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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Shea Hembrey: How I became 100 artists | TED Talk
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

quirk

n. a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group

synonym: eccentricity, idiosyncrasy, peculiarity

(1) personality **quirk**, (2) a **quirk** of fate

One of her **quirks** is that she always wears mismatched socks.

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.

squirrel

n. a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world

synonym: rodent, chipmunk, tree-dweller

(1) agile **squirrel**, (2) gray **squirrel**

The **squirrels** in the park were very friendly and came right up to us looking for food.

voracious

adj. having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something

synonym : ravenous, insatiable, greedy

(1) **voracious** thirst, (2) **voracious** reader

The **voracious** appetite of the teenager was legendary.

recline

v. to lean or lie back in a relaxed or comfortable position

synonym : lounge, lie down, relax

(1) **recline** on the sofa, (2) **recline** on my side

She **reclined** her seat and relaxed for the flight.

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.

craftsman

n. a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials

synonym : artisan, mechanic, workman

(1) **craftsman** skill, (2) a subtle **craftsman**

The adept **craftsman** carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.

biennial

adj. occurring every two years

synonym : every other year, two-year, occurring bi-yearly

(1) **biennial** event, (2) **biennial** report

The **biennial** art festival is famous and draws artists and art lovers worldwide.

obtuse

adj. lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees

synonym : dense, stupid, insensitive

(1) **obtuse** angle, (2) **obtuse** remarks

His **obtuse** reasoning made it difficult for me to understand

his point of view.

esoteric

adj. intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest

synonym: abstruse, recondite, arcane

(1) an **esoteric** religion, (2) **esoteric** tome

The book's content was so **esoteric** only a select few scholars could fully understand it.

fluent

adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

synonym: eloquent, articulate, smooth-spoken

(1) **fluent** Chinese, (2) in a **fluent** tone

She learned five languages but is only **fluent** in two of them.

outdo

v. to do better than someone; to surpass

synonym: excel, surpass, outshine

(1) **outdo** him in trickery, (2) **outdo** the competition

He tried to **outdo** his rival by breaking the world record.

cleanse

v. to purify or get rid of impurities or toxins; to wash or scrub thoroughly, often in a ritualistic or symbolic context; to purge or remove negative or harmful influences or substances from something; (noun) an act of cleaning or purifying something, typically the body

synonym: purify, detoxify, sanitize

(1) juice **cleanse**, (2) **cleanse** the face

The new diet is designed to **cleanse** toxins from the body.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

dusk

n. the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight

synonym : twilight, gloaming, sundown

(1) **dusk** sky, (2) **dusk** falls

The sky turned a beautiful orange hue at **dusk**.

twilight

n. the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset

synonym : dusk, sunset, gloaming

(1) **twilight** sky, (2) **twilight** of an era

The sky was a beautiful pink and orange color at **twilight**.

ephemeral

adj. lasting or used for only a short time

synonym : temporary, momentary, brief

(1) **ephemeral** joys, (2) **ephemeral** materials

His success as a famous actor was **ephemeral**.

transience

n. the state or fact of lasting only for a short time; the quality or state of being temporary

synonym : fleetingness, impermanence, ephemerality

(1) human **transience**, (2) **transience** of fame

The **transience** of life is a reminder to make the most of every moment.

frost

n. a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing

synonym : freeze, ice, blight

(1) five degrees of **frost**, (2) **frost** line

The **frost** on the ground made it slippery and difficult to walk.

craze

n. an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad

synonym : mania, fad, agitation

(1) **craze** for speculation, (2) fitness **craze**

We experienced a **craze** for electric vehicles as interest in green tech grew.

jackpot

n. a large cash prize or reward that is won by chance or luck; a situation in which one experiences an unexpectedly positive or fortunate outcome

synonym: prize, bonanza, windfall

(1) lottery **jackpot**, (2) win a **jackpot**

After hours of playing the slot machines, she finally hit the **jackpot** and won hundreds of dollars.

toothbrush

n. a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth

synonym: brush, scrubber, cleaner

(1) **toothbrush** stand, (2) power **toothbrush**

My **toothbrush** with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.

