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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Shane Koyczan: To This Day ... for the bullied and beautiful | TED Talk

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y_for_the_bullied_and_beautiful](https://www.ted.com/talks/shane_koyczan_to_this_day_for_the_bullied_and_beautiful)

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

presuppose

v. to assume or require as an essential condition or prerequisite; to take for granted or consider as a necessary assumption before further discussion or action

synonym: assume, suppose, postulate

(1) **presuppose** certain conditions, (2) **presuppose** a limitation

To fully understand the concept, we must **presuppose** certain background knowledge.

shave

v. to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something

synonym: trim, cut down, prune

(1) **shave** my head, (2) **shave** cheese

That supermarket tried to **shave** certain costs by saving electricity.

inherit

v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

synonym: obtain, gain, acquire

(1) **inherit** estate, (2) **inherit** ancestral property

After his death, his sons **inherited** his business.

masquerade

n. a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show

synonym : disguise, pretense, facade

(1) show up in a **masquerade**, (2) absurd **masquerade**

The **masquerade** party was lavish, with guests in elaborate costumes and masks.

apologetic

adj. feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something

synonym : sorry, regretful, remorseful

(1) **apologetic** tone, (2) **apologetic** letter

He was **apologetic** for being late to the meeting.

dumpster

n. a large, commercial trash receptacle designed to be emptied mechanically by a garbage truck

(1) **dumpster** diving, (2) empty the **dumpster**

The employee found \$100 in the **dumpster** behind the store.

boomerang

n. a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it

synonym : bouncing bomb, comeback, backfire

(1) **boomerang** effect, (2) throw a **boomerang**

The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up **boomeranging** on himself.

loath

adj. unwilling or reluctant to; feeling strong dislike or aversion towards

synonym : reluctant, unwilling, disinclined

(1) **loath** to negotiate, (2) **loath** to fire my loyal employee

I'm **loath** to go to the dentist because I fear the pain.

bully

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate,

harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

synonym: tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak

The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

puzzled

adj. confused or uncertain because you do not understand something

synonym: confused, perplexed, bewildered

(1) **puzzled** expression, (2) **puzzled** by the question

She was **puzzled** by the strange behavior of her cat.

chop

v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife

synonym: cut, hack, slice

(1) **chop** wood, (2) **chop** a meet with a knife

The cook **chopped** the vegetables for the soup.

karate

n. a Japanese martial art that emphasizes hand and foot strikes, blocks, and evasions, often using a combination of techniques to overpower an opponent, also seen as a form of self-defense and physical training

synonym: martial art, self-defense discipline

(1) **karate** moves, (2) black belt in **karate**

She has been practicing **karate** for years and has won many tournaments.

bruise

n. a mark caused by a blow, typically one that is purple or black on the skin

synonym: contusion, injury, wound

(1) livid **bruise**, (2) earlier emotional **bruise**

She had a **bruise** on her arm from where she fell on the playground.

rhyme

n. a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting

synonym : verse, poetry, meter

(1) **rhyme** poem, (2) write in **rhyme**

The poem had a consistent **rhyme** scheme throughout.

heartstring

n. someone's most profound feelings, especially used to express love or compassion

(1) tear the **heartstrings**, (2) touch everyone's **heartstrings**

Her story tugged at my **heartstrings**.

ingrown

adj. referring to a hair or nail that has grown into the skin surrounding it, causing irritation or infection

synonym : embedded, imbedded, encased

(1) **ingrown** pimple, (2) **ingrown** hair

An **ingrown** toenail can be very painful and requires medical attention.

metastasize

v. (of a cancerous tumor or disease) to spread or grow to other parts of the body from its original location

synonym : spread, multiply, disseminate

(1) **metastasize** to the liver, (2) **metastasize** from breast cancer

Cancer cells can **metastasize** and spread to other body parts if left untreated.

