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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ariel Garten: Know thyself, with a brain scanner | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

platonic

adj. (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual

synonym: nonphysical, nonsexual, spiritual

(1) **platonic** relationship, (2) **platonic** love

His relationship with her was completely **platonic**.

sage

n. a very wise and experienced person; a small evergreen shrub with flat and light green leaves that has a strong smell and are used as a culinary herb

synonym: philosopher, scholar, thinker

(1) a **sage** of long ago, (2) a **sage** counselor

He was famous for his **sage** advice to younger entrepreneurs.

pithy

adj. concise and forcefully expressive, especially in language or style

synonym: concise, terse, succinct

(1) **pithy** saying, (2) **pithy** epigram

The politician's **pithy** speech was impactful and had lasting effects.

meaningless

adj. having no meaning, direction, or purpose

synonym: pointless, absurd, senseless

(1) a **meaningless** endeavor, (2) do a **meaningless** task
This experiment's results are **meaningless** because the other conditions are not identical.

timeless

adj. not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion

synonym: dateless, everlasting, imperishable

(1) **timeless** masterpiece, (2) **timeless** topic

There is a **timeless** aspect to his most remarkable work.

dictum

n. a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise

synonym: proverb, aphorism, maxim

(1) the **dictum** of the court, (2) legal **dictum**

The **dictum** of the company was always to put the customer first.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym: captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

fascination

n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

synonym: allure, attraction, charm

(1) rapt in **fascination**, (2) the **fascination** with classical music

I looked at the painting in **fascination**.

submerge

v. to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely

synonym: deluge, drench, dunk

(1) **submerge** in a liquid, (2) **submerge** my head completely

The ship was **submerged** in the ocean for many years before

it was finally discovered.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

psychotherapy

n. the treatment of mental or emotional problems by talking with a therapist

(1) field of **psychotherapy**, (2) **psychotherapy** for depression

He took **psychotherapy** to help him deal with his accident trauma.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict
Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

deluge

n. a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something

synonym: flood, downpour, surge

(1) get caught in the **deluge**, (2) a **deluge** of fire

Recent developments in data analysis techniques have been instrumental in finding insights from the data **deluge**.

relentless

adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks

synonym: unyielding, tireless, unremitting

(1) **relentless** attack, (2) face **relentless** pressure

The athlete's **relentless** training paid off in the end.

- app** *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
synonym : application, software
(1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**
The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.
- tweet** *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
synonym : peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)
(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**
We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.
- fuss** *n.* a state of agitation or excitement; an angry disturbance
synonym : commotion, agitation, disturbance
(1) make a **fuss**, (2) get into a **fuss**
There was a **fuss** about the broken vase, but it was quickly forgotten.
- transfix** *v.* to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object
synonym : pierce, impale, stab
(1) **transfix** with horror, (2) **transfix** me with its vibrant colors
The athlete's incredible skill on the field **transfixed** the spectators, who were amazed by his talent.
- secluded** *adj.* hidden or isolated from view; quiet and undisturbed; kept away from the company of others
synonym : isolated, remote, hidden
(1) **secluded** retreat, (2) **secluded** cabin
The **secluded** beach was the perfect place to unwind and escape from the busy city.

perch

v. to sit, stand, or rest on something, particularly a narrow or elevated surface; to position oneself confidently or dominantly; to place something in a high or elevated position; (noun) a branch or other elevated place where a bird can rest or roost

synonym : sit, roost, squat

(1) **perch** on a ledge, (2) **perch** of a bird of prey

The bird **perched** on the branch, watching the world below.

respite

n. a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities

synonym : break, interval, pause

(1) **respite** care, (2) a short **respite**

The vacation gave her a much-needed **respite** from work.

chaotic

adj. without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing

synonym : disorderly, cluttered, topsy-turvy

(1) the **chaotic** economic situation, (2) **chaotic** theory

Change is also occurring in Turkey as a result of **chaotic** reform.

redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

synonym : reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

brainwave

n. a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity

synonym : inspiration, brainstorm, revelation

(1) **brainwave** idea, (2) sudden **brainwave**

The engineer had a **brainwave** and redesigned the product to be more efficient.

undulating

adj. having a rising and falling motion or appearance like waves; marked by a smooth, wavelike movement

synonym : rolling, rippling, waving

(1) **undulating** roads, (2) **undulating** waves

The **undulating** hills of Tuscany are a beautiful sight to see.

unreliable

adj. not able to be trusted or depended on

synonym : inconsistent, erratic, undependable

(1) prove **unreliable**, (2) **unreliable** source of information

By incorrect assumption, statistics can be notoriously **unreliable**.

