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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dennis Wildfogel: What is the universe made of? |

TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/dennis_wildfogel_what_is_t](https://www.ted.com/talks/dennis_wildfogel_what_is_the_universe_made_of)

[he_universe_made_of](https://www.ted.com/talks/dennis_wildfogel_what_is_the_universe_made_of)

All Words

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Session 1: Word List

compose

v. to write music, poetry, or formal writing; to constitute or make up a whole, or a specified part of it

synonym: compile, constitute, build

(1) **compose** an essay, (2) **compose** my thoughts

The structure is **composed** of three main components.

microscopic

adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

synonym: infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis

Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

molecule

n. a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds

synonym: particle, element, atom

(1) small **molecules**, (2) **molecule** behavior

The shape of the DNA **molecule** is a double helix.

individual

n. a single person or thing, as distinct from a group

synonym: person, being, self

(1) a private **individual**, (2) **individual** freedom

As an **individual**, he had the right to make his own decisions

and live his life as he saw fit.

atom

n. the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus

synonym : particle, element, fraction

(1) oxygen **atom**, (2) neutral hydrogen **atoms**

The outermost electron shell of an **atom** determines its chemical characteristics.

frequent

adj. happening constantly

synonym : periodic, recurring, routine

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

His heartaches are less **frequent** now.

virtually

adv. almost completely

synonym : almost, basically, nearly

(1) **virtually** all countries, (2) **virtually** identical

Virtually all the parties signed the contract.

beneath

adv. in or to a lower place than someone or something

synonym : down, under, low

(1) the ground **beneath** my feet, (2) **beneath** contempt

A great stretch of the lake lay **beneath** them.

breath

n. the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs

synonym : air, puff, whiff

(1) hold your **breath**, (2) **breath** of wind

He bated his **breath** when talking about this affair.

planet

n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

synonym : earth, world, globe

(1) **planet** like the Earth, (2) save the **planet**

Mercury is the closest **planet** to the sun.

bang

v. to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise

synonym: crash, hit, smash

(1) **bang** his fist on a desk, (2) **bang** a phone down

My father tried to **bang** mathematics into my head since childhood.

universe

n. everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

synonym: cosmos, macrocosm

(1) theory of the **universe**, (2) expansion of the **universe**

The **universe** is about 13.8 billion years old.

consist

v. to be composed or made up of

synonym: lie in, comprise, exist

(1) **consist** mainly of cells, (2) **consist** only in knowing facts

This examination **consists** of five problems to solve.

belong

v. to be the property of someone or something; to be a member or part of a group; to be in the proper or appropriate place

synonym: fit, be appropriate, be suitable

(1) **belong** to different species, (2) **belong** to a group

All the books in this section **belong** to the library's rare collection and must be handled carefully.

hydrogen

n. the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water

(1) **hydrogen** gas, (2) heavy **hydrogen**

The **hydrogen** and the oxygen react and then form water.

helium

n. a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the

periodic table

synonym: He, light gas, noble gas

(1) **helium** atom, (2) **helium** gas

The **helium-filled** balloons floated into the sky.

carbon

n. a chemical element that can be found in pure form as diamond or graphite, and it is also an essential part of coal and oil and is found in all plants and animals

(1) **carbon** dioxide, (2) **carbon** emission

Trees absorb **carbon** dioxide and give off oxygen.

oxygen

n. the chemical element with the symbol O that is present in air and water and is necessary for people, animals, and plants to live

(1) the hydrogen binds the **oxygen**, (2) lack of **oxygen**

The passenger grabbed for the **oxygen** mask.

nitrogen

n. a chemical element with the symbol N and atomic number 7, which is a highly reactive element that forms part of many compounds, including amino acids and proteins

(1) heavy **nitrogen**, (2) **nitrogen** absorption

Nitrogen gas is used to inflate car tires because it does not react with rubber.