pajama

n. a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging

synonym: nightgown, nightdress

(1) care **pajama**, (2) **pajama** pants

My little sister loves to have **pajama** parties with her friends on the weekends.

abode

n. a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters

synonym: dwelling, residence, home

(1) a temporary **abode**, (2) humble **abode**

The small cabin in the woods was his **abode** for many years.

heirloom

n. a valuable object, typically a piece of jewelry, artwork, or household item, that is passed down from generation to generation as a family heirloom; something that has special sentimental or historical value

synonym: heritage, inheritance, legacy

(1) **heirloom** jewelry, (2) family **heirloom**

The family recipe for apple pie has become an **heirloom**

tradition.

bud

n. a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot

synonym: shoot, sprout, germ

(1) pinch off a **bud**, (2) **bud** grafting

The flower was starting to show its **bud** and would soon bloom into a beautiful blossom.

jig

n. a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool

synonym: dance, reel, minuet

(1) dancing a **jig**, (2) **jig** grinding machine

The traditional Irish **jig** is a lively folk dance involving much footwork.

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.

mimicry

n. the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh

synonym: imitation, apery

(1) vocal **mimicry**, (2) floral **mimicry**

Some insects use **mimicry** to avoid detection by predators.

camouflage

n. an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

synonym: guise, mask, cloak

(1) **camouflage** clothing, (2) work as **camouflage**

They utilized branches of trees as **camouflage**.

hazel

n. a small tree or shrub that produces edible nuts similar to almonds; the light brown or yellowish-brown color that resembles the color of the hazelnut

synonym: tree, shrub

(1) **hazel** eyes, (2) **hazel** fragrance

The **hazel** tree in our backyard produces nuts that the squirrels love.

anthropology

n. the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

(1) social **anthropology**, (2) **anthropology** of religion

The areas of **anthropology** and psychology are significantly related to one another.

sabbatical

n. a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions

synonym: leave, vacation, break

(1) **sabbatical** leave, (2) **sabbatical** year

After ten years of teaching, she took a **sabbatical** to travel the world.

yodel

v. to sing or call out with rapid changes in pitch between low and high notes, usually in a distinct, wavering style popular in traditional Alpine music and culture; (noun) a form of singing that involves repeated changes of pitch during a single note

synonym: sing, warble, trill

(1) **yodel** song, (2) traditional **yodel**

When we reached the top of the mountain, we couldn't resist the urge to **yodel** into the echoing valley below.

uvula

n. a fleshy, cone-shaped structure that hangs down from the soft palate at the back of the throat, playing a role in speech and swallowing

synonym: dangly bit, throat punchbag

(1) infected **uvula**, (2) sore **uvula**

The doctor recommended surgery to address the enlarged **uvula** causing sleep apnea.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

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.

pragmatist

n. a person who practically approaches situations and problems; someone who prioritizes usefulness and functionality over abstract principles or ideals

synonym: realist, practical person, utilitarian

(1) **pragmatist** perspective, (2) a true **pragmatist**

As a **pragmatist**, she always focuses on finding practical solutions to problems.

barb

n. a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair

synonym: spine, barbed remark, sting

(1) **barb** wire, (2) aim a **barb**

The politician's words were full of **barbs** designed to hurt his opponent.

paranoid

adj. unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you

(1) **paranoid** about issues, (2) **paranoid** disorder

A **paranoid** person may have delusions that people want to harm.

doe

n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym : rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

teller

n. a person who works in a bank or financial institution and is responsible for processing customers' deposits, withdrawals, and other transactions, also referred to as a bank teller; a person who tells stories or relates information to an audience

synonym : cashier, bank clerk, clerk

(1) fortune- **teller**, (2) **teller** machine

The bank **teller** carefully counted the money before handing it to the customer.

gab

v. to talk or chat informally and at length, often in a relaxed or gossipy manner; to engage in idle or frivolous conversation; (noun) casual conversation or idle chatter

synonym : converse, chatter, yak

(1) **gab** on the cellular telephone, (2) haev a great **gab** session

We often **gab** about our favorite books and movies during our road trips.

