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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Bryan Stevenson: We need to talk about an injustice | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

hopeless

adj. having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

synonym: despairing, helpless, futile

(1) **hopeless** situation, (2) **hopeless** at everything

After months of job searching, he felt **hopeless** and unsure of his future.

energize

v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate

synonym: invigorate, animate, electrify

(1) **energize** the body, (2) **energize** a team

The motivational speaker **energized** the crowd with their words.

compassionate

adj. feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others

synonym: empathetic, sympathetic, merciful

(1) a **compassionate** heart, (2) **compassionate** leave

My father has a serious and **compassionate** personality.

matriarch

n. a woman who is the head of a family or social group; a woman who is the founder or dominant member of a group

synonym : leader, head, founder

(1) ruled by a **matriarch**, (2) **matriarch** figure

The **matriarch** of the family was known for her wisdom and guidance.

enslave

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

synonym : coerce, deprive, imprison

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

Her beauty **enslaved** me completely.

sip

v. to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink

synonym : taste, sample, drink

(1) **sip** a drink, (2) take a **sip** of beer

He **sipped** his tea slowly, savoring the taste.

grandkid

n. the grandchildren of a particular person

synonym : grandchildren, grandnieces, grandnephews

(1) spend the weekend with their **grandkids**, (2) cute

grandkids

She was so proud of her **grandkids**, who were all doing well in school and had great personalities.

devastate

v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage

synonym : demolish, destroy, crush

(1) **devastate** an area, (2) **devastate** the economy

Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which **devastate** coastal areas.

incarceration

n. the state of being confined in prison or jail

synonym : confinement, imprisonment, detention

(1) mass **incarceration**, (2) **incarceration** rates

The judge sentenced him to five years of **incarceration** for embezzlement.

distort

v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

synonym: fudge, deform, contort

(1) **distort** the facts, (2) **distort** the economy

Economists contend that taxes **distort** consumer behavior in general.

culpable

adj. deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing

synonym: guilty, blameworthy, accountable

(1) **culpable** negligence, (2) partially **culpable**

The CEO was held **culpable** for the company's financial losses.

disenfranchise

v. to prevent someone from having the right to vote or from having an equal opportunity to vote

synonym: deny, exclude, marginalize

(1) **disenfranchise** voters, (2) **disenfranchise** citizens

The new citizenship laws will **disenfranchise** many immigrants.

exonerate

v. to clear someone of blame or accusation; to free someone from responsibility or guilt

synonym: absolve, clear, acquit

(1) **exonerate** from blame, (2) **exonerate** the defendant

The DNA evidence **exonerated** the suspect, proving his innocence.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym: surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

insulate

v. to protect something by interposing material that prevents heat, noise, electricity, etc.

synonym: isolate, protect, seclude

(1) **insulate** the room from sound, (2) **insulate** electricity
We had our bedroom **insulated** before winter came.

lynch

v. to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance

synonym: hang, execute, mob

(1) **lynch** law, (2) **lynch** him to death

The mob wanted to **lynch** the suspect before he could be tried in court.

segregation

n. the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation

synonym: isolation, separation, discrimination

(1) racial **segregation**, (2) **segregation** of power

Segregation based on race or ethnicity is illegal and unjust.

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.

apartheid

n. a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors

synonym: segregation, discrimination, oppression

(1) **apartheid** system, (2) **apartheid** policies

The South African government enforced **apartheid** laws that segregated people based on race.

unconscionable

adj. not guided by conscience; unprincipled; unreasonable; excessively or shockingly excessive, unreasonably harsh or severe

synonym : unscrupulous, immoral, unethical

(1) **unconscionable** behavior, (2) **unconscionable** decision

It is **unconscionable** that some companies exploit their workers for profit.

disproportionately

adv. in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

synonym : excessively, unequally

(1) **disproportionately** affected, (2) **disproportionately** high

The rich can often **disproportionately** benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.