creep

v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

synonym : crawl, glide, encroach

(1) **creep** along the leaf, (2) **creep** toward the mouse

Aging **creeps** up slowly with time.

enthuse

v. to express enthusiastic approval or appreciation for something; to become highly interested or excited about something

synonym : excite, thrill, inspire

(1) **enthuse** with energy, (2) **enthuse** over her performance

The company's CEO's enthusiasm for the new product line **enthused** the entire staff.

transcend

v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

synonym : surpass, exceed, overcome

(1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

levitate

v. to rise or float in the air without apparent support, often in a magical or supernatural manner

synonym : hover, float, soar

(1) **levitate** objects, (2) **levitate** for a few seconds

The magician appeared to **levitate** off the stage, stunning the audience.

olympiad

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

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

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

mellow

adj. (of a person) relaxed and comfortable; (of a color, sound, or light) soft and warm

synonym: calm, relaxed, easy-going

(1) a **mellow** apple, (2) **mellow** music

He was in a **mellow** mood after a long day of fishing.

nod

v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym: respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

zen

n. a school of Mahayana Buddhism that originated in China and was later developed in Japan, emphasizing the practice of meditation as the way to achieve enlightenment or awakening; (adjective) characterized by a sense of peace and tranquility, often through the practice of meditation or the use of natural elements

synonym: meditative, peaceful, tranquil

(1) **zen** garden, (2) **zen** meditation

Daily yoga helped her achieve a **zen** state of mind and calmness.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym:

perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

improvisation

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

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

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

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

fluctuate

v. to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

synonym: vary, oscillate, sway

(1) **fluctuate** prices, (2) **fluctuate** rapidly

Stock prices **fluctuate** daily based on market demand and supply.

upend

v. to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order

synonym: overturn, upset, invert

(1) **upend** a table, (2) **upend** a tradition

The sudden news **upended** their plans for the weekend.

stigma

n. a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

synonym: mark, blemish, disgrace

(1) social **stigma**, (2) **stigma** against obesity

The mental health **stigma** often prevents people from seeking treatment.

mystification

n. the act or process of making something difficult to understand or explain, often to deceive or manipulate

synonym: puzzle, perplexity, confusion

(1) **mystification** of the public, (2) **mystification** of the subject

The magician's tricks were a source of **mystification** for the audience.

lifespan

n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

synonym : duration, lifetime, continuance

(1) **lifespan** extension, (2) **lifespan** retrieval curve

Generally speaking, men have a shorter **lifespan** than women.

prioritize

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

synonym : rank, order, arrange

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

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

tandem

n. a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other

synonym : bicycle built for two, double, tandem bike

(1) **tandem** approach, (2) **tandem** skydiving

The **tandem** bike ride was fun for the couple to enjoy together.

slacken

v. to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance

synonym : relax, ease up, let up

(1) **slacken** pace, (2) never **slacken** on implementing reforms

The driver refused to **slacken** his speed, despite the dangerous road conditions.

propel

v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

synonym : drive, push, move

(1) **propel** growth, (2) **propel** the ship

An increase in employment helps **propel** economic growth.

easel

n. a stand or support used to hold an artist's canvas or other artwork

synonym : tripod, stand, rack

(1) **easel** stand, (2) portable **easel**

The artist needed a sturdy metal **easel** to support his large canvas paintings.

paintbrush

n. a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle

synonym : brush, bristle brush, artist's brush

(1) **paintbrush** stroke, (2) **paintbrush** icon

She used a flat **paintbrush** to apply the final touches to the artwork.

enliven

v. to make something more interesting, active, or appealing; to give life or energy to something, often by adding new or creative elements

synonym : invigorate, animate, stimulate

(1) **enliven** a party, (2) **enliven** a conversation

The party music helped **enliven** the atmosphere and get people dancing.

toolbox

n. a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment

synonym : tool chest, tool kit, tool bag

(1) design **toolbox**, (2) **toolbox** storage

You should always keep a basic **toolbox** in your car in case of an emergency.