aboriginal

adj. relating to the people, culture, or history of the original inhabitants of a particular region, especially before the arrival of colonizers or settlers; indigenous

synonym : native, indigenous, autochthonous

(1) **aboriginal** art, (2) **aboriginal** land

Many **aboriginal** cultures have deep spiritual connections to the land and its natural resources.

prolific

adj. producing many works, results, or offspring

synonym : productive, fertile, abundant

(1) **prolific** apple tree, (2) **prolific** period

The **prolific** author had written over 20 books in just five years.

stasis

n. a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease

synonym : stillness, inactivity, stagnation

(1) renal **stasis**, (2) **stasis** in development

The patient's **stasis** in the hospital was concerning to the doctors.

optometrist

n. a healthcare professional who specializes in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of vision and eye-related disorders and who may prescribe and fit corrective lenses or other optical aids

synonym : eye doctor, optician, oculist

(1) **optometrist** appointment, (2) licensed **optometrist**

I visited an **optometrist** to have my eyes checked for a new prescription for glasses.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ho___r out his frustration *v.* to shout or call out loudly and forcefully, often to get someone's attention or convey a message
2. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
3. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
4. vo_____us reader *adj.* having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something
5. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
6. re_____e on my side *v.* to lean or lie back in a relaxed or comfortable position
7. humble ab__e *n.* a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters
8. sab_____al leave *n.* a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions
9. b__b wire *n.* a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair

ANSWERS: 1. holler, 2. germ, 3. intellect, 4. voracious, 5. bury, 6. recline, 7. abode, 8. sabbatical, 9. barb

10. d__k falls *n.* the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight
11. pr____ic period *adj.* producing many works, results, or offspring
12. a temporary ab__e *n.* a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters
13. agile sq____el *n.* a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world
14. vo____us thirst *adj.* having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something
15. fr__t line *n.* a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing
16. human in____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
17. too____sh stand *n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
18. pa____id disorder *adj.* unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you
19. st___s in development *n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease

ANSWERS: 10. dusk, 11. prolific, 12. abode, 13. squirrel, 14. voracious, 15. frost, 16. intellect, 17. toothbrush, 18. paranoid, 19. stasis

20. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
21. traditional yo__l *v.* to sing or call out with rapid changes in pitch between low and high notes, usually in a distinct, wavering style popular in traditional Alpine music and culture; (noun) a form of singing that involves repeated changes of pitch during a single note
22. ep_____al materials *adj.* lasting or used for only a short time
23. g_b on the cellular telephone *v.* to talk or chat informally and at length, often in a relaxed or gossipy manner; to engage in idle or frivolous conversation; (noun) casual conversation or idle chatter
24. infected uv__a *n.* a fleshy, cone-shaped structure that hangs down from the soft palate at the back of the throat, playing a role in speech and swallowing
25. abo_____al land *adj.* relating to the people, culture, or history of the original inhabitants of a particular region, especially before the arrival of colonizers or settlers; indigenous
26. ob___e remarks *adj.* lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees
27. te___r machine *n.* a person who works in a bank or financial institution and is responsible for processing customers' deposits, withdrawals, and other transactions, also referred to as a bank teller; a person who tells stories or relates information to an audience

ANSWERS: 20. doe, 21. yodel, 22. ephemeral, 23. gab, 24. uvula, 25. aboriginal, 26.

obtuse, 27. teller

28. ep_____al joys *adj.* lasting or used for only a short time
29. win a ja_____t *n.* a large cash prize or reward that is won by chance or luck; a situation in which one experiences an unexpectedly positive or fortunate outcome
30. bi_____al report *adj.* occurring every two years
31. un_____d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
32. juice cl_____e *v.* to purify or get rid of impurities or toxins; to wash or scrub thoroughly, often in a ritualistic or symbolic context; to purge or remove negative or harmful influences or substances from something; (noun) an act of cleaning or purifying something, typically the body
33. ou__o the competition *v.* to do better than someone; to surpass
34. ha__l fragrance *n.* a small tree or shrub that produces edible nuts similar to almonds; the light brown or yellowish-brown color that resembles the color of the hazelnut
35. dancing a j_g *n.* a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool
36. human tra_____ce *n.* the state or fact of lasting only for a short time; the quality or state of being temporary

