
The cost of the new equipment was **astronomical** and beyond the company's budget.

conquer

v. to bring under control by force or authority

synonym : defeat, overpower, subdue

(1) **conquer** fatal disease, (2) **conquer** the world
You must **conquer** your anxiety about driving.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict
Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

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.

grandmaster

n. a title given to a chess player who has achieved the highest level of skill and proficiency in the game; a person who is an expert or master in a particular field or activity

synonym : champion, expert, master

(1) **grandmaster** level, (2) martial arts **grandmaster**
The chess **grandmaster** easily defeated all of his opponents in the tournament.

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.

lowercase

n. a letter or typeface that is small in size and typically sits below the baseline of a line of text; opposite of uppercase

synonym : small letters, minuscule

(1) **lowercase** alphabet, (2) change to **lowercase**

Please type your password in all **lowercase** letters.

swan

n. a large waterbird with a long neck, bill, and webbed feet; known for their elegant and graceful appearance

synonym : cygnet, waterfowl, bird

(1) **swan** song, (2) black **swan**

The **swan's** feathers glistened in the sunlight.

boson

n. a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave

synonym : photon, gluon, particle

(1) weak **boson**, (2) Higgs **boson**

The search for new **boson** particles is one of the most exciting areas of modern physics.

bequeath

v. to leave or pass on property, assets, or personal belongings to someone in a will or testament; to hand down or transmit knowledge, traditions, and skills to future generations

synonym : leave, pass on, transmit

(1) **bequeath** property, (2) **bequeath** a legacy

Before his passing, my grandfather had **bequeathed** his antique pocket watch to me in his will.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. a w__t of summons | <i>n.</i> a written legal order or command |
| 2. em_____ss my project | <i>v.</i> to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed |
| 3. ap_____sm writer | <i>n.</i> a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood |
| 4. gr__t a laugh | <i>v.</i> to make a short, low noise in the throat |
| 5. sn___h a hasty meal | <i>v.</i> to take or grab something suddenly or quickly |
| 6. cannot log in to the a_p | <i>n.</i> (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC |
| 7. the ju_____re of Eastern and Western cultures | <i>n.</i> a critical point or moment in time, often indicating a key decision or turning point; a place or point of connection, such as a joint or seam |
| 8. be_____th property | <i>v.</i> to leave or pass on property, assets, or personal belongings to someone in a will or testament; to hand down or transmit knowledge, traditions, and skills to future generations |
| 9. ex_____e in popularity | <i>v.</i> to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open |

ANSWERS: 1. writ, 2. embarrass, 3. aphorism, 4. grunt, 5. snatch, 6. app, 7. juncture, 8. bequeath, 9. explode

10. a pro_____us storm *adj.* remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent
11. a beautiful sy_____ny *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
12. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
13. ge__y gadgets *adj.* characterized by an intense interest or expertise in a particular subject or hobby, sometimes to the detriment of social skills or other interests
14. a chick's tw__t *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
15. sense of fr_____n *n.* a sudden intense feeling or thrill, often accompanied by shivers or goosebumps, typically brought on by excitement, anticipation, or a strong emotional response
16. qu__l-like hairs *n.* a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing
17. abb_____te a long document *v.* to shorten a word or phrase by leaving out some of the letters or syllables; to make something shorter or more concise

ANSWERS: 10. prodigious, 11. symphony, 12. smartphone, 13. geeky, 14. tweet, 15. frisson, 16. quill, 17. abbreviate

18. pro_____us talent *adj.* remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent
19. gra_____er level *n.* a title given to a chess player who has achieved the highest level of skill and proficiency in the game; a person who is an expert or master in a particular field or activity
20. nodded po_____ly *adv.* in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
21. su_____ct one from the total *v.* to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole
22. nan_____nd laser pulse *n.* one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second
23. ast_____cal numbers *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
24. su_____ct numbers *v.* to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole
25. co_____r fatal disease *v.* to bring under control by force or authority
26. sh____r with delight *v.* to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly
27. basketball h__p *n.* a circular band or ring, often made of metal or wood, used as a toy, a part of the equipment, or a decoration

ANSWERS: 18. prodigious, 19. grandmaster, 20. politely, 21. subtract, 22. nanosecond, 23. astronomical, 24. subtract, 25. conquer, 26. shiver, 27. hoop

28. un____l a plot *v.* undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
29. s__n song *n.* a large waterbird with a long neck, bill, and webbed feet; known for their elegant and graceful appearance
30. p_g in the ground *n.* a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object
31. change to lo_____se *n.* a letter or typeface that is small in size and typically sits below the baseline of a line of text; opposite of uppercase
32. phe_____al growth *adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
33. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
34. sh___r in fear *v.* to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly
35. br__e force *n.* a violent, wild, or feral animal; a person who is cruel, uncivilized, or lacking in intelligence or sensitivity; a physical force or power
36. ch__k on a blackboard *n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards

ANSWERS: 28. unravel, 29. swan, 30. peg, 31. lowercase, 32. phenomenal, 33. excite, 34. shiver, 35. brute, 36. chalk

37. ge__y interests *adj.* characterized by an intense interest or expertise in a particular subject or hobby, sometimes to the detriment of social skills or other interests
38. su____e as evidence *v.* to be enough or sufficient; to meet the needs or requirements of something or someone; to satisfy or fulfill a purpose
39. co____r the world *v.* to bring under control by force or authority
40. a n__b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
41. ser______ty discovery *n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
42. porcupine qu__l *n.* a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing
43. su____e to live *v.* to be enough or sufficient; to meet the needs or requirements of something or someone; to satisfy or fulfill a purpose
44. issue a w__t *n.* a written legal order or command
45. abb____te words *v.* to shorten a word or phrase by leaving out some of the letters or syllables; to make something shorter or more concise

ANSWERS: 37. geeky, 38. suffice, 39. conquer, 40. numb, 41. serendipity, 42. quill, 43. suffice, 44. writ, 45. abbreviate

46. ast_____cal observation *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
47. lo_____se alphabet *n.* a letter or typeface that is small in size and typically sits below the baseline of a line of text; opposite of uppercase
48. black s__n *n.* a large waterbird with a long neck, bill, and webbed feet; known for their elegant and graceful appearance
49. public address an_____er *n.* a person who introduces and speaks on television or radio programs or provides commentary or information at a live event
50. imp_____al idea *adj.* not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome
51. phe_____al success *adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
52. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
53. p_g an exchange rate *n.* a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object
54. radio an_____er *n.* a person who introduces and speaks on television or radio programs or provides commentary or information at a live event

ANSWERS: 46. astronomical, 47. lowercase, 48. swan, 49. announcer, 50. impractical, 51. phenomenal, 52. smartphone, 53. peg, 54. announcer

55. decisive ju____re *n.* a critical point or moment in time, often indicating a key decision or turning point; a place or point of connection, such as a joint or seam
56. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
57. pr____y of economics *n.* the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority
58. go there af____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
59. run be____k *adj.* in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner
60. be____th a legacy *v.* to leave or pass on property, assets, or personal belongings to someone in a will or testament; to hand down or transmit knowledge, traditions, and skills to future generations
61. martial arts gra____er *n.* a title given to a chess player who has achieved the highest level of skill and proficiency in the game; a person who is an expert or master in a particular field or activity
62. spine-tingling fr____n *n.* a sudden intense feeling or thrill, often accompanied by shivers or goosebumps, typically brought on by excitement, anticipation, or a strong emotional response

ANSWERS: 55. juncture, 56. numb, 57. primacy, 58. afterward, 59. berserk, 60. bequeath, 61. grandmaster, 62. frisson

63. nan_____nd response *n.* one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second
64. ex_____e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
65. imp_____al solution *adj.* not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome
66. famous ap_____sm *n.* a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood
67. Higgs bo__n *n.* a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave
68. un_____l a knit *v.* undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
69. c__m more circuits into chips *v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
70. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
71. his latest tw__ts *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
72. military pr_____y *n.* the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority

ANSWERS: 63. nanosecond, 64. explode, 65. impractical, 66. aphorism, 67. boson, 68. unravel, 69. cram, 70. afterward, 71. tweet, 72. primacy

73. a sy____ny orchestra *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
74. ser_____ty moment *n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
75. em_____ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
76. weak bo__n *n.* a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave
77. a piece of ch__k *n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards
78. a be____k rage *adj.* in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner
79. c__m five people into a car *v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
80. a wise old dw__f *n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star

ANSWERS: 73. symphony, 74. serendipity, 75. embarrass, 76. boson, 77. chalk, 78. berserk, 79. cram, 80. dwarf

81. h__p earring *n.* a circular band or ring, often made of metal or wood, used as a toy, a part of the equipment, or a decoration
82. 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
83. po____ly ask *adv.* in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
84. sn___h up her purse *v.* to take or grab something suddenly or quickly
85. gr__t in discontent *v.* to make a short, low noise in the throat
86. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
87. br__e beasts *n.* a violent, wild, or feral animal; a person who is cruel, uncivilized, or lacking in intelligence or sensitivity; a physical force or power
88. a potted dw__f tree *n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star

ANSWERS: 81. hoop, 82. app, 83. politely, 84. snatch, 85. grunt, 86. excite, 87. brute, 88. dwarf

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Would one cup of flour _____ for this recipe?
 - v. to be enough or sufficient; to meet the needs or requirements of something or someone; to satisfy or fulfill a purpose

2. You must _____ your anxiety about driving.
 - v. to bring under control by force or authority

3. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
 - n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