Session 2: Spelling

1. su____ge in a liquid
v. to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
2. und_____ng waves
adj. having a rising and falling motion or appearance like waves; marked by a smooth, wavelike movement
3. n_d courteously
v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
4. sudden br_____ve
n. a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity
5. tr_____ix me with its vibrant colors
v. to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object
6. fa_____te the young
v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
7. li_____an retrieval curve
n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
8. fl_____te rapidly
v. to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
9. psy_____apy for depression
n. the treatment of mental or emotional problems by talking with a therapist
10. to_____x storage
n. a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment

ANSWERS: 1. submerge, 2. undulating, 3. nod, 4. brainwave, 5. transfix, 6. fascinate, 7. lifespan, 8. fluctuate, 9. psychotherapy, 10. toolbox

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| 11. mys_____ion of the subject | <i>n.</i> the act or process of making something difficult to understand or explain, often to deceive or manipulate |
| 12. jazz imp_____ion | <i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation |
| 13. st___a against obesity | <i>n.</i> a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person |
| 14. the fas_____on with classical music | <i>n.</i> the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction |
| 15. en_____e over her performance | <i>v.</i> to express enthusiastic approval or appreciation for something; to become highly interested or excited about something |
| 16. cr__p toward the mouse | <i>v.</i> to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard |
| 17. begin to r_t | <i>v.</i> to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually |
| 18. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 19. en_____e with energy | <i>v.</i> to express enthusiastic approval or appreciation for something; to become highly interested or excited about something |
| 20. pl_____ic relationship | <i>adj.</i> (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual |

ANSWERS: 11. mystification, 12. improvisation, 13. stigma, 14. fascination, 15. enthuse, 16. creep, 17. rot, 18. neuroscience, 19. enthuse, 20. platonic

21. get into a f__s *n.* a state of agitation or excitement; an angry disturbance
22. summer ol____ad *n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
23. pri____ze people over cars *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
24. a s__e of long ago *n.* a very wise and experienced person; a small evergreen subshrub with flat and light green leaves that has a strong smell and are used as a culinary herb
25. re____ne our role *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
26. a de____e of fire *n.* a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something
27. fa____te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
28. ta____m approach *n.* a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other
29. portable ea__l *n.* a stand or support used to hold an artist's canvas or other artwork
30. en____n a conversation *v.* to make something more interesting, active, or appealing; to give life or energy to something, often by adding new or creative elements

ANSWERS: 21. fuss, 22. olympiad, 23. prioritize, 24. sage, 25. redefine, 26. deluge, 27. fascinate, 28. tandem, 29. easel, 30. enliven

31. a mea_____ss endeavor *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
32. pi__y saying *adj.* concise and forcefully expressive, especially in language or style
33. pai_____sh icon *n.* a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle
34. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
35. the ch_____c economic situation *adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
36. fl_____te prices *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
37. le_____te for a few seconds *v.* to rise or float in the air without apparent support, often in a magical or supernatural manner
38. mys_____ion of the public *n.* the act or process of making something difficult to understand or explain, often to deceive or manipulate
39. up__d a table *v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
40. a short re_____e *n.* a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities
41. pl_____ic love *adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual

ANSWERS: 31. meaningless, 32. pithy, 33. paintbrush, 34. smartphone, 35. chaotic, 36. fluctuate, 37. levitate, 38. mystification, 39. upend, 40. respite, 41. platonic

42. a s__e counselor *n.* a very wise and experienced person; a small evergreen subshrub with flat and light green leaves that has a strong smell and are used as a culinary herb
43. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
44. pai_____sh stroke *n.* a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle
45. rel_____ss attack *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
46. cannot log in to the a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
47. se_____ed cabin *adj.* hidden or isolated from view; quiet and undisturbed; kept away from the company of others
48. never sl_____n on implementing reforms *v.* to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance
49. get caught in the de___e *n.* a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something
50. ti_____ss masterpiece *adj.* not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion
51. pe__h of a bird of prey *v.* to sit, stand, or rest on something, particularly a narrow or elevated surface; to position oneself confidently or dominantly; to place something in a high or elevated position; (noun) a branch or other elevated place where a bird can rest or roost

ANSWERS: 42. sage, 43. improvisation, 44. paintbrush, 45. relentless, 46. app, 47. secluded, 48. slacken, 49. deluge, 50. timeless, 51. perch

52. le____te objects *v.* to rise or float in the air without apparent support, often in a magical or supernatural manner
53. prove unr_____le *adj.* not able to be trusted or depended on
54. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
55. unr_____le source of information *adj.* not able to be trusted or depended on
56. do a mea_____ss task *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
57. sl_____n pace *v.* to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance
58. li_____an extension *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
59. cr__p along the leaf *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
60. und_____ng roads *adj.* having a rising and falling motion or appearance like waves; marked by a smooth, wavelike movement
61. legal di___m *n.* a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise
62. social st___a *n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
63. pr___l the ship *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