ANSWERS: 28. ephemeral, 29. jackpot, 30. biennial, 31. unfold, 32. cleanse, 33. outdo, 34. hazel, 35. jig, 36. transience

37. vocal mi____y *n.* the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh
38. b_d grafting *n.* a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot
39. family he____om *n.* a valuable object, typically a piece of jewelry, artwork, or household item, that is passed down from generation to generation as a family heirloom; something that has special sentimental or historical value
40. cl____e the face *v.* to purify or get rid of impurities or toxins; to wash or scrub thoroughly, often in a ritualistic or symbolic context; to purge or remove negative or harmful influences or substances from something; (noun) an act of cleaning or purifying something, typically the body
41. pa___a pants *n.* a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging
42. personality qu__k *n.* a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
43. care pa___a *n.* a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging
44. renal st___s *n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease
45. gray sq____el *n.* a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world

ANSWERS: 37. mimicry, 38. bud, 39. heirloom, 40. cleanse, 41. pajama, 42. quirk, 43. pajama, 44. stasis, 45. squirrel

46. un___d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
47. ob___e angle *adj.* lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees
48. pr____ic apple tree *adj.* producing many works, results, or offspring
49. ho___r for help *v.* to shout or call out loudly and forcefully, often to get someone's attention or convey a message
50. lottery ja____t *n.* a large cash prize or reward that is won by chance or luck; a situation in which one experiences an unexpectedly positive or fortunate outcome
51. he____om jewelry *n.* a valuable object, typically a piece of jewelry, artwork, or household item, that is passed down from generation to generation as a family heirloom; something that has special sentimental or historical value
52. power too____sh *n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
53. j_g grinding machine *n.* a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool

ANSWERS: 46. unfold, 47. obtuse, 48. prolific, 49. holler, 50. jackpot, 51. heirloom, 52. toothbrush, 53. jig

54. a true pra_____st *n.* a person who practically approaches situations and problems; someone who prioritizes usefulness and functionality over abstract principles or ideals
55. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
56. abo_____al art *adj.* relating to the people, culture, or history of the original inhabitants of a particular region, especially before the arrival of colonizers or settlers; indigenous
57. work as cam_____ge *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
58. cam_____ge clothing *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
59. ha__l eyes *n.* a small tree or shrub that produces edible nuts similar to almonds; the light brown or yellowish-brown color that resembles the color of the hazelnut
60. fitness cr__e *n.* an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad
61. tra_____ce of fame *n.* the state or fact of lasting only for a short time; the quality or state of being temporary

ANSWERS: 54. pragmatist, 55. doe, 56. aboriginal, 57. camouflage, 58. camouflage, 59. hazel, 60. craze, 61. transience

62. tw____ht of an era
n. the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset
63. a subtle cr_____an
n. a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
64. fl____t Chinese
adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
65. bi_____al event
adj. occurring every two years
66. pinch off a b_d
n. a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot
67. pa_____id about issues
adj. unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you
68. ou__o him in trickery
v. to do better than someone; to surpass
69. an es_____ic religion
adj. intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest
70. social ant_____ogy
n. the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
71. sab_____al year
n. a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions

ANSWERS: 62. twilight, 63. craftsman, 64. fluent, 65. biennial, 66. bud, 67. paranoid, 68. outdo, 69. esoteric, 70. anthropology, 71. sabbatical

72. pra_____st perspective *n.* a person who practically approaches situations and problems; someone who prioritizes usefulness and functionality over abstract principles or ideals
73. floral mi_____y *n.* the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh
74. cr_____an skill *n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
75. re_____e on the sofa *v.* to lean or lie back in a relaxed or comfortable position
76. yo__l song *v.* to sing or call out with rapid changes in pitch between low and high notes, usually in a distinct, wavering style popular in traditional Alpine music and culture; (noun) a form of singing that involves repeated changes of pitch during a single note
77. aim a b__b *n.* a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair
78. opt_____st appointment *n.* a healthcare professional who specializes in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of vision and eye-related disorders and who may prescribe and fit corrective lenses or other optical aids