density

n. the quality of compactness of a substance

synonym: tightness, viscosity

(1) population **density**, (2) higher pixel **density**

Do you know the **density** of the population in Hong Kong?

slightly

adv. in a small degree or extent; a little

synonym: barely, narrowly, scarcely

(1) increase **slightly**, (2) **slightly** alkaline soils

He moved his body **slightly** to the left.

gravity

n. the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn

synonym : heaviness, attraction, weight

(1) the attraction of **gravity**, (2) preserve my **gravity**

The astronaut felt weightless in space due to the absence of **gravity**.

attract

v. to draw or entice someone or something towards them through the qualities they have, especially positive ones

synonym : lure, entice, draw in

(1) **attract** attention, (2) **attract** customers

The government is eager to **attract** international investment.

strengthen

v. to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective

synonym : reinforce, harden, boost

(1) **strengthen** the immune system, (2) **strengthen** a border patrol

Difficulties **strengthen** the mind, as labor does the body.

eventually

adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on

synonym : finally, someday, ultimately

(1) **eventually** become obsolete, (2) **eventually** succeed

The corporation **eventually** dominated the entire tobacco business.

dense

adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

synonym : heavy, thick, idiotic

(1) nutrient- **dense** foods, (2) **dense** forests

The entire mountain is covered in **dense** rainforest.

shrink

v. to become smaller, or to make something smaller in size or amount

synonym : decrease, diminish, shy away

(1) **shrink** the tumor, (2) **shrink** with fear
This shirt will **shrink** in the wash.

consequently

adv. as a result or outcome of something

synonym: hence, accordingly, thus

(1) **consequently** unable to start her studies,
(2) **consequently** affect the organs

Consequently, the company had to lay off some of its employees.

nuclear

adj. of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom;
deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy

synonym: atomic

(1) **nuclear** fusion, (2) use of **nuclear** power

Many countries have now agreed to a treaty banning the use of **nuclear** weapons.

fusion

n. the process of combining two or more things to form a single entity

synonym: merger, consolidation, amalgamation

(1) heat **fusion**, (2) **fusion** cuisine

Nuclear **fusion** is a process in which atomic nuclei combine to form heavier nuclei.

smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

synonym: great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results

The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

accompany

v. to go somewhere or travel with someone or something

synonym: follow, escort, attend

(1) **accompany** a chicken dish, (2) **accompany** the book

Please let me know if you want to **accompany** me to my

hometown.

release

v. to set free or allow to escape from confinement
synonym : free, let go, discharge

(1) **release** a prisoner, (2) **release** CO2 into the air

The animal rights group worked to **release** the dolphins back into the wild.

counteract

v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

synonym : balance, offset, compensate

(1) **counteract** the effect of poison, (2) **counteract** global warming

Our body's immune system produces antibodies to **counteract** disease.

reaction

n. a response that reveals a person's feelings or attitude; (in chemistry) a process in which one or more substances are changed into others

synonym : response, reply, answer

(1) chemical **reaction**, (2) trigger a **reaction**

There was a chemical **reaction** of the lime with the groundwater.

inward

adj. directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking

synonym : internal, introspective, interior

(1) **inward** peace, (2) **inward** cargo

The **inward** motion of the tide was gradually slowing down.

equilibrium

n. a state in which opposing forces or influences are balanced

synonym : balance, stability, harmony

(1) **equilibrium** point, (2) political **equilibrium**

The company struggled to maintain an **equilibrium** between its profits and social responsibilities.

lifetime

n. the duration of someone's life or something's existence;
synonym : lifespan, duration

(1) **lifetime** benefits, (2) **lifetime** ban from the sport
She had lived through two world wars in her **lifetime**.

massive

adj. enormous amount; very heavy and solid
synonym : enormous, giant, immense

(1) **massive** amounts, (2) **massive** stars
The recent economic downturn has resulted in **massive** layoffs.

periodic

adj. happening at regular intervals over a while
synonym : regular, frequent, recurring

(1) the **periodic** blooming of the cherry-blossom,
(2) **periodic** payments
Astronomers are examining whether the **periodic** signals emanating from this star are artificial.

fuel

n. a substance that is typically burned to generate heat or energy

synonym : energy, power, gas

(1) biomass **fuel**, (2) smokeless **fuel**
The **fuel** scarcity most severely impacted the manufacturing sector

collapse

v. to fall down or give way suddenly, often after breaking apart

synonym : tumble, spill, bankruptcy

(1) the stock market **collapsed**, (2) ready to **collapse**
The roof finally **collapsed** after three days and three nights of heavy snowfall.

unbelievable

adj. beyond belief or understanding and extremely surprising
synonym : unimaginable, incredible, fantastical

(1) **unbelievable** beauty, (2) cause **unbelievable** damage
He drinks an **unbelievable** amount of beer.

supernova

n. a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant

synonym : explosion, detonation, blast

(1) extragalactic **supernova**, (2) **supernova** remnant

The **supernova** explosion created a bright new star in the night sky.

uranium

n. a chemical element with the symbol U, atomic number 92, that is a dense, silvery-white metal that is radioactive and is used as a fuel for nuclear power plants

synonym : U

(1) **uranium** mining, (2) radioactive **uranium** isotope

The mining and processing of **uranium** can lead to releasing radioactive materials into the environment.

accumulate

v. to collect or acquire a large number of things over a long period of time

synonym : amass, stash, earn

(1) **accumulate** cash value, (2) **accumulate** evidence

He has **accumulated** his wealth through real estate investments.

eject

v. to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position

synonym : discharge, expel, emit

(1) **eject** a player from a game, (2) **eject** huge amounts of pollutant

Our immune system can **eject** disease germs from the body.

interstellar

adj. relating to or located in the space between stars

synonym : galactic, cosmic, intergalactic

(1) **interstellar** communication, (2) **interstellar** space

The **interstellar** medium comprises gas, dust, and cosmic rays that fill the space between stars.

enrich

v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

synonym: enhance, improve, augment

(1) **enrich** a gas with a balloon, (2) **enrich** public services

Reading not only increases knowledge but also **enriches** life.

incidental

adj. happening or likely to happen in the course of events, without being planned or intended; minor or peripheral

synonym: minor, supplementary, peripheral

(1) **incidental** to my story, (2) **incidental** damage

The broken vase was just an **incidental** expense.

process

n. a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products

synonym: procedure, method, system

(1) **process** improvement, (2) decision-making **process**

The **process** for applying for a visa can be lengthy and complicated.

bulk

n. the quantity or size of something that is very large; the main part of something

synonym: majority, largeness, amount

(1) buy in **bulk**, (2) **bulk** data transfer

I received a parcel of great **bulk**.

astronomer

n. a physicist who studies astronomy

synonym: stargazer, cosmologist, astrophysicist

(1) amateur **astronomer**, (2) solar **astronomer**

This question has fascinated solar **astronomers** for decades.

boulder

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

synonym: rock, stone, clump

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

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

cousin

n. the child of your aunt or uncle

synonym: relative

(1) cross- **cousin** marriage, (2) **cousin's** family

I used to play with my younger male **cousins** when I was a little girl.

Session 2: Spelling

1. extragalactic su_____va
n. a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
2. de__e forests
adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
3. hold your br___h
n. the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs
4. radioactive ur_____m isotope
n. a chemical element with the symbol U, atomic number 92, that is a dense, silvery-white metal that is radioactive and is used as a fuel for nuclear power plants
5. co_____t only in knowing facts
v. to be composed or made up of
6. ready to co_____se
v. to fall down or give way suddenly, often after breaking apart
7. ma_____e amounts
adj. enormous amount; very heavy and solid
8. he___m atom
n. a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
9. nutrient-de__e foods
adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

ANSWERS: 1. supernova, 2. dense, 3. breath, 4. uranium, 5. consist, 6. collapse, 7. massive, 8. helium, 9. dense

10. theory of the un_____se *n.* everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy
11. heavy hy_____en *n.* the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water
12. sh___k the tumor *v.* to become smaller, or to make something smaller in size or amount
13. hy_____en gas *n.* the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water
14. a sm_____ng blow *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
15. ma_____e stars *adj.* enormous amount; very heavy and solid
16. con_____tly affect the organs *adv.* as a result or outcome of something
17. co___n's family *n.* the child of your aunt or uncle
18. inc_____al to my story *adj.* happening or likely to happen in the course of events, without being planned or intended; minor or peripheral
19. give sm_____ng results *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
20. oxygen a__m *n.* the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus

ANSWERS: 10. universe, 11. hydrogen, 12. shrink, 13. hydrogen, 14. smashing, 15. massive, 16. consequently, 17. cousin, 18. incidental, 19. smashing, 20. atom

21. nu____r fusion *adj.* of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom; deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy
22. int_____lar communication *adj.* relating to or located in the space between stars
23. int_____lar space *adj.* relating to or located in the space between stars
24. ur____m mining *n.* a chemical element with the symbol U, atomic number 92, that is a dense, silvery-white metal that is radioactive and is used as a fuel for nuclear power plants
25. biomass f__l *n.* a substance that is typically burned to generate heat or energy
26. b__g a phone down *v.* to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise
27. the hydrogen binds the ox___n *n.* the chemical element with the symbol O that is present in air and water and is necessary for people, animals, and plants to live
28. li_____me ban from the sport *n.* the duration of someone's life or something's existence;
29. the stock market co_____sed *v.* to fall down or give way suddenly, often after breaking apart
30. pe_____ic payments *adj.* happening at regular intervals over a while
31. ej__t huge amounts of pollutant *v.* to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position

ANSWERS: 21. nuclear, 22. interstellar, 23. interstellar, 24. uranium, 25. fuel, 26. bang, 27. oxygen, 28. lifetime, 29. collapse, 30. periodic, 31. eject

32. sh___k with fear *v.* to become smaller, or to make something smaller in size or amount
33. acc_____te cash value *v.* to collect or acquire a large number of things over a long period of time
34. heavy ni_____en *n.* a chemical element with the symbol N and atomic number 7, which is a highly reactive element that forms part of many compounds, including amino acids and proteins
35. at_____t attention *v.* to draw or entice someone or something towards them through the qualities they have, especially positive ones
36. ni_____en absorption *n.* a chemical element with the symbol N and atomic number 7, which is a highly reactive element that forms part of many compounds, including amino acids and proteins
37. the attraction of gr_____y *n.* the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn
38. su_____va remnant *n.* a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
39. the pe_____ic blooming of the cherry-blossom *adj.* happening at regular intervals over a while
40. b__g his fist on a desk *v.* to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise

ANSWERS: 32. shrink, 33. accumulate, 34. nitrogen, 35. attract, 36. nitrogen, 37. gravity, 38. supernova, 39. periodic, 40. bang

41. pl___t like the Earth *n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
42. political equ_____um *n.* a state in which opposing forces or influences are balanced
43. cross-co___n marriage *n.* the child of your aunt or uncle
44. ca___n emission *n.* a chemical element that can be found in pure form as diamond or graphite, and it is also an essential part of coal and oil and is found in all plants and animals
45. fr_____nt absence *adj.* happening constantly
46. inc_____al damage *adj.* happening or likely to happen in the course of events, without being planned or intended; minor or peripheral
47. a private ind_____al *n.* a single person or thing, as distinct from a group
48. mic_____ic inquiry *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
49. increase sl_____ly *adv.* in a small degree or extent; a little
50. lava bo_____r *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
51. str_____en the immune system *v.* to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective
52. co_____t mainly of cells *v.* to be composed or made up of

ANSWERS: 41. planet, 42. equilibrium, 43. cousin, 44. carbon, 45. frequent, 46. incidental, 47. individual, 48. microscopic, 49. slightly, 50. boulder, 51. strengthen, 52. consist

53. expansion of the un_____se *n.* everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy
54. buy in b__k *n.* the quantity or size of something that is very large; the main part of something
55. pr_____s improvement *n.* a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products
56. unb_____ble beauty *adj.* beyond belief or understanding and extremely surprising
57. en___h a gas with a balloon *v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
58. bo_____r field *n.* a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
59. the ground be_____h my feet *adv.* in or to a lower place than someone or something
60. amateur ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
61. in___d cargo *adj.* directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking
62. mo_____le behavior *n.* a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds

ANSWERS: 53. universe, 54. bulk, 55. process, 56. unbelievable, 57. enrich, 58. boulder, 59. beneath, 60. astronomer, 61. inward, 62. molecule

63. solar ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
64. ind_____al freedom *n.* a single person or thing, as distinct from a group
65. co_____e my thoughts *v.* to write music, poetry, or formal writing; to constitute or make up a whole, or a specified part of it
66. re_____e CO2 into the air *v.* to set free or allow to escape from confinement
67. neutral hydrogen a__ms *n.* the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus
68. ac_____ny a chicken dish *v.* to go somewhere or travel with someone or something
69. decision-making pr_____s *n.* a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products
70. re_____e a prisoner *v.* to set free or allow to escape from confinement
71. equ_____um point *n.* a state in which opposing forces or influences are balanced
72. li_____me benefits *n.* the duration of someone's life or something's existence;
73. small mo_____les *n.* a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds

ANSWERS: 63. astronomer, 64. individual, 65. compose, 66. release, 67. atom, 68. accompany, 69. process, 70. release, 71. equilibrium, 72. lifetime, 73. molecule

74. br___h of wind *n.* the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs
75. fr_____nt use *adj.* happening constantly
76. heat fu___n *n.* the process of combining two or more things to form a single entity
77. in___d peace *adj.* directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking
78. acc_____te evidence *v.* to collect or acquire a large number of things over a long period of time
79. use of nu_____r power *adj.* of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom; deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy
80. save the pl___t *n.* any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
81. vi_____ly all countries *adv.* almost completely
82. con_____tly unable to start her studies *adv.* as a result or outcome of something
83. eve_____ly succeed *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
84. higher pixel de_____y *n.* the quality of compactness of a substance
85. ca___n dioxide *n.* a chemical element that can be found in pure form as diamond or graphite, and it is also an essential part of coal and oil and is found in all plants and animals

ANSWERS: 74. breath, 75. frequent, 76. fusion, 77. inward, 78. accumulate, 79. nuclear, 80. planet, 81. virtually, 82. consequently, 83. eventually, 84. density, 85. carbon

86. eve_____ly become obsolete *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
87. be____g to a group *v.* to be the property of someone or something; to be a member or part of a group; to be in the proper or appropriate place
88. sl_____ly alkaline soils *adv.* in a small degree or extent; a little
89. mic_____ic analysis *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
90. cause unb_____ble damage *adj.* beyond belief or understanding and extremely surprising
91. smokeless f__l *n.* a substance that is typically burned to generate heat or energy
92. cou_____ct global warming *v.* to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
93. chemical re_____on *n.* a response that reveals a person's feelings or attitude; (in chemistry) a process in which one or more substances are changed into others
94. population de_____y *n.* the quality of compactness of a substance
95. en____h public services *v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
96. co_____e an essay *v.* to write music, poetry, or formal writing; to constitute or make up a whole, or a specified part of it
97. at_____t customers *v.* to draw or entice someone or something towards them through the qualities they have, especially positive ones

ANSWERS: 86. eventually, 87. belong, 88. slightly, 89. microscopic, 90. unbelievable, 91. fuel, 92. counteract, 93. reaction, 94. density, 95. enrich, 96. compose, 97. attract

