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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Asaf Bar-Yosef: An athlete uses physics to shatter world records | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

excel

v. to be extremely good at or proficient in doing something
synonym: outdo, shine, surpass

(1) **excel** in description, (2) **excel** at communication

The company **excels** in customer service.

compete

v. to strive to achieve more success than someone or something

synonym: contend, contest, vie

(1) **compete** against a friend, (2) **compete** fiercely

You must **compete** with others to obtain this position.

athlete

n. a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance

synonym: player, contestant, jock

(1) become a professional **athlete**, (2) high school **athletes**

His dream is to become an Olympic **athlete**.

technique

n. a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill

synonym: approach, procedure, strategy

(1) a **technique** in martial arts, (2) the **technique** applied to construction

Jockey's superior **technique** brought him victory.

backward

adv. at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear

synonym : back, rearward, in reverse

(1) walk **backward**, (2) **backward** angle

She falls over **backward** when she sees her mother-in-law.

tradition

n. a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society

synonym : custom, practice, ritual

(1) a **tradition** of a culture, (2) against **tradition**

It is a **tradition** in many families to have a big Thanksgiving dinner with all their relatives.

straddle

v. to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests

synonym : strive, sit astride, span

(1) **straddle** a fence, (2) **straddle** a motorcycle

We had to **straddle** the fallen tree to cross the river.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym : spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

amaze

v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

synonym : astound, surprise, stagger

(1) **amaze** and entertain visitors, (2) **amaze** everyone

The magician's tricks **amazed** the audience.

nation

n. a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture

synonym: country, state, sovereign entity

(1) **nation-state**, (2) a seafaring **nation**

The **nation** of Japan is known for its unique culture and advanced technology.

olympiad

n. a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years

(1) the modern **olympiad**, (2) summer **olympiad**

She won a gold medal in the physics **olympiad** and was praised by her teachers and peers.

leap

v. to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward

synonym: jump, bound, hop

(1) **leap** to a conclusion, (2) **leap** of faith

The athlete was able to **leap** over the hurdle with ease.

adopt

v. to choose to follow something; to legally take a child from another family and care for them as if they were one's own

synonym: accept, assume, take on

(1) **adopt** a child, (2) **adopt** a bill

The national assembly has **adopted** the budget.

flop

v. to fall or lie down heavily and clumsily; (noun) a complete failure

synonym: fail, collapse, drop

(1) a huge **flop**, (2) **flop** business

The company's stock prices **flop** after the poor earnings report.

physics

n. the science of matter and energy and their interactions

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

He studied the **physics** of radiation.

concept

n. an idea or principle associated with something abstract
synonym : idea, notion, vision

(1) learn new **concepts**, (2) **concept** car

One such rapidly growing **concept** is quantum cryptography.

mass

n. a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together

synonym : abundance, crowd, mob

(1) a **mass** of molten rock, (2) critical **mass**

The **mass** of people who do not own property is politically impotent.

locate

v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something

synonym : discover, find, place

(1) **locate** a missing pet, (2) **locate** a tumor

The robot can accurately **locate** construction material.

instance

n. a particular example or single occurrence of something

synonym : example, sample, illustration

(1) for **instance**, (2) notable **instance**

These articles cite five **instances** of climate change.

rectangular

adj. having four right angles and opposite sides that are equal in length

synonym : square, cubic, cuboid

(1) a **rectangular** piece of paper, (2) a **rectangular** piece of wood

The **rectangular** table was able to seat eight people comfortably.

uniform

adj. always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification

synonym : livery, outfit

(1) at a **uniform** temperature, (2) our school **uniform**
This country has a nationally **uniform** culture.

