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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kate Orff: Reviving New York's rivers -- with oysters! |

TED Talk

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

[k_s_rivers_with_oysters](https://www.ted.com/talks/kate_orff_reviving_new_yor)

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

bedrock

n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

synonym: foundation, foundation stone, base

(1) **bedrock** foundation, (2) **bedrock** geology

The **bedrock** beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.

sprawl

v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out

synonym: drape, spread out

(1) **sprawl** out luxuriously on the sofa, (2) **sprawl** for acres

The lush vegetation **sprawls** across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.

homogenize

v. to make something uniform or consistent in composition or character, often by mixing or blending different elements

synonym: standardize, assimilate, conform

(1) **homogenize** data, (2) **homogenize** society

The company aimed to **homogenize** its products to appeal to a broader range of consumers.

confluence

n. the point at which two or more streams or rivers come together; a gathering of people or things at a particular location or moment

synonym: merging, convergence, meeting

(1) arterial **confluence**, (2) **confluence** of ideas
A **confluence** of two smaller streams formed the river.

plummet

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

synonym : drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

meld

v. to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse

synonym : blend, merge, combine

(1) **meld** business and pleasure, (2) **meld** physics with life science

The chef **melded** the flavors of the spice blend to create the perfect marinade.

divergent

adj. different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions

synonym : differing, disparate, atypical

(1) follow a **divergent** path, (2) wildly **divergent** results

The prime minister had to reconcile **divergent** opinions on controversial issues like abortion.

devoid

adj. completely lacking or free from something

synonym : empty, lacking, void

(1) **devoid** of life, (2) air **devoid** of pollution

The room was **devoid** of any furniture or decorations.

blatant

adj. completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior

synonym : obvious, flagrant, conspicuous

(1) **blatant** hypocrisy, (2) **blatant** disregard

Fact-checkers quickly exposed the politician's **blatant** lie.

oyster

n. a bivalve mollusk with a rough irregular shell, often eaten raw or cooked, and sometimes used as a pearl-producing animal or a source of mother-of-pearl

synonym : shellfish, clam, mussel

(1) **oyster** shell, (2) **oyster** farm

I ordered a dozen **oysters** as an appetizer at the seafood restaurant.

agglomerate

v. to collect or gather into a mass or cluster; to form or cause to form a cluster or agglomeration; to unite or join together, especially in a haphazard or consolidated manner

synonym : collect, gather, amass

(1) **agglomerate** particles, (2) **agglomerate** into a larger entity

We must **agglomerate** all the relevant data into one central database for easier analysis.

manifesto

n. a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions

synonym : declaration, proclamation, statement

(1) **manifesto** statement, (2) environmental **manifesto**

The political party issued a **manifesto** outlining its plans for the country's future.

mussel

n. a type of shellfish that lives in freshwater or saltwater has a hard, elongated shell and is edible

synonym : clam, oyster, bivalve

(1) **mussel** shells, (2) **mussel** cultivation

I ordered the **mussels** in a white wine sauce for dinner.

eel

n. a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins

(1) glass **eel**, (2) electric **eel**

The fisherman caught a slippery **eel** while out on the lake.

inundation

n. a great flood or overwhelming quantity

synonym : flood, deluge, overflow

(1) **inundation** of visitors, (2) flood **inundation** map

The city was hit by an **inundation** of water, with streets and homes flooded.

upland

n. an elevated or high-lying area of land, typically with a higher elevation than the surrounding area, often characterized by hills, mountains, or plateaus

synonym : highland, plateau, hill

(1) **upland** scenery, (2) **upland** game birds

We set up camp on the **upland** to enjoy the breathtaking view of the surrounding valleys.

intuit

v. to understand or know something instinctively or without conscious reasoning; to perceive or apprehend something immediately or intuitively

synonym : perceive, sense, grasp

(1) **intuit** the motive, (2) **intuit** a solution

From her experience with similar projects, she could **intuit** the most efficient way to complete the task.

dredge

v. to remove debris or objects from a body of water or other areas by scooping or dragging, often using special equipment called a dredge; to bring something to the surface by this process

synonym : dig, scoop, unearth

(1) **dredge** up memories, (2) **dredge** a river

The environmental group demanded that the government stop the plans to **dredge** the wetlands for oil drilling.