98. ej__t a player from a game *v.* to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position
99. str_____en a border patrol *v.* to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective
100. fu___n cuisine *n.* the process of combining two or more things to form a single entity
101. trigger a re_____on *n.* a response that reveals a person's feelings or attitude; (in chemistry) a process in which one or more substances are changed into others
102. lack of ox___n *n.* the chemical element with the symbol O that is present in air and water and is necessary for people, animals, and plants to live
103. b__k data transfer *n.* the quantity or size of something that is very large; the main part of something
104. vi_____ly identical *adv.* almost completely
105. ac_____ny the book *v.* to go somewhere or travel with someone or something
106. be_____h contempt *adv.* in or to a lower place than someone or something
107. he___m gas *n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
108. preserve my gr_____y *n.* the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn

ANSWERS: 98. eject, 99. strengthen, 100. fusion, 101. reaction, 102. oxygen, 103. bulk, 104. virtually, 105. accompany, 106. beneath, 107. helium, 108. gravity

109. cou_____ct the effect of poison

v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

110. be___g to different species

v. to be the property of someone or something; to be a member or part of a group; to be in the proper or appropriate place

ANSWERS: 109. counteract, 110. belong

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He has _____ his wealth through real estate investments.
v. to collect or acquire a large number of things over a long period of time
2. The company struggled to maintain an _____ between its profits and social responsibilities.
n. a state in which opposing forces or influences are balanced
3. The shape of the DNA _____ is a double helix.
n. a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds
4. I received a parcel of great _____.
n. the quantity or size of something that is very large; the main part of something
5. _____ all the parties signed the contract.
adv. almost completely
6. The _____ balloons floated into the sky.
n. a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
7. The animal rights group worked to _____ the dolphins back into the wild.
v. to set free or allow to escape from confinement
8. The government is eager to _____ international investment.
v. to draw or entice someone or something towards them through the qualities they have, especially positive ones

ANSWERS: 1. accumulated, 2. equilibrium, 3. molecule, 4. bulk, 5. Virtually, 6. helium-filled, 7. release, 8. attract

9. The hikers had to climb over a _____ that was blocking their path.
n. a large, smooth rock, typically one that has been worn away from a cliff or mountain by erosion
10. The broken vase was just an _____ expense.
adj. happening or likely to happen in the course of events, without being planned or intended; minor or peripheral
11. Mercury is the closest _____ to the sun.
n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
12. He moved his body _____ to the left.
adv. in a small degree or extent; a little
13. The structure is _____ of three main components.
v. to write music, poetry, or formal writing; to constitute or make up a whole, or a specified part of it
14. A great stretch of the lake lay _____ them.
adv. in or to a lower place than someone or something
15. This shirt will _____ in the wash.
v. to become smaller, or to make something smaller in size or amount
16. Our body's immune system produces antibodies to _____ disease.
v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
17. The band's new album was a _____ success, reaching the top of the charts.
adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

ANSWERS: 9. boulder, 10. incidental, 11. planet, 12. slightly, 13. composed, 14. beneath, 15. shrink, 16. counteract, 17. smashing

18. Our immune system can _____ disease germs from the body.
v. to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position
19. _____ gas is used to inflate car tires because it does not react with rubber.
n. a chemical element with the symbol N and atomic number 7, which is a highly reactive element that forms part of many compounds, including amino acids and proteins
20. The astronaut felt weightless in space due to the absence of _____.
n. the force that attracts a body towards the center of the earth or towards any other physical body having mass; a manner that is solemn
21. The _____ and the oxygen react and then form water.
n. the chemical element that is the lightest gas is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and combines with oxygen to form water
22. The recent economic downturn has resulted in _____ layoffs.
adj. enormous amount; very heavy and solid
23. _____ the company had to lay off some of its employees.
adv. as a result or outcome of something
24. The mining and processing of _____ can lead to releasing radioactive materials into the environment.
n. a chemical element with the symbol U, atomic number 92, that is a dense, silvery-white metal that is radioactive and is used as a fuel for nuclear power plants
25. This question has fascinated solar _____ for decades.
n. a physicist who studies astronomy

