

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Bruce Schneier: The security mirage | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/bruce\\_schneier\\_the\\_security\\_mirage](https://www.ted.com/talks/bruce_schneier_the_security_mirage)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### diverge

*v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course

*synonym* : separate, split, part

(1) **diverge** from tradition, (2) **diverge** from the main topic

As tectonic plates **diverge**, new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.

### converge

*v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

*synonym* : congregate, assemble, concentrate

(1) **converge** of a series, (2) **converge** from different points

The two rivers **converge** into one near this area.

### trade-off

*n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

*synonym* : compromise, balance, exchange

(1) **trade-off** problem, (2) environmental **trade-off**

There was a **trade-off** between speed and accuracy in the task.

### burglar

*n.* a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime

*synonym* : thief, robber, intruder

(1) ex-convict **burglar**, (2) caught the **burglar**

The skilled **burglar** bypassed the alarm system and entered the house without making a sound.

## invade

*v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

*synonym*: intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

## intuition

*n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

*synonym*: instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research

Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be influenced by their experiences and biases.

## starve

*v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

*synonym*: famish, hunger

(1) **starve** for a victory, (2) **starve** to death

If you don't eat soon, you're going to **starve**.

## hopeless

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

*synonym*: despairing, helpless, futile

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

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

## prehistoric

*adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable

*synonym*: ancient, primitive, archaic

(1) **prehistoric** settlements, (2) **prehistoric** times

Scientists often fail to date archeological or **prehistorical** findings.

### endemic

*adj.* (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area

*synonym* : prevalent, widespread, native

(1) **endemic** disease, (2) cholera- **endemic** area

Malaria is **endemic** in many tropical countries.

### exaggerate

*v.* to describe or represent something as better or worse than it is

*synonym* : overstate, overestimate, amplify

(1) **exaggerate** in degree, (2) **exaggerate** story

She **exaggerated** the extent of her injuries to get more money from the settlement.

### downplay

*v.* to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something

*synonym* : minimize, downsize, play down

(1) **downplay** my ability, (2) **downplay** mistakes

The company tried to **downplay** the significance of the issue.

### kidnapping

*n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

*synonym* : abduction, snatch, kidnap

(1) **kidnapping** attempt, (2) mass **kidnapping**

She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated **kidnapping**.

### underestimate

*v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

*synonym* : underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

## overestimate

*v.* to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is

*synonym*: overrate, overvalue, embellish

(1) **overestimate** the value, (2) **overestimate** the amount of time spent

He tends to **overestimate** his abilities.

## heuristic

*adj.* relating to a trial-and-error method of problem-solving, often involving learning from one's mistakes and using feedback to improve one's approach; also used to describe a problem-solving method or approach that is practical, efficient, or intuitive

*synonym*: solving, problem-solving, exploratory

(1) **heuristic** reasoning, (2) **heuristic** algorithm

The teacher used a **heuristic** method to teach the complex topic in a simple way.

## probabilistic

*adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks

*synonym*: probable, statistical, likely

(1) **probabilistic** model, (2) **probabilistic** approach

In a **probabilistic** system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance.

## storytelling

*n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

*synonym*: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

## innumerate

*adj.* unable to perform simple numerical calculations; having little or no skill in mathematics

*synonym*: countless, untold, innumerable

(1) **innumerate** population, (2) **innumerate** thinking

The survey results were rendered meaningless by the **innumerate** analysis of the data.

## mango

*n.* tropical fruit with smooth, juicy flesh and a large, hard seed in the middle

*synonym*: fruit, tropical fruit

(1) ripe **mango**, (2) fresh **mango**

She cut the **mango** into small pieces and added them to the salad.

## 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**.

## whack

*v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily

*synonym*: hit, strike, bash

(1) **whack** him with a stick, (2) **whack** up the volume

He **whacked** the ball out of the park with his home run.

## insecure

*adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

*synonym*: uncertain, unsure, unconfident

(1) an **insecure** future, (2) **insecure** attachment

Children in an unstructured environment often feel **insecure**.

## countermeasure

*n.* an action taken to counter or offset another action

*synonym*: response, remedy, antidote

(1) **countermeasure** strategy, (2) **countermeasure** plan

The government implemented several **countermeasures** to combat the spread of the virus.

## unicorn

*n.* a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion

*synonym*: mythical creature, fantasy animal, legendary horse

(1) **unicorn** beetle, (2) **unicorn** investors

In medieval times, people believed that the **unicorn** horn had

magical powers that could cure diseases.

## complicate

*v.* to make something more complex or difficult to understand, often by introducing new elements or factors

*synonym*: complexify, muddle, confuse

(1) **complicate** matters, (2) **complicate** a plot

Don't **complicate** the situation by adding unnecessary details to the report.

## 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.

## leopard

*n.* a large wild cat that has yellow-brown fur with black spots and lives in Africa and southern Asia

(1) snow **leopard**, (2) **leopard** print

**Leopards** lurked in the grass to catch their prey.

## rhinoceros

*n.* (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.

*synonym*: rhino, horned beast, pachyderm

(1) **rhinoceros** habitat, (2) white **rhinoceros**

The baby **rhinoceros** at the wildlife sanctuary was recently born and is very cute.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym*: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## swine

*n.* a domestic pig, especially one bred for its meat  
*synonym* : pig, hog, porker

(1) **swine** flu, (2) **swine** industry

The farmer raises **swine** on his farm for the market.

## electrify

*v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity;  
to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or  
interested in something

*synonym* : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing  
process

The product developed through years of research continues  
to **electrify** the market.

## doorbell

*n.* a bell that is pressed or pulled to signal that someone  
wishes to enter a building

*synonym* : bell, buzzer, ring

(1) touch a **doorbell**, (2) **doorbell** chime

He rang the **doorbell** and waited for someone to answer.

## facile

*adj.* appearing to be easily achieved or accomplished without  
much effort; superficially simplistic or oversimplified

*synonym* : easy, effortless, simple

(1) **facile** solution, (2) **facile** argument

She effortlessly completed the task, displaying a **facile**  
understanding of the subject.

## overreact

*v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary  
or appropriate

*synonym* : overplay, exaggerate, overstate

(1) **overreact** with anger, (2) **overreact** to the criticism

She **overreacted** to the situation and caused unnecessary  
stress.

## bifurcate

*v.* to divide or split into two branches or parts

*synonym* : branch, fork, divide

(1) **bifurcate** at the top of the mountain, (2) **bifurcate** into two separate tracks

The river **bifurcates** ahead, so we must decide which branch to take.

## indifference

*n.* a lack of interest, enthusiasm, or sympathy towards someone or something

*synonym*: apathy, disinterest, unconcern

(1) **indifference** to pain, (2) general **indifference**

I tried to assume an air of **indifference**.

## complication

*n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused

*synonym*: confusion, complexity, difficulty

(1) **complication** of structure, (2) resolve without **complication**

He also continued to struggle with serious long-term **complications**.

## relativism

*n.* the belief that truth, knowledge, or morality are not absolute or objective but instead relative to the context in which they are perceived or determined

*synonym*: subjectivism, skepticism

(1) linguistic **relativism**, (2) cultural **relativism**

Moral **relativism** suggests that there is no objective right or wrong.

## secondhand

*adj.* having been previously owned or used by someone else

*synonym*: used, pre-owned, recycled

(1) **secondhand** car, (2) **secondhand** information

He was excited to find a vintage suit at the **secondhand** shop for a fraction of the price of a new one.

## airbag

*n.* a safety device designed to inflate rapidly in the event of a collision, protecting the occupants of a vehicle and reducing the risk of injury or death

*synonym*: air cushion, safety bag, crash bag



(1) defective **airbag**, (2) **airbag** deployment

The **airbag** system in the car saved the driver's life in a severe crash.

## dislodge

*v.* to forcibly remove or loosen something from a particular position or place; to cause something to become detached or dislodged

*synonym*: remove, displace, unseat

(1) **dislodge** debris, (2) **dislodge** a stuck object

I had to **dislodge** a small rock from the wheel of my car to keep driving safely.

## contradict

*v.* to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with

*synonym*: conflict, oppose, belie

(1) **contradict** each other, (2) **contradict** the principle

The book contains numerous statements that **contradict** previous reports.

## dissonance

*n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds

*synonym*: conflict, disharmony, disagreement

(1) cognitive **dissonance**, (2) musical **dissonance**

The **dissonance** between the two melodies created a sense of tension in the music.

## psychiatry

*n.* the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness

*synonym*: mental health, psychology, psychoanalysis

(1) **psychiatry** therapy, (2) biological **psychiatry**

The field of **psychiatry** is constantly evolving, with new treatments and approaches being developed all the time.

## instantaneous

*adj.* occurring or happening immediately or without delay; taking place in an instant or moment

*synonym*: immediate, prompt, rapid

(1) **instantaneous** reaction, (2) **instantaneous** message  
The new software provides **instantaneous** results, making it much more efficient than the previous version.

## emote

v. to communicate through facial expressions, gestures, and body language to express strong feelings or emotions

*synonym*: express, communicate, convey

(1) **emote** salute, (2) **emote** through art

The actor could **emote** a wide range of emotions on screen, earning them critical acclaim.

## 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.

## poisonous

adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

*synonym*: toxic, venomous, deadly

(1) **poisonous** plants, (2) **poisonous** chemicals

Some species of **poisonous snakes** can be deadly to humans if bitten.

## horrific

adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying

*synonym*: terrifying, alarming, shocking

(1) **horrific** experience, (2) **horrific** condition

The accident scene was **horrific**, with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.

## terrify

v. to frighten someone very much

*synonym*: unnerve, scare, horrify

(1) **terrify** people, (2) the threats **terrify** him

It would be best not to **terrify** your associates into doing complex tasks.

## copycat

*n.* a person who imitates or copies the behavior, speech, or appearance of another individual; a product or design that is made to look like a popular or successful product from another company or brand

*synonym*: imitator, mimic, copyist

(1) **copycat** behavior, (2) **copycat** website

The company accused their competitor of being a **copycat** and stealing its design.

## tamper

*v.* to interfere with something in a way that causes damage or unauthorized alteration; to meddle with or manipulate something without permission or authority; (noun) a tool or device used for interfering with or altering something in a way that is unauthorized or illegal

*synonym*: meddle, fiddle, monkey

(1) **tamper** with evidence, (2) **tamper-resistant**

It's important not to **tamper** with the settings on your computer unless you know what you're doing.

## syringe

*n.* a device used for injecting or withdrawing fluids from the body, consisting of a tube and a plunger that creates a vacuum or expels the fluid

*synonym*: needle, injector, shot

(1) **syringe** needle, (2) **syringe** injection

Addicts often share dirty **syringes**, putting themselves at risk for disease.

## rampant

*adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled

*synonym*: prevalent, dense, uncontrolled

(1) **rampant** growth of weeds, (2) **rampant** corruption

In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules

tend to be **rampant**.

## **snatch**

v. to take or grab something suddenly or quickly

*synonym*: grab, seize, capture

(1) **snatch** a hasty meal, (2) **snatch** up her purse

He **snatches** victory from the jaws of defeat in the game's final seconds.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. di_____e from the main topic | <i>v.</i> to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course  |
| 2. tr_____ff problem            | <i>n.</i> a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise  |
| 3. com_____te matters           | <i>v.</i> to make something more complex or difficult to understand, often by introducing new elements or factors  |
| 4. ind_____us student           | <i>adj.</i> hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort  |
| 5. po_____us plants             | <i>adj.</i> containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction |
| 6. un_____n investors           | <i>n.</i> a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion                                |
| 7. cultural rel_____sm          | <i>n.</i> the belief that truth, knowledge, or morality are not absolute or objective but instead relative to the context in which they are perceived or determined                  |
| 8. ins_____ous message          | <i>adj.</i> occurring or happening immediately or without delay; taking place in an instant or moment  |

ANSWERS: 1. diverge, 2. trade-off, 3. complicate, 4. industrious, 5. poisonous, 6. unicorn, 7. relativism, 8. instantaneous

9. ra\_\_\_\_t growth of weeds *adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
10. wh\_\_k up the volume *v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily
11. he\_\_\_\_\_ic reasoning *adj.* relating to a trial-and-error method of problem-solving, often involving learning from one's mistakes and using feedback to improve one's approach; also used to describe a problem-solving method or approach that is practical, efficient, or intuitive
12. sw\_\_e flu *n.* a domestic pig, especially one bred for its meat
13. ta\_\_\_r-resistant *v.* to interfere with something in a way that causes damage or unauthorized alteration; to meddle with or manipulate something without permission or authority; (noun) a tool or device used for interfering with or altering something in a way that is unauthorized or illegal
14. co\_\_\_\_\_t behavior *n.* a person who imitates or copies the behavior, speech, or appearance of another individual; a product or design that is made to look like a popular or successful product from another company or brand
15. exa\_\_\_\_\_te in degree *v.* to describe or represent something as better or worse than it is

ANSWERS: 9. rampant, 10. whack, 11. heuristic, 12. swine, 13. tamper, 14. copycat, 15. exaggerate

16. com\_\_\_\_\_te a plot *v.* to make something more complex or difficult to understand, often by introducing new elements or factors
17. bi\_\_\_\_\_te at the top of the mountain *v.* to divide or split into two branches or parts
18. courtroom sto\_\_\_\_\_ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
19. mass kid\_\_\_\_\_ng *n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
20. und\_\_\_\_\_ate the probability *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
21. ai\_\_\_g deployment *n.* a safety device designed to inflate rapidly in the event of a collision, protecting the occupants of a vehicle and reducing the risk of injury or death
22. 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
23. rhi\_\_\_\_\_os habitat *n.* (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.
24. ex-convict bu\_\_\_\_\_r *n.* a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime
25. te\_\_\_\_\_y people *v.* to frighten someone very much
26. an in\_\_\_\_\_re future *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

ANSWERS: 16. complicate, 17. bifurcate, 18. storytelling, 19. kidnapping, 20. underestimate, 21. airbag, 22. determinant, 23. rhinoceros, 24. burglar, 25. terrify, 26. insecure

27. di\_\_\_\_\_ge debris *v.* to forcibly remove or loosen something from a particular position or place; to cause something to become detached or dislodged
28. creative in\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
29. sec\_\_\_\_\_nd car *adj.* having been previously owned or used by someone else
30. pre\_\_\_\_\_ic times *adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable
31. in\_\_\_\_\_re attachment *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
32. white rhi\_\_\_\_\_os *n.* (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.
33. resolve without com\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused
34. sn\_\_\_\_h a hasty meal *v.* to take or grab something suddenly or quickly
35. fa\_\_\_\_e argument *adj.* appearing to be easily achieved or accomplished without much effort; superficially simplistic or oversimplified
36. psy\_\_\_\_\_ry therapy *n.* the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness
37. he\_\_\_\_\_ic algorithm *adj.* relating to a trial-and-error method of problem-solving, often involving learning from one's mistakes and using feedback to improve one's approach; also used to describe a problem-solving method or approach that is practical, efficient, or intuitive

ANSWERS: 27. dislodge, 28. intuition, 29. secondhand, 30. prehistoric, 31. insecure, 32. rhinoceros, 33. complication, 34. snatch, 35. facile, 36. psychiatry, 37. heuristic



38. caught the bu\_\_\_\_r *n.* a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime
39. en\_\_\_\_c disease *adj.* (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area
40. sw\_\_e industry *n.* a domestic pig, especially one bred for its meat
41. linguistic rel\_\_\_\_sm *n.* the belief that truth, knowledge, or morality are not absolute or objective but instead relative to the context in which they are perceived or determined
42. the threats te\_\_\_\_y him *v.* to frighten someone very much
43. un\_\_\_\_n beetle *n.* a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion
44. ho\_\_\_\_ss at everything *adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
45. le\_\_\_\_d print *n.* a large wild cat that has yellow-brown fur with black spots and lives in Africa and southern Asia
46. pro\_\_\_\_tic approach *adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
47. in\_\_\_\_e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

ANSWERS: 38. burglar, 39. endemic, 40. swine, 41. relativism, 42. terrify, 43. unicorn, 44. hopeless, 45. leopard, 46. probabilistic, 47. invade

48. st\_\_\_e to death      *v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
49. co\_\_\_\_\_t website      *n.* a person who imitates or copies the behavior, speech, or appearance of another individual; a product or design that is made to look like a popular or successful product from another company or brand
50. in\_\_\_e his privacy      *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
51. fa\_\_\_e solution      *adj.* appearing to be easily achieved or accomplished without much effort; superficially simplistic or oversimplified
52. ove\_\_\_\_\_ate the value      *v.* to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is
53. ra\_\_\_\_\_t corruption      *adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
54. inn\_\_\_\_\_te population      *adj.* unable to perform simple numerical calculations; having little or no skill in mathematics
55. sy\_\_\_\_\_e needle      *n.* a device used for injecting or withdrawing fluids from the body, consisting of a tube and a plunger that creates a vacuum or expels the fluid

ANSWERS: 48. starve, 49. copycat, 50. invade, 51. facile, 52. overestimate, 53. rampant, 54. innumerate, 55. syringe

56. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
57. em\_\_e salute *v.* to communicate through facial expressions, gestures, and body language to express strong feelings or emotions
58. el\_\_\_\_\_fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
59. cou\_\_\_\_\_ure strategy *n.* an action taken to counter or offset another action
60. musical dis\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
61. di\_\_\_\_\_ge a stuck object *v.* to forcibly remove or loosen something from a particular position or place; to cause something to become detached or dislodged
62. biological psy\_\_\_\_\_ry *n.* the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness
63. con\_\_\_\_\_ct each other *v.* to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with
64. general ind\_\_\_\_\_nce *n.* a lack of interest, enthusiasm, or sympathy towards someone or something
65. ov\_\_\_\_\_ct to the criticism *v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate

ANSWERS: 56. industrious, 57. emote, 58. electrify, 59. countermeasure, 60. dissonance, 61. dislodge, 62. psychiatry, 63. contradict, 64. indifference, 65. overreact

66. r\_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
67. kid\_\_\_\_\_ng attempt *n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
68. snow le\_\_\_\_\_d *n.* a large wild cat that has yellow-brown fur with black spots and lives in Africa and southern Asia
69. pro\_\_\_\_\_tic model *adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
70. el\_\_\_\_\_fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
71. ripe ma\_\_o *n.* tropical fruit with smooth, juicy flesh and a large, hard seed in the middle
72. pre\_\_\_\_\_ic settlements *adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable
73. touch a do\_\_\_\_\_ll *n.* a bell that is pressed or pulled to signal that someone wishes to enter a building
74. ins\_\_\_\_\_ous reaction *adj.* occurring or happening immediately or without delay; taking place in an instant or moment
75. co\_\_\_\_\_ge of a series *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
76. in\_\_\_\_\_on research *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

ANSWERS: 66. rot, 67. kidnapping, 68. leopard, 69. probabilistic, 70. electrify, 71. mango, 72. prehistoric, 73. doorbell, 74. instantaneous, 75. converge, 76. intuition

77. und\_\_\_\_\_ate an enemy      *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
78. do\_\_\_\_\_ay mistakes      *v.* to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something
79. environmental tr\_\_\_\_\_ff      *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
80. cou\_\_\_\_\_ure plan      *n.* an action taken to counter or offset another action
81. sy\_\_\_\_\_e injection      *n.* a device used for injecting or withdrawing fluids from the body, consisting of a tube and a plunger that creates a vacuum or expels the fluid
82. 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
83. exa\_\_\_\_\_te story      *v.* to describe or represent something as better or worse than it is
84. di\_\_\_\_\_e from tradition      *v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
85. begin to r\_t      *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
86. ho\_\_\_\_\_ss situation      *adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
87. em\_\_e through art      *v.* to communicate through facial expressions, gestures, and body language to express strong feelings or emotions

ANSWERS: 77. underestimate, 78. downplay, 79. trade-off, 80. countermeasure, 81. syringe, 82. germ, 83. exaggerate, 84. diverge, 85. rot, 86. hopeless, 87. emote

88. ov\_\_\_\_\_ct with anger      *v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate
89. do\_\_\_\_\_ay my ability      *v.* to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something
90. environmental det\_\_\_\_\_nt      *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
91. sn\_\_\_\_h up her purse      *v.* to take or grab something suddenly or quickly
92. cognitive dis\_\_\_\_\_ce      *n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
93. st\_\_\_\_e for a victory      *v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
94. 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
95. com\_\_\_\_\_ion of structure      *n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused
96. inn\_\_\_\_\_te thinking      *adj.* unable to perform simple numerical calculations; having little or no skill in mathematics
97. ind\_\_\_\_\_nce to pain      *n.* a lack of interest, enthusiasm, or sympathy towards someone or something

ANSWERS: 88. overreact, 89. downplay, 90. determinant, 91. snatch, 92. dissonance, 93. starve, 94. germ, 95. complication, 96. innumerate, 97. indifference

98. ho\_\_\_\_ic condition *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
99. con\_\_\_\_\_ct the principle *v.* to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with
100. po\_\_\_\_\_us chemicals *adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
101. sto\_\_\_\_\_ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
102. ho\_\_\_\_ic experience *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
103. defective ai\_\_\_\_g *n.* a safety device designed to inflate rapidly in the event of a collision, protecting the occupants of a vehicle and reducing the risk of injury or death
104. fresh ma\_\_o *n.* tropical fruit with smooth, juicy flesh and a large, hard seed in the middle
105. do\_\_\_\_\_ll chime *n.* a bell that is pressed or pulled to signal that someone wishes to enter a building
106. ove\_\_\_\_\_ate the amount of time spent *v.* to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is
107. bi\_\_\_\_\_te into two separate tracks *v.* to divide or split into two branches or parts
108. co\_\_\_\_\_ge from different points *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

ANSWERS: 98. horrific, 99. contradict, 100. poisonous, 101. storytelling, 102. horrific, 103. airbag, 104. mango, 105. doorbell, 106. overestimate, 107. bifurcate, 108. converge

109. cholera-en\_\_\_\_c area *adj.* (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area
110. ta\_\_\_\_r with evidence *v.* to interfere with something in a way that causes damage or unauthorized alteration; to meddle with or manipulate something without permission or authority; (noun) a tool or device used for interfering with or altering something in a way that is unauthorized or illegal
111. sec\_\_\_\_\_nd information *adj.* having been previously owned or used by someone else
112. wh\_\_k him with a stick *v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily

ANSWERS: 109. endemic, 110. tamper, 111. secondhand, 112. whack



## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I have no intention to \_\_\_\_\_ your privacy.
  - v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ victory from the jaws of defeat in the game's final seconds.
  - v. to take or grab something suddenly or quickly
3. She effortlessly completed the task, displaying a \_\_\_\_\_ understanding of the subject.
  - adj. appearing to be easily achieved or accomplished without much effort; superficially simplistic or oversimplified
4. The baby \_\_\_\_\_ at the wildlife sanctuary was recently born and is very cute.
  - n. (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.
5. In a \_\_\_\_\_ system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance.
  - adj. characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
6. The accident scene was \_\_\_\_\_ with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.
  - adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
7. The company tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the significance of the issue.
  - v. to present or represent as less important or severe; to minimize the significance of something

ANSWERS: 1. invade, 2. snatches, 3. facile, 4. rhinoceros, 5. probabilistic, 6. horrific, 7. downplay

8. The \_\_\_\_\_ between the two melodies created a sense of tension in the music.
- n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
9. He \_\_\_\_\_ the ball out of the park with his home run.
- v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily
10. The teacher used a \_\_\_\_\_ method to teach the complex topic in a simple way.
- adj.* relating to a trial-and-error method of problem-solving, often involving learning from one's mistakes and using feedback to improve one's approach; also used to describe a problem-solving method or approach that is practical, efficient, or intuitive
11. The survey results were rendered meaningless by the \_\_\_\_\_ analysis of the data.
- adj.* unable to perform simple numerical calculations; having little or no skill in mathematics
12. The book contains numerous statements that \_\_\_\_\_ previous reports.
- v.* to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with
13. If you don't eat soon, you're going to \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
14. 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

ANSWERS: 8. dissonance, 9. whacked, 10. heuristic, 11. innumerate, 12. contradict, 13. starve, 14. germ

15. The farmer raises \_\_\_\_\_ on his farm for the market.  
*n.* a domestic pig, especially one bred for its meat
16. As tectonic plates \_\_\_\_\_ new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.  
*v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
17. The product developed through years of research continues to \_\_\_\_\_ the market.  
*v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
18. 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
19. He was excited to find a vintage suit at the \_\_\_\_\_ shop for a fraction of the price of a new one.  
*adj.* having been previously owned or used by someone else
20. He rang the \_\_\_\_\_ and waited for someone to answer.  
*n.* a bell that is pressed or pulled to signal that someone wishes to enter a building
21. The river \_\_\_\_\_ ahead, so we must decide which branch to take.  
*v.* to divide or split into two branches or parts
22. The actor could \_\_\_\_\_ a wide range of emotions on screen, earning them critical acclaim.  
*v.* to communicate through facial expressions, gestures, and body language to express strong feelings or emotions

ANSWERS: 15. swine, 16. diverge, 17. electrify, 18. determinant, 19. secondhand, 20. doorbell, 21. bifurcates, 22. emote

23. It's important not to \_\_\_\_\_ with the settings on your computer unless you know what you're doing.
- v.* to interfere with something in a way that causes damage or unauthorized alteration; to meddle with or manipulate something without permission or authority; (noun) a tool or device used for interfering with or altering something in a way that is unauthorized or illegal
24. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ between speed and accuracy in the task.
- n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
25. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
26. She \_\_\_\_\_ the extent of her injuries to get more money from the settlement.
- v.* to describe or represent something as better or worse than it is
27. She was skilled in \_\_\_\_\_ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
- n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
28. Malaria is \_\_\_\_\_ in many tropical countries.
- adj.* (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area
29. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
30. He tends to \_\_\_\_\_ his abilities.
- v.* to estimate something to be greater in amount or importance than it really is

ANSWERS: 23. tamper, 24. trade-off, 25. rot, 26. exaggerated, 27. storytelling, 28. endemic, 29. industrious, 30. overestimate

31. Children in an unstructured environment often feel \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
32. I tried to assume an air of \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a lack of interest, enthusiasm, or sympathy towards someone or something
33. The skilled \_\_\_\_\_ bypassed the alarm system and entered the house without making a sound.  
*n.* a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime
34. The company accused their competitor of being a \_\_\_\_\_ and stealing its design.  
*n.* a person who imitates or copies the behavior, speech, or appearance of another individual; a product or design that is made to look like a popular or successful product from another company or brand
35. She cut the \_\_\_\_\_ into small pieces and added them to the salad.  
*n.* tropical fruit with smooth, juicy flesh and a large, hard seed in the middle
36. She \_\_\_\_\_ to the situation and caused unnecessary stress.  
*v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate
37. The new software provides \_\_\_\_\_ results, making it much more efficient than the previous version.  
*adj.* occurring or happening immediately or without delay; taking place in an instant or moment
38. After months of job searching, he felt \_\_\_\_\_ and unsure of his future.  
*adj.* having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

ANSWERS: 31. insecure, 32. indifference, 33. burglar, 34. copycat, 35. mango, 36. overreacted, 37. instantaneous, 38. hopeless

39. In medieval times, people believed that the \_\_\_\_\_ horn had magical powers that could cure diseases.
- n.* a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion
40. Some studies suggest that people's \_\_\_\_\_ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.
- n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
41. They frequently \_\_\_\_\_ their abilities and felt inferior.
- v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
42. Moral \_\_\_\_\_ suggests that there is no objective right or wrong.
- n.* the belief that truth, knowledge, or morality are not absolute or objective but instead relative to the context in which they are perceived or determined
43. The government implemented several \_\_\_\_\_ to combat the spread of the virus.
- n.* an action taken to counter or offset another action
44. \_\_\_\_\_ lurked in the grass to catch their prey.
- n.* a large wild cat that has yellow-brown fur with black spots and lives in Africa and southern Asia
45. The \_\_\_\_\_ system in the car saved the driver's life in a severe crash.
- n.* a safety device designed to inflate rapidly in the event of a collision, protecting the occupants of a vehicle and reducing the risk of injury or death

ANSWERS: 39. unicorn, 40. intuitions, 41. underestimated, 42. relativism, 43. countermeasures, 44. Leopards, 45. airbag

46. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ the situation by adding unnecessary details to the report.
- v.* to make something more complex or difficult to understand, often by introducing new elements or factors
47. I had to \_\_\_\_\_ a small rock from the wheel of my car to keep driving safely.
- v.* to forcibly remove or loosen something from a particular position or place; to cause something to become detached or dislodged
48. She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
49. The two rivers \_\_\_\_\_ into one near this area.
- v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
50. The field of \_\_\_\_\_ is constantly evolving, with new treatments and approaches being developed all the time.
- n.* the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness
51. Addicts often share dirty \_\_\_\_\_ putting themselves at risk for disease.
- n.* a device used for injecting or withdrawing fluids from the body, consisting of a tube and a plunger that creates a vacuum or expels the fluid
52. Some species of \_\_\_\_\_ can be deadly to humans if bitten.
- adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
53. In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled

ANSWERS: 46. complicate, 47. dislodge, 48. kidnapping, 49. converge, 50. psychiatry, 51. syringes, 52. poisonous snakes, 53. rampant

54. It would be best not to \_\_\_\_\_ your associates into doing complex tasks.

*v.* to frighten someone very much

55. Scientists often fail to date archeological or \_\_\_\_\_ findings.

*adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable

56. He also continued to struggle with serious long-term \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused

ANSWERS: 54. terrify, 55. prehistorical, 56. complications