bombard

v. to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage

synonym : bomb, shoot, blitz

(1) **bombard** him with questions, (2) **bombard** a fort with heavy shells

Overprotective parents often **bombard** their children with messages reinforcing their lack of mastery.

spitball

n. a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner

synonym : paper ball, chewed paper, spit wad

(1) fling a **spitball**, (2) **spitball** ideas

The teacher caught the student making a **spitball** gun in the back of the classroom.

battleground

n. a place where a battle is fought

synonym : arena, field, theater

(1) **battleground** states, (2) the legal **battleground**

The city became a **battleground** during the war.

outnumber

v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number

synonym : surpass, exceed

(1) **outnumber** our opponents, (2) **outnumber** males

The number of tourists in the city now **outnumbers** the locals.

wretchedness

n. the state of being miserable, unhappy, or distressed; the quality of being unfortunate or deeply distressed

synonym : misery, unhappiness, distress

(1) emotional **wretchedness**, (2) economic **wretchedness**

The book delves into the **wretchedness** and misery of life in a war-torn country.

recess

n. a period of time when the members of a parliament, committee, etc., are adjourned; a short break in a trial in court

synonym : break, interval, pause

(1) a court **recess**, (2) during noon **recess**

The company decided to take a **recess** and reconvene the meeting later that day.

rehearse

v. to practice or repeat something, such as a performance, speech, or action, to prepare for an event or to improve one's skills; to go through the motions of a planned activity before executing it

synonym : practice, recite, drill

(1) **rehearse** an opera, (2) **rehearse** a speech
The actors needed to **rehearse** their lines before the performance.

beware

v. to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger

synonym: heed, caution, alert

(1) **beware** of scams, (2) **beware** of strangers

Please **beware** of the slippery floor after it rains, or you could fall.

birthmark

n. a mark or discolored spot on the skin that is present at birth or appears soon after, usually caused by a concentration of pigment or blood vessels

synonym: nevus

(1) congenital **birthmark**, (2) permanent **birthmark**

The **birthmark** on her forehead was shaped like a star and made her stand out from the crowd.

graft

n. a transplanted portion of tissue or skin, often taken from one part of the body and used to repair or replace damaged or missing tissue in another part; a corrupt or illegal means of acquiring wealth or power through illicit or unethical methods

synonym: transplant, implantation, bribery

(1) **graft** surgery, (2) anti- **graft** law

The patient's skin **graft** procedure was successful, and he was released from the hospital.

uphill

adj. sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope

synonym: skyward, ascending, difficult

(1) an **uphill** road, (2) an **uphill** task

The road is **uphill** for a while.

downhill

adv. in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating

manner

synonym : downslope

(1) ski **downhill**, (2) walk **downhill** to the beach

The family's finances have been going **downhill** since they lost their main source of income.

antidepressant

n. any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry

(1) an **antidepressant** drug, (2) **antidepressant** effect

She has been taking **antidepressants** since her baby died.

audacity

n. boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless

synonym : boldness, daring, temerity

(1) **audacity** of hope, (2) act of **audacity**

His **audacity** in stealing the painting matched his foolishness in getting caught.

sanity

n. the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational

synonym : mental health, rationality, soundness

(1) **sanity** check, (2) have a **sanity** hearing

Her job's long hours and high pressure started affecting her **sanity**.

arsenal

n. a collection of weapons or military equipment stored in preparation for war or conflict; a collection of resources or tools available for use in a particular field or endeavor

synonym : storage, stockpile, armory

(1) **arsenal** of knowledge, (2) political **arsenal**

The police found a hidden **arsenal** of weapons in the suspect's house.

peck

v. to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble

synonym : beak, nibble, pick

(1) **peck** on the cheek, (2) **peck** at feed

The wood **pecker** would peck at the tree high up in the branches.

