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Jeff Dekofsky: Euclid's puzzling parallel postulate |

TED Talk

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

[zling_parallel_postulate](https://www.ted.com/talks/jeff_dekofsky_euclid_s_puz)

All Words

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Session 1: Word List

geometry

n. the area of pure mathematics that deals with the points, lines, curves, and surfaces

(1) Euclidean **geometry**, (2) spherical **geometry**

The mathematician pioneered fractal **geometry**.

Euclidean

adj. relating to or based on the geometry set forth by the ancient Greek mathematician Euclid, characterized by straight lines, flat planes, and the absence of curvature

synonym: geometric

(1) **Euclidean** geometry, (2) **Euclidean** space

Euclidean distance measures the straight-line distance between two points in space.

mathematics

n. the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement

synonym: arithmetic, calculation, calculus

(1) a good grounding in **mathematics**, (2) **mathematics** competition

He has a flair for **mathematics**.

singular

n. being only one of its kind; unique

synonym: unique, sole, individual

(1) **singular** purpose, (2) **singular** goal

The **singular** beauty of the night sky never ceases to amaze him.

influential

adj. having significant impact or power on someone or something

synonym: potent, significant, meaningful

(1) an **influential** newspaper, (2) an **influential** politician
Early childhood experiences are very **influential** for people.

element

n. a fundamental or essential part of something

synonym: component, feature, essence

(1) new design **elements**, (2) nonmetallic **elements**

Natural selection is an essential **element** in Darwin's theory of evolution.

volume

n. the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound

synonym: capacity, amount, intensity

(1) **volume** of work, (2) high **volume**

This container has a **volume** of 10 cubic meters.

structure

n. the way of construction of something and the arrangement of its parts, or a complex thing constructed of many parts

synonym: construction, architecture, establishment

(1) the **structure** of a machine, (2) **structure** and function of the brain

The organizational **structure** of start-ups is often flat and straightforward.

supplement

n. something that is added to something else to make it better or complete it

synonym: complement, addendum, accessory

(1) wage **supplement**, (2) use of dietary **supplements**

Certain **supplements** may promote tumor growth.

proof

n. a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists

synonym: testimony, evidence, assurance

(1) documentary **proof**, (2) a geometric **proof**

Proof is better than argument.

definition

n. a concise explanation of the meaning of a word, phrase, or symbol

synonym: description, connotation, meaning

(1) a precise **definition**, (2) the **definition** of a word

Parallel lines are, by **definition**, lines on the same plane that never cross.

straightforward

adj. easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity

synonym: honest, candid, forthright

(1) **straightforward** manner, (2) make a **straightforward** dash

The defendant gave a **straightforward** and accurate description of the accident.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

mysterious

adj. difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement

synonym: enigmatic, cryptic, puzzling

(1) **mysterious** object, (2) **mysterious** stranger

The **mysterious** disappearance of the ship remains unsolved.

parallel

adj. being everywhere equidistant and not intersecting; of or relating to the simultaneous performance of multiple operations

synonym : aligned, side-by-side, similar

(1) a **parallel** case, (2) **parallel** processing

He walked a road **parallel** to the railroad.

convoluted

adj. extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand

synonym : intricate, complex, bending

(1) **convoluted** plot, (2) **convoluted** legal language

James Joyce's books are full of long, **convoluted** sentences.

interior

n. the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building

synonym : inner, inside, internal

(1) **interior** decoration, (2) plenty of **interior** space

The painter focused on the moody **interiors** of abandoned buildings in his work.

transverse

adj. lying or extending across something or from side to side

synonym : crosswise, perpendicular, lateral

(1) **transverse** section, (2) **transverse** wave

The **transverse** beam provided additional support for the structure.

eventually

adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on

synonym : finally, someday, ultimately

(1) **eventually** become obsolete, (2) **eventually** succeed

The corporation **eventually** dominated the entire tobacco business.

intersect

v. to meet or cross one another

synonym : cross, bisect, cut

(1) **intersect** at a point, (2) railways **intersect** the country

Her multidisciplinary works **intersect** music and picture with

writing.

process

n. a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products

synonym : procedure, method, system

(1) **process** improvement, (2) decision-making **process**

The **process** for applying for a visa can be lengthy and complicated.

experiment

n. the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge

synonym : experimentation, investigation

(1) **experiment** design, (2) series of **experiments**

His **experiments** showed highly positive results.

negate

v. to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something

synonym : refuse, nullify, annul

(1) **negate** the possibility, (2) **negate** the existing system

Drinking may **negate** the beneficial effects of the drug.

discovery

n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known

synonym : finding, uncovering, detection

(1) a scientific **discovery**, (2) the great **discovery** of the century

Her research team made an important **discovery**.

alternative

n. one of two or more available possibilities or choice

synonym : choice, option

(1) an **alternative** plan, (2) there is no other **alternative**

Doctors are gradually coming around to the idea of using **alternative** medicines.

curvature

n. the degree to which a line or surface deviates from being straight or flat; a measure of the amount of bending of a curve

synonym : bend, arch, bow

(1) the degree of **curvature**, (2) spinal **curvature**

The **curvature** of the earth can be seen from space.

construct

v. to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole

synonym : build, assemble, create

(1) **construct** a 3D image, (2) **construct** a dam

He **constructs** hypotheses that no mathematician has ever imagined before.

mere

adj. used to emphasize how insignificant or minor someone or something is

synonym : bare, minor, sheer

(1) **mere** acquaintance, (2) **mere** incident

He lost the election by **mere** votes.

universe

n. everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

synonym : cosmos, macrocosm

(1) theory of the **universe**, (2) expansion of the **universe**

The **universe** is about 13.8 billion years old.

context

n. the circumstances, facts, or conditions that surround a particular event, situation, or statement and that give it meaning

synonym : background, setting, environment

(1) historical **context**, (2) legal **context**

It's important to understand the **context** of a situation before making a decision.

posit

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

synonym : assert, declare, assume

(1) **posit** the existence of life after death, (2) **posit** the premise

We should **posit** several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

negative

adj. having the quality of something bad or harmful; expressing refusal

synonym : minus, adverse, pessimistic

(1) have a **negative** effect, (2) a **negative** number

The movie has received almost universally **negative** criticism.

curve

n. a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape

synonym : bend, arc, turn

(1) learning **curve**, (2) yield **curve**

The **curve** in the road was so sharp that I had to slow down to navigate it safely.

display

v. to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value

synonym : show, exhibit, present

(1) **display** merchandise, (2) **display** artwork

We need to **display** our products in an attractive way to attract customers.

characteristic

n. a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or describe something or somebody

synonym : feature, quality, attribute

(1) stripes **characteristic** of the zebra, (2) my friend's **characteristic** laugh

Bananas have their **characteristic** taste and odor.

adept

adj. having or showing knowledge and skill and aptitude to do something quite difficult

synonym : proficient, masterful, experienced

(1) **adept** at fishing, (2) **adept** in handicrafts

She is highly **adept** with medical equipment.

navigate

v. to plan and direct the way that a ship, plane, etc. will travel, often by using a map

synonym : guide, helm, voyage

(1) **navigate** the Pacific, (2) **navigate** through a document

Our knowledge helps **navigate** our clients successfully.

planet

n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

synonym : earth, world, globe

(1) **planet** like the Earth, (2) save the **planet**

Mercury is the closest **planet** to the sun.

elliptical

adj. having the shape of an oval (= a closed plane curve); using a word or expression that is ambiguous or vague, especially to mislead or avoid committing oneself

synonym : oval, egg-shaped, oblong

(1) an **elliptical** motion, (2) an **elliptical** galaxies

The satellite's **elliptical** orbit made it appear to change its distance from earth.

hyperbole

n. exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken used to create emphasis or to make a point

synonym : exaggeration, overstatement, embellishment

(1) escalate the **hyperbole**, (2) avoid **hyperbole** in writing

The marketing campaign relied heavily on **hyperbole** to sell the product.

warp

v. to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something

synonym : twist, distort, deform

(1) **warp** under pressure, (2) become **warped**

The ship's hull was **warped** from years of use in rough seas.

presence

n. the fact or state that someone or something exists, occurs, or is present

synonym: existence, actuality, fact

(1) the evidence of the **presence**, (2) his majestic **presence**

The path to a solid online **presence** necessitates a high technical ability.

relative

adj. considered and evaluated through comparison with something else

synonym: comparative, proximate, congeneric

(1) a remote **relative**, (2) **relative** factors

Most countries prohibit sexual activity between certain close **relatives**.

mystery

n. something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle

synonym: enigma, puzzle, secret

(1) **mystery** novel, (2) unsolved **mystery**

The **mystery** surrounding the disappearance of the traveler has yet to be solved by authorities.

inkling

n. a slight or vague understanding or idea of something; a hint or intimation of something, often something that is not fully understood or realized

synonym: hint, suggestion, clue

(1) first **inkling**, (2) **inkling** of hope

The news gave us an **inkling** of what was going on in the world.

whatsoever

adv. not at all; no matter what

synonym: in any way, at all, in any respect

(1) **whatsoever** it be, (2) without impact **whatsoever**

He refused to do anything **whatsoever** to help her.

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.

thorough

adj. done completely; significantly careful and accurate

synonym: complete, comprehensive, meticulous

(1) **thorough** investigation, (2) provide **thorough** analysis

A **thorough** brushing helps to keep your mouth fresh.

flush

v. to become red on your face, especially because you are embarrassed, angry, or hot; to rinse, clean, or empty something, especially a toilet, by causing large quantities of water to flow

synonym: redden, burn, suffuse

(1) the blood **flush** into my face, (2) **flush** the toilet

The girl **flushed** when a young man whistled as she walked by.

progressive

adj. relating to or supporting development or advancement, especially social or political one

synonym: advanced, forward-thinking, modern

(1) **progressive** taxation, (2) **progressive** development

The **progressive** approach to education emphasizes hands-on learning and student-centered classrooms.

suspend

v. to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely

synonym: stop, postpone, adjourn

(1) **suspend** a decision, (2) **suspend** fruits from the ceiling

The University **suspended** the most recalcitrant demonstrators.

preconceived

adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness

(1) a **preconceived** notion, (2) **preconceived** opinions

We should start a discussion from scratch with no **preconceived** ideas.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pr____s improvement
n. a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products
2. spinal cu_____re
n. the degree to which a line or surface deviates from being straight or flat; a measure of the amount of bending of a curve
3. expansion of the un_____se
n. everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy
4. save the pl____t
n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
5. tra_____se wave
adj. lying or extending across something or from side to side
6. ad__t at fishing
adj. having or showing knowledge and skill and aptitude to do something quite difficult
7. pl____t like the Earth
n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

ANSWERS: 1. process, 2. curvature, 3. universe, 4. planet, 5. transverse, 6. adept, 7. planet

8. an ell_____al motion *adj.* having the shape of an oval (= a closed plane curve); using a word or expression that is ambiguous or vague, especially to mislead or avoid committing oneself
9. ne___e the possibility *v.* to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something
10. without impact wha_____er *adv.* not at all; no matter what
11. a good grounding in mat_____cs *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
12. mys_____us object *adj.* difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement
13. vo___e of work *n.* the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound
14. an inf_____al politician *adj.* having significant impact or power on someone or something
15. eve_____ly succeed *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
16. na_____te through a document *v.* to plan and direct the way that a ship, plane, etc. will travel, often by using a map
17. an ell_____al galaxies *adj.* having the shape of an oval (= a closed plane curve); using a word or expression that is ambiguous or vague, especially to mislead or avoid committing oneself

ANSWERS: 8. elliptical, 9. negate, 10. whatsoever, 11. mathematics, 12. mysterious, 13. volume, 14. influential, 15. eventually, 16. navigate, 17. elliptical

18. na____te the Pacific *v.* to plan and direct the way that a ship, plane, etc. will travel, often by using a map
19. po__t the existence of life after death *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
20. si____ar goal *n.* being only one of its kind; unique
21. w__p under pressure *v.* to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something
22. escalate the hy____le *n.* exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken used to create emphasis or to make a point
23. have a ne____ve effect *adj.* having the quality of something bad or harmful; expressing refusal
24. pre____ved opinions *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
25. become w__ped *v.* to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something
26. railways in____ct the country *v.* to meet or cross one another
27. fl__h the toilet *v.* to become red on your face, especially because you are embarrassed, angry, or hot; to rinse, clean, or empty something, especially a toilet, by causing large quantities of water to flow

ANSWERS: 18. navigate, 19. posit, 20. singular, 21. warp, 22. hyperbole, 23. negative, 24. preconceived, 25. warp, 26. intersect, 27. flush

28. in_____g of hope *n.* a slight or vague understanding or idea of something; a hint or intimation of something, often something that is not fully understood or realized
29. plenty of in_____or space *n.* the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building
30. m__e incident *adj.* used to emphasize how insignificant or minor someone or something is
31. po__t the premise *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
32. str_____ard manner *adj.* easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity
33. provide th_____gh analysis *adj.* done completely; significantly careful and accurate
34. decision-making pr_____s *n.* a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products
35. pa_____el processing *adj.* being everywhere equidistant and not intersecting; of or relating to the simultaneous performance of multiple operations
36. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

ANSWERS: 28. inkling, 29. interior, 30. mere, 31. posit, 32. straightforward, 33. thorough, 34. process, 35. parallel, 36. determinant

37. series of exp_____nts *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
38. eve_____ly become obsolete *adv.* finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
39. Eu_____an space *adj.* relating to or based on the geometry set forth by the ancient Greek mathematician Euclid, characterized by straight lines, flat planes, and the absence of curvature
40. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
41. m__e acquaintance *adj.* used to emphasize how insignificant or minor someone or something is
42. exp_____nt design *n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
43. learning cu___e *n.* a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape
44. a ne_____ve number *adj.* having the quality of something bad or harmful; expressing refusal
45. my friend's cha_____tic laugh *n.* a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or describe something or somebody
46. co_____ct a 3D image *v.* to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
47. there is no other alt_____ve *n.* one of two or more available possibilities or choice

ANSWERS: 37. experiment, 38. eventually, 39. Euclidean, 40. intellect, 41. mere, 42. experiment, 43. curve, 44. negative, 45. characteristic, 46. construct, 47. alternative

48. Eu_____an geometry *adj.* relating to or based on the geometry set forth by the ancient Greek mathematician Euclid, characterized by straight lines, flat planes, and the absence of curvature
49. the st_____re of a machine *n.* the way of construction of something and the arrangement of its parts, or a complex thing constructed of many parts
50. spherical ge_____ry *n.* the area of pure mathematics that deals with the points, lines, curves, and surfaces
51. in_____ct at a point *v.* to meet or cross one another
52. ad__t in handicrafts *adj.* having or showing knowledge and skill and aptitude to do something quite difficult
53. st_____re and function of the brain *n.* the way of construction of something and the arrangement of its parts, or a complex thing constructed of many parts
54. a pa_____el case *adj.* being everywhere equidistant and not intersecting; of or relating to the simultaneous performance of multiple operations
55. co_____ct a dam *v.* to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
56. di_____y merchandise *v.* to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value

ANSWERS: 48. Euclidean, 49. structure, 50. geometry, 51. intersect, 52. adept, 53. structure, 54. parallel, 55. construct, 56. display

57. new design el_____ts *n.* a fundamental or essential part of something
58. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
59. pro_____ve development *adj.* relating to or supporting development or advancement, especially social or political one
60. a remote re_____ve *adj.* considered and evaluated through comparison with something else
61. avoid hy_____le in writing *n.* exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken used to create emphasis or to make a point
62. yield cu___e *n.* a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape
63. mat_____cs competition *n.* the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
64. nonmetallic el_____ts *n.* a fundamental or essential part of something
65. historical co_____t *n.* the circumstances, facts, or conditions that surround a particular event, situation, or statement and that give it meaning
66. the def_____on of a word *n.* a concise explanation of the meaning of a word, phrase, or symbol

ANSWERS: 57. element, 58. determinant, 59. progressive, 60. relative, 61. hyperbole, 62. curve, 63. mathematics, 64. element, 65. context, 66. definition

67. di_____y artwork *v.* to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value
68. su_____d fruits from the ceiling *v.* to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely
69. a scientific di_____ry *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
70. si_____ar purpose *n.* being only one of its kind; unique
71. pro_____ve taxation *adj.* relating to or supporting development or advancement, especially social or political one
72. high vo_____e *n.* the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound
73. a precise def_____on *n.* a concise explanation of the meaning of a word, phrase, or symbol
74. theory of the un_____se *n.* everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy
75. re_____ve factors *adj.* considered and evaluated through comparison with something else
76. documentary pr__f *n.* a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
77. wage sup_____nt *n.* something that is added to something else to make it better or complete it

ANSWERS: 67. display, 68. suspend, 69. discovery, 70. singular, 71. progressive, 72. volume, 73. definition, 74. universe, 75. relative, 76. proof, 77. supplement

78. Euclidean ge____ry *n.* the area of pure mathematics that deals with the points, lines, curves, and surfaces
79. legal co____t *n.* the circumstances, facts, or conditions that surround a particular event, situation, or statement and that give it meaning
80. con_____ed legal language *adj.* extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand
81. first in____g *n.* a slight or vague understanding or idea of something; a hint or intimation of something, often something that is not fully understood or realized
82. my____y novel *n.* something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle
83. a pre_____ved notion *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
84. use of dietary sup_____nts *n.* something that is added to something else to make it better or complete it
85. the degree of cu_____re *n.* the degree to which a line or surface deviates from being straight or flat; a measure of the amount of bending of a curve
86. an alt_____ve plan *n.* one of two or more available possibilities or choice

ANSWERS: 78. geometry, 79. context, 80. convoluted, 81. inkling, 82. mystery, 83. preconceived, 84. supplement, 85. curvature, 86. alternative

87. in_____or decoration *n.* the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building
88. the great di_____ry of the century *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
89. wha_____er it be *adv.* not at all; no matter what
90. su_____d a decision *v.* to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely
91. make a str_____ard dash *adj.* easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity
92. con_____ed plot *adj.* extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand
93. th_____gh investigation *adj.* done completely; significantly careful and accurate
94. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
95. the blood fl__h into my face *v.* to become red on your face, especially because you are embarrassed, angry, or hot; to rinse, clean, or empty something, especially a toilet, by causing large quantities of water to flow
96. unsolved my_____y *n.* something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle

ANSWERS: 87. interior, 88. discovery, 89. whatsoever, 90. suspend, 91. straightforward, 92. convoluted, 93. thorough, 94. intellect, 95. flush, 96. mystery

97. ne___e the existing system *v.* to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something
98. an inf_____al newspaper *adj.* having significant impact or power on someone or something
99. a geometric pr__f *n.* a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
100. tra_____se section *adj.* lying or extending across something or from side to side
101. mys_____us stranger *adj.* difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement
102. his majestic pr_____ce *n.* the fact or state that someone or something exists, occurs, or is present
103. stripes cha_____tic of the zebra *n.* a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or describe something or somebody
104. the evidence of the pr_____ce *n.* the fact or state that someone or something exists, occurs, or is present

ANSWERS: 97. negate, 98. influential, 99. proof, 100. transverse, 101. mysterious, 102. presence, 103. characteristic, 104. presence

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ beauty of the night sky never ceases to amaze him.
n. being only one of its kind; unique
2. Our knowledge helps _____ our clients successfully.
v. to plan and direct the way that a ship, plane, etc. will travel, often by using a map
3. The news gave us an _____ of what was going on in the world.
n. a slight or vague understanding or idea of something; a hint or intimation of something, often something that is not fully understood or realized
4. Parallel lines are, by _____ lines on the same plane that never cross.
n. a concise explanation of the meaning of a word, phrase, or symbol
5. The mathematician pioneered fractal _____.
n. the area of pure mathematics that deals with the points, lines, curves, and surfaces
6. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
7. The _____ approach to education emphasizes hands-on learning and student-centered classrooms.
adj. relating to or supporting development or advancement, especially social or political one

ANSWERS: 1. singular, 2. navigate, 3. inkling, 4. definition, 5. geometry, 6. determinant, 7. progressive

8. This container has a _____ of 10 cubic meters.
- n.* the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound
9. Her research team made an important _____.
- n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
10. It's important to understand the _____ of a situation before making a decision.
- n.* the circumstances, facts, or conditions that surround a particular event, situation, or statement and that give it meaning
11. The _____ of the earth can be seen from space.
- n.* the degree to which a line or surface deviates from being straight or flat; a measure of the amount of bending of a curve
12. Certain _____ may promote tumor growth.
- n.* something that is added to something else to make it better or complete it
13. The _____ in the road was so sharp that I had to slow down to navigate it safely.
- n.* a bend or angle in a line or surface that deviates from a straight or flat path; a gradual or smooth change in direction or shape
14. The girl _____ when a young man whistled as she walked by.
- v.* to become red on your face, especially because you are embarrassed, angry, or hot; to rinse, clean, or empty something, especially a toilet, by causing large quantities of water to flow
15. The University _____ the most recalcitrant demonstrators.
- v.* to stop something from continuing or being in force or effect, either temporarily or permanently; to hang something freely

ANSWERS: 8. volume, 9. discovery, 10. context, 11. curvature, 12. supplements, 13. curve, 14. flushed, 15. suspended

16. The _____ for applying for a visa can be lengthy and complicated.
- n.* a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products
17. _____ is better than argument.
- n.* a fact or piece of information that shows something is true or exists
18. Most countries prohibit sexual activity between certain close _____.
- adj.* considered and evaluated through comparison with something else
19. We need to _____ our products in an attractive way to attract customers.
- v.* to exhibit or show something to others, often to attract attention or demonstrate its features, properties, or value
20. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
21. He lost the election by _____ votes.
- adj.* used to emphasize how insignificant or minor someone or something is
22. We should start a discussion from scratch with no _____ ideas.
- adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
23. The _____ is about 13.8 billion years old.
- n.* everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

ANSWERS: 16. process, 17. Proof, 18. relatives, 19. display, 20. intellect, 21. mere, 22. preconceived, 23. universe

24. His _____ showed highly positive results.
n. the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge
25. James Joyce's books are full of long, _____ sentences.
adj. extraordinarily complicated and hard to understand
26. The _____ surrounding the disappearance of the traveler has yet to be solved by authorities.
n. something difficult to understand or explain; a secret or enigmatic quality that adds to the fascination or interest of something; a genre of fiction that involves the solution of a crime or a puzzle
27. _____ distance measures the straight-line distance between two points in space.
adj. relating to or based on the geometry set forth by the ancient Greek mathematician Euclid, characterized by straight lines, flat planes, and the absence of curvature
28. The corporation _____ dominated the entire tobacco business.
adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
29. A _____ brushing helps to keep your mouth fresh.
adj. done completely; significantly careful and accurate
30. He has a flair for _____.
n. the science dealing with the logic of quantities, shapes, spaces, and arrangement
31. She is highly _____ with medical equipment.
adj. having or showing knowledge and skill and aptitude to do something quite difficult

ANSWERS: 24. experiments, 25. convoluted, 26. mystery, 27. Euclidean, 28. eventually, 29. thorough, 30. mathematics, 31. adept

32. The organizational _____ of start-ups is often flat and straightforward.
n. the way of construction of something and the arrangement of its parts, or a complex thing constructed of many parts
33. Drinking may _____ the beneficial effects of the drug.
v. to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something
34. The marketing campaign relied heavily on _____ to sell the product.
n. exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken used to create emphasis or to make a point
35. The ship's hull was _____ from years of use in rough seas.
v. to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something
36. The satellite's _____ orbit made it appear to change its distance from earth.
adj. having the shape of an oval (= a closed plane curve); using a word or expression that is ambiguous or vague, especially to mislead or avoid committing oneself
37. Early childhood experiences are very _____ for people.
adj. having significant impact or power on someone or something
38. Bananas have their _____ taste and odor.
n. a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or describe something or somebody
39. Doctors are gradually coming around to the idea of using _____ medicines.
n. one of two or more available possibilities or choice

ANSWERS: 32. structure, 33. negate, 34. hyperbole, 35. warped, 36. elliptical, 37. influential, 38. characteristic, 39. alternative

40. The _____ disappearance of the ship remains unsolved.
adj. difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement
41. The defendant gave a _____ and accurate description of the accident.
adj. easy to do or understand, or simple; free from ambiguity
42. Her multidisciplinary works _____ music and picture with writing.
v. to meet or cross one another
43. He _____ hypotheses that no mathematician has ever imagined before.
v. to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
44. He refused to do anything _____ to help her.
adv. not at all; no matter what
45. The painter focused on the moody _____ of abandoned buildings in his work.
n. the inside or inner part of something; the space within the walls of a building
46. He walked a road _____ to the railroad.
adj. being everywhere equidistant and not intersecting; of or relating to the simultaneous performance of multiple operations
47. The path to a solid online _____ necessitates a high technical ability.
n. the fact or state that someone or something exists, occurs, or is present

ANSWERS: 40. mysterious, 41. straightforward, 42. intersect, 43. constructs, 44. whatsoever, 45. interiors, 46. parallel, 47. presence

48. The movie has received almost universally _____ criticism.

adj. having the quality of something bad or harmful; expressing refusal

49. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

50. Natural selection is an essential _____ in Darwin's theory of evolution.

n. a fundamental or essential part of something

51. Mercury is the closest _____ to the sun.

n. any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

52. The _____ beam provided additional support for the structure.

adj. lying or extending across something or from side to side

ANSWERS: 48. negative, 49. posit, 50. element, 51. planet, 52. transverse