ANSWERS: 72. pragmatist, 73. mimicry, 74. craftsman, 75. recline, 76. yodel, 77. barb, 78. optometrist

79. sore uv__a *n.* a fleshy, cone-shaped structure that hangs down from the soft palate at the back of the throat, playing a role in speech and swallowing
80. b__y emotion *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
81. tw_____ht sky *n.* the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset
82. five degrees of fr__t *n.* a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing
83. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
84. d__k sky *n.* the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight
85. ant_____ogy of religion *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
86. haev a great g_b session *v.* to talk or chat informally and at length, often in a relaxed or gossipy manner; to engage in idle or frivolous conversation; (noun) casual conversation or idle chatter

ANSWERS: 79. uvula, 80. bury, 81. twilight, 82. frost, 83. germ, 84. dusk, 85. anthropology, 86. gab

87. cr__e for speculation *n.* an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad
88. company mo__o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
89. a qu__k of fate *n.* a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
90. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
91. fortune-te___r *n.* a person who works in a bank or financial institution and is responsible for processing customers' deposits, withdrawals, and other transactions, also referred to as a bank teller; a person who tells stories or relates information to an audience
92. es_____ic tome *adj.* intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest
93. licensed opt_____st *n.* a healthcare professional who specializes in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of vision and eye-related disorders and who may prescribe and fit corrective lenses or other optical aids
94. in a fl___t tone *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

ANSWERS: 87. craze, 88. motto, 89. quirk, 90. motto, 91. teller, 92. esoteric, 93. optometrist, 94. fluent

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ in the park were very friendly and came right up to us looking for food.
 - n.* a small to medium-sized rodent with a bushy tail, found in almost every part of the world

2. The _____ on the ground made it slippery and difficult to walk.
 - n.* a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing

3. His success as a famous actor was _____.
 - adj.* lasting or used for only a short time

4. The bank _____ carefully counted the money before handing it to the customer.
 - n.* a person who works in a bank or financial institution and is responsible for processing customers' deposits, withdrawals, and other transactions, also referred to as a bank teller; a person who tells stories or relates information to an audience

5. She learned five languages but is only _____ in two of them.
 - adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

6. As a _____ she always focuses on finding practical solutions to problems.
 - n.* a person who practically approaches situations and problems; someone who prioritizes usefulness and functionality over abstract principles or ideals

7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. squirrels, 2. frost, 3. ephemeral, 4. teller, 5. fluent, 6. pragmatist, 7. motto

8. The _____ appetite of the teenager was legendary.

adj. having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something

9. He tried to _____ his rival by breaking the world record.

v. to do better than someone; to surpass

10. We experienced a _____ for electric vehicles as interest in green tech grew.

n. an enthusiasm for a particular activity, object, or idea that appears suddenly and achieves widespread but short-lived popularity; a fad

11. My little sister loves to have _____ parties with her friends on the weekends.

n. a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging

12. The small cabin in the woods was his _____ for many years.

n. a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters

13. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

14. The _____ author had written over 20 books in just five years.

adj. producing many works, results, or offspring

15. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.

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

16. Many _____ cultures have deep spiritual connections to the land and its natural resources.

adj. relating to the people, culture, or history of the original inhabitants of a particular region, especially before the arrival of colonizers or settlers; indigenous

ANSWERS: 8. voracious, 9. outdo, 10. craze, 11. pajama, 12. abode, 13. unfolded, 14. prolific, 15. bury, 16. aboriginal