acrobatic

adj. relating to or involving gymnastic or athletic feats performed with agility, balance, and coordination; agile, flexible, and graceful

synonym : nimble, agile, flexible

(1) **acrobatic** leaps, (2) **acrobatic** skills

The **acrobatic** performance was breathtaking and left the audience in awe.

tame

v. to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training

synonym : domesticate, soften, (adjective) harmless

(1) **tame** a wild beast, (2) a **tame** animal

We have to **tame** substantial financial deficits at first.

clown

n. a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences

synonym : jester, harlequin, comedian

(1) a **clown** act, (2) act as a **clown**

She dressed up as a Halloween **clown** with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.

carnival

n. a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment

synonym : fair, festival, celebration

(1) **carnival** parade, (2) **carnival** atmosphere

The traveling **carnival** is coming to our town next week.

lobster

n. a marine crustacean with a hard, often brightly colored shell, a pair of large pincers, and a tail used for

swimming

synonym : crustacean, crawfish, crayfish

(1) **lobster** dinner, (2) fresh **lobster**

The restaurant served a delicious **lobster**, steamed to perfection.

claw

n. a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects

synonym : paw, talon, nail

(1) **claw** marks, (2) **claw** hammer

The bear used its **claw** to catch a fish in the river.

beard

n. hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin

synonym : facial hair, whiskers, stubble

(1) a black **beard**, (2) shave my **beard**

He grew a thick **beard** to change his appearance.

odddity

n. something unusual or different

synonym : rarity, curiosity, peculiarity

(1) find an **odddity**, (2) genetic **odddity**

The two-headed snake was an **odddity** at the zoo.

juggle

v. to manage or cope with several tasks, responsibilities, or situations simultaneously; to keep several things in the air at once, as in a juggling act

synonym : jiggle, balance, handle

(1) **juggle** a job and motherhood, (2) **juggle** with facts

It can be difficult to **juggle** work, family, and social life, but finding balance is important.

solitaire

n. a single-player game or activity often played with cards or on a computer; a type of diamond or jewel that is set alone in a piece of jewelry with no accompanying stones

synonym : patience, loneliness, solo game

(1) **solitaire** game, (2) **solitaire** diamond

My grandmother loved to play **solitaire** with a deck of cards every afternoon.

tightrope

n. a rope or wire stretched tightly between two points, on which acrobats, tightrope walkers, etc., perform; a risky or precarious situation that requires one to balance carefully to avoid falling or failure

synonym : rope walk, high wire, funambulism

(1) **tightrope** performer, (2) **tightrope** act

The **tightrope** walker balanced precariously above the crowd.

smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

synonym : great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results

The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym : coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

clique

n. a narrow, exclusive group of people who share similar backgrounds or interests and who tend to be socially or politically powerful

synonym : clan, group, gang

(1) **clique** behavior, (2) form a **clique**

Members of the popular **clique** at school often exclude others from their group.

bury

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

synonym : entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

underdog

n. a person or group in a competition or situation that is expected to lose or be at a disadvantage; a person or group that is seen as less powerful or less favored than others in a social, political, or economic context

synonym : loser, victim

(1) cheer for the **underdog**, (2) classic **underdog** story

The **underdog** team pulled off a stunning upset against the heavily favored opponent.

Session 2: Spelling

1. serial qu____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
2. met____ze from breast cancer *v.* (of a cancerous tumor or disease) to spread or grow to other parts of the body from its original location
3. permanent bi____rk *n.* a mark or discolored spot on the skin that is present at birth or appears soon after, usually caused by a concentration of pigment or blood vessels
4. ar____l of knowledge *n.* a collection of weapons or military equipment stored in preparation for war or conflict; a collection of resources or tools available for use in a particular field or endeavor
5. in____n pimple *adj.* referring to a hair or nail that has grown into the skin surrounding it, causing irritation or infection
6. c__w hammer *n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects
7. pre____se a limitation *v.* to assume or require as an essential condition or prerequisite; to take for granted or consider as a necessary assumption before further discussion or action