4. I need to _____ the cost of my expenses from my income to see how much money I have left.
 - v. to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole

5. The discovery of penicillin was a result of _____.
 - n. the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery

6. "A penny saved is a penny earned" is a well-known _____ about the value of frugality.
 - n. a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood

7. New competitors threatened the company's _____ in the market.
 - n. the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority

ANSWERS: 1. suffice, 2. conquer, 3. smartphones, 4. subtract, 5. serendipity, 6. aphorism, 7. primacy

8. The scary movie gave me a _____ of fear, sending shivers down my spine.
n. a sudden intense feeling or thrill, often accompanied by shivers or goosebumps, typically brought on by excitement, anticipation, or a strong emotional response
9. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.
n. a written legal order or command
10. She _____ declined the invitation to the party, saying she had other plans.
adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
11. She _____ and stopped drinking coffee.
v. to make a short, low noise in the throat
12. The _____ artist's work was featured in a major museum exhibition.
adj. remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent
13. Detectives are still attempting to _____ the mystery of his death.
v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
14. The chess _____ easily defeated all of his opponents in the tournament.
n. a title given to a chess player who has achieved the highest level of skill and proficiency in the game; a person who is an expert or master in a particular field or activity
15. The fans went _____ when their team scored the winning goal in the game's final seconds.
adj. in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner

ANSWERS: 8. frisson, 9. writ, 10. politely, 11. grunted, 12. prodigious, 13. unravel, 14. grandmaster, 15. berserk

16. My left arm became _____.

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

17. The frequent performances of the _____ prove its popularity.

n. a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements

18. 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

19. It is _____ to expect everyone to work for free.

adj. not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome

20. Please type your password in all _____ letters.

n. a letter or typeface that is small in size and typically sits below the baseline of a line of text; opposite of uppercase

21. The news of her promotion _____ her.

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

22. I will _____ the title of the article to save space.

v. to shorten a word or phrase by leaving out some of the letters or syllables; to make something shorter or more concise

23. The historian carefully examined the _____ pen to determine its age and origin.

n. a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing

ANSWERS: 16. numb, 17. symphony, 18. app's, 19. impractical, 20. lowercase, 21. excited, 22. abbreviate, 23. quill

24. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.

- n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

25. At this _____ in the project, we must reassess our plans and make some changes.

- n.* a critical point or moment in time, often indicating a key decision or turning point; a place or point of connection, such as a joint or seam

26. Before his passing, my grandfather had _____ his antique pocket watch to me in his will.

- v.* to leave or pass on property, assets, or personal belongings to someone in a will or testament; to hand down or transmit knowledge, traditions, and skills to future generations

27. She had to _____ for the final exam and stayed up all night studying.

- v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space

28. He _____ victory from the jaws of defeat in the game's final seconds.

- v.* to take or grab something suddenly or quickly

29. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.

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

30. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.

- adv.* after the time mentioned

ANSWERS: 24. tweet, 25. juncture, 26. bequeathed, 27. cram, 28. snatches, 29. exploded, 30. afterward

31. The kids used colored _____ to create a mural on the pavement.
- n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards
32. The search for new _____ particles is one of the most exciting areas of modern physics.
- n.* a type of subatomic particle that follows Bose-Einstein statistics, which determine how identical particles with integer spins behave
33. The _____ behavior of the football players caused the game to be canceled.
- n.* a violent, wild, or feral animal; a person who is cruel, uncivilized, or lacking in intelligence or sensitivity; a physical force or power
34. The processor performs calculations on the _____ timescale.
- n.* one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second
35. The circus clown jumped through a fiery _____ as the audience gasped in amazement.
- n.* a circular band or ring, often made of metal or wood, used as a toy, a part of the equipment, or a decoration
36. The athlete's _____ performance broke all previous records.
- adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
37. The _____ planet Pluto is much smaller than earth and orbits the sun.
- n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star
38. He had a _____ sense of humor and loved to make puns.
- adj.* characterized by an intense interest or expertise in a particular subject or hobby, sometimes to the detriment of social skills or other interests

ANSWERS: 31. chalk, 32. boson, 33. brute, 34. nanosecond, 35. hoop, 36. phenomenal, 37. dwarf, 38. geeky

39. I _____ in the cold winter air as I wait for the train.

v. to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly

40. The sports _____ provided live commentary during the game.

n. a person who introduces and speaks on television or radio programs or provides commentary or information at a live event

41. The sheep were tagged with numbered plastic _____ in their ears.

n. a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object

42. The cost of the new equipment was _____ and beyond the company's budget.

adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

43. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

44. The _____ feathers glistened in the sunlight.

n. a large waterbird with a long neck, bill, and webbed feet; known for their elegant and graceful appearance

ANSWERS: 39. shiver, 40. announcer, 41. pegs, 42. astronomical, 43. embarrass, 44. swan's