Jewish

adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism

synonym : Judaic

(1) **Jewish** history, (2) **Jewish** culture

My friend is a **Jewish** woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

synonym : entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

marginalize

v. to treat a person or group as insignificant or unimportant; to push to the edge or margin of society or a group; to exclude from power or influence

synonym : exclude, isolate, sideline

(1) **marginalize** minorities, (2) **marginalize** dissenting voices

It's important not to **marginalize** certain groups of people based on their race, religion, or ethnicity.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

intellect

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

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

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

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

compel

v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

synonym: force, oblige, coerce

(1) **compel** a person to submission, (2) **compel** attention

The strict deadlines will **compel** the team to work efficiently.

dazzle

v. to cause someone to lose clear vision temporarily, especially from bright light; to amaze or bewilder somebody with your brilliant wit, intellect, beauty, skill, etc.

synonym: sparkle, flash, astonish

(1) **dazzle** his eyes, (2) **dazzle** all who see it

The audience was **dazzled** by her realistic acting.

oppress

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights,

etc. as other people

synonym : antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force
Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

boycott

v. to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change;
(noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change

synonym : protest, abstain, avoid

(1) **boycott** campaign, (2) **boycott** the discussion

Many people have decided to **boycott** the company due to their unethical practices.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

synonym : authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

convict

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime;
(noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

synonym : condemn, sentence, judge

(1) **convict** him of manslaughter, (2) **convict** in a jail

He was **convicted** on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

courageous

adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

synonym : brave, valiant, fearless

(1) make a **courageous** decision, (2) **courageous** rescue attempt

He was a **courageous** soldier who had served his country

with honor.

stimming

n. a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

synonym : self-stimulation, repetitive behaviors

(1) autistic **stimming**, (2) **stimming** therapy

Autistic children may engage in **stimming** behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

condemn

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

synonym : criticize, denounce, censure

(1) **condemn** violence, (2) **condemn** crime

The government was **condemned** for its handling of the crisis.

incarcerate

v. to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape

synonym : confine, detain, imprison

(1) **incarcerate** the murderer, (2) **incarcerate** her for life

He was **incarcerated** for the duration of the war.

nexus

n. a connection or link between things or people; the central or most important point or focus; a connected series of events or ideas

synonym : connection, link, tie

(1) **nexus** point, (2) direct **nexus**

The **nexus** between technology and society is complex and constantly evolving.

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.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

courthouse

n. a building where courts of law are held, or administrative offices for legal proceedings are located

synonym: court, tribunal, judicature

(1) **courthouse** security, (2) municipal **courthouse**

The verdict was announced at the **courthouse** after a long trial.

janitor

n. a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats

synonym: keeper, guardian, custodian

(1) part-time **janitor**, (2) duty of the **janitor**

The school **janitor** was laid off.

whisper

v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

synonym: murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves

He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

courtroom

n. a room in which a court of law is held

synonym: law court, tribunal

(1) **courtroom** drama, (2) **courtroom** trial

The eyewitness took the stand in the **courtroom** and gave testimony crucial to the case.

holler

v. to shout or call out loudly and forcefully, often to get someone's attention or convey a message

synonym: shout, yell, bellow

(1) **holler** out his frustration, (2) **holler** for help

The kids love to **holler** at the echoing mountains during our summer trips.

offend

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

synonym: insult, hurt, anger

(1) **offend** his sensibilities, (2) **offend** a customer

His rude comments **offended** many people at the party.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

homicide

n. the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings

synonym: murder, killing, manslaughter

(1) mass **homicide**, (2) serial **homicide**

The detective was called to investigate a **homicide** in the city.