ANSWERS: 1. quitter, 2. metastasize, 3. birthmark, 4. arsenal, 5. ingrown, 6. claw, 7. presuppose

8. rh__e poem *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
9. tear the hea_____ngs *n.* someone's most profound feelings, especially used to express love or compassion
10. ski do_____ll *adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner
11. p__k on the cheek *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
12. fresh lo_____r *n.* a marine crustacean with a hard, often brightly colored shell, a pair of large pincers, and a tail used for swimming
13. ju___e with facts *v.* to manage or cope with several tasks, responsibilities, or situations simultaneously; to keep several things in the air at once, as in a juggling act
14. a black be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
15. bo_____ng effect *n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
16. pre_____se certain conditions *v.* to assume or require as an essential condition or prerequisite; to take for granted or consider as a necessary assumption before further discussion or action

ANSWERS: 8. rhyme, 9. heartstring, 10. downhill, 11. peck, 12. lobster, 13. juggle, 14. beard, 15. boomerang, 16. presuppose

17. easy qu____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
18. shave my be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
19. in____t ancestral property *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
20. emotional wre____ess *n.* the state of being miserable, unhappy, or distressed; the quality of being unfortunate or deeply distressed
21. during noon re____s *n.* a period of time when the members of a parliament, committee, etc., are adjourned; a short break in a trial in court
22. re____se an opera *v.* to practice or repeat something, such as a performance, speech, or action, to prepare for an event or to improve one's skills; to go through the motions of a planned activity before executing it
23. act of au____ty *n.* boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless
24. ka____e moves *n.* a Japanese martial art that emphasizes hand and foot strikes, blocks, and evasions, often using a combination of techniques to overpower an opponent, also seen as a form of self-defense and physical training
25. fling a sp____ll *n.* a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner

ANSWERS: 17. quitter, 18. beard, 19. inherit, 20. wretchedness, 21. recess, 22. rehearse, 23. audacity, 24. karate, 25. spitball

26. bu__y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
27. re____se a speech *v.* to practice or repeat something, such as a performance, speech, or action, to prepare for an event or to improve one's skills; to go through the motions of a planned activity before executing it
28. ca____al atmosphere *n.* a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment
29. gr__t surgery *n.* a transplanted portion of tissue or skin, often taken from one part of the body and used to repair or replace damaged or missing tissue in another part; a corrupt or illegal means of acquiring wealth or power through illicit or unethical methods
30. sp____ll ideas *n.* a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner
31. form a cl____e *n.* a narrow, exclusive group of people who share similar backgrounds or interests and who tend to be socially or politically powerful

ANSWERS: 26. bully, 27. rehearse, 28. carnival, 29. graft, 30. spitball, 31. clique

32. apo_____ic tone *adj.* feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something
33. be___e of strangers *v.* to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger
34. an up___l task *adj.* sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope
35. sa___y check *n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
36. in_____n hair *adj.* referring to a hair or nail that has grown into the skin surrounding it, causing irritation or infection
37. cl___e behavior *n.* a narrow, exclusive group of people who share similar backgrounds or interests and who tend to be socially or politically powerful
38. ca_____al parade *n.* a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment
39. c__p a meet with a knife *v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
40. act as a cl__n *n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
41. ju___e a job and motherhood *v.* to manage or cope with several tasks, responsibilities, or situations simultaneously; to keep several things in the air at once, as in a juggling act

ANSWERS: 32. apologetic, 33. beware, 34. uphill, 35. sanity, 36. ingrown, 37. clique, 38. carnival, 39. chop, 40. clown, 41. juggle

42. throw a bo_____ng *n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
43. so_____re game *n.* a single-player game or activity often played with cards or on a computer; a type of diamond or jewel that is set alone in a piece of jewelry with no accompanying stones
44. bo_____d him with questions *v.* to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage
45. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
46. walk do_____ll to the beach *adv.* in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner
47. du_____er diving *n.* a large, commercial trash receptacle designed to be emptied mechanically by a garbage truck
48. absurd mas_____de *n.* a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show
49. a sm_____ng blow *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