ANSWERS: 52. levitate, 53. unreliable, 54. rot, 55. unreliable, 56. meaningless, 57. slacken, 58. lifespan, 59. creep, 60. undulating, 61. dictum, 62. stigma, 63. propel

64. su____ge my head completely *v.* to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
65. design to____x *n.* a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment
66. pri____ze tasks *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
67. pr____l growth *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
68. a me____w apple *adj.* (of a person) relaxed and comfortable; (of a color, sound, or light) soft and warm
69. face rel____ss pressure *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
70. ch____c theory *adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
71. tr____nd limits *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
72. z_n garden *n.* a school of Mahayana Buddhism that originated in China and was later developed in Japan, emphasizing the practice of meditation as the way to achieve enlightenment or awakening; (adjective) characterized by a sense of peace and tranquility, often through the practice of meditation or the use of natural elements

ANSWERS: 64. submerge, 65. toolbox, 66. prioritize, 67. propel, 68. mellow, 69. relentless, 70. chaotic, 71. transcend, 72. zen

73. the modern ol_____ad *n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
74. br_____ve idea *n.* a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity
75. ta____m skydiving *n.* a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other
76. re_____e care *n.* a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities
77. se_____ed retreat *adj.* hidden or isolated from view; quiet and undisturbed; kept away from the company of others
78. up__d a tradition *v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
79. field of psy_____apy *n.* the treatment of mental or emotional problems by talking with a therapist
80. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
81. tr_____ix with horror *v.* to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object

ANSWERS: 73. olympiad, 74. brainwave, 75. tandem, 76. respite, 77. secluded, 78. upend, 79. psychotherapy, 80. neuroscience, 81. transfix

82. ea__l stand *n.* a stand or support used to hold an artist's canvas or other artwork
83. a chick's tw__t *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
84. z_n meditation *n.* a school of Mahayana Buddhism that originated in China and was later developed in Japan, emphasizing the practice of meditation as the way to achieve enlightenment or awakening; (adjective) characterized by a sense of peace and tranquility, often through the practice of meditation or the use of natural elements
85. re____ne customer experience *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
86. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
87. tr_____nd boundaries *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
88. make a f__s *n.* a state of agitation or excitement; an angry disturbance
89. n_d at each other *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
90. pe__h on a ledge *v.* to sit, stand, or rest on something, particularly a narrow or elevated surface; to position oneself confidently or dominantly; to place something in a high or elevated position; (noun) a branch or other elevated place where a bird can rest or roost

ANSWERS: 82. easel, 83. tweet, 84. zen, 85. redefine, 86. smartphone, 87. transcend, 88. fuss, 89. nod, 90. perch

91. the di___m of the court *n.* a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise
92. killer a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
93. pi__y epigram *adj.* concise and forcefully expressive, especially in language or style
94. en____n a party *v.* to make something more interesting, active, or appealing; to give life or energy to something, often by adding new or creative elements
95. his latest tw__ts *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
96. ti____ss topic *adj.* not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion
97. rapt in fas_____on *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
98. me___w music *adj.* (of a person) relaxed and comfortable; (of a color, sound, or light) soft and warm

ANSWERS: 91. dictum, 92. app, 93. pithy, 94. enliven, 95. tweet, 96. timeless, 97. fascination, 98. mellow

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
2. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
3. The magic tricks _____ the children.
v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
4. The engineer had a _____ and redesigned the product to be more efficient.
n. a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity
5. The party music helped _____ the atmosphere and get people dancing.
v. to make something more interesting, active, or appealing; to give life or energy to something, often by adding new or creative elements
6. The artist needed a sturdy metal _____ to support his large canvas paintings.
n. a stand or support used to hold an artist's canvas or other artwork
7. He was in a _____ mood after a long day of fishing.
adj. (of a person) relaxed and comfortable; (of a color, sound, or light) soft and warm
8. The mental health _____ often prevents people from seeking treatment.
n. a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

ANSWERS: 1. improvisation, 2. smartphones, 3. fascinated, 4. brainwave, 5. enliven, 6. easel, 7. mellow, 8. stigma