misguided

adj. having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action

synonym: mistaken, wrong, erring

(1) **misguided** policies, (2) a **misguided** sense of duty

His **misguided** attempt to fix the problem only made it worse.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. mass inc_____ion | <i>n.</i> the state of being confined in prison or jail |
| 2. make a cou_____us decision | <i>adj.</i> able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching |
| 3. dis_____ise voters | <i>v.</i> to prevent someone from having the right to vote or from having an equal opportunity to vote |
| 4. co___l a person to submission | <i>v.</i> to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way |
| 5. unc_____ble decision | <i>adj.</i> not guided by conscience; unprincipled; unreasonable; excessively or shockingly excessive, unreasonably harsh or severe |
| 6. mar_____ze minorities | <i>v.</i> to treat a person or group as insignificant or unimportant; to push to the edge or margin of society or a group; to exclude from power or influence |
| 7. seg_____on of power | <i>n.</i> the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation |
| 8. dis_____ely high | <i>adv.</i> in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else |

ANSWERS: 1. incarceration, 2. courageous, 3. disenfranchise, 4. compel, 5. unconscionable, 6. marginalize, 7. segregation, 8. disproportionately

9. of___d a customer *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
10. spend the weekend with their gr_____ids *n.* the grandchildren of a particular person
11. di_____t the facts *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
12. da___e his eyes *v.* to cause someone to lose clear vision temporarily, especially from bright light; to amaze or bewilder somebody with your brilliant wit, intellect, beauty, skill, etc.
13. en_____ze a team *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
14. inc_____ion rates *n.* the state of being confined in prison or jail
15. co_____om drama *n.* a room in which a court of law is held
16. take a s_p of beer *v.* to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink
17. cou_____se security *n.* a building where courts of law are held, or administrative offices for legal proceedings are located
18. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
19. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
20. ho_____ss at everything *adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

ANSWERS: 9. offend, 10. grandkid, 11. distort, 12. dazzle, 13. energize, 14. incarceration, 15. courtroom, 16. sip, 17. courthouse, 18. intellect, 19. astonishing, 20. hopeless

21. company mo__o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
22. Je___h culture *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
23. ap_____id policies *n.* a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors
24. ly__h law *v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
25. ly__h him to death *v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
26. inc_____te her for life *v.* to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape
27. partially cu_____le *adj.* deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing

ANSWERS: 21. motto, 22. Jewish, 23. apartheid, 24. lynch, 25. lynch, 26. incarcerate, 27. culpable

28. em____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
29. en____e indigenous people *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
30. de____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
31. st____ng therapy *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
32. part-time ja____r *n.* a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats
33. the wh____r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
34. make ast____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
35. ho____ss situation *adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
36. ex____te from blame *v.* to clear someone of blame or accusation; to free someone from responsibility or guilt
37. municipal cou____se *n.* a building where courts of law are held, or administrative offices for legal proceedings are located

ANSWERS: 28. empower, 29. enslave, 30. dedicate, 31. stimming, 32. janitor, 33. whisper, 34. astonishing, 35. hopeless, 36. exonerate, 37. courthouse

38. ne__s point *n.* a connection or link between things or people; the central or most important point or focus; a connected series of events or ideas
39. co_____om trial *n.* a room in which a court of law is held
40. di_____t the economy *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
41. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
42. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
43. Je___h history *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
44. of___d his sensibilities *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
45. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
46. inc_____te the murderer *v.* to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape
47. ma_____ch figure *n.* a woman who is the head of a family or social group; a woman who is the founder or dominant member of a group
48. mass ho_____de *n.* the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings

ANSWERS: 38. nexus, 39. courtroom, 40. distort, 41. dedicate, 42. opportune, 43. Jewish, 44. offend, 45. opportune, 46. incarcerate, 47. matriarch, 48. homicide

49. unc_____ble behavior *adj.* not guided by conscience; unprincipled; unreasonable; excessively or shockingly excessive, unreasonably harsh or severe
50. in_____te electricity *v.* to protect something by interposing material that prevents heat, noise, electricity, etc.
51. da___e all who see it *v.* to cause someone to lose clear vision temporarily, especially from bright light; to amaze or bewilder somebody with your brilliant wit, intellect, beauty, skill, etc.
52. racial seg_____on *n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation
53. co___l attention *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
54. 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
55. co_____t him of manslaughter *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