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?

intersection

n. a point where two or more roads, lines, etc., cross each other
synonym: crossroad, junction, hub

(1) busy **intersection**, (2) the **intersection** of coordinate axes
Take a right turn at the next **intersection**.

diagonal

adj. at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle
synonym: oblique, sloping, slanting

(1) **diagonal** pattern, (2) place at a **diagonal**
The **diagonal** cut of the skirt added movement and flair to the outfit.

distance

n. the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance
synonym: space, gap, span

(1) driving **distance**, (2) social **distance**
The marathon runner covered a long **distance** in a short amount of time.

calculation

n. the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something
synonym: analysis, computation, estimate

(1) make a **calculation**, (2) **calculation** of loss and gain
The error in the **calculation** was attributable to rounding.

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.

underneath

adv. under or below something else

synonym: below, under, beneath

(1) **underneath** the surface of the water, (2) **underneath** the laughter

The penny fell **underneath** the piano.

broom

n. a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces

synonym: sweeper, brush

(1) **broom** closet, (2) **broom** handle

Could you please grab the **broom** and sweep the crumbs on the floor?

belly

n. the front part of the body below the chest, containing the stomach and bowels; the rounded or curved part of an object, such as a ship or aircraft

synonym: stomach, abdomen, gut

(1) the **belly** of the ship, (2) with an empty **belly**

She had a tattoo just above her **belly** button.

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.

upward

adv. toward the top or highest point, or a higher position or level; (adjective) extending or moving toward a higher place

synonym : skyward, uphill

(1) look **upward**, (2) demonstrate an **upward** trend

The company adjusted the revenue **upward**.

weird

adj. extraordinary, unexpected, or difficult to explain

synonym : bizarre, creepy, peculiar

(1) a **weird** dress, (2) the state of being **weird**

My computer has been acting **weird** recently.

dough

n. a mixture of flour, liquid, and other ingredients, typically used to make bread, pastry, or pasta

synonym : flour, mix

(1) work **dough**, (2) **dough** for pastry

She mixed flour, yeast, sugar, and water to make **dough** for the bread.

boomerang

n. a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it

synonym : bouncing bomb, comeback, backfire

(1) **boomerang** effect, (2) throw a **boomerang**

The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up **boomeranging** on himself.

divert

v. to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose

synonym : distract, redirect, sidetrack

(1) **divert** attention, (2) **divert** an assault

Due to the road construction, we had to **divert** our course to get to the restaurant.

horizontal

adj. parallel to the ground or in a baseline; being at the same level as all members of a group

synonym : even, lying, parallel

(1) **horizontal** lines, (2) **horizontal** stripes

Airplanes need **horizontal** tails to improve stability.

velocity

n. the rate of change of an object's position with respect to time, often measured in meters per second (m/s)

synonym : speed, rapidity, swiftness

(1) initial **velocity**, (2) high **velocity**

The **velocity** of the car was too fast for the road conditions.

vertical

adj. upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line

synonym : perpendicular, upright, plumb

(1) **vertical** takeoff, (2) **vertical** axis

The ladder leaned against the **vertical** surface of the building.

genius

n. someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality

synonym : brilliance, brainiac, acumen

(1) a person of **genius**, (2) a **genius** for music

Mozart was a musical **genius**.

arch

n. a curved structure with two supports that holds the weight of something above it, such as a bridge or the upper part of a building

synonym : turn, bow, arc

(1) the **arch** of a person's foot, (2) an **arch-shaped** stone structure

The **arch** bears the weight of the overhead bridge.

split

v. to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line

synonym : break, divide, break apart

(1) **split** a bill, (2) **split** a reward equally

Companies often **split** their shares to lower the stock price and encourage investors to buy.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. a person of ge___s | <i>n.</i> someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality |
| 2. imp_____ion on stage | <i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation |
| 3. 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 |
| 4. a huge f__p | <i>v.</i> to fall or lie down heavily and clumsily; (noun) a complete failure |
| 5. initial ve_____ty | <i>n.</i> the rate of change of an object's position with respect to time, often measured in meters per second (m/s) |
| 6. busy int_____ion | <i>n.</i> a point where two or more roads, lines, etc., cross each other |
| 7. social di_____ce | <i>n.</i> the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance |
| 8. lo___e a missing pet | <i>v.</i> to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something |
| 9. am___e and entertain visitors | <i>v.</i> to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration |
| 10. ad__t a bill | <i>v.</i> to choose to follow something; to legally take a child from another family and care for them as if they were one's own |