17. The _____ of life is a reminder to make the most of every moment.
- n.* the state or fact of lasting only for a short time; the quality or state of being temporary
18. The sky was a beautiful pink and orange color at _____.
- n.* the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset
19. We often ____ about our favorite books and movies during our road trips.
- v.* to talk or chat informally and at length, often in a relaxed or gossipy manner; to engage in idle or frivolous conversation; (noun) casual conversation or idle chatter
20. I visited an _____ to have my eyes checked for a new prescription for glasses.
- n.* a healthcare professional who specializes in the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of vision and eye-related disorders and who may prescribe and fit corrective lenses or other optical aids
21. The book's content was so _____ only a select few scholars could fully understand it.
- adj.* intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest
22. One of her _____ is that she always wears mismatched socks.
- n.* a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
23. Hunters use a whistle that makes the ____ sound to lure stags.
- n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

ANSWERS: 17. transience, 18. twilight, 19. gab, 20. optometrist, 21. esoteric, 22. quirks, 23. doe

24. The doctor recommended surgery to address the enlarged _____ causing sleep apnea.
- n.* a fleshy, cone-shaped structure that hangs down from the soft palate at the back of the throat, playing a role in speech and swallowing
25. The areas of _____ and psychology are significantly related to one another.
- n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
26. She _____ her seat and relaxed for the flight.
- v.* to lean or lie back in a relaxed or comfortable position
27. The _____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
- n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
28. The new diet is designed to _____ toxins from the body.
- v.* to purify or get rid of impurities or toxins; to wash or scrub thoroughly, often in a ritualistic or symbolic context; to purge or remove negative or harmful influences or substances from something; (noun) an act of cleaning or purifying something, typically the body
29. The patient's _____ in the hospital was concerning to the doctors.
- n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease
30. After ten years of teaching, she took a _____ to travel the world.
- n.* a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions

ANSWERS: 24. uvula, 25. anthropology, 26. reclined, 27. germ, 28. cleanse, 29. stasis, 30. sabbatical

31. 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
32. A _____ person may have delusions that people want to harm.
adj. unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you
33. The adept _____ carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.
n. a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
34. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
35. His _____ reasoning made it difficult for me to understand his point of view.
adj. lacking in sharpness or quickness of mind; blunt or dull-witted; (of mathematics) an angle that measures greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees
36. My _____ with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.
n. a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
37. The _____ art festival is famous and draws artists and art lovers worldwide.
adj. occurring every two years
38. Some insects use _____ to avoid detection by predators.
n. the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh

ANSWERS: 31. holler, 32. paranoid, 33. craftsman, 34. intellect, 35. obtuse, 36. toothbrush, 37. biennial, 38. mimicry

39. The family recipe for apple pie has become an _____ tradition.
- n.* a valuable object, typically a piece of jewelry, artwork, or household item, that is passed down from generation to generation as a family heirloom; something that has special sentimental or historical value
40. They utilized branches of trees as _____.
- n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
41. The _____ tree in our backyard produces nuts that the squirrels love.
- n.* a small tree or shrub that produces edible nuts similar to almonds; the light brown or yellowish-brown color that resembles the color of the hazelnut
42. The sky turned a beautiful orange hue at _____.
- n.* the period of the day just before nightfall when the light begins to fade; the darker part of twilight
43. After hours of playing the slot machines, she finally hit the _____ and won hundreds of dollars.
- n.* a large cash prize or reward that is won by chance or luck; a situation in which one experiences an unexpectedly positive or fortunate outcome
44. When we reached the top of the mountain, we couldn't resist the urge to _____ into the echoing valley below.
- v.* to sing or call out with rapid changes in pitch between low and high notes, usually in a distinct, wavering style popular in traditional Alpine music and culture; (noun) a form of singing that involves repeated changes of pitch during a single note

ANSWERS: 39. heirloom, 40. camouflage, 41. hazel, 42. dusk, 43. jackpot, 44. yodel

45. The traditional Irish ____ is a lively folk dance involving much footwork.
- n.* a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool
46. The politician's words were full of _____ designed to hurt his opponent.
- n.* a sharp projection or point, often on a plant or animal; a cutting remark or criticism that is meant to hurt or insult; a type of fishing lure that has small hooks and a brightly colored feather or hair
47. The flower was starting to show its ____ and would soon bloom into a beautiful blossom.
- n.* a small swelling on a plant stem or twig containing an undeveloped shoot

ANSWERS: 45. jig, 46. barbs, 47. bud