ANSWERS: 42. boomerang, 43. solitaire, 44. bombard, 45. bury, 46. downhill, 47. dumpster, 48. masquerade, 49. smashing

50. bu__y the weak *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
51. economic wre_____ess *n.* the state of being miserable, unhappy, or distressed; the quality of being unfortunate or deeply distressed
52. an up___l road *adj.* sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope
53. ou_____er males *v.* to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
54. bat_____und states *n.* a place where a battle is fought
55. met_____ze to the liver *v.* (of a cancerous tumor or disease) to spread or grow to other parts of the body from its original location
56. p__k at feed *v.* to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble
57. write in rh__e *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
58. be___e of scams *v.* to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger
59. genetic od___y *n.* something unusual or different
60. lo_____r dinner *n.* a marine crustacean with a hard, often brightly colored shell, a pair of large pincers, and a tail used for swimming

ANSWERS: 50. bully, 51. wretchedness, 52. uphill, 53. outnumber, 54. battleground, 55. metastasize, 56. peck, 57. rhyme, 58. beware, 59. oddity, 60. lobster

61. ant_____ant effect *n.* any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry
62. classic un_____og story *n.* a person or group in a competition or situation that is expected to lose or be at a disadvantage; a person or group that is seen as less powerful or less favored than others in a social, political, or economic context
63. au_____ty of hope *n.* boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless
64. b__y emotion *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
65. political ar_____l *n.* a collection of weapons or military equipment stored in preparation for war or conflict; a collection of resources or tools available for use in a particular field or endeavor
66. pu_____d by the question *adj.* confused or uncertain because you do not understand something
67. apo_____ic letter *adj.* feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something
68. c__p wood *v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
69. so_____re diamond *n.* a single-player game or activity often played with cards or on a computer; a type of diamond or jewel that is set alone in a piece of jewelry with no accompanying stones

ANSWERS: 61. antidepressant, 62. underdog, 63. audacity, 64. bury, 65. arsenal, 66. puzzled, 67. apologetic, 68. chop, 69. solitaire

70. ac_____ic skills *adj.* relating to or involving gymnastic or athletic feats performed with agility, balance, and coordination; agile, flexible, and graceful
71. sh__e my head *v.* to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something
72. ac_____ic leaps *adj.* relating to or involving gymnastic or athletic feats performed with agility, balance, and coordination; agile, flexible, and graceful
73. a court re___s *n.* a period of time when the members of a parliament, committee, etc., are adjourned; a short break in a trial in court
74. livid br___e *n.* a mark caused by a blow, typically one that is purple or black on the skin
75. a t__e animal *v.* to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
76. touch everyone's hea_____ngs *n.* someone's most profound feelings, especially used to express love or compassion
77. give sm_____ng results *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
78. black belt in ka___e *n.* a Japanese martial art that emphasizes hand and foot strikes, blocks, and evasions, often using a combination of techniques to overpower an opponent, also seen as a form of self-defense and physical training

ANSWERS: 70. acrobatic, 71. shave, 72. acrobatic, 73. recess, 74. bruise, 75. tame, 76. heartstring, 77. smashing, 78. karate

79. empty the du____er *n.* a large, commercial trash receptacle designed to be emptied mechanically by a garbage truck
80. c__w marks *n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects
81. bo____d a fort with heavy shells *v.* to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage
82. an ant_____ant drug *n.* any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry
83. lo__h to fire my loyal employee *adj.* unwilling or reluctant to; feeling strong dislike or aversion towards
84. find an od____y *n.* something unusual or different
85. have a sa____y hearing *n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
86. earlier emotional br____e *n.* a mark caused by a blow, typically one that is purple or black on the skin
87. show up in a mas_____de *n.* a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show
88. congenital bi_____rk *n.* a mark or discolored spot on the skin that is present at birth or appears soon after, usually caused by a concentration of pigment or blood vessels