ANSWERS: 1. genius, 2. improvisation, 3. balance, 4. flop, 5. velocity, 6. intersection, 7. distance, 8. locate, 9. amaze, 10. adopt

11. the modern ol_____ad *n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
12. di____t an assault *v.* to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose
13. the a__h of a person's foot *n.* a curved structure with two supports that holds the weight of something above it, such as a bridge or the upper part of a building
14. look up____d *adv.* toward the top or highest point, or a higher position or level; (adjective) extending or moving toward a higher place
15. place at a di_____al *adj.* at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle
16. nuclear ph_____s *n.* the science of matter and energy and their interactions
17. high school at_____es *n.* a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance
18. co_____e fiercely *v.* to strive to achieve more success than someone or something
19. the te_____ue applied to construction *n.* a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill

ANSWERS: 11. olympiad, 12. divert, 13. arch, 14. upward, 15. diagonal, 16. physics, 17. athlete, 18. compete, 19. technique

20. a rec_____ar piece of wood *adj.* having four right angles and opposite sides that are equal in length
21. br__m closet *n.* a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces
22. with an empty be__y *n.* the front part of the body below the chest, containing the stomach and bowels; the rounded or curved part of an object, such as a ship or aircraft
23. the be__y of the ship *n.* the front part of the body below the chest, containing the stomach and bowels; the rounded or curved part of an object, such as a ship or aircraft
24. for in_____ce *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
25. a ge___s for music *n.* someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality
26. am__e everyone *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
27. against tr_____on *n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society
28. our school un_____m *adj.* always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification

ANSWERS: 20. rectangular, 21. broom, 22. belly, 23. belly, 24. instance, 25. genius, 26. amaze, 27. tradition, 28. uniform

29. hor_____al lines *adj.* parallel to the ground or in a baseline; being at the same level as all members of a group
30. bo_____ng effect *n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
31. demonstrate an up____d trend *adv.* toward the top or highest point, or a higher position or level; (adjective) extending or moving toward a higher place
32. become a professional at_____e *n.* a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance
33. l__p to a conclusion *v.* to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward
34. ex__l at communication *v.* to be extremely good at or proficient in doing something
35. 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
36. learn new co_____ts *n.* an idea or principle associated with something abstract
37. sp__t a reward equally *v.* to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line

ANSWERS: 29. horizontal, 30. boomerang, 31. upward, 32. athlete, 33. leap, 34. excel, 35. lift, 36. concept, 37. split

38. walk ba____rd *adv.* at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear
39. 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
40. st____le a fence *v.* to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests
41. high ve____ty *n.* the rate of change of an object's position with respect to time, often measured in meters per second (m/s)
42. higher pixel de____y *n.* the quality of compactness of a substance
43. laws of ph____s *n.* the science of matter and energy and their interactions
44. do__h for pastry *n.* a mixture of flour, liquid, and other ingredients, typically used to make bread, pastry, or pasta
45. di____al pattern *adj.* at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle
46. the int____ion of coordinate axes *n.* a point where two or more roads, lines, etc., cross each other
47. a rec____ar piece of paper *adj.* having four right angles and opposite sides that are equal in length

ANSWERS: 38. backward, 39. lift, 40. straddle, 41. velocity, 42. density, 43. physics, 44. dough, 45. diagonal, 46. intersection, 47. rectangular

48. co____t car *n.* an idea or principle associated with something abstract
49. sp__t a bill *v.* to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line
50. a m__s of molten rock *n.* a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together
51. ad__t a child *v.* to choose to follow something; to legally take a child from another family and care for them as if they were one's own
52. population de____y *n.* the quality of compactness of a substance
53. 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
54. make a cal_____on *n.* the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something
55. cal_____on of loss and gain *n.* the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something
56. at a un_____m temperature *adj.* always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification
57. na___n-state *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture

ANSWERS: 48. concept, 49. split, 50. mass, 51. adopt, 52. density, 53. balance, 54. calculation, 55. calculation, 56. uniform, 57. nation

58. l__p of faith *v.* to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward
59. a tr_____on of a culture *n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society
60. a seafaring na____n *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
61. ve_____al axis *adj.* upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line
62. notable in_____ce *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
63. a te_____ue in martial arts *n.* a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill
64. critical m__s *n.* a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together
65. br__m handle *n.* a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces
66. throw a bo_____ng *n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it

ANSWERS: 58. leap, 59. tradition, 60. nation, 61. vertical, 62. instance, 63. technique, 64. mass, 65. broom, 66. boomerang

67. lo___e a tumor *v.* to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
68. f__p business *v.* to fall or lie down heavily and clumsily; (noun) a complete failure
69. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
70. co_____e against a friend *v.* to strive to achieve more success than someone or something
71. st_____le a motorcycle *v.* to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests
72. ba_____rd angle *adv.* at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear
73. work do__h *n.* a mixture of flour, liquid, and other ingredients, typically used to make bread, pastry, or pasta
74. an a__h-shaped stone structure *n.* a curved structure with two supports that holds the weight of something above it, such as a bridge or the upper part of a building
75. di___t attention *v.* to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose

ANSWERS: 67. locate, 68. flop, 69. improvisation, 70. compete, 71. straddle, 72. backward, 73. dough, 74. arch, 75. divert

76. ve____al takeoff *adj.* upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line
77. und_____th the laughter *adv.* under or below something else
78. ex__l in description *v.* to be extremely good at or proficient in doing something
79. und_____th the surface of the water *adv.* under or below something else
80. summer ol____ad *n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
81. a we__d dress *adj.* extraordinary, unexpected, or difficult to explain
82. driving di_____ce *n.* the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance
83. the state of being we__d *adj.* extraordinary, unexpected, or difficult to explain
84. hor_____al stripes *adj.* parallel to the ground or in a baseline; being at the same level as all members of a group

ANSWERS: 76. vertical, 77. underneath, 78. excel, 79. underneath, 80. olympiad, 81. weird, 82. distance, 83. weird, 84. horizontal

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ladder leaned against the _____ surface of the building.
adj. upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line
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 error in the _____ was attributable to rounding.
n. the act or process of using numbers to judge an amount of something
4. One such rapidly growing _____ is quantum cryptography.
n. an idea or principle associated with something abstract
5. The marathon runner covered a long _____ in a short amount of time.
n. the amount of space between two points, measured in units such as miles, meters, or kilometers; the extent, scope, or range between two things, such as distance or emotional distance
6. The company's stock prices _____ after the poor earnings report.
v. to fall or lie down heavily and clumsily; (noun) a complete failure
7. She mixed flour, yeast, sugar, and water to make _____ for the bread.
n. a mixture of flour, liquid, and other ingredients, typically used to make bread, pastry, or pasta
8. She falls over _____ when she sees her mother-in-law.
adv. at, to, or toward the direction or place that is behind or rear

ANSWERS: 1. vertical, 2. balance, 3. calculation, 4. concept, 5. distance, 6. flop, 7. dough, 8. backward

9. This country has a nationally _____ culture.

adj. always the same; showing a single form or character in all occurrences; (noun) the special set of clothes worn by members of a particular group as a means of identification

10. Could you please grab the _____ and sweep the crumbs on the floor?

n. a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces

11. My computer has been acting _____ recently.

adj. extraordinary, unexpected, or difficult to explain

12. The _____ table was able to seat eight people comfortably.

adj. having four right angles and opposite sides that are equal in length

13. Mozart was a musical _____.

n. someone who has exceptional intellectual ability and originality

14. These articles cite five _____ of climate change.

n. a particular example or single occurrence of something

15. The company _____ in customer service.

v. to be extremely good at or proficient in doing something

16. The _____ of Japan is known for its unique culture and advanced technology.

n. a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture

ANSWERS: 9. uniform, 10. broom, 11. weird, 12. rectangular, 13. genius, 14. instances, 15. excels, 16. nation

17. Airplanes need _____ tails to improve stability.

adj. parallel to the ground or in a baseline; being at the same level as all members of a group

18. The _____ bears the weight of the overhead bridge.

n. a curved structure with two supports that holds the weight of something above it, such as a bridge or the upper part of a building

19. Due to the road construction, we had to _____ our course to get to the restaurant.

v. to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose

20. The national assembly has _____ the budget.

v. to choose to follow something; to legally take a child from another family and care for them as if they were one's own

21. Jockey's superior _____ brought him victory.

n. a particular way or art of doing something that needs skill

22. The penny fell _____ the piano.

adv. under or below something else

23. She won a gold medal in the physics _____ and was praised by her teachers and peers.

n. a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years

ANSWERS: 17. horizontal, 18. arch, 19. divert, 20. adopted, 21. technique, 22. underneath, 23. olympiad

24. The athlete was able to _____ over the hurdle with ease.
- v.* to jump or spring into the air, often with the feet leaving the ground or a surface below; to move quickly or suddenly, often forward or upward
25. Take a right turn at the next _____.
- n.* a point where two or more roads, lines, etc., cross each other
26. The _____ of the car was too fast for the road conditions.
- n.* the rate of change of an object's position with respect to time, often measured in meters per second (m/s)
27. You must _____ with others to obtain this position.
- v.* to strive to achieve more success than someone or something
28. 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
29. She had a tattoo just above her _____ button.
- n.* the front part of the body below the chest, containing the stomach and bowels; the rounded or curved part of an object, such as a ship or aircraft
30. His dream is to become an Olympic _____.
- n.* a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance
31. It is a _____ in many families to have a big Thanksgiving dinner with all their relatives.
- n.* a belief, custom, or way of doing something that has been passed down from generation to generation within a group or society

ANSWERS: 24. leap, 25. intersection, 26. velocity, 27. compete, 28. lifted, 29. belly, 30. athlete, 31. tradition

32. Companies often _____ their shares to lower the stock price and encourage investors to buy.
- v. to divide, or to make something divide into two or more parts, especially along a particular line
33. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
- n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
34. The robot can accurately _____ construction material.
- v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
35. Do you know the _____ of the population in Hong Kong?
- n. the quality of compactness of a substance
36. The _____ of people who do not own property is politically impotent.
- n. a large amount of a substance with no definite shape or form; a large number of people or things grouped or crowded together
37. The magician's tricks _____ the audience.
- v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
38. The company adjusted the revenue _____.
- adv. toward the top or highest point, or a higher position or level; (adjective) extending or moving toward a higher place
39. We had to _____ the fallen tree to cross the river.
- v. to sit or stand with one leg on either side of something or someone; to adopt a position or attitude that involves a compromise or combination of two or more opposing principles, ideas, or interests

ANSWERS: 32. split, 33. improvisation, 34. locate, 35. density, 36. mass, 37. amazed, 38. upward, 39. straddle

40. The _____ cut of the skirt added movement and flair to the outfit.

adj. at an angle or slant; (noun) a line that runs across a surface or figure at an angle

41. The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up _____ on himself.

n. a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it

42. He studied the _____ of radiation.

n. the science of matter and energy and their interactions

ANSWERS: 40. diagonal, 41. boomeranging, 42. physics