ANSWERS: 49. unconscionable, 50. insulate, 51. dazzle, 52. segregation, 53. compel, 54. subordinate, 55. convict

56. ap_____id system *n.* a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors
57. ex_____te the defendant *v.* to clear someone of blame or accusation; to free someone from responsibility or guilt
58. co_____t in a jail *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
59. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
60. cute gr_____ids *n.* the grandchildren of a particular person
61. direct ne___s *n.* a connection or link between things or people; the central or most important point or focus; a connected series of events or ideas
62. en_____e poor peasants *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
63. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
64. dis_____ely affected *adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

ANSWERS: 56. apartheid, 57. exonerate, 58. convict, 59. overwhelm, 60. grandkid, 61. nexus, 62. enslave, 63. empower, 64. disproportionately

65. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
66. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
67. de_____te the economy *v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
68. op_____s the people with force *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
69. cu_____le negligence *adj.* deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing
70. op_____s the minority *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
71. bo_____t campaign *v.* to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change; (noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change
72. co_____n crime *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
73. autistic st_____ng *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

ANSWERS: 65. overwhelm, 66. bury, 67. devastate, 68. oppress, 69. culpable, 70. oppress, 71. boycott, 72. condemn, 73. stimming

74. ruled by a ma_____ch *n.* a woman who is the head of a family or social group; a woman who is the founder or dominant member of a group
75. answer in a wh_____r *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
76. a mi_____ed sense of duty *adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action
77. serial ho_____de *n.* the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings
78. en_____ze the body *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
79. 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
80. b__y emotion *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
81. de_____te an area *v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
82. co_____n violence *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
83. ho___r out his frustration *v.* to shout or call out loudly and forcefully, often to get someone's attention or convey a message
84. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

ANSWERS: 74. matriarch, 75. whisper, 76. misguided, 77. homicide, 78. energize, 79. subordinate, 80. bury, 81. devastate, 82. condemn, 83. holler, 84. motto

85. bo____t the discussion *v.* to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change; (noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change
86. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
87. s_p a drink *v.* to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink
88. mi_____ed policies *adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action
89. a com_____ate heart *adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
90. in_____te the room from sound *v.* to protect something by interposing material that prevents heat, noise, electricity, etc.
91. mar_____ze dissenting voices *v.* to treat a person or group as insignificant or unimportant; to push to the edge or margin of society or a group; to exclude from power or influence
92. com_____ate leave *adj.* feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others
93. dis_____ise citizens *v.* to prevent someone from having the right to vote or from having an equal opportunity to vote

ANSWERS: 85. boycott, 86. intellect, 87. sip, 88. misguided, 89. compassionate, 90. insulate, 91. marginalize, 92. compassionate, 93. disenfranchise

94. ho___r for help *v.* to shout or call out loudly and forcefully, often to get someone's attention or convey a message
95. duty of the ja____r *n.* a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats
96. cou____us rescue attempt *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

ANSWERS: 94. holler, 95. janitor, 96. courageous

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. My friend is a _____ woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.
adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism

2. He was _____ for the duration of the war.
v. to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape

3. The _____ between technology and society is complex and constantly evolving.
n. a connection or link between things or people; the central or most important point or focus; a connected series of events or ideas

4. She was so proud of her _____ who were all doing well in school and had great personalities.
n. the grandchildren of a particular person

5. He took me aside and _____ in my ear.
v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

6. The audience was _____ by her realistic acting.
v. to cause someone to lose clear vision temporarily, especially from bright light; to amaze or bewilder somebody with your brilliant wit, intellect, beauty, skill, etc.