ANSWERS: 79. dumpster, 80. claw, 81. bombard, 82. antidepressant, 83. loath, 84. oddity, 85. sanity, 86. bruise, 87. masquerade, 88. birthmark

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. To fully understand the concept, we must _____ certain background knowledge.
 - v. to assume or require as an essential condition or prerequisite; to take for granted or consider as a necessary assumption before further discussion or action

2. The employee found \$100 in the _____ behind the store.
 - n. a large, commercial trash receptacle designed to be emptied mechanically by a garbage truck

3. The _____ walker balanced precariously above the crowd.
 - n. a rope or wire stretched tightly between two points, on which acrobats, tightrope walkers, etc., perform; a risky or precarious situation that requires one to balance carefully to avoid falling or failure

4. Overprotective parents often _____ their children with messages reinforcing their lack of mastery.
 - v. to attack a place with bombs or gunshots continuously; to address with continuously or persistently, as if with a barrage

5. The _____ party was lavish, with guests in elaborate costumes and masks.
 - n. a party, dance, or other festive gatherings of persons wearing masks and other disguises, or a costume worn on such an occasion; making a false outward show

6. She had a _____ on her arm from where she fell on the playground.
 - n. a mark caused by a blow, typically one that is purple or black on the skin

ANSWERS: 1. presuppose, 2. dumpster, 3. tightrope, 4. bombard, 5. masquerade, 6. bruise

7. The bear used its _____ to catch a fish in the river.
- n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects
8. The two-headed snake was an _____ at the zoo.
- n.* something unusual or different
9. Please _____ of the slippery floor after it rains, or you could fall.
- v.* to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger
10. The band's new album was a _____ success, reaching the top of the charts.
- adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
11. The patient's skin _____ procedure was successful, and he was released from the hospital.
- n.* a transplanted portion of tissue or skin, often taken from one part of the body and used to repair or replace damaged or missing tissue in another part; a corrupt or illegal means of acquiring wealth or power through illicit or unethical methods
12. The restaurant served a delicious _____ steamed to perfection.
- n.* a marine crustacean with a hard, often brightly colored shell, a pair of large pincers, and a tail used for swimming
13. The road is _____ for a while.
- adj.* sloping upward; difficult or challenging; (adverb) upward on a hill or slope

ANSWERS: 7. claw, 8. oddity, 9. beware, 10. smashing, 11. graft, 12. lobster, 13. uphill

14. The book delves into the _____ and misery of life in a war-torn country.
n. the state of being miserable, unhappy, or distressed; the quality of being unfortunate or deeply distressed
15. The city became a _____ during the war.
n. a place where a battle is fought
16. She dressed up as a Halloween _____ with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.
n. a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
17. My grandmother loved to play _____ with a deck of cards every afternoon.
n. a single-player game or activity often played with cards or on a computer; a type of diamond or jewel that is set alone in a piece of jewelry with no accompanying stones
18. She has been practicing _____ for years and has won many tournaments.
n. a Japanese martial art that emphasizes hand and foot strikes, blocks, and evasions, often using a combination of techniques to overpower an opponent, also seen as a form of self-defense and physical training
19. Her job's long hours and high pressure started affecting her _____.
n. the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
20. Cancer cells can _____ and spread to other body parts if left untreated.
v. (of a cancerous tumor or disease) to spread or grow to other parts of the body from its original location
21. That supermarket tried to _____ certain costs by saving electricity.
v. to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something

ANSWERS: 14. wretchedness, 15. battleground, 16. clown, 17. solitaire, 18. karate, 19. sanity, 20. metastasize, 21. shave