muck

n. dense, wet, and dirty matter or waste, often found in soil or on the ground; animal waste

synonym : dirt, mud, droppings

(1) construction **muck**, (2) **muck** on clothes

The horses waded through the **muck** in the field after the rainstorm.

smelly

adj. having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled

synonym : stinky, malodorous, fetid

(1) **smelly** socks, (2) **smelly** trash

I can't stand the **smelly** odor from the garbage can, and it's unbearable.

sew

v. to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle

synonym : stitch, darn, tailor

(1) **sew** with thread, (2) **sew** a button

My mother taught me how to **sew**.

contaminate

v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

synonym : defile, pollute, adulterate

(1) **contaminate** with a disease, (2) **contaminate** his ego

We strive not to **contaminate** the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

exacerbate

v. to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse

synonym : worsen, aggravate, escalate

(1) **exacerbate** the situation, (2) **exacerbate** symptoms

The heat wave **exacerbated** the drought conditions.

marsh

n. a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog

synonym : bog, swamp, fen

(1) **marsh** bird, (2) river-delta **marsh**

Environmentalists are concerned about the harm to the **marsh**.

attenuation

n. the process of reducing the strength, intensity, or value of something; the act or effect of making something weaker or less pronounced; the decrease in the magnitude of a signal, sound, or wave as it travels through a medium or from a source to a receiver

synonym: reduction, weakening, lessening

(1) audio **attenuation**, (2) **attenuation** coefficient

The **attenuation** of the signal caused poor reception on the radio.

algae

n. A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots

(1) **algae** biofuel, (2) blue **algae**

Algae has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.

detritus

n. waste or debris of any kind, particularly organic matter that has decayed or broken off from larger organisms; figuratively, a collection of disorganized or discarded material or ideas

synonym: debris, waste, garbage

(1) **detritus** pile, (2) **detritus** removal

The beach was littered with **detritus** and trash left behind by careless visitors.

glamorous

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

synonym: alluring, bewitching, enchanting

(1) **glamorous** movie stars, (2) cast **glamorous** eyes

The south coast is less **glamorous** yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

ubiquitous

adj. being or existing everywhere at once

synonym: universal, omnipresent, everywhere

(1) **ubiquitous** computing, (2) **ubiquitous** across ecosystems

Sugar is **ubiquitous** in food.

attenuate

v. to weaken or reduce the intensity of something, such as a sound, feeling, or substance; to make something thinner or less dense

synonym : weaken, reduce, diminish

(1) **attenuate** the signal, (2) **attenuate** the power

The scientist was able to **attenuate** the virus by altering its genetic code.

fertilize

v. to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well

synonym : pollinate, inseminate, enrich

(1) **fertilize** the soil, (2) **fertilize** the female egg

The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to **fertilize** a wife.

spat

n. a minor quarrel or dispute, often one that is short-lived or insignificant; a sudden burst of activity or energy; a young oyster, clam, or other bivalves that has recently attached itself to a surface in its natural habitat

synonym : argument, disagreement, oyster

(1) minor **spat**, (2) clean up the **spat**

The **spat** between the two neighbors escalated into a heated argument.

reinterpretation

n. a new or different interpretation or explanation of something, especially a text or piece of artwork

synonym : re-evaluation, re-assessment, re-examination

(1) **reinterpretation** of history, (2) **reinterpretation** of the Constitution

The artist's **reinterpretation** of the classic painting received mixed reviews.

interconnect

v. to connect similar things

synonym : interlink, complect, annex

(1) directly **interconnect** with those systems, (2) human activities **interconnect** with the environment

Our system can now **interconnect** with other databases.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym: braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story

The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

amphibious

adj. able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings

(1) **amphibious** creature, (2) **amphibious** warfare

The **amphibious** vehicle seamlessly transitioned from land to water.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

synonym: renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

watery

adj. full of or containing water; wet

synonym: liquid, wet, damp

(1) a **watery** fluid, (2) go to a **watery** grave

The soup was too **watery** and needed more flavor.

diver

n. a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey

synonym: plunger, frogman, loon

(1) professional **diver**, (2) deep-sea **diver**

The search and rescue team sent a team of **divers** to search for the missing plane wreckage.

upwell

v. to rise to the surface, particularly in the case of fluids like water, gas, or magma

synonym: surge up, rise, well up

(1) emotions begin to **upwell**, (2) **upwell** from the cracks

Nutrients **upwell** from the ocean depths during the seasonal shifts, leading to a bloom of marine life.

raft

n. a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer

synonym: flatboat, boat, barge

(1) a **raft** for carrying horses, (2) a life **raft**

The rubber **raft** was swept out to sea.

churn

v. to stir or agitate a liquid, substance, or mixture vigorously to produce foam or because of violent movement; to cause a large number of people to move or leave; to produce something, such as money, through continuous activity or turnover

synonym: stir, agitate, whirl

(1) **churn** out manufactured goods, (2) **churn** in my stomach

The cream needs to be **churned** for several minutes before it becomes butter.

shoreline

n. a line that separates land and sea

(1) **shoreline** erosion, (2) coral-reef **shoreline**

Flooding occurs along the city's **shoreline** due to the storm surge.

remake

v. to create a new version of a work of art, such as a film, song, or play, using the same or similar material as the original; to adapt or update something for a new audience or purpose; (noun) a new version or adaptation of a previously existing movie, song, TV show, or other creative work

synonym: revamp, redo, reproduce

(1) video game **remake**, (2) **remake** song

The director plans to **remake** the classic movie with a modern twist.

livable

adj. capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation

synonym: habitable, comfortable, pleasant

(1) **livable** city, (2) **livable** housing

Finding a safe and **livable** neighborhood is important when looking for a new place to live.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. dr___e a river | <i>v.</i> to remove debris or objects from a body of water or other areas by scooping or dragging, often using special equipment called a dredge; to bring something to the surface by this process |
| 2. fe_____ze the soil | <i>v.</i> to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well |
| 3. rei_____ion of history | <i>n.</i> a new or different interpretation or explanation of something, especially a text or piece of artwork |
| 4. inu_____on of visitors | <i>n.</i> a great flood or overwhelming quantity |
| 5. oy___r farm | <i>n.</i> a bivalve mollusk with a rough irregular shell, often eaten raw or cooked, and sometimes used as a pearl-producing animal or a source of mother-of-pearl |
| 6. follow a di_____nt path | <i>adj.</i> different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions |
| 7. human activities int_____ect with the environment | <i>v.</i> to connect similar things |
| 8. li_____e city | <i>adj.</i> capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation |

ANSWERS: 1. dredge, 2. fertilize, 3. reinterpretation, 4. inundation, 5. oyster, 6. divergent, 7. interconnect, 8. livable

9. sm___y socks *adj.* having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled
10. flood inu_____on map *n.* a great flood or overwhelming quantity
11. we__e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
12. at_____te the signal *v.* to weaken or reduce the intensity of something, such as a sound, feeling, or substance; to make something thinner or less dense
13. hom_____ze data *v.* to make something uniform or consistent in composition or character, often by mixing or blending different elements
14. cast gl_____us eyes *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
15. amp_____us creature *adj.* able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings
16. agg_____te into a larger entity *v.* to collect or gather into a mass or cluster; to form or cause to form a cluster or agglomeration; to unite or join together, especially in a haphazard or consolidated manner
17. air de___d of pollution *adj.* completely lacking or free from something

ANSWERS: 9. smelly, 10. inundation, 11. weave, 12. attenuate, 13. homogenize, 14. glamorous, 15. amphibious, 16. agglomerate, 17. devoid

18. sm___y trash *adj.* having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled
19. in___t the motive *v.* to understand or know something instinctively or without conscious reasoning; to perceive or apprehend something immediately or intuitively
20. con_____te with a disease *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
21. gl_____us movie stars *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
22. m__k on clothes *n.* dense, wet, and dirty matter or waste, often found in soil or on the ground; animal waste
23. be_____k geology *n.* the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium
24. pl_____t against other major currencies *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
25. coral-reef sh_____ne *n.* a line that separates land and sea
26. bl_____t disregard *adj.* completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior
27. exa_____te symptoms *v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
28. hom_____ze society *v.* to make something uniform or consistent in composition or character, often by mixing or blending different elements

ANSWERS: 18. smelly, 19. intuit, 20. contaminate, 21. glamorous, 22. muck, 23. bedrock, 24. plummet, 25. shoreline, 26. blatant, 27. exacerbate, 28. homogenize

29. professional di__r *n.* a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey
30. be____k foundation *n.* the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium
31. al__e biofuel *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
32. glass e_l *n.* a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins
33. mu____l shells *n.* a type of shellfish that lives in freshwater or saltwater has a hard, elongated shell and is edible
34. con_____te his ego *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
35. li____e housing *adj.* capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation
36. a life r__t *n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
37. de____us removal *n.* waste or debris of any kind, particularly organic matter that has decayed or broken off from larger organisms; figuratively, a collection of disorganized or discarded material or ideas
38. clean up the s__t *n.* a minor quarrel or dispute, often one that is short-lived or insignificant; a sudden burst of activity or energy; a young oyster, clam, or other bivalves that has recently attached itself to a surface in its natural habitat

ANSWERS: 29. diver, 30. bedrock, 31. algae, 32. eel, 33. mussel, 34. contaminate, 35. livable, 36. raft, 37. detritus, 38. spat

39. rei_____ion of the Constitution
n. a new or different interpretation or explanation of something, especially a text or piece of artwork
40. sh_____ne erosion
n. a line that separates land and sea
41. agg_____te particles
v. to collect or gather into a mass or cluster; to form or cause to form a cluster or agglomeration; to unite or join together, especially in a haphazard or consolidated manner
42. amp_____us warfare
adj. able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings
43. re_____te the feeling of the 1920s
v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
44. wildly di_____nt results
adj. different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions
45. ma__h bird
n. a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
46. a r__t for carrying horses
n. a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
47. up___d scenery
n. an elevated or high-lying area of land, typically with a higher elevation than the surrounding area, often characterized by hills, mountains, or plateaus
48. river-delta ma__h
n. a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog

ANSWERS: 39. reinterpretation, 40. shoreline, 41. agglomerate, 42. amphibious, 43. recreate, 44. divergent, 45. marsh, 46. raft, 47. upland, 48. marsh

49. sp___l out luxuriously on the sofa *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
50. ubi_____us across ecosystems *adj.* being or existing everywhere at once
51. con_____ce of ideas *n.* the point at which two or more streams or rivers come together; a gathering of people or things at a particular location or moment
52. pl_____ting sales *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
53. go to a wa___y grave *adj.* full of or containing water; wet
54. s_w with thread *v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle
55. arterial con_____ce *n.* the point at which two or more streams or rivers come together; a gathering of people or things at a particular location or moment
56. m__d business and pleasure *v.* to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse
57. ch__n out manufactured goods *v.* to stir or agitate a liquid, substance, or mixture vigorously to produce foam or because of violent movement; to cause a large number of people to move or leave; to produce something, such as money, through continuous activity or turnover
58. up___d game birds *n.* an elevated or high-lying area of land, typically with a higher elevation than the surrounding area, often characterized by hills, mountains, or plateaus

ANSWERS: 49. sprawl, 50. ubiquitous, 51. confluence, 52. plummet, 53. watery, 54. sew, 55. confluence, 56. meld, 57. churn, 58. upland

59. bl____t hypocrisy *adj.* completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior
60. de____us pile *n.* waste or debris of any kind, particularly organic matter that has decayed or broken off from larger organisms; figuratively, a collection of disorganized or discarded material or ideas
61. att____on coefficient *n.* the process of reducing the strength, intensity, or value of something; the act or effect of making something weaker or less pronounced; the decrease in the magnitude of a signal, sound, or wave as it travels through a medium or from a source to a receiver
62. environmental ma____to *n.* a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions
63. at____te the power *v.* to weaken or reduce the intensity of something, such as a sound, feeling, or substance; to make something thinner or less dense
64. exa____te the situation *v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
65. minor s__t *n.* a minor quarrel or dispute, often one that is short-lived or insignificant; a sudden burst of activity or energy; a young oyster, clam, or other bivalves that has recently attached itself to a surface in its natural habitat

ANSWERS: 59. blatant, 60. detritus, 61. attenuation, 62. manifesto, 63. attenuate, 64. exacerbate, 65. spat

66. sp___l for acres *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
67. fe_____ze the female egg *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
68. m__d physics with life science *v.* to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse
69. mu___l cultivation *n.* a type of shellfish that lives in freshwater or saltwater has a hard, elongated shell and is edible
70. oy___r shell *n.* a bivalve mollusk with a rough irregular shell, often eaten raw or cooked, and sometimes used as a pearl-producing animal or a source of mother-of-pearl
71. audio att_____on *n.* the process of reducing the strength, intensity, or value of something; the act or effect of making something weaker or less pronounced; the decrease in the magnitude of a signal, sound, or wave as it travels through a medium or from a source to a receiver
72. ch__n in my stomach *v.* to stir or agitate a liquid, substance, or mixture vigorously to produce foam or because of violent movement; to cause a large number of people to move or leave; to produce something, such as money, through continuous activity or turnover

ANSWERS: 66. sprawl, 67. fertilize, 68. meld, 69. mussel, 70. oyster, 71. attenuation, 72. churn

73. video game re___e *v.* to create a new version of a work of art, such as a film, song, or play, using the same or similar material as the original; to adapt or update something for a new audience or purpose; (noun) a new version or adaptation of a previously existing movie, song, TV show, or other creative work
74. re___e song *v.* to create a new version of a work of art, such as a film, song, or play, using the same or similar material as the original; to adapt or update something for a new audience or purpose; (noun) a new version or adaptation of a previously existing movie, song, TV show, or other creative work
75. blue al___e *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
76. emotions begin to up___l *v.* to rise to the surface, particularly in the case of fluids like water, gas, or magma
77. construction m___k *n.* dense, wet, and dirty matter or waste, often found in soil or on the ground; animal waste
78. re_____te a single country *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
79. de___d of life *adj.* completely lacking or free from something
80. a wa___y fluid *adj.* full of or containing water; wet

ANSWERS: 73. remake, 74. remake, 75. algae, 76. upwell, 77. muck, 78. recreate, 79. devoid, 80. watery

81. directly int_____ect with those systems *v.* to connect similar things
82. in___t a solution *v.* to understand or know something instinctively or without conscious reasoning; to perceive or apprehend something immediately or intuitively
83. s_w a button *v.* to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle
84. ubi_____us computing *adj.* being or existing everywhere at once
85. deep-sea di__r *n.* a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey
86. electric e_l *n.* a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins
87. ma_____to statement *n.* a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions
88. dr___e up memories *v.* to remove debris or objects from a body of water or other areas by scooping or dragging, often using special equipment called a dredge; to bring something to the surface by this process
89. up___l from the cracks *v.* to rise to the surface, particularly in the case of fluids like water, gas, or magma

ANSWERS: 81. interconnect, 82. intuit, 83. sew, 84. ubiquitous, 85. diver, 86. eel, 87. manifesto, 88. dredge, 89. upwell

90. we__e on a loom

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

ANSWERS: 90. weave

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The south coast is less _____ yet has many clean and appealing hotels.
adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
2. Sugar is _____ in food.
adj. being or existing everywhere at once
3. The search and rescue team sent a team of _____ to search for the missing plane wreckage.
n. a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey
4. We must _____ all the relevant data into one central database for easier analysis.
v. to collect or gather into a mass or cluster; to form or cause to form a cluster or agglomeration; to unite or join together, especially in a haphazard or consolidated manner
5. The stock prices have _____ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.
v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
6. The soup was too _____ and needed more flavor.
adj. full of or containing water; wet
7. The fisherman caught a slippery _____ while out on the lake.
n. a type of elongated, snake-like fish that lives in freshwater or saltwater and has a slimy, scaleless body and no pelvic fins

ANSWERS: 1. glamorous, 2. ubiquitous, 3. divers, 4. agglomerate, 5. plummeted, 6. watery, 7. eel

8. My mother taught me how to ____.
- v. to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle
9. From her experience with similar projects, she could _____ the most efficient way to complete the task.
- v. to understand or know something instinctively or without conscious reasoning; to perceive or apprehend something immediately or intuitively
10. The director plans to _____ the classic movie with a modern twist.
- v. to create a new version of a work of art, such as a film, song, or play, using the same or similar material as the original; to adapt or update something for a new audience or purpose; (noun) a new version or adaptation of a previously existing movie, song, TV show, or other creative work
11. Nutrients _____ from the ocean depths during the seasonal shifts, leading to a bloom of marine life.
- v. to rise to the surface, particularly in the case of fluids like water, gas, or magma
12. The _____ vehicle seamlessly transitioned from land to water.
- adj. able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings
13. The room was _____ of any furniture or decorations.
- adj. completely lacking or free from something
14. The prime minister had to reconcile _____ opinions on controversial issues like abortion.
- adj. different or becoming different from another or a standard; tending to move apart in different directions

ANSWERS: 8. sew, 9. intuit, 10. remake, 11. upwell, 12. amphibious, 13. devoid, 14. divergent

15. The company aimed to _____ its products to appeal to a broader range of consumers.
- v. to make something uniform or consistent in composition or character, often by mixing or blending different elements
16. The city was hit by an _____ of water, with streets and homes flooded.
- n. a great flood or overwhelming quantity
17. The political party issued a _____ outlining its plans for the country's future.
- n. a public declaration or statement of policy and aims, usually issued by a political party or government; a written statement or proclamation of one's beliefs or intentions
18. We strive not to _____ the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.
- v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
19. The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to _____ a wife.
- v. to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
20. The horses waded through the _____ in the field after the rainstorm.
- n. dense, wet, and dirty matter or waste, often found in soil or on the ground; animal waste
21. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.
- v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

ANSWERS: 15. homogenize, 16. inundation, 17. manifesto, 18. contaminate, 19. fertilize, 20. muck, 21. weaves

22. The rubber _____ was swept out to sea.
- n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
23. I ordered the _____ in a white wine sauce for dinner.
- n.* a type of shellfish that lives in freshwater or saltwater has a hard, elongated shell and is edible
24. _____ has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.
- n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
25. The environmental group demanded that the government stop the plans to _____ the wetlands for oil drilling.
- v.* to remove debris or objects from a body of water or other areas by scooping or dragging, often using special equipment called a dredge; to bring something to the surface by this process
26. The artist's _____ of the classic painting received mixed reviews.
- n.* a new or different interpretation or explanation of something, especially a text or piece of artwork
27. Fact-checkers quickly exposed the politician's _____ lie.
- adj.* completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior
28. Environmentalists are concerned about the harm to the _____.
- n.* a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
29. The scientist was able to _____ the virus by altering its genetic code.
- v.* to weaken or reduce the intensity of something, such as a sound, feeling, or substance; to make something thinner or less dense

ANSWERS: 22. raft, 23. mussels, 24. Algae, 25. dredge, 26. reinterpretation, 27. blatant, 28. marsh, 29. attenuate

30. The cream needs to be _____ for several minutes before it becomes butter.
- v.* to stir or agitate a liquid, substance, or mixture vigorously to produce foam or because of violent movement; to cause a large number of people to move or leave; to produce something, such as money, through continuous activity or turnover
31. The beach was littered with _____ and trash left behind by careless visitors.
- n.* waste or debris of any kind, particularly organic matter that has decayed or broken off from larger organisms; figuratively, a collection of disorganized or discarded material or ideas
32. The _____ of the signal caused poor reception on the radio.
- n.* the process of reducing the strength, intensity, or value of something; the act or effect of making something weaker or less pronounced; the decrease in the magnitude of a signal, sound, or wave as it travels through a medium or from a source to a receiver
33. The chef _____ the flavors of the spice blend to create the perfect marinade.
- v.* to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse
34. We set up camp on the _____ to enjoy the breathtaking view of the surrounding valleys.
- n.* an elevated or high-lying area of land, typically with a higher elevation than the surrounding area, often characterized by hills, mountains, or plateaus
35. The heat wave _____ the drought conditions.
- v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
36. Flooding occurs along the city's _____ due to the storm surge.
- n.* a line that separates land and sea

ANSWERS: 30. churned, 31. detritus, 32. attenuation, 33. melded, 34. upland, 35. exacerbated, 36. shoreline

37. The _____ beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.
n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium
38. Our system can now _____ with other databases.
v. to connect similar things
39. I ordered a dozen _____ as an appetizer at the seafood restaurant.
n. a bivalve mollusk with a rough irregular shell, often eaten raw or cooked, and sometimes used as a pearl-producing animal or a source of mother-of-pearl
40. The _____ between the two neighbors escalated into a heated argument.
n. a minor quarrel or dispute, often one that is short-lived or insignificant; a sudden burst of activity or energy; a young oyster, clam, or other bivalves that has recently attached itself to a surface in its natural habitat
41. Finding a safe and _____ neighborhood is important when looking for a new place to live.
adj. capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation
42. The lush vegetation _____ across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.
v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
43. I can't stand the _____ odor from the garbage can, and it's unbearable.
adj. having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled
44. A _____ of two smaller streams formed the river.
n. the point at which two or more streams or rivers come together; a gathering of people or things at a particular location or moment

ANSWERS: 37. bedrock, 38. interconnect, 39. oysters, 40. spat, 41. livable, 42. sprawls, 43. smelly, 44. confluence

45. She _____ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

ANSWERS: 45. recreated