7. He _____ his life to helping others.
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

ANSWERS: 1. Jewish, 2. incarcerated, 3. nexus, 4. grandkids, 5. whispered, 6. dazzled, 7. dedicated

8. The strict deadlines will _____ the team to work efficiently.
- v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
9. Autistic children may engage in _____ behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.
- n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
10. He _____ his tea slowly, savoring the taste.
- v.* to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink
11. His _____ attempt to fix the problem only made it worse.
- adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action
12. The detective was called to investigate a _____ in the city.
- n.* the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings
13. The judge sentenced him to five years of _____ for embezzlement.
- n.* the state of being confined in prison or jail
14. The CEO was held _____ for the company's financial losses.
- adj.* deserving blame or censure; responsible for an offense, mistake, or wrongdoing
15. The South African government enforced _____ laws that segregated people based on race.
- n.* a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors

ANSWERS: 8. compel, 9. stimming, 10. sipped, 11. misguided, 12. homicide, 13. incarceration, 14. culpable, 15. apartheid

16. Her beauty _____ me completely.

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

17. The motivational speaker _____ the crowd with their words.

- v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate

18. Many people have decided to _____ the company due to their unethical practices.

- v. to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change; (noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change

19. The new citizenship laws will _____ many immigrants.

- v. to prevent someone from having the right to vote or from having an equal opportunity to vote

20. Economists contend that taxes _____ consumer behavior in general.

- v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

21. The DNA evidence _____ the suspect, proving his innocence.

- v. to clear someone of blame or accusation; to free someone from responsibility or guilt

22. The verdict was announced at the _____ after a long trial.

- n. a building where courts of law are held, or administrative offices for legal proceedings are located

ANSWERS: 16. enslaved, 17. energized, 18. boycott, 19. disenfranchise, 20. distort, 21. exonerated, 22. courthouse

23. The eyewitness took the stand in the _____ and gave testimony crucial to the case.
- n.* a room in which a court of law is held
24. The mob wanted to _____ the suspect before he could be tried in court.
- v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
25. _____ based on race or ethnicity is illegal and unjust.
- n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation
26. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.
- v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
27. Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which _____ coastal areas.
- v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
28. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
29. It's important not to _____ certain groups of people based on their race, religion, or ethnicity.
- v.* to treat a person or group as insignificant or unimportant; to push to the edge or margin of society or a group; to exclude from power or influence

ANSWERS: 23. courtroom, 24. lynch, 25. Segregation, 26. offended, 27. devastate, 28. opportune, 29. marginalize

30. It is _____ that some companies exploit their workers for profit.

adj. not guided by conscience; unprincipled; unreasonable; excessively or shockingly excessive, unreasonably harsh or severe

31. My father has a serious and _____ personality.

adj. feeling or showing sympathy and concern for the suffering or bad luck of others

32. The government was _____ for its handling of the crisis.

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

33. He was _____ on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

34. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

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

35. After months of job searching, he felt _____ and unsure of his future.

adj. having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

36. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

37. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

ANSWERS: 30. unconscionable, 31. compassionate, 32. condemned, 33. convicted, 34. intellect, 35. hopeless, 36. empowered, 37. overwhelm

38. 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

39. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

40. The kids love to _____ at the echoing mountains during our summer trips.

v. to shout or call out loudly and forcefully, often to get someone's attention or convey a message

41. Historically, many countries have often _____ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

42. 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

43. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

44. He was a _____ soldier who had served his country with honor.

adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

45. The _____ of the family was known for her wisdom and guidance.

n. a woman who is the head of a family or social group; a woman who is the founder or dominant member of a group

ANSWERS: 38. motto, 39. bury, 40. holler, 41. oppressed, 42. subordinate, 43. astonishing, 44. courageous, 45. matriarch

46. The rich can often _____ benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.

adv. in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

47. The school _____ was laid off.

n. a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats

48. We had our bedroom _____ before winter came.

v. to protect something by interposing material that prevents heat, noise, electricity, etc.

ANSWERS: 46. disproportionately, 47. janitor, 48. insulated