22. The actors needed to _____ their lines before the performance.
- v.* to practice or repeat something, such as a performance, speech, or action, to prepare for an event or to improve one's skills; to go through the motions of a planned activity before executing it
23. The traveling _____ is coming to our town next week.
- n.* a public enjoyment and celebration, usually held in the street, featuring music, dancing, and various forms of entertainment
24. I'm _____ to go to the dentist because I fear the pain.
- adj.* unwilling or reluctant to; feeling strong dislike or aversion towards
25. The poem had a consistent _____ scheme throughout.
- n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
26. The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up _____ on himself.
- n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
27. The schoolyard _____ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.
- n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
28. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.
- v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

ANSWERS: 22. rehearse, 23. carnival, 24. loath, 25. rhyme, 26. boomeranging, 27. bully, 28. bury

29. After his death, his sons _____ his business.
- v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
30. We have to _____ substantial financial deficits at first.
- v.* to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
31. His _____ in stealing the painting matched his foolishness in getting caught.
- n.* boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless
32. The _____ team pulled off a stunning upset against the heavily favored opponent.
- n.* a person or group in a competition or situation that is expected to lose or be at a disadvantage; a person or group that is seen as less powerful or less favored than others in a social, political, or economic context
33. The company decided to take a _____ and reconvene the meeting later that day.
- n.* a period of time when the members of a parliament, committee, etc., are adjourned; a short break in a trial in court
34. He grew a thick _____ to change his appearance.
- n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
35. The teacher caught the student making a _____ gun in the back of the classroom.
- n.* a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner

ANSWERS: 29. inherited, 30. tame, 31. audacity, 32. underdog, 33. recess, 34. beard, 35. spitball

36. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
37. The _____ performance was breathtaking and left the audience in awe.
adj. relating to or involving gymnastic or athletic feats performed with agility, balance, and coordination; agile, flexible, and graceful
38. Members of the popular _____ at school often exclude others from their group.
n. a narrow, exclusive group of people who share similar backgrounds or interests and who tend to be socially or politically powerful
39. The cook _____ the vegetables for the soup.
v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
40. She has been taking _____ since her baby died.
n. any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry
41. The number of tourists in the city now _____ the locals.
v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
42. The police found a hidden _____ of weapons in the suspect's house.
n. a collection of weapons or military equipment stored in preparation for war or conflict; a collection of resources or tools available for use in a particular field or endeavor
43. An _____ toenail can be very painful and requires medical attention.
adj. referring to a hair or nail that has grown into the skin surrounding it, causing irritation or infection

ANSWERS: 36. quitter, 37. acrobatic, 38. clique, 39. chopped, 40. antidepressants, 41. outnumber, 42. arsenal, 43. ingrown

44. He was _____ for being late to the meeting.

adj. feeling or expressing regret, remorse, or sorrow for one's actions; making an apology or expressing an excuse for something

45. The _____ on her forehead was shaped like a star and made her stand out from the crowd.

n. a mark or discolored spot on the skin that is present at birth or appears soon after, usually caused by a concentration of pigment or blood vessels

46. Her story tugged at my _____.

n. someone's most profound feelings, especially used to express love or compassion

47. She was _____ by the strange behavior of her cat.

adj. confused or uncertain because you do not understand something

48. It can be difficult to _____ work, family, and social life, but finding balance is important.

v. to manage or cope with several tasks, responsibilities, or situations simultaneously; to keep several things in the air at once, as in a juggling act

49. The wood _____ would peck at the tree high up in the branches.

v. to strike or bite someone or something repeatedly, usually with the beak or bill; to give a quick, small kiss or nibble

50. The family's finances have been going _____ since they lost their main source of income.

adv. in a direction that is downward or from a higher to a lower point; in a progressively worse or deteriorating manner

ANSWERS: 44. apologetic, 45. birthmark, 46. heartstrings, 47. puzzled, 48. juggle, 49. pecker, 50. downhill

ANSWERS: