

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Jim Holt: Why does the universe exist? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jim\\_holt\\_why\\_does\\_the\\_universe\\_exist](https://www.ted.com/talks/jim_holt_why_does_the_universe_exist)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### solemn

*adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor

*synonym* : serious, grave, somber

(1) **solemn** vow, (2) **solemn** ceremony

The priest led the **solemn** procession through the church.

### 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.

### far-reaching

*adj.* having a wide or significant impact or influence

*synonym* : extensive, widespread, broad

(1) achieve **far-reaching** reform, (2) **far-reaching** consequences

The **far-reaching** effects of the policy change are still being felt.

### obsess

*v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

*synonym* : torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

## astonished

*adj.* extremely surprised and upset

*synonym*: amazed, dumbfounded, flabbergasted

(1) **astonished** at the success, (2) cast **astonished** eyes

She was **astonished** by the news and could hardly believe it.

## mystical

*adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding

*synonym*: occult, esoteric, enigmatic

(1) **mystical** intuition, (2) **mystical** belief

While meditating, he had a **mystical** experience and felt a sense of unity with the universe.

## epigram

*n.* a short and cleverly phrased statement or verse that conveys a sharp or witty insight, often with a satirical or ironic tone; a concise and memorable expression of an idea or sentiment

*synonym*: quotation, saying, aphorism

(1) witty **epigram**, (2) famous **epigram**

The poet's poignant **epigram** captured the essence of the human experience.

## physicist

*n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

## intellect

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

*synonym*: mind, brightness, cleverness

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

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

## Newtonian

*adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation

*synonym*: classical, physics, mechanics

(1) **Newtonian** physics, (2) **Newtonian** mechanics

The motion of planets can be described using **Newtonian** mechanics.

## pretended

*adj.* feigned or not genuine; assumed or simulated

*synonym*: feigned, assumed, simulated

(1) **pretended** illness, (2) make a **pretended** purchase

His **pretended** interest soon caught everyone's attention.

## orthodox

*adj.* following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church

*synonym*: traditional, conventional, established

(1) an **orthodox** doctrine, (2) **orthodox** thought

He challenged the **orthodox** views on business.

## Christ

*n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

*synonym*: Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

**Christmas** is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

## metaphysics

*n.* the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space

(1) **metaphysics** study, (2) the nature of **metaphysics**

Kant's thoughts provided the foundational ideas for treating **metaphysics** as a discipline.

## preexist

*v.* to exist or occur before something else, especially referring to a time period or event; to predate or come

before

*synonym* : antedate, precede

(1) **preexist** the modern city, (2) **preexist** the current political tensions

The idea for the novel **preexisted** as fragments of a dream in the author's mind.

## mime

*n.* a form of acting or performance in which gestures, body movements, and facial expressions are used to convey meaning or tell a story without the use of spoken words; a performer who specializes in this art form

*synonym* : gesture, pantomimist, actor

(1) hilarious **mime** act, (2) **mime** artist

The **mime's** silent performance captivated the audience, leaving them in awe.

## atheist

*n.* a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities

*synonym* : nonbeliever, unbeliever, secularist

(1) **atheist** community, (2) **atheist** belief

She was an **atheist** without any belief in a higher power.

## ontology

*n.* a branch of metaphysics concerned with the nature of being and the existence

*synonym* : metaphysics, philosophy of being, study of existence

(1) medical **ontology**, (2) **ontology** theory

The **ontology** of the universe is a complex and constantly evolving concept.

## conceivable

*adj.* imaginable or possible to understand or believe in the mind

*synonym* : believable, imaginable, probable

(1) **conceivable** way, (2) **conceivable** emergency

It is challenging to defend every **conceivable** target.

**ponder**

*v.* to think deeply or carefully about something

*synonym*: think about, consider, reflect on

(1) **ponder** divine matters, (2) **ponder** life's meaning

She sat quietly, **pondering** the difficult decision.

**distract**

*v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

*synonym*: divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

**vacuous**

*adj.* devoid of content, substance, or intelligence; lacking in ideas or intelligence; empty or without meaning

*synonym*: empty, vacant, blank

(1) **vacuous** expression, (2) **vacuous** statement

His **vacuous** response to the question showed a lack of understanding.

**enslave**

*v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

*synonym*: coerce, deprive, imprison

(1) **enslave** poor peasants, (2) **enslave** indigenous people

Her beauty **enslaved** me completely.

**rev**

*n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

*synonym*: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

**purported**

*adj.* claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated

*synonym* : alleged, claimed, supposed

(1) **purported** evidence, (2) **purported** biography

The **purported** benefits of the new product were not supported by research.

## fluctuation

*n.* a change, or the process of changing, that frequently happens, especially from one extreme to another; the quality of being unsteady and subject to changes

*synonym* : change, instability, flux

(1) price **fluctuations**, (2) **fluctuation** of water level

Temperature **fluctuations** are often milder in oceanfront areas.

## hawk

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

*synonym* : militarist, jingo, aggressor

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

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

## militant

*n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal

*synonym* : combative, aggressive, bellicose

(1) **militant** nations, (2) a **militant** reformer

The **militant** group launched a series of attacks on government buildings.

## nugget

*n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food

*synonym* : chunk, clod, clump

(1) a gold **nugget**, (2) **nugget** of truth

It took a few weeks to extract the **nugget** of information from those complicated sources.

## fluctuate

*v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

*synonym* : vary, oscillate, sway

(1) **fluctuate** prices, (2) **fluctuate** rapidly

Stock prices **fluctuate** daily based on market demand and supply.

## variegated

*adj.* having marks, colors, or patterns of different types or shades; diverse or varied in appearance

*synonym* : multicolored, diverse, varied

(1) **variegated** foliage, (2) **variegated** pattern

The **variegated** flowers in the garden added a vibrant touch of color.

## cosmos

*n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system

*synonym* : universe, macrocosm

(1) exploration of **cosmos**, (2) origin of the **cosmos**

Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the **cosmos**.

## ingenious

*adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill

*synonym* : creative, innovative, inventive

(1) **ingenious** device, (2) **ingenious** idea

I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so **ingenious**.

## speculate

*v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

*synonym* : assume, conjecture, infer

(1) **speculate** about the reason, (2) **speculate** on the outcome

He **speculated** that this investment would lead to success.

## thrall

*n.* a state of being under the control or power of someone or something else; bondage or slavery; a captivated or enthralled state

*synonym* : slave, captive, prisoner

(1) **thrall** to addiction, (2) keep the people in **thrall**  
The cult leader held her followers in **thrall** with her charismatic speeches.

## worldview

*n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world

*synonym*: perspective, position, viewpoint

(1) mainstream **worldview**, (2) the **worldview** of the ancient civilization

The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing **worldviews**.

## fiat

*n.* a formal authorization or order, typically given by a government, institution, or other authority figures; a decree or edict

*synonym*: decree, order, command

(1) **fiat** currency, (2) **fiat** agreement

The car manufacturer announced a new **fiat** model that will be released next year.

## lux

*n.* a unit of measurement of the intensity of light equal to one lumen per square meter

*synonym*: lx, candlepower, brightness

(1) **lux** level, (2) ambient **lux**

The nighttime cityscape was illuminated with thousands of **lux** of lights from the buildings.

## clout

*n.* influence or power, especially political or social influence; a strong force or impact

*synonym*: influence, power, sway

(1) **clout** in politics, (2) social media **clout**

The CEO has enough **clout** to change the company's legacy policies.

## abyss

*n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void

*synonym*: chasm, cavity, gulf



(1) the **abyss** of time, (2) an **abyss** of hopelessness  
The deep sea is an **abyss** of mystery and discovery.

## ontic

*adj.* relating to the existence or being; pertaining to the essential nature or reality of something

*synonym* : existent, real, tangible

(1) **ontic** reality, (2) **ontic** category

Reality's **ontic** nature is often explored in philosophy and metaphysics.

## puzzled

*adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something

*synonym* : confused, perplexed, bewildered

(1) **puzzled** expression, (2) **puzzled** by the question

She was **puzzled** by the strange behavior of her cat.

## inconceivable

*adj.* hard to imagine or believe

*synonym* : unimaginable, impossible, unthinkable

(1) **inconceivable** pain, (2) **inconceivable** ideas

It would be **inconceivable** for him to alter his behavior.

## flirt

*v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men

*synonym* : tease

(1) **flirt** with him, (2) **flirt** like a schoolgirl

My husband never **flirts** with other women.

## multiverse

*n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them

(1) the **multiverse** hypothesis, (2) the concept of the **multiverse**

The various universes within the **multiverse** are sometimes called parallel universes.

## encompass

*v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely

*synonym* : surround, encircle, include

(1) **encompass** a broad range, (2) **encompass** the enemy

The optimal solution that would **encompass** all these elements has yet to be proposed.

## platonic

*adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual

*synonym* : nonphysical, nonsexual, spiritual

(1) **platonic** relationship, (2) **platonic** love

His relationship with her was completely **platonic**.

## plenitude

*n.* a state or quality of being full or abundant; a large or excessive quantity or number; completeness or fullness

*synonym* : abundance, fullness, completeness

(1) ecological **plenitude**, (2) **plenitude** of options

The garden was filled with a **plenitude** of blooming flowers.

## fecundity

*n.* the ability to produce an abundance of offspring or creative works; fertility; productivity

*synonym* : fertility, fruitfulness, productivity

(1) **fecundity** rate, (2) high **fecundity**

The **fecundity** of the soil in this area is ideal for growing crops.

## asymmetric

*adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement

*synonym* : uneven, lopsided, unbalanced

(1) **asymmetric** warfare, (2) **asymmetric** information

The **asymmetric** design of the building made it stand out in the city skyline.

## pious

*adj.* deeply religious, having or showing a strong devotion to God or religious beliefs and practices

*synonym* : religious, devout, godly

(1) **pious** belief, (2) **pious** follower

The **pious** woman spent her days volunteering at the local church.

## superfluous

*adj.* unnecessary; more than what is needed or required

*synonym*: extra, unnecessary, redundant

(1) **superfluous** information, (2) **superfluous** words

The recipe called for a **superfluous** amount of salt and made the dish too salty.

## contraption

*n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual

*synonym*: device, gadget, machinery

(1) farming **contraption**, (2) complicated **contraption**

The inventor created a **contraption** that could turn salt water into drinking water.

## sentient

*adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness

*synonym*: conscious, aware, perceptive

(1) **sentient** beings, (2) **sentient** robots

Animals such as dolphins and elephants are highly **sentient** and intelligent creatures.

## needless

*adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences

*synonym*: unnecessary, pointless, superfluous

(1) **needless** argument, (2) **needless** waste

This **needless** paperwork is wasting our time and resources.

## nothingness

*n.* a state or situation where nothing exists

*synonym*: void, nullity, nihility

(1) pass into **nothingness**, (2) a sense of **nothingness**

Having made a big mistake, she wanted to vanish into **nothingness**.

### mediocre

*adj.* of only average quality; not very good

*synonym* : average, ordinary, unimpressive

(1) **mediocre** performance, (2) a **mediocre** talent

He was considered a **mediocre** artist compared to others in his field.

### deity

*n.* a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture

*synonym* : god, goddess, divine being

(1) existence of a **deity**, (2) **deity** of commerce

The ancient Egyptians believed that the sun **deity** Ra was the most powerful god.

### malevolent

*adj.* having or showing a desire to cause harm or evil to others

*synonym* : evil, malicious, wicked

(1) **malevolent** stars, (2) **malevolent** act

She had a **malevolent** intention to harm her enemy.

### pointless

*adj.* having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless

*synonym* : meaningless, purposeless, worthless

(1) **pointless** argument, (2) **pointless** task

The meeting was considered **pointless** since nothing was accomplished.

### froth

*n.* a mass of small bubbles on the surface of a liquid caused by agitation or fermentation; a light, airy, or frothy substance; foam or lather

*synonym* : foam, lather

(1) beer **froth**, (2) **froth** in the ocean

The cappuccino was topped with **froth**, making it look like a work of art.

## endlessly

*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

*synonym* : ceaselessly, interminably, unceasingly

(1) repeat **endlessly**, (2) worry **endlessly** about our future

The procession of demonstrators was **endlessly** continuing.

## wasteland

*n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value

*synonym* : desert, barren, wild

(1) post-apocalyptic **wasteland**, (2) nuclear **wasteland**

The abandoned industrial site is now a **wasteland** of decaying buildings and rusted machinery.

## gravitational

*adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)

*synonym* : weighty, heavy, earthbound

(1) **gravitational** energy, (2) **gravitational** waves

The **gravitational** force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.

## rhyme

*n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting

*synonym* : verse, poetry, meter

(1) **rhyme** poem, (2) write in **rhyme**

The poem had a consistent **rhyme** scheme throughout.

## improbable

*adj.* not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring

*synonym* : unlikely, doubtful, implausible

(1) **improbable** story, (2) **improbable** event

It is **improbable** that we will find a solution to this problem overnight.

## allele

*n.* any of the alternative forms of a gene that can occupy a given chromosomal location

*synonym*: gene variant, genetic variant

(1) the **allele** in a pair, (2) inherit one **allele**

Environmental factors can also influence the expression of **alleles**, a phenomenon known as epigenetics.

## googolplex

*n.* the number ten to the power of a googol (=  $10^{100}$ , a 1 followed by one hundred zeros)

(1) contain a **googolplex** of mysteries, (2) **googolplex** possibilities

His password was so complex that guessing it would be like finding one specific zero in a **googolplex**.

## infinitesimal

*adj.* extremely small or tiny; almost negligible in size or quantity

*synonym*: tiny, minuscule, microscopic

(1) **infinitesimal** variation, (2) **infinitesimal** change

The scientist used an **infinitesimal** amount of the compound in their experiment.

## 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.

## agonize

*v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying

*synonym*: disturb, excruciate, lament

(1) **agonize** pain, (2) **agonize** about financing

He **agonized** over whether to accept the job offer.

## mediocrity

*n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

*synonym* : averageness, ordinariness, unoriginality

(1) sink into **mediocrity**, (2) escape **mediocrity**

He was content with living a life of **mediocrity**.

## resonate

v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

*synonym* : echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

## monger

v. to sell or promote something, especially by using aggressive or exaggerated tactics; to peddle or deal in (usually negative) information, rumors, or gossip; (noun) a dealer, trader, or seller of a particular commodity or goods

*synonym* : peddle, sell, (noun) dealer

(1) fish- **monger**, (2) **monger** hate speech

Some politicians use fear to **monger** support for their policies.

## 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.

## wag

v. to move or swing back and forth or up and down in a lively or playful manner; to shake or quiver

*synonym* : waggle, swish, wave

(1) **wag** their laughter, (2) **wag** a forefinger

The cow lazily continued to **wag** its tail while grazing in the field.

## astonish

v. to surprise or shock someone greatly; to cause amazement or wonder

*synonym* : amaze, astound, surprise

(1) **astonish** audience, (2) **astonish** the world

Her incredible singing voice **astonished** everyone in the room.

## **confer**

v. to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

*synonym* : consult, meet, discuss

(1) **confer** degree, (2) **confer** honor

The leaders of the two countries met to **confer** on the issue.



## Session 2: Spelling

1. po\_\_\_r divine matters      *v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
2. di\_\_\_\_\_ct public opinion      *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
3. en\_\_\_\_\_ss a broad range      *v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
4. exploration of co\_\_\_s      *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
5. or\_\_\_\_\_ox thought      *adj.* following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church
6. ne\_\_\_\_\_ss waste      *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
7. sp\_\_\_\_\_te about the reason      *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
8. on\_\_c reality      *adj.* relating to the existence or being; pertaining to the essential nature or reality of something
9. a sense of not\_\_\_\_\_ss      *n.* a state or situation where nothing exists
10. an or\_\_\_\_\_ox doctrine      *adj.* following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church

ANSWERS: 1. ponder, 2. distract, 3. encompass, 4. cosmos, 5. orthodox, 6. needless, 7. speculate, 8. ontic, 9. nothingness, 10. orthodox

11. pr\_\_\_\_st the current political tensions  
*v.* to exist or occur before something else, especially referring to a time period or event; to predate or come before
12. a mea\_\_\_\_\_ss endeavor  
*adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
13. w\_g their laughter  
*v.* to move or swing back and forth or up and down in a lively or playful manner; to shake or quiver
14. gra\_\_\_\_\_nal waves  
*adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
15. sup\_\_\_\_\_us words  
*adj.* unnecessary; more than what is needed or required
16. so\_\_\_n vow  
*adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor
17. asy\_\_\_\_\_ic warfare  
*adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement
18. my\_\_\_\_\_al intuition  
*adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
19. sp\_\_\_\_\_te on the outcome  
*v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
20. complicated con\_\_\_\_\_on  
*n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual

ANSWERS: 11. preexist, 12. meaningless, 13. wag, 14. gravitational, 15. superfluous, 16. solemn, 17. asymmetric, 18. mystical, 19. speculate, 20. contraption

21. enrich my in\_\_\_\_\_ct      *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
22. fl\_\_t like a schoolgirl      *v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
23. pi\_\_s belief      *adj.* deeply religious, having or showing a strong devotion to God or religious beliefs and practices
24. po\_\_\_\_r life's meaning      *v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
25. pu\_\_\_\_\_ed evidence      *adj.* claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated
26. di\_\_\_\_\_ct attention from the real issue      *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
27. an ab\_\_s of hopelessness      *n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
28. fe\_\_\_\_\_ty rate      *n.* the ability to produce an abundance of offspring or creative works; fertility; productivity
29. me\_\_\_\_\_re performance      *adj.* of only average quality; not very good
30. fl\_\_\_\_\_te rapidly      *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
31. de\_\_y of commerce      *n.* a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture

ANSWERS: 21. intellect, 22. flirt, 23. pious, 24. ponder, 25. purported, 26. distract, 27. abyss, 28. fecundity, 29. mediocre, 30. fluctuate, 31. deity

32. va\_\_\_\_s expression *adj.* devoid of content, substance, or intelligence; lacking in ideas or intelligence; empty or without meaning
33. do a mea\_\_\_\_\_ss task *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
34. en\_\_\_\_e indigenous people *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
35. th\_\_\_l to addiction *n.* a state of being under the control or power of someone or something else; bondage or slavery; a captivated or enthralled state
36. social media cl\_\_t *n.* influence or power, especially political or social influence; a strong force or impact
37. f\_\_t agreement *n.* a formal authorization or order, typically given by a government, institution, or other authority figures; a decree or edict
38. keep the people in th\_\_\_l *n.* a state of being under the control or power of someone or something else; bondage or slavery; a captivated or enthralled state
39. cast ast\_\_\_\_\_ed eyes *adj.* extremely surprised and upset
40. asy\_\_\_\_\_ic information *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement
41. rh\_\_e poem *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting

ANSWERS: 32. vacuous, 33. meaningless, 34. enslave, 35. thrall, 36. clout, 37. fiat, 38. thrall, 39. astonished, 40. asymmetric, 41. rhyme

42. fr\_\_h in the ocean *n.* a mass of small bubbles on the surface of a liquid caused by agitation or fermentation; a light, airy, or frothy substance; foam or lather
43. the nature of met\_\_\_\_\_cs *n.* the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space
44. at\_\_\_\_\_t community *n.* a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities
45. high fe\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* the ability to produce an abundance of offspring or creative works; fertility; productivity
46. co\_\_\_\_r degree *v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
47. famous ep\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* a short and cleverly phrased statement or verse that conveys a sharp or witty insight, often with a satirical or ironic tone; a concise and memorable expression of an idea or sentiment
48. re\_\_\_\_\_te in the same frequency *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
49. write in rh\_\_e *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
50. at\_\_\_\_\_t belief *n.* a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities
51. ne\_\_\_\_\_ss argument *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences

ANSWERS: 42. froth, 43. metaphysics, 44. atheist, 45. fecundity, 46. confer, 47. epigram, 48. resonate, 49. rhyme, 50. atheist, 51. needless

52. con\_\_\_\_\_le emergency *adj.* imaginable or possible to understand or believe in the mind
53. imp\_\_\_\_\_le event *adj.* not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring
54. theoretical ph\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
55. pass into not\_\_\_\_\_ss *n.* a state or situation where nothing exists
56. inf\_\_\_\_\_mal change *adj.* extremely small or tiny; almost negligible in size or quantity
57. fl\_\_\_\_\_te prices *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
58. pu\_\_\_\_\_ed biography *adj.* claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated
59. congressional h\_\_k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
60. my\_\_\_\_\_al belief *adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
61. cl\_\_t in politics *n.* influence or power, especially political or social influence; a strong force or impact
62. 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

ANSWERS: 52. conceivable, 53. improbable, 54. physicist, 55. nothingness, 56. infinitesimal, 57. fluctuate, 58. purported, 59. hawk, 60. mystical, 61. clout, 62. brute

63. gra\_\_\_\_\_nal energy      *adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
64. ag\_\_\_\_\_e about financing      *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
65. a mi\_\_\_\_\_nt reformer      *n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
66. ast\_\_\_\_\_ed at the success      *adj.* extremely surprised and upset
67. pi\_\_s follower      *adj.* deeply religious, having or showing a strong devotion to God or religious beliefs and practices
68. beer fr\_\_h      *n.* a mass of small bubbles on the surface of a liquid caused by agitation or fermentation; a light, airy, or frothy substance; foam or lather
69. mal\_\_\_\_\_nt act      *adj.* having or showing a desire to cause harm or evil to others
70. ambient l\_x      *n.* a unit of measurement of the intensity of light equal to one lumen per square meter
71. sink into med\_\_\_\_\_ty      *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal
72. before Ch\_\_\_\_t      *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

ANSWERS: 63. gravitational, 64. agonize, 65. militant, 66. astonished, 67. pious, 68. froth, 69. malevolent, 70. lux, 71. mediocrity, 72. Christ

73. fl\_\_t with him *v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
74. talented ph\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
75. post-apocalyptic wa\_\_\_\_\_nd *n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value
76. the al\_\_\_e in a pair *n.* any of the alternative forms of a gene that can occupy a given chromosomal location
77. ob\_\_\_s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
78. var\_\_\_\_\_ed foliage *adj.* having marks, colors, or patterns of different types or shades; diverse or varied in appearance
79. pl\_\_\_\_\_de of options *n.* a state or quality of being full or abundant; a large or excessive quantity or number; completeness or fullness
80. teaching of Ch\_\_\_t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
81. human in\_\_\_\_\_ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

ANSWERS: 73. flirt, 74. physicist, 75. wasteland, 76. allele, 77. obsess, 78. variegated, 79. plenitude, 80. Christ, 81. intellect



82. en\_\_\_\_e poor peasants *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
83. low-r\_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
84. the concept of the mul\_\_\_\_\_se *n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them
85. farming con\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual
86. inherit one al\_\_\_\_e *n.* any of the alternative forms of a gene that can occupy a given chromosomal location
87. pl\_\_\_\_\_ic love *adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual
88. a me\_\_\_\_re talent *adj.* of only average quality; not very good
89. co\_\_\_\_r honor *v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
90. var\_\_\_\_\_ed pattern *adj.* having marks, colors, or patterns of different types or shades; diverse or varied in appearance
91. mo\_\_\_\_r hate speech *v.* to sell or promote something, especially by using aggressive or exaggerated tactics; to peddle or deal in (usually negative) information, rumors, or gossip; (noun) a dealer, trader, or seller of a particular commodity or goods

ANSWERS: 82. enslave, 83. rev, 84. multiverse, 85. contraption, 86. allele, 87. platonic, 88. mediocre, 89. confer, 90. variegated, 91. monger

92. imp\_\_\_\_\_le story *adj.* not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring
93. Ar\_\_\_\_\_an romances *adj.* relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him
94. mi\_\_\_\_\_nt nations *n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
95. worry en\_\_\_\_\_ly about our future *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
96. escape med\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal
97. w\_g a forefinger *v.* to move or swing back and forth or up and down in a lively or playful manner; to shake or quiver
98. the wo\_\_\_\_\_ew of the ancient civilization *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
99. mainstream wo\_\_\_\_\_ew *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
100. hilarious m\_\_e act *n.* a form of acting or performance in which gestures, body movements, and facial expressions are used to convey meaning or tell a story without the use of spoken words; a performer who specializes in this art form
101. sup\_\_\_\_\_us information *adj.* unnecessary; more than what is needed or required

ANSWERS: 92. improbable, 93. Arthurian, 94. militant, 95. endlessly, 96. mediocrity, 97. wag, 98. worldview, 99. worldview, 100. mime, 101. superfluous

102. f\_\_t currency *n.* a formal authorization or order, typically given by a government, institution, or other authority figures; a decree or edict
103. inc\_\_\_\_\_ble pain *adj.* hard to imagine or believe
104. the Ar\_\_\_\_\_an cycle *adj.* relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him
105. on\_\_c category *adj.* relating to the existence or being; pertaining to the essential nature or reality of something
106. the mul\_\_\_\_\_se hypothesis *n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them
107. con\_\_\_\_\_le way *adj.* imaginable or possible to understand or believe in the mind
108. fish-mo\_\_\_\_r *v.* to sell or promote something, especially by using aggressive or exaggerated tactics; to peddle or deal in (usually negative) information, rumors, or gossip; (noun) a dealer, trader, or seller of a particular commodity or goods
109. po\_\_\_\_\_ss task *adj.* having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless
110. achieve far\_\_\_\_\_ing reform *adj.* having a wide or significant impact or influence
111. inf\_\_\_\_\_mal variation *adj.* extremely small or tiny; almost negligible in size or quantity
112. on\_\_\_\_gy theory *n.* a branch of metaphysics concerned with the nature of being and the existence

ANSWERS: 102. fiat, 103. inconceivable, 104. Arthurian, 105. ontic, 106. multiverse, 107. conceivable, 108. monger, 109. pointless, 110. far-reaching, 111. infinitesimal, 112. ontology

113. repeat en\_\_\_\_\_ly *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
114. in\_\_\_\_\_us idea *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
115. so\_\_\_n ceremony *adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor
116. 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
117. in\_\_\_\_\_us device *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
118. the ab\_\_s of time *n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
119. deeply re\_\_\_\_\_te with the consumers *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
120. va\_\_\_\_\_s statement *adj.* devoid of content, substance, or intelligence; lacking in ideas or intelligence; empty or without meaning
121. l\_x level *n.* a unit of measurement of the intensity of light equal to one lumen per square meter
122. r\_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 113. endlessly, 114. ingenious, 115. solemn, 116. brute, 117. ingenious, 118. abyss, 119. resonate, 120. vacuous, 121. lux, 122. rev

123. origin of the co\_\_\_s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
124. Ne\_\_\_\_\_an mechanics *adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
125. contain a goo\_\_\_\_\_ex of mysteries *n.* the number ten to the power of a googol (=  $10^{100}$ , a 1 followed by one hundred zeros)
126. pl\_\_\_\_\_ic relationship *adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual
127. as\_\_\_\_\_sh audience *v.* to surprise or shock someone greatly; to cause amazement or wonder
128. inc\_\_\_\_\_ble ideas *adj.* hard to imagine or believe
129. mal\_\_\_\_\_nt stars *adj.* having or showing a desire to cause harm or evil to others
130. medical on\_\_\_\_\_gy *n.* a branch of metaphysics concerned with the nature of being and the existence
131. ecological pl\_\_\_\_\_de *n.* a state or quality of being full or abundant; a large or excessive quantity or number; completeness or fullness
132. witty ep\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* a short and cleverly phrased statement or verse that conveys a sharp or witty insight, often with a satirical or ironic tone; a concise and memorable expression of an idea or sentiment
133. existence of a de\_\_y *n.* a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture

ANSWERS: 123. cosmos, 124. Newtonian, 125. googolplex, 126. platonic, 127. astonish, 128. inconceivable, 129. malevolent, 130. ontology, 131. plenitude, 132. epigram, 133. deity

134. far\_\_\_\_\_ing consequences *adj.* having a wide or significant impact or influence
135. se\_\_\_\_\_nt robots *adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness
136. pr\_\_\_\_\_ed illness *adj.* feigned or not genuine; assumed or simulated
137. en\_\_\_\_\_ss the enemy *v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
138. make a pr\_\_\_\_\_ed purchase *adj.* feigned or not genuine; assumed or simulated
139. a gold nu\_\_\_\_t *n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food
140. cast off a h\_\_k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
141. po\_\_\_\_\_ss argument *adj.* having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless
142. Ne\_\_\_\_\_an physics *adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
143. price flu\_\_\_\_\_ons *n.* a change, or the process of changing, that frequently happens, especially from one extreme to another; the quality of being unsteady and subject to changes

ANSWERS: 134. far-reaching, 135. sentient, 136. pretended, 137. encompass, 138. pretended, 139. nugget, 140. hawk, 141. pointless, 142. Newtonian, 143. fluctuation

144. m\_\_e artist *n.* a form of acting or performance in which gestures, body movements, and facial expressions are used to convey meaning or tell a story without the use of spoken words; a performer who specializes in this art form
145. ag\_\_\_\_e pain *v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
146. nuclear wa\_\_\_\_\_nd *n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value
147. nu\_\_\_t of truth *n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food
148. flu\_\_\_\_\_on of water level *n.* a change, or the process of changing, that frequently happens, especially from one extreme to another; the quality of being unsteady and subject to changes
149. met\_\_\_\_\_cs study *n.* the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space
150. he is ob\_\_\_sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

ANSWERS: 144. mime, 145. agonize, 146. wasteland, 147. nugget, 148. fluctuation, 149. metaphysics, 150. obsess

151. pu\_\_\_\_d expression *adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something
152. se\_\_\_\_nt beings *adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness
153. pu\_\_\_\_d by the question *adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something
154. pr\_\_\_\_st the modern city *v.* to exist or occur before something else, especially referring to a time period or event; to predate or come before
155. as\_\_\_\_sh the world *v.* to surprise or shock someone greatly; to cause amazement or wonder
156. goo\_\_\_\_\_ex possibilities *n.* the number ten to the power of a googol (=  $10^{100}$ , a 1 followed by one hundred zeros)

ANSWERS: 151. puzzled, 152. sentient, 153. puzzled, 154. preexist, 155. astonish, 156. googolplex



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The car manufacturer announced a new \_\_\_\_\_ model that will be released next year.  
*n.* a formal authorization or order, typically given by a government, institution, or other authority figures; a decree or edict
2. The procession of demonstrators was \_\_\_\_\_ continuing.  
*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
3. Having made a big mistake, she wanted to vanish into \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a state or situation where nothing exists
4. The motion of planets can be described using \_\_\_\_\_ mechanics.  
*adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
5. Einstein was an outstanding and famous \_\_\_\_\_ of the 20th century.  
*n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
6. The garden was filled with a \_\_\_\_\_ of blooming flowers.  
*n.* a state or quality of being full or abundant; a large or excessive quantity or number; completeness or fullness
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ group launched a series of attacks on government buildings.  
*n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
8. It would be \_\_\_\_\_ for him to alter his behavior.  
*adj.* hard to imagine or believe

ANSWERS: 1. fiat, 2. endlessly, 3. nothingness, 4. Newtonian, 5. physicist, 6. plenitude, 7. militant, 8. inconceivable

9. Reality's \_\_\_\_\_ nature is often explored in philosophy and metaphysics.

*adj.* relating to the existence or being; pertaining to the essential nature or reality of something

10. The \_\_\_\_\_ flowers in the garden added a vibrant touch of color.

*adj.* having marks, colors, or patterns of different types or shades; diverse or varied in appearance

11. 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

12. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

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

13. The cappuccino was topped with \_\_\_\_\_ making it look like a work of art.

*n.* a mass of small bubbles on the surface of a liquid caused by agitation or fermentation; a light, airy, or frothy substance; foam or lather

14. This experiment's results are \_\_\_\_\_ because the other conditions are not identical.

*adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose

15. The \_\_\_\_\_ design of the building made it stand out in the city skyline.

*adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement

16. He challenged the \_\_\_\_\_ views on business.

*adj.* following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church

ANSWERS: 9. ontic, 10. variegated, 11. brute, 12. intellect, 13. froth, 14. meaningless, 15. asymmetric, 16. orthodox

17. The \_\_\_\_\_ effects of the policy change are still being felt.

*adj.* having a wide or significant impact or influence

18. She had a \_\_\_\_\_ intention to harm her enemy.

*adj.* having or showing a desire to cause harm or evil to others

19. Animals such as dolphins and elephants are highly \_\_\_\_\_ and intelligent creatures.

*adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness

20. \_\_\_\_\_ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

*n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

21. Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ are often milder in oceanfront areas.

*n.* a change, or the process of changing, that frequently happens, especially from one extreme to another; the quality of being unsteady and subject to changes

22. It is challenging to defend every \_\_\_\_\_ target.

*adj.* imaginable or possible to understand or believe in the mind

23. Please don't \_\_\_\_\_ me while I'm studying.

*v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

24. The CEO has enough \_\_\_\_\_ to change the company's legacy policies.

*n.* influence or power, especially political or social influence; a strong force or impact

ANSWERS: 17. far-reaching, 18. malevolent, 19. sentient, 20. Christmas, 21. fluctuations, 22. conceivable, 23. distract, 24. clout

25. Her beauty \_\_\_\_\_ me completely.

- v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

26. The inventor created a \_\_\_\_\_ that could turn salt water into drinking water.

- n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual

27. Stock prices \_\_\_\_\_ daily based on market demand and supply.

- v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

28. The scientist used an \_\_\_\_\_ amount of the compound in their experiment.

- adj.* extremely small or tiny; almost negligible in size or quantity

29. He was content with living a life of \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

30. The leaders of the two countries met to \_\_\_\_\_ on the issue.

- v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

31. Her incredible singing voice \_\_\_\_\_ everyone in the room.

- v.* to surprise or shock someone greatly; to cause amazement or wonder

32. The priest led the \_\_\_\_\_ procession through the church.

- adj.* formal and dignified, often with an emphasis on religious or ceremonial attitudes or practices; characterized by an earnest sense of importance or gravity; serious or grave in tone or demeanor

ANSWERS: 25. enslaved, 26. contraption, 27. fluctuate, 28. infinitesimal, 29. mediocrity, 30. confer, 31. astonished, 32. solemn

33. Kant's thoughts provided the foundational ideas for treating \_\_\_\_\_ as a discipline.
- n.* the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space
34. He \_\_\_\_\_ over whether to accept the job offer.
- v.* to spend a long time thinking about a difficult problem and trying to make a decision, especially through worrying
35. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the universe is a complex and constantly evolving concept.
- n.* a branch of metaphysics concerned with the nature of being and the existence
36. She was an \_\_\_\_\_ without any belief in a higher power.
- n.* a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities
37. It took a few weeks to extract the \_\_\_\_\_ of information from those complicated sources.
- n.* a small piece of gold or other precious metal or mineral found ready-formed in the earth; a small round piece of some food
38. While meditating, he had a \_\_\_\_\_ experience and felt a sense of unity with the universe.
- adj.* relating to or characterized by spiritual powers; beyond ordinary understanding
39. She was \_\_\_\_\_ by the strange behavior of her cat.
- adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something
40. The sound \_\_\_\_\_ well in this theater.
- v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound

ANSWERS: 33. metaphysics, 34. agonized, 35. ontology, 36. atheist, 37. nugget, 38. mystical, 39. puzzled, 40. resonates

41. Environmental factors can also influence the expression of \_\_\_\_\_ a phenomenon known as epigenetics.
- n.* any of the alternative forms of a gene that can occupy a given chromosomal location
42. Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
43. That team signed a center forward who was a ball-\_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
44. I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so \_\_\_\_\_.
- adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
45. He \_\_\_\_\_ that this investment would lead to success.
- v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
46. The cow lazily continued to \_\_\_\_ its tail while grazing in the field.
- v.* to move or swing back and forth or up and down in a lively or playful manner; to shake or quiver
47. The meeting was considered \_\_\_\_\_ since nothing was accomplished.
- adj.* having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless
48. The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world

ANSWERS: 41. alleles, 42. cosmos, 43. hawk, 44. ingenious, 45. speculated, 46. wag, 47. pointless, 48. worldviews

49. The poem had a consistent \_\_\_\_\_ scheme throughout.

- n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting

50. He's utterly \_\_\_\_\_ with his promotion.

- v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

51. My husband never \_\_\_\_\_ with other women.

- v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions;  
(noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men

52. He was considered a \_\_\_\_\_ artist compared to others in his field.

- adj.* of only average quality; not very good

53. The various universes within the \_\_\_\_\_ are sometimes called parallel universes.

- n.* a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them

54. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud \_\_\_\_.

- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

55. The poet's poignant \_\_\_\_\_ captured the essence of the human experience.

- n.* a short and cleverly phrased statement or verse that conveys a sharp or witty insight, often with a satirical or ironic tone; a concise and memorable expression of an idea or sentiment

56. The abandoned industrial site is now a \_\_\_\_\_ of decaying buildings and rusted machinery.

- n.* a barren or uncultivated area of land that has been left deserted or uninhabitable, typically due to a natural disaster, pollution, or human destruction; a place or situation that is devoid of life or anything of value

ANSWERS: 49. rhyme, 50. obsessed, 51. flirts, 52. mediocre, 53. multiverse, 54. rev,

55. epigram, 56. wasteland



57. The recipe called for a \_\_\_\_\_ amount of salt and made the dish too salty.  
*adj.* unnecessary; more than what is needed or required
58. 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
59. She was \_\_\_\_\_ by the news and could hardly believe it.  
*adj.* extremely surprised and upset
60. The \_\_\_\_\_ benefits of the new product were not supported by research.  
*adj.* claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated
61. The cult leader held her followers in \_\_\_\_\_ with her charismatic speeches.  
*n.* a state of being under the control or power of someone or something else; bondage or slavery; a captivated or enthralled state
62. The \_\_\_\_\_ force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.  
*adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
63. The \_\_\_\_\_ woman spent her days volunteering at the local church.  
*adj.* deeply religious, having or showing a strong devotion to God or religious beliefs and practices
64. His password was so complex that guessing it would be like finding one specific zero in a \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the number ten to the power of a googol (=  $10^{100}$ , a 1 followed by one hundred zeros)

ANSWERS: 57. superfluous, 58. Arthurian, 59. astonished, 60. purported, 61. thrall, 62. gravitational, 63. pious, 64. googolplex

65. She sat quietly, \_\_\_\_\_ the difficult decision.  
*v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
66. Some politicians use fear to \_\_\_\_\_ support for their policies.  
*v.* to sell or promote something, especially by using aggressive or exaggerated tactics; to peddle or deal in (usually negative) information, rumors, or gossip;  
(noun) a dealer, trader, or seller of a particular commodity or goods
67. The deep sea is an \_\_\_\_\_ of mystery and discovery.  
*n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
68. This \_\_\_\_\_ paperwork is wasting our time and resources.  
*adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
69. His \_\_\_\_\_ response to the question showed a lack of understanding.  
*adj.* devoid of content, substance, or intelligence; lacking in ideas or intelligence; empty or without meaning
70. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the soil in this area is ideal for growing crops.  
*n.* the ability to produce an abundance of offspring or creative works; fertility; productivity
71. It is \_\_\_\_\_ that we will find a solution to this problem overnight.  
*adj.* not likely to happen or be true; unlikely; having a low probability or chance of occurring
72. His \_\_\_\_\_ interest soon caught everyone's attention.  
*adj.* feigned or not genuine; assumed or simulated

ANSWERS: 65. pondering, 66. monger, 67. abyss, 68. needless, 69. vacuous, 70. fecundity, 71. improbable, 72. pretended

73. The nighttime cityscape was illuminated with thousands of \_\_\_\_ of lights from the buildings.

*n.* a unit of measurement of the intensity of light equal to one lumen per square meter

74. The ancient Egyptians believed that the sun \_\_\_\_\_ Ra was the most powerful god.

*n.* a divine being or god worshipped and revered by people in a particular religion or culture

75. The idea for the novel \_\_\_\_\_ as fragments of a dream in the author's mind.

*v.* to exist or occur before something else, especially referring to a time period or event; to predate or come before

76. The optimal solution that would \_\_\_\_\_ all these elements has yet to be proposed.

*v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely

77. The \_\_\_\_\_ silent performance captivated the audience, leaving them in awe.

*n.* a form of acting or performance in which gestures, body movements, and facial expressions are used to convey meaning or tell a story without the use of spoken words; a performer who specializes in this art form

78. His relationship with her was completely \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual

ANSWERS: 73. lux, 74. deity, 75. preexisted, 76. encompass, 77. mime's, 78. platonic