9. The athlete's incredible skill on the field _____ the spectators, who were amazed by his talent.
- v.* to cause someone to become motionless or spellbound, often through shock or amazement; to pierce or impale with a pointed object
10. Daily yoga helped her achieve a ____ state of mind and calmness.
- n.* a school of Mahayana Buddhism that originated in China and was later developed in Japan, emphasizing the practice of meditation as the way to achieve enlightenment or awakening; (adjective) characterized by a sense of peace and tranquility, often through the practice of meditation or the use of natural elements
11. The _____ beach was the perfect place to unwind and escape from the busy city.
- adj.* hidden or isolated from view; quiet and undisturbed; kept away from the company of others
12. He took _____ to help him deal with his accident trauma.
- n.* the treatment of mental or emotional problems by talking with a therapist
13. The driver refused to _____ his speed, despite the dangerous road conditions.
- v.* to become less tight or tense; to slow down or decrease in speed or intensity; to show a decline in effort or performance
14. I looked at the painting in _____.
- n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
15. She used a flat _____ to apply the final touches to the artwork.
- n.* a tool used for applying paint or other liquid substances to a surface, typically consisting of bristles or synthetic fibers attached to a handle

ANSWERS: 9. transfixed, 10. zen, 11. secluded, 12. psychotherapy, 13. slacken, 14. fascination, 15. paintbrush

16. The vacation gave her a much-needed _____ from work.
- n.* a brief period of rest, relief, or delay from something difficult or unpleasant; a short break or vacation from regular activities or responsibilities
17. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
- v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
18. Stock prices _____ daily based on market demand and supply.
- v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
19. The sudden news _____ their plans for the weekend.
- v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
20. She won a gold medal in the physics _____ and was praised by her teachers and peers.
- n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
21. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.
- n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
22. The _____ hills of Tuscany are a beautiful sight to see.
- adj.* having a rising and falling motion or appearance like waves; marked by a smooth, wavelike movement
23. Generally speaking, men have a shorter _____ than women.
- n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

ANSWERS: 16. respite, 17. nodded, 18. fluctuate, 19. upended, 20. olympiad, 21. tweet, 22. undulating, 23. lifespan

24. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will ____.
- v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
25. This experiment's results are _____ because the other conditions are not identical.
- adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
26. By incorrect assumption, statistics can be notoriously _____.
- adj.* not able to be trusted or depended on
27. You should always keep a basic _____ in your car in case of an emergency.
- n.* a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment
28. Change is also occurring in Turkey as a result of _____ reform.
- adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
29. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the _____ release.
- n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
30. The politician's _____ speech was impactful and had lasting effects.
- adj.* concise and forcefully expressive, especially in language or style
31. The music _____ cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.
- v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
32. The video telephony application has _____ the way we work.
- v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 24. rot, 25. meaningless, 26. unreliable, 27. toolbox, 28. chaotic, 29. app's, 30. pithy, 31. transcended, 32. redefined

33. The ship was _____ in the ocean for many years before it was finally discovered.
- v. to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
34. Recent developments in data analysis techniques have been instrumental in finding insights from the data _____.
- n. a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something
35. Aging _____ up slowly with time.
- v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
36. The company's CEO's enthusiasm for the new product line _____ the entire staff.
- v. to express enthusiastic approval or appreciation for something; to become highly interested or excited about something
37. His relationship with her was completely _____.
- adj. (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual
38. The magician appeared to _____ off the stage, stunning the audience.
- v. to rise or float in the air without apparent support, often in a magical or supernatural manner
39. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
- n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
40. The magician's tricks were a source of _____ for the audience.
- n. the act or process of making something difficult to understand or explain, often to deceive or manipulate

ANSWERS: 33. submerged, 34. deluge, 35. creeps, 36. enthused, 37. platonic, 38. levitate, 39. neuroscience, 40. mystification

41. The organization _____ the needs of the community in its decision-making.
- v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
42. The _____ bike ride was fun for the couple to enjoy together.
- n.* a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other
43. The _____ of the company was always to put the customer first.
- n.* a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise
44. An increase in employment helps _____ economic growth.
- v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
45. There was a _____ about the broken vase, but it was quickly forgotten.
- n.* a state of agitation or excitement; an angry disturbance
46. He was famous for his _____ advice to younger entrepreneurs.
- n.* a very wise and experienced person; a small evergreen subshrub with flat and light green leaves that has a strong smell and are used as a culinary herb
47. The bird _____ on the branch, watching the world below.
- v.* to sit, stand, or rest on something, particularly a narrow or elevated surface; to position oneself confidently or dominantly; to place something in a high or elevated position; (noun) a branch or other elevated place where a bird can rest or roost

ANSWERS: 41. prioritized, 42. tandem, 43. dictum, 44. propel, 45. fuss, 46. sage, 47. perched

48. The athlete's _____ training paid off in the end.

adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks

49. There is a _____ aspect to his most remarkable work.

adj. not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion

ANSWERS: 48. relentless, 49. timeless