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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mac Barnett: Why a good book is a secret door | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/mac_barnett_why_a_good

_book_is_a_secret_door

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

 v. to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain synonym: disentangle, unravel, decipher
(1) untangle a situation, (2) untangle a problem
I need to untangle this knot before using this rope piece.
 adj. relating to a transitional or intermediate state or position; occupying the threshold between two different conditions or worlds synonym: transitional, intermediate, threshold
(1) liminal position, (2) liminal zone
The liminal space between childhood and adulthood can be difficult to navigate.
 v. to allow a liquid or substance to flow slowly and steadily in small drops; to move a ball or object in a series of small bounces or taps, often while running or maneuvering around other players synonym: trickle, drizzle, drop
(1) dribble the ball, (2) dribble from my mouth
The coffee from your cup is starting to dribble down your shirt.

svelte	 adj. having a slender or graceful figure; characterized by elegance, finesse, or a polished appearance, often used to describe a person or object with a sleek and well-proportioned design synonym: slender, lean, slim 				
	(1) svelte figure, (2) svelte silhouette				
	The fashion designer showcased her latest collection				
	featuring svelte models in sleek outfits.				
pinnacle	 n. the highest point or peak of something, particularly a mountain or a career; the greatest or highest level of achievement or success synonym: summit, peak, apex 				
	 (1) architectural pinnacle, (2) reached the pinnacle Climbing to the pinnacle of the mountain is a challenge that 				
	many outdoor enthusiasts strive to achieve.				
melon	n. large fruit with a thick rind and fleshy, juicy interior, typically sweet and fragrant				
	(1) ripe melon , (2) juicy melon				
	She sliced the honeydew melon into small pieces for the fruit salad.				
ivy	<i>n.</i> an evergreen climbing or ground-creeping woody plant that often grows up trees or buildings				
	(1) poison ivy , (2) ivy plant				
	The overgrown ivy cleaved to the ruined castle walls.				
overgrown	 adj. covered in plants that have been allowed to grow naturally and have not been controlled synonym: leafy, lush, verdant 				
	(1) an overgrown garden, (2) overgrown child				
	The wooden gate had been damaged, and the hedge had				
	become overgrown.				
cantaloupe	<i>n.</i> a type of melon with a ribbed, greenish peel and sweet, orange flesh, commonly consumed as a fruit and used in				

	various culinary preparations
	synonym: melon, muskmelon
	(1) sliced cantaloupe , (2) sweet cantaloupe
	I bought a ripe and juicy cantaloupe from the grocery store
	for a refreshing snack.
trudge	 v. to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously synonym: plod, slog, hike
	(1) trudge through mud, (2) trudge up the hill
	The hiker trudged through the dense forest, chopping his
	way with a machete.
disbelief	 n. the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real synonym: doubt, mistrust, incredulity
	(1) disbelief in the authority, (2) ask in disbelief
	His reaction was one of complete disbelief .
	This reaction was one of complete dispense.
poetic	 adj. of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way synonym: literary, verse-like, rhythmic
	(1) poetic genius, (2) poetic justice
	The sunset was so beautiful it looked like a poetic scene
	from a movie.
semblance	 n. the outward appearance or visible form of something, especially when it is different from the reality beneath; a vague or superficial similarity synonym: appearance, facade, imitation
	(1) semblance of truth, (2) lose semblance of identity
	There was no semblance of order at the chaotic protest.
descend	 v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

	synonym: dip, drop, come down
	(1) descend a steep hill, (2) descend by elevator
	She was descended from an old Italian noble family.
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.
wardrobe	 n. a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings synonym: clothing, attire, closet
	(1) walk-in wardrobe, (2) minimalist wardrobe
	Her wardrobe selection included several pieces from
	high-end designer brands.
headquarter	<i>n.</i> the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
	synonym: base, center, command
	 (1) administrative headquarter, (2) an emergency headquarter
	The company decided to move its headquarters to New York City.
citrus	 a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits
	synonym: orange, lemon, lime
	(1) citrus trees, (2) citrus scent
	Citrus fruits like oranges and lemons are high in vitamin C.
scurvy	 n. a disease resulting from a lack of vitamin C, characterized by swollen bleeding gums and the opening of previously healed wounds; (adjective)

