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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Terisa Folaron: Comma story | TED Talk

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

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All Words

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Session 1: Word List

tricky

adj. requiring care and skill because challenging to do or deal with

synonym: thorny, problematic, crafty

(1) **tricky** problem, (2) a **tricky** recipe to follow

We have discussed the entirety of this **tricky** problem.

subordinate

adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

synonym: inferior, secondary, subservient

(1) **subordinate** position, (2) **subordinate** role

The CEO's **subordinate** employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

conjunction

n. the state of being joined, united, or associated; a part of speech that connects words, phrases, or clauses, such as and, but, while

synonym: combination, intersection, coexistence

(1) in **conjunction** with other agents, (2) causal **conjunction**

A **conjunction** of three mistakes caused the accident.

involve

v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else

synonym: implicate, include, engage

(1) **involve** a lot of paperwork, (2) **involve** a high degree of risk

The investigation **involves** several government agencies and is expected to take several months.

physics

n. the science of matter and energy and their interactions

(1) nuclear **physics**, (2) laws of **physics**

He studied the **physics** of radiation.

scenario

n. a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work

synonym: plan, scheme, procedure

(1) the worst case **scenario**, (2) number of different **scenarios**

The president prepared several possible **scenarios** for an enemy attack.

mighty

adj. very large, powerful, or strong

synonym: potent, powerful, robust

(1) **mighty** works, (2) struck a **mighty** blow

Only the **mighty** God has the power to brighten this dark land.

nimble

adj. quick and light in movement or action

synonym: agile, quick, flexible

(1) **nimble** handling, (2) **nimble-minded** person

His **nimble** movements allowed him to navigate the crowded streets with ease.

clause

n. a group of words containing a subject and a predicate and forming part of a sentence

synonym: article, provision, stipulation

(1) **clause** in contract, (2) a main **clause**

The contract had a **clause** that specified penalties for late delivery.

phrase

n. a group of words that mean something specific when used together

synonym: expression, idiom, term

(1) ready-made **phrases**, (2) noun **phrase**

We bought a Spanish **phrase** book.

acronym

n. a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

synonym: abbreviation, initialism, shortcut

(1) **acronym** definition, (2) use an **acronym**

RADAR is an **acronym** for radio detection and ranging.

champion

n. someone who has won first place in a competition; someone who fights for a specific group of people or a belief

synonym: victor, winner, fighter

(1) a **champion** of peace, (2) the grand **champion**

The **champion** bicyclist outrode all his competitors.

unequal

adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair

synonym: unfair, uneven, imbalanced

(1) **unequal** distribution, (2) **unequal** opportunity

The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly **unequal**.

independence

n. freedom from another's or others' control or influence

synonym: freedom, liberty, autonomy

(1) financial **independence**, (2) **independence** ceremony

There is nothing more valuable than **independence** and freedom.

prioritize

v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

synonym : rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

lift

v. to raise something to a higher position or level; to pick up something or somebody and move them to a different position

synonym : raise, elevate, move up

(1) **lift** sagging skin, (2) **lift** a ban on alcohol

The drought **lifted** the prices of grain globally.

roam

v. to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander

synonym : wander, ramble, meander

(1) **roam** freely, (2) **roam** the countryside

I love to **roam** around the city and discover new neighborhoods.

communal

adj. belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use

synonym : collaborative, combined, collective

(1) **communal** swimming pool, (2) **communal** combination of funds

Communal elections were held in several European countries.

engaging

adj. attracting, pleasant, or charming

synonym : alluring, interesting, engrossing

(1) **engaging** story, (2) an **engaging** smile

She was disbarred for her **engaging** in fraud.

debate

n. a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest,

in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives

synonym : argument, discussion, dispute

(1) **debate** topic, (2) **debate** competition

The **debate** over climate change continues to be a hot topic in politics.

distribute

v. to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something

synonym : broadcast, disperse, hand out

(1) **distribute** wealth evenly, (2) **distribute** video content

His estate was **distributed** to his sons.

evenly

adv. in equal amounts or shares; in a balanced or impartial way

synonym : constantly, smoothly, equally

(1) **evenly** colored, (2) almost **evenly** divided

This product can spread the cement **evenly**.

appall

v. to shock or disgust; to fill with dismay

synonym : shock, disgust, dismay

(1) **appall** the tourists, (2) **appall** me

The news of the massacre **appalled** the entire nation.

assist

v. to help someone in doing anything

synonym : help, support, aid

(1) **assist** a patient, (2) **assist** his goal

Please **assist** her with the furniture relocation.

attempt

n. an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult

synonym : endeavor, effort, try

(1) the **attempt** to rescue the hostages, (2) a reckless **attempt**

The third **attempt** was far more successful.

weigh

v. to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion

synonym: consider, cogitate, count

(1) **weigh** heavily on stock prices, (2) **weigh** a cargo

The baby **weighs** 1 pound 3 oz.

balance

n. a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away

synonym: equilibrium, counterpoise, remainder

(1) the **balance** of power, (2) asset on the company's

balance sheet

Try to keep a **balance** between work and off.

struggle

v. to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction

synonym: toil, strive, compete

(1) **struggle** against discrimination, (2) **struggle** to get the job

He could not **struggle** against temptation.

heroine

n. a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film

synonym: protagonist

(1) medieval **heroine**, (2) tragic **heroine**

The brave **heroine** rescued the prince from the dragon's lair.

spot

n. a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it

synonym: dot, mark, place

(1) beauty **spot**, (2) a **spot** on his honor

This remote **spot** is rarely visited.

waitlist

n. a list of people who have requested or applied for something, such as admission to a school or a

reservation at a restaurant, but are not yet able to be accommodated or granted access due to limited capacity or availability

synonym : waiting list, standby list, reservation

(1) **waitlist** for a restaurant, (2) medical **waitlist**

There is a long **waitlist** for popular classes at the gym.

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.

creature

n. a living being, especially an animal

synonym : being, animal, organism

(1) **creature** of habit, (2) artificial **creature**

The deep sea **creature** was unlike anything the scientists had ever seen before.

fragment

n. a small piece or part broken off or detached

synonym : piece, shard, segment

(1) **fragment** of a text, (2) a broken **fragment**

The archaeologist carefully pieced together the tiny **fragments** of pottery found at the dig site.

molecular

adj. of or relating to molecules (= a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds)

synonym : microscopic, atomic

(1) **molecular** structure, (2) **molecular** biology

Molecular weight is the sum of all the atoms.

biology

n. the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things

(1) evolutionary **biology**, (2) cell and molecular **biology**

In junior high school, we had to dissect a frog in **biology** class.

interpret

v. to explain or assign the meaning of information, actions, etc.

synonym: decode, decipher, analyze

(1) **interpret** a graph, (2) **interpret** the question

Different people might **interpret** this news differently.

exhausted

adj. extremely tired

synonym: drowsy, depleted, fatigued

(1) the **exhausted** food sources, (2) **exhausted** parents

The **exhausted** runner fell to the ground and gasped.

occasion

n. a time or event that is suitable or appropriate for something to happen or be done; a particular event or circumstance that requires or allows for something to be done

synonym: event, time, occurrence

(1) a glad **occasion**, (2) as **occasion** demands

She wore her best dress for the special **occasion**.

vigilant

adj. keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties

synonym: watchful, attentive, alert

(1) **vigilant** watch, (2) **vigilant** about hand-washing

The guards had to remain **vigilant** to ensure the safety of the high-security facility.

construct

v. to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole

synonym: build, assemble, create

(1) **construct** a 3D image, (2) **construct** a dam

He **constructs** hypotheses that no mathematician has ever imagined before.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. an en____ng smile | <i>adj.</i> attracting, pleasant, or charming |
| 2. cr____re of habit | <i>n.</i> a living being, especially an animal |
| 3. ni____e-minded person | <i>adj.</i> quick and light in movement or action |
| 4. ex____ed parents | <i>adj.</i> extremely tired |
| 5. financial ind____nce | <i>n.</i> freedom from another's or others' control or influence |
| 6. artificial cr____re | <i>n.</i> a living being, especially an animal |
| 7. in____e a lot of paperwork | <i>v.</i> to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else |
| 8. we__h heavily on stock prices | <i>v.</i> to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion |
| 9. we__h a cargo | <i>v.</i> to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion |
| 10. the ba____e of power | <i>n.</i> a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away |
| 11. ac____m definition | <i>n.</i> a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) |

ANSWERS: 1. engaging, 2. creature, 3. nimble, 4. exhausted, 5. independence, 6. creature, 7. involve, 8. weigh, 9. weigh, 10. balance, 11. acronym

12. ap___l me *v.* to shock or disgust; to fill with dismay
13. mo_____ar structure *adj.* of or relating to molecules (= a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds)
14. pri_____ze people over cars *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
15. fr_____nt of a text *n.* a small piece or part broken off or detached
16. number of different sc_____ios *n.* a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work
17. evolutionary bi_____y *n.* the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
18. tr___y problem *adj.* requiring care and skill because challenging to do or deal with
19. in_____et the question *v.* to explain or assign the meaning of information, actions, etc.
20. medical wa_____st *n.* a list of people who have requested or applied for something, such as admission to a school or a reservation at a restaurant, but are not yet able to be accommodated or granted access due to limited capacity or availability
21. l__t sagging skin *v.* to raise something to a higher position or level; to pick up something or somebody and move them to a different position
22. nuclear ph_____s *n.* the science of matter and energy and their interactions

ANSWERS: 12. appall, 13. molecular, 14. prioritize, 15. fragment, 16. scenario, 17. biology, 18. tricky, 19. interpret, 20. waitlist, 21. lift, 22. physics

23. causal con_____on *n.* the state of being joined, united, or associated; a part of speech that connects words, phrases, or clauses, such as and, but, while
24. almost ev___y divided *adv.* in equal amounts or shares; in a balanced or impartial way
25. in_____e a high degree of risk *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
26. a tr___y recipe to follow *adj.* requiring care and skill because challenging to do or deal with
27. a s__t on his honor *n.* a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it
28. mi_____nt nations *n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
29. use an ac_____m *n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
30. r__m freely *v.* to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
31. de___e topic *n.* a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives

ANSWERS: 23. conjunction, 24. evenly, 25. involve, 26. tricky, 27. spot, 28. militant, 29. acronym, 30. roam, 31. debate

32. a mi_____nt reformer *n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
33. struck a mi____y blow *adj.* very large, powerful, or strong
34. co_____al combination of funds *adj.* belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use
35. co_____ct a 3D image *v.* to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
36. en_____ng story *adj.* attracting, pleasant, or charming
37. as____t his goal *v.* to help someone in doing anything
38. as____t a patient *v.* to help someone in doing anything
39. de____e competition *n.* a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives
40. un_____l distribution *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
41. a ch_____on of peace *n.* someone who has won first place in a competition; someone who fights for a specific group of people or a belief
42. dis_____te video content *v.* to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something
43. dis_____te wealth evenly *v.* to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something

ANSWERS: 32. militant, 33. mighty, 34. communal, 35. construct, 36. engaging, 37. assist, 38. assist, 39. debate, 40. unequal, 41. champion, 42. distribute, 43. distribute

44. a main cl___e *n.* a group of words containing a subject and a predicate and forming part of a sentence
45. the ex_____ed food sources *adj.* extremely tired
46. noun ph___e *n.* a group of words that mean something specific when used together
47. pri_____ze tasks *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
48. mi___y works *adj.* very large, powerful, or strong
49. beauty s__t *n.* a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it
50. ev___y colored *adv.* in equal amounts or shares; in a balanced or impartial way
51. mo_____ar biology *adj.* of or relating to molecules (= a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds)
52. cell and molecular bi_____y *n.* the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
53. co_____al swimming pool *adj.* belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use
54. the worst case sc_____io *n.* a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work
55. a broken fr_____nt *n.* a small piece or part broken off or detached
56. ready-made ph___es *n.* a group of words that mean something specific when used together

ANSWERS: 44. clause, 45. exhausted, 46. phrase, 47. prioritize, 48. mighty, 49. spot, 50. evenly, 51. molecular, 52. biology, 53. communal, 54. scenario, 55. fragment, 56. phrase

57. vi_____nt about hand-washing *adj.* keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties
58. sub_____te position *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
59. the grand ch_____on *n.* someone who has won first place in a competition; someone who fights for a specific group of people or a belief
60. wa_____st for a restaurant *n.* a list of people who have requested or applied for something, such as admission to a school or a reservation at a restaurant, but are not yet able to be accommodated or granted access due to limited capacity or availability
61. l__t a ban on alcohol *v.* to raise something to a higher position or level; to pick up something or somebody and move them to a different position
62. st_____le to get the job *v.* to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
63. ap___l the tourists *v.* to shock or disgust; to fill with dismay
64. as oc_____on demands *n.* a time or event that is suitable or appropriate for something to happen or be done; a particular event or circumstance that requires or allows for something to be done

ANSWERS: 57. vigilant, 58. subordinate, 59. champion, 60. waitlist, 61. lift, 62. struggle, 63. appall, 64. occasion

65. tragic he_____e *n.* a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film
66. ni___e handling *adj.* quick and light in movement or action
67. un_____l opportunity *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
68. st_____le against discrimination *v.* to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction
69. medieval he_____e *n.* a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film
70. a glad oc_____on *n.* a time or event that is suitable or appropriate for something to happen or be done; a particular event or circumstance that requires or allows for something to be done
71. asset on the company's ba_____e sheet *n.* a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away
72. r__m the countryside *v.* to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
73. co_____ct a dam *v.* to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
74. ind_____nce ceremony *n.* freedom from another's or others' control or influence

ANSWERS: 65. heroine, 66. nimble, 67. unequal, 68. struggle, 69. heroine, 70. occasion, 71. balance, 72. roam, 73. construct, 74. independence

75. in con_____on with other agents *n.* the state of being joined, united, or associated; a part of speech that connects words, phrases, or clauses, such as and, but, while
76. sub_____te role *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
77. the at_____t to rescue the hostages *n.* an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult
78. cl___e in contract *n.* a group of words containing a subject and a predicate and forming part of a sentence
79. vi_____nt watch *adj.* keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties
80. a reckless at_____t *n.* an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult
81. in_____et a graph *v.* to explain or assign the meaning of information, actions, etc.
82. laws of ph_____s *n.* the science of matter and energy and their interactions

ANSWERS: 75. conjunction, 76. subordinate, 77. attempt, 78. clause, 79. vigilant, 80. attempt, 81. interpret, 82. physics

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The baby _____ 1 pound 3 oz.
 - v. to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion

2. Try to keep a _____ between work and off.
 - n. a condition in which everything has the same weight or force; something left after other parts have been taken away

3. The deep sea _____ was unlike anything the scientists had ever seen before.
 - n. a living being, especially an animal

4. _____ elections were held in several European countries.
 - adj. belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use

5. His estate was _____ to his sons.
 - v. to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something

6. The CEO's _____ employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.
 - adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

7. The news of the massacre _____ the entire nation.
 - v. to shock or disgust; to fill with dismay

ANSWERS: 1. weighs, 2. balance, 3. creature, 4. Communal, 5. distributed, 6. subordinate, 7. appalled

8. He could not _____ against temptation.

- v. to make a great effort to do something when it is difficult, or there are a lot of problems; to use force or violence to break away from restraint or constriction

9. The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly _____.

- adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair

10. The organization _____ the needs of the community in its decision-making.

- v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

11. The archaeologist carefully pieced together the tiny _____ of pottery found at the dig site.

- n. a small piece or part broken off or detached

12. _____ weight is the sum of all the atoms.

- adj. of or relating to molecules (= a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds)

13. Please _____ her with the furniture relocation.

- v. to help someone in doing anything

14. This product can spread the cement _____.

- adv. in equal amounts or shares; in a balanced or impartial way

15. This remote _____ is rarely visited.

- n. a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it

ANSWERS: 8. struggle, 9. unequal, 10. prioritized, 11. fragments, 12. Molecular, 13. assist, 14. evenly, 15. spot

16. RADAR is an _____ for radio detection and ranging.

- n.* a word formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

17. The drought _____ the prices of grain globally.

- v.* to raise something to a higher position or level; to pick up something or somebody and move them to a different position

18. The third _____ was far more successful.

- n.* an act or effort of trying to do something, especially something difficult

19. The contract had a _____ that specified penalties for late delivery.

- n.* a group of words containing a subject and a predicate and forming part of a sentence

20. The brave _____ rescued the prince from the dragon's lair.

- n.* a woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities; a woman who is the protagonist of a literary work or film

21. The president prepared several possible _____ for an enemy attack.

- n.* a description of possible actions or events in the future; a written outline of a play, film, or literary work

22. Only the _____ God has the power to brighten this dark land.

- adj.* very large, powerful, or strong

23. His _____ movements allowed him to navigate the crowded streets with ease.

- adj.* quick and light in movement or action

ANSWERS: 16. acronym, 17. lifted, 18. attempt, 19. clause, 20. heroine, 21. scenarios, 22. mighty, 23. nimble

24. The _____ over climate change continues to be a hot topic in politics.
n. a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives
25. A _____ of three mistakes caused the accident.
n. the state of being joined, united, or associated; a part of speech that connects words, phrases, or clauses, such as and, but, while
26. We have discussed the entirety of this _____ problem.
adj. requiring care and skill because challenging to do or deal with
27. We bought a Spanish _____ book.
n. a group of words that mean something specific when used together
28. He studied the _____ of radiation.
n. the science of matter and energy and their interactions
29. She was disbarred for her _____ in fraud.
adj. attracting, pleasant, or charming
30. There is nothing more valuable than _____ and freedom.
n. freedom from another's or others' control or influence
31. I love to _____ around the city and discover new neighborhoods.
v. to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
32. The guards had to remain _____ to ensure the safety of the high-security facility.
adj. keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties

ANSWERS: 24. debate, 25. conjunction, 26. tricky, 27. phrase, 28. physics, 29. engaging, 30. independence, 31. roam, 32. vigilant

33. She wore her best dress for the special _____.
- n.* a time or event that is suitable or appropriate for something to happen or be done; a particular event or circumstance that requires or allows for something to be done
34. In junior high school, we had to dissect a frog in _____ class.
- n.* the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
35. The _____ bicyclist outrode all his competitors.
- n.* someone who has won first place in a competition; someone who fights for a specific group of people or a belief
36. He _____ hypotheses that no mathematician has ever imagined before.
- v.* to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
37. There is a long _____ for popular classes at the gym.
- n.* a list of people who have requested or applied for something, such as admission to a school or a reservation at a restaurant, but are not yet able to be accommodated or granted access due to limited capacity or availability
38. The _____ group launched a series of attacks on government buildings.
- n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
39. The investigation _____ several government agencies and is expected to take several months.
- v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
40. The _____ runner fell to the ground and gasped.
- adj.* extremely tired

ANSWERS: 33. occasion, 34. biology, 35. champion, 36. constructs, 37. waitlist, 38. militant, 39. involves, 40. exhausted

41. Different people might _____ this news differently.

v. to explain or assign the meaning of information, actions, etc.

ANSWERS: 41. interpret