ANSWERS: 18. eject, 19. Nitrogen, 20. gravity, 21. hydrogen, 22. massive, 23. Consequently, 24. uranium, 25. astronomers

26. The corporation _____ dominated the entire tobacco business.
adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
27. The _____ for applying for a visa can be lengthy and complicated.
n. a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products
28. As an _____ he had the right to make his own decisions and live his life as he saw fit.
n. a single person or thing, as distinct from a group
29. Inspectors noticed _____ cracks in the submarine's hull.
adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
30. All the books in this section _____ to the library's rare collection and must be handled carefully.
v. to be the property of someone or something; to be a member or part of a group; to be in the proper or appropriate place
31. The entire mountain is covered in _____ rainforest.
adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
32. His heartaches are less _____ now.
adj. happening constantly
33. The outermost electron shell of an _____ determines its chemical characteristics.
n. the smallest unit of ordinary matter that forms a chemical element, composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus

ANSWERS: 26. eventually, 27. process, 28. individual, 29. microscopic, 30. belong, 31. dense, 32. frequent, 33. atom

34. I used to play with my younger male _____ when I was a little girl.
n. the child of your aunt or uncle
35. The _____ medium comprises gas, dust, and cosmic rays that fill the space between stars.
adj. relating to or located in the space between stars
36. He drinks an _____ amount of beer.
adj. beyond belief or understanding and extremely surprising
37. The _____ scarcity most severely impacted the manufacturing sector
n. a substance that is typically burned to generate heat or energy
38. This examination _____ of five problems to solve.
v. to be composed or made up of
39. The _____ explosion created a bright new star in the night sky.
n. a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
40. There was a chemical _____ of the lime with the groundwater.
n. a response that reveals a person's feelings or attitude; (in chemistry) a process in which one or more substances are changed into others
41. The _____ motion of the tide was gradually slowing down.
adj. directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking
42. Do you know the _____ of the population in Hong Kong?
n. the quality of compactness of a substance

ANSWERS: 34. cousins, 35. interstellar, 36. unbelievable, 37. fuel, 38. consists, 39. supernova, 40. reaction, 41. inward, 42. density

43. Many countries have now agreed to a treaty banning the use of _____ weapons.

adj. of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom; deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy

44. The roof finally _____ after three days and three nights of heavy snowfall.

v. to fall down or give way suddenly, often after breaking apart

45. She had lived through two world wars in her _____.

n. the duration of someone's life or something's existence;

46. Reading not only increases knowledge but also _____ life.

v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

47. Difficulties _____ the mind, as labor does the body.

v. to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective

48. My father tried to _____ mathematics into my head since childhood.

v. to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise

49. He bated his _____ when talking about this affair.

n. the air that is taken into and expelled from your lungs; the process of taking into and expelling air from your lungs

50. Please let me know if you want to _____ me to my hometown.

v. to go somewhere or travel with someone or something

51. Nuclear _____ is a process in which atomic nuclei combine to form heavier nuclei.

n. the process of combining two or more things to form a single entity

ANSWERS: 43. nuclear, 44. collapsed, 45. lifetime, 46. enriches, 47. strengthen, 48. bang, 49. breath, 50. accompany, 51. fusion

52. Astronomers are examining whether the _____ signals emanating from this star are artificial.

adj. happening at regular intervals over a while

53. The passenger grabbed for the _____ mask.

n. the chemical element with the symbol O that is present in air and water and is necessary for people, animals, and plants to live

54. The _____ is about 13.8 billion years old.

n. everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

55. Trees absorb _____ dioxide and give off oxygen.

n. a chemical element that can be found in pure form as diamond or graphite, and it is also an essential part of coal and oil and is found in all plants and animals

ANSWERS: 52. periodic, 53. oxygen, 54. universe, 55. carbon