	deserving to be despised synonym: scorbutus		
	(1) prevent scurvy , (2) a scurvy trick		
	Conditions like scurvy and rickets are the result of vitamin deficiencies.		
springtime	 n. the season of the year between winter and summer, typically associated with the blooming of flowers, growth of plants, and milder weather synonym: spring, heyday, budtime 		
	(1) springtime blooms, (2) springtime breeze		
	I love going for walks in the park during springtime .		
pastel	 a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring 		
	synonym: chalk, crayon, color stick		
	(1) pastel drawing, (2) pastel palette		
	Her artwork features soft pastel colors and dreamy landscapes.		
motto	n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal		
	synonym: slogan, catchphrase, phrase		
	(1) the motto for safe traffic, (2) company motto		
	The company's motto is "Innovation and Service," which is		
	reflected in its products and customer support.		
boulevard	 n. a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade synonym: avenue, street, road 		
	(1) tree-lined boulevard , (2) residential boulevard		
	The new shopping center is on a bustling boulevard in the city's heart.		

sect	 n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream synonym: group, faction, cult 			
	(1) sect beliefs, (2) secret sect			
	The minority sect believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.			
medicinal	<i>adj.</i> of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease <i>synonym</i> : curative, therapeutic, healing			
	(1) medicinal chemistry, (2) traditional medicinal			
	The medicinal properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.			
slush	n. partially melted snow or ice that is usually lying on the ground and dirty; dirty and injustice			
	(1) ice slush , (2) illicit slush funds			
	The streets and sidewalks were covered in snow and slush.			
mammoth	 adj. exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene synonym: huge, large 			
	(1) woolly mammoth , (2) a mammoth ship			
	The minister decided to review its mammoth public works projects.			
barb	 <i>n</i>. a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair <i>synonym</i>: spine, barbed remark, sting 			
	(1) barb wire, (2) aim a barb			
	The politician's words were full of barbs designed to hurt his opponent.			
repellent	<i>adj.</i> serving to drive away or repel something; unpleasant or offensive and causing a strong sense of aversion or			

	disgust <i>synonym</i> : disgusting, repulsive, offensive (1) repellent odor, (2) repellent properties She avoided the used car salesman because she found his pushy behavior repellent .		
potpourri	 n. a mixture of dried, naturally fragrant plant materials; a mixture or medley of different things, especially a collection or assortment of various pleasant or interesting elements, such as smells, colors, or ideas synonym: mixture, blend, assortment 		
	(1) aromatic potpourri , (2) floral potpourri		
	The gift basket was filled with a delightful potpourri of scented candles, bath bombs, and chocolates.		
toenail	 n. the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance synonym: nail, claw, hoof 		
	(1) toenail fungus, (2) ingrown toenail		
	I accidentally stubbed my toe and broke my toenail.		
rot	 v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually synonym: perish, decay, corrode 		
	(1) begin to rot , (2) rot with age		
	Please refrigerate the meat, or it will rot .		
pyre	 <i>n</i>. a ceremonial pile of combustible materials, usually wood, used for the burning of a dead body as part of a funeral rite or cremation; a bonfire <i>synonym</i>: bonfire, cremation fire 		
	(1) pile of pyres , (2) ceremonial pyre		
	The deceased warrior was honored with a funeral pyre.		

ax	 n. a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials synonym: hatchet, chopper, tomahawk
	 (1) chop wood with an ax, (2) an ax in the toolbox He used an ax to chop the firewood for the campfire.
seam	 n. a line of stitching or joining where two pieces of fabric or material are united; also, a narrow furrow or fissure in rock or soil synonym: stitch, seam, joint
	 (1) uneven seam, (2) the seam on the shoulder She took the dress to the tailor to fix the torn seam.
storytelling	 n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories synonym: narrating, relating, recounting (1) storytelling performance, (2) courtroom storytelling She was skilled in storytelling techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
rafter	 n. one of several internal beams in a roof that support the covering synonym: beam, joist, timber (1) built-up rafter, (2) rafter support The construction workers strengthened the roof by adding extra rafters to support the weight.
foreground	 n. the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer (1) foreground segmentation, (2) foreground galaxy A happy group of friends occupies the foreground of the picture.
envelop	 v. to surround and cover completely; to encase synonym: wrap, cover, surround (1) envelop the whole world, (2) envelop her in a bear hug

	The fog enveloped the city, making it difficult to see.
fjord	 n. a long, narrow inlet of the sea between cliffs or hills, often with a shallow, rocky shoreline, found especially in Norway synonym: inlet, estuary, bay
	(1) spectacular fjord , (2) fjord tour
	The beautiful fjord landscape was breathtaking to behold
	from the ship's deck.
digress	 v. to move away from the main subject temporarily, especially in speech or writing
	synonym: deviate, meander, stray
	(1) digress into my personal opinions, (2) digress from the main subject
	The professor always digresses when he gives a lecture.
beep	 v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning synonym: bleep, honk, buzz
	(1) beep out a warning, (2) beep the horn
	The timer beeped , reminding me that the cake was ready to
	come out of the oven.
crossword	n. a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
	(1) do a crossword puzzle, (2) good at crossword puzzles
	He sat frowning over a crossword puzzle.
merry	 adj. cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood synonym: jolly, happy, cheerful
	(1) merry-making, (2) merry laughter
	We had a merry time at the Christmas party, singing carols
	and drinking eggnog.

babysitter

 a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians

synonym: childcare provider, nanny, nurse

(1) need a trustworthy **babysitter**, (2) experienced **babysitter**

Our regular **babysitter** was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	a scy trick	n.	a disease resulting from a lack of vitamin C, characterized by swollen bleeding gums and the opening of previously healed wounds; (adjective) deserving to be despised
2.	bp out a warning	v.	to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
3.	uneven sm	n.	a line of stitching or joining where two pieces of fabric or material are united; also, a narrow furrow or fissure in rock or soil
4.	r_t with age	v.	to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
5.	pal drawing	n.	a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring
6.	ripe men	n.	large fruit with a thick rind and fleshy, juicy interior, typically sweet and fragrant
7.	he is obsed with the fear	v.	to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
8.	ovwn child	adj.	covered in plants that have been allowed to grow naturally and have not been controlled
9.	illicit slh funds	n.	partially melted snow or ice that is usually lying on the ground and dirty; dirty and injustice

ANSWERS: 1. scurvy, 2. beep, 3. seam, 4. rot, 5. pastel, 6. melon, 7. obsess, 8. overgrown, 9. slush

10.	poison i_y	n.	an evergreen climbing or ground-creeping woody plant that often grows up trees or buildings
11.	aromatic pori	n.	a mixture of dried, naturally fragrant plant materials; a mixture or medley of different things, especially a collection or assortment of various pleasant or interesting elements, such as smells, colors, or ideas
12.	meal chemistry	adj.	of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
13.	sprme blooms	n.	the season of the year between winter and summer, typically associated with the blooming of flowers, growth of plants, and milder weather
14.	fornd segmentation	n.	the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer
15.	lil position	adj.	relating to a transitional or intermediate state or position; occupying the threshold between two different conditions or worlds
16.	the moo for safe traffic	n.	a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
17.	lose sece of identity	n.	the outward appearance or visible form of something, especially when it is different from the reality beneath; a vague or superficial similarity
18.	the sm on the shoulder	n.	a line of stitching or joining where two pieces of fabric or material are united; also, a narrow furrow or fissure in rock or soil

ANSWERS: 10. ivy, 11. potpourri, 12. medicinal, 13. springtime, 14. foreground, 15. liminal, 16. motto, 17. semblance, 18. seam

19.	st beliefs	n.	a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
20.	fjd tour	n.	a long, narrow inlet of the sea between cliffs or hills, often with a shallow, rocky shoreline, found especially in Norway
21.	sliced canpe	n.	a type of melon with a ribbed, greenish peel and sweet, orange flesh, commonly consumed as a fruit and used in various culinary preparations
22.	ceremonial pe	n.	a ceremonial pile of combustible materials, usually wood, used for the burning of a dead body as part of a funeral rite or cremation; a bonfire
23.	stoing performance	n.	the act or art of narrating or writing stories
24.	floral pori	n.	a mixture of dried, naturally fragrant plant materials; a mixture or medley of different things, especially a collection or assortment of various pleasant or interesting elements, such as smells, colors, or ideas
25.	sve figure	adj.	having a slender or graceful figure; characterized by elegance, finesse, or a polished appearance, often used to describe a person or object with a sleek and well-proportioned design
26.	sprme breeze	n.	the season of the year between winter and summer, typically associated with the blooming of flowers, growth of plants, and milder weather

ANSWERS: 19. sect, 20. fjord, 21. cantaloupe, 22. pyre, 23. storytelling, 24. potpourri, 25. svelte, 26. springtime

27.	rent odor	adj.	serving to drive away or repel something; unpleasant or offensive and causing a strong sense of aversion or disgust
28.	tre through mud	v.	to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously
29.	rar support	n.	one of several internal beams in a roof that support the covering
30.	sve silhouette	adj.	having a slender or graceful figure; characterized by elegance, finesse, or a polished appearance, often used to describe a person or object with a sleek and well-proportioned design
31.	a mah ship	adj.	exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene
32.	cis trees	n.	a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits
33.	reached the pile	n.	the highest point or peak of something, particularly a mountain or a career; the greatest or highest level of achievement or success
34.	dre from my mouth	v.	to allow a liquid or substance to flow slowly and steadily in small drops; to move a ball or object in a series of small bounces or taps, often while running or maneuvering around other players

ANSWERS: 27. repellent, 28. trudge, 29. rafter, 30. svelte, 31. mammoth, 32. citrus, 33. pinnacle, 34. dribble

35. ded a steep hill	v.	to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
36. ingrown toI	n.	the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance
37. sece of truth	n.	the outward appearance or visible form of something, especially when it is different from the reality beneath; a vague or superficial similarity
38. prevent scy	n.	a disease resulting from a lack of vitamin C, characterized by swollen bleeding gums and the opening of previously healed wounds; (adjective) deserving to be despised
39. rent properties	adj.	serving to drive away or repel something; unpleasant or offensive and causing a strong sense of aversion or disgust
40. bp the horn	v.	to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
41. aim a bb	n.	a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair
42. enp her in a bear hug	v.	to surround and cover completely; to encase

ANSWERS: 35. descend, 36. toenail, 37. semblance, 38. scurvy, 39. repellent, 40. beep, 41. barb, 42. envelop

43.	mey-making	adj.	cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood
44.	ded by elevator	v.	to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
45.	unle a situation	v.	to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain
46.	an emergency heaer	n.	the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
47.	dis from the main subject	v.	to move away from the main subject temporarily, especially in speech or writing
48.	an ovwn garden	adj.	covered in plants that have been allowed to grow naturally and have not been controlled
49.	woolly mah	adj.	exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene
50.	poc genius	adj.	of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way
51.	dre the ball	v.	to allow a liquid or substance to flow slowly and steadily in small drops; to move a ball or object in a series of small bounces or taps, often while running or maneuvering around other players

ANSWERS: 43. merry, 44. descend, 45. untangle, 46. headquarter, 47. digress, 48. overgrown, 49. mammoth, 50. poetic, 51. dribble

52.	good at crrd puzzles	n.	a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
53.	fornd galaxy	n.	the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer
54.	company moo	n.	a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
55.	secret st	n.	a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
56.	toI fungus	n.	the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance
57.	do a crrd puzzle	n.	a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
58.	traditional meal	adj.	of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
59.	tree-lined bord	n.	a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade

ANSWERS: 52. crossword, 53. foreground, 54. motto, 55. sect, 56. toenail, 57. crossword, 58. medicinal, 59. boulevard

60.	poc justice	adj.	of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way
61.	architectural pile	n.	the highest point or peak of something, particularly a mountain or a career; the greatest or highest level of achievement or success
62.	dief in the authority	n.	the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real
63.	ask in dief	n.	the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real
64.	lil zone	adj.	relating to a transitional or intermediate state or position; occupying the threshold between two different conditions or worlds
65.	unle a problem	v.	to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain
66.	experienced baber	n.	a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
67.	administrative heaer	n.	the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
68.	mey laughter	adj.	cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood

ANSWERS: 60. poetic, 61. pinnacle, 62. disbelief, 63. disbelief, 64. liminal, 65. untangle, 66. babysitter, 67. headquarter, 68. merry

69. pal palette	n.	a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring
70. courtroom stoing	n.	the act or art of narrating or writing stories
71. tre up the hill	v.	to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously
72. minimalist wabe	n.	a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings
73. obs over her weight	v.	to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
74. need a trustworthy baber	n.	a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
75. begin to r_t	v.	to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
76. bb wire	n.	a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair

ANSWERS: 69. pastel, 70. storytelling, 71. trudge, 72. wardrobe, 73. obsess, 74. babysitter, 75. rot, 76. barb

77. ice slh	n.	partially melted snow or ice that is usually lying on the ground and dirty; dirty and injustice
78. enp the whole world	ν.	to surround and cover completely; to encase
79. juicy men	n.	large fruit with a thick rind and fleshy, juicy interior, typically sweet and fragrant
80. chop wood with an ax	n.	a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
81. built-up rar	n.	one of several internal beams in a roof that support the covering
82. cis scent	n.	a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits
83. walk-in wabe	n.	a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings
84. spectacular fjd	n.	a long, narrow inlet of the sea between cliffs or hills, often with a shallow, rocky shoreline, found especially in Norway
85. sweet canpe	n.	a type of melon with a ribbed, greenish peel and sweet, orange flesh, commonly consumed as a fruit and used in various culinary preparations

ANSWERS: 77. slush, 78. envelop, 79. melon, 80. ax, 81. rafter, 82. citrus, 83. wardrobe, 84. fjord, 85. cantaloupe

86.	i_y plant	n.	an evergreen climbing or ground-creeping woody plant that often grows up trees or buildings
87.	an ax in the toolbox	n.	a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
88.	residential bord	n.	a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade
89.	pile of pes	n.	a ceremonial pile of combustible materials, usually wood, used for the burning of a dead body as part of a funeral rite or cremation; a bonfire
90.	dis into my personal opinions	v.	to move away from the main subject temporarily, especially in speech or writing

ANSWERS: 86. ivy, 87. ax, 88. boulevard, 89. pyre, 90. digress

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

- 1. I accidentally stubbed my toe and broke my _____.
- *n*. the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance
- 2. His reaction was one of complete _____.
- *n.* the feeling of not being able to believe or accept that something is true or real
- 3. The sunset was so beautiful it looked like a ______ scene from a movie.
- *adj.* of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way
- 4. The company decided to move its ______ to New York City.
- *n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
- 5. We had a _____ time at the Christmas party, singing carols and drinking eggnog.
- *adj.* cheerful and lively, often with a sense of joyfulness or celebration; characterized by a happy or festive mood
- 6. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
- *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
- 7. The deceased warrior was honored with a funeral _____.
- *n.* a ceremonial pile of combustible materials, usually wood, used for the burning of a dead body as part of a funeral rite or cremation; a bonfire

ANSWERS: 1. toenail, 2. disbelief, 3. poetic, 4. headquarters, 5. merry, 6. motto, 7. pyre

- 8. The fashion designer showcased her latest collection featuring _____ models in sleek outfits.
- *adj.* having a slender or graceful figure; characterized by elegance, finesse, or a polished appearance, often used to describe a person or object with a sleek and well-proportioned design
- 9. She was ______ from an old Italian noble family.
- *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
- 10. She took the dress to the tailor to fix the torn _____.
- *n.* a line of stitching or joining where two pieces of fabric or material are united; also, a narrow furrow or fissure in rock or soil
- 11. He sat frowning over a _____ puzzle.
- *n.* a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
- 12. Her artwork features soft _____ colors and dreamy landscapes.
- *n.* a soft and pale shade of a color, often used in art or fashion design; a type of crayon or pencil made of powdered pigment and binder, used for drawing or coloring
- 13. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.
- *v*. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
- 14. The fog ______ the city, making it difficult to see.
- v. to surround and cover completely; to encase
- 15. I love going for walks in the park during ______.
- *n.* the season of the year between winter and summer, typically associated with the blooming of flowers, growth of plants, and milder weather

ANSWERS: 8. svelte, 9. descended, 10. seam, 11. crossword, 12. pastel, 13. obsessed, 14. enveloped, 15. springtime

- 16. Our regular ______ was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.
- *n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
- 17. The politician's words were full of _____ designed to hurt his opponent.
- *n.* a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair
- 18. The construction workers strengthened the roof by adding extra ______ to support the weight.
- *n.* one of several internal beams in a roof that support the covering
- 19. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will ____.
- v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
- 20. The professor always ______ when he gives a lecture.
- v. to move away from the main subject temporarily, especially in speech or writing
- 21. She sliced the honeydew _____ into small pieces for the fruit salad.
- *n.* large fruit with a thick rind and fleshy, juicy interior, typically sweet and fragrant
- 22. I need to ______ this knot before using this rope piece.
- *v.* to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain
- 23. The coffee from your cup is starting to _____ down your shirt.
 - v. to allow a liquid or substance to flow slowly and steadily in small drops; to move a ball or object in a series of small bounces or taps, often while running or maneuvering around other players

ANSWERS: 16. babysitter, 17. barbs, 18. rafters, 19. rot, 20. digresses, 21. melon, 22. untangle, 23. dribble

- 24. The minority _____ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.
 - *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
- 25. The hiker ______ through the dense forest, chopping his way with a machete.
- *v.* to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously
- 26. The streets and sidewalks were covered in snow and _____.
- *n.* partially melted snow or ice that is usually lying on the ground and dirty; dirty and injustice
- 27. The wooden gate had been damaged, and the hedge had become _____.
- *adj.* covered in plants that have been allowed to grow naturally and have not been controlled
- 28. I bought a ripe and juicy ______ from the grocery store for a refreshing snack.
- *n.* a type of melon with a ribbed, greenish peel and sweet, orange flesh, commonly consumed as a fruit and used in various culinary preparations
- 29. There was no ______ of order at the chaotic protest.
- *n.* the outward appearance or visible form of something, especially when it is different from the reality beneath; a vague or superficial similarity
- 30. Climbing to the ______ of the mountain is a challenge that many outdoor enthusiasts strive to achieve.
 - *n.* the highest point or peak of something, particularly a mountain or a career; the greatest or highest level of achievement or success

ANSWERS: 24. sect, 25. trudged, 26. slush, 27. overgrown, 28. cantaloupe, 29. semblance, 30. pinnacle

- 31. The timer ______ reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.
 - v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
- 32. She was skilled in ______ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
- *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
- 33. _____ fruits like oranges and lemons are high in vitamin C.
- *n.* a group of fruits that belong to the citrus family, including oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits; the trees that bear these fruits
- 34. The beautiful _____ landscape was breathtaking to behold from the ship's deck.
 - *n.* a long, narrow inlet of the sea between cliffs or hills, often with a shallow, rocky shoreline, found especially in Norway
- 35. The gift basket was filled with a delightful ______ of scented candles, bath bombs, and chocolates.
- *n.* a mixture of dried, naturally fragrant plant materials; a mixture or medley of different things, especially a collection or assortment of various pleasant or interesting elements, such as smells, colors, or ideas
- 36. The minister decided to review its _____ public works projects.
- *adj.* exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene
- 37. Her ______ selection included several pieces from high-end designer brands.
- *n.* a collection or set of clothing, especially for a particular occasion or purpose; a piece of furniture designed for storing clothes or personal belongings

ANSWERS: 31. beeped, 32. storytelling, 33. Citrus, 34. fjord, 35. potpourri, 36. mammoth, 37. wardrobe

- 38. The overgrown ____ cleaved to the ruined castle walls.
- *n.* an evergreen climbing or ground-creeping woody plant that often grows up trees or buildings
- 39. He used an _____ to chop the firewood for the campfire.
- *n.* a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
- 40. The ______ space between childhood and adulthood can be difficult to navigate.
- *adj.* relating to a transitional or intermediate state or position; occupying the threshold between two different conditions or worlds
- 41. The ______ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
- adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
- 42. The new shopping center is on a bustling ______ in the city's heart.
- *n.* a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade
- 43. Conditions like _____ and rickets are the result of vitamin deficiencies.
- *n.* a disease resulting from a lack of vitamin C, characterized by swollen bleeding gums and the opening of previously healed wounds; (adjective) deserving to be despised
- 44. She avoided the used car salesman because she found his pushy behavior
- *adj.* serving to drive away or repel something; unpleasant or offensive and causing a strong sense of aversion or disgust

ANSWERS: 38. ivy, 39. ax, 40. liminal, 41. medicinal, 42. boulevard, 43. scurvy, 44. repellent

- 45. A happy group of friends occupies the _____ of the picture.
- *n.* the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer

ANSWERS: 45. foreground