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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Neil Pasricha: The 3 A's of awesome | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

shady

adj. characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight

synonym : shadowy, dubious, questionable

(1) **shady** business, (2) **shady** deal

The tree provided some **shady** relief from the scorching sun.

sitcom

n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format

synonym : comedy, TV show

(1) **sitcom** series, (2) popular **sitcom**

I love to watch **sitcoms** when I need a good laugh.

wobble

v. to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down

synonym : sway, rock, totter

(1) **wobble** a few steps, (2) **wobble** chair

The table **wobbled** a little when I put my drink on it.

brink

n. the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

synonym : edge, verge, threshold

(1) **brink** of war, (2) on the **brink**

We were on the **brink** of a financial crisis.

livelihood

n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.

synonym: occupation, living, income

(1) a means of **livelihood**, (2) **livelihood** assistance

I could no longer earn my own **livelihood**.

summon

v. to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally

synonym: call for, muster, assemble

(1) **summon** a lawyer, (2) **summon** a city council

The chairperson was responsible for **summoning** committees.

heartbreak

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

synonym: grief, sorrow, bitterness

(1) ease her **heartbreak**, (2) go through **heartbreak**

They had experienced the **heartbreak** of losing two children due to premature births.

waitress

n. a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe

synonym: server, attendant, waitperson

(1) **waitress** at a restaurant, (2) tip the **waitress**

The friendly **waitress** brought the food to the table and asked if they needed anything else.

swoop

v. to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon

synonym: dart, pounce

(1) **swoop** down the water slide, (2) **swoop** up the escalator

The eagle **swooped** down from the sky to catch its prey.

skyrocket

v. to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
synonym: rocket, soar, shoot up

(1) **skyrocket** the cost, (2) price **skyrocketed**

Production has decreased, but costs and unemployment have **skyrocketed** dramatically.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

onstage

adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

(1) appeared **onstage**, (2) walk **onstage**

He performed his magic trick **onstage**, leaving the audience in awe.

amazement

n. a state of great surprise or wonder caused by something extraordinary or unexpected

synonym: astonishment, wonder, surprise

(1) express **amazement**, (2) feeling of **amazement**

The magician's disappearing act left the audience in **amazement**.

overshadow

v. to cast a shadow over; to dominate or surpass in importance; to make someone or something seemingly insignificant or less important by comparison

synonym: eclipse, dominate, outshine

(1) **overshadowing** performance, (2) **overshadowed** by controversy

The rising young star's talent **overshadowed** the rest of the cast.

inbox

n. an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept

(1) **inbox** full of emails, (2) **inbox** folder

After you register, you will receive an email with a coupon

shortly in your **inbox**.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym : suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

wed

v. to marry someone

synonym : marry, get hitched with

(1) **wed** my intended, (2) **wed** the rich man

The couple will **wed** after the tenth anniversary.

screech

v. to make a loud, high-pitched, piercing sound, often indicating pain or fear

synonym : shriek, scream, yelp

(1) **screech** out a slogan, (2) **screech** with laughter

The brakes on the car began to **screech** as the driver suddenly stopped at the intersection.

sponge

n. a soft material with many microscopic pores that can absorb a large amount of liquid and is used for washing and cleaning

(1) sea **sponge**, (2) metallic **sponge**

The tiny marine **sponge** has existed for more than 500 million years.

soak

v. to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money

synonym : saturate, steep, douse

(1) **soak** in a hot spring, (2) **soak** away stress

I **soaked** the shirt in the sink before washing it.

swirl

v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern

synonym : spin, whirl, turn

(1) **swirl** the wine, (2) **swirl** up dirt and dust

The chef expertly **swirled** the sauce onto the plate.

twirl

v. to rotate rapidly around a central point; to spin or whirl around in a circular or spiral motion

synonym : spin, swirl, rotate

(1) **twirl** a ribbon, (2) **twirl** a hula hoop

She **twirled** her hair absentmindedly as she listened to the conversation.

gloom

n. a state of darkness, sadness, or melancholy; a feeling of depression or lack of hope; a state of obscurity or uncertainty

synonym : darkness, depression, melancholy

(1) a sense of **gloom**, (2) **gloom-filled** room

The **gloom** of the rainy weather was beginning to affect her mood.

doom

n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

synonym : judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

grieve

v. to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died

synonym : mourn, lament, sorrow

(1) **grieve** for loss, (2) **grieve** at the sad news

She **grieved** the loss of her parents.

sober

adj. not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

synonym : calm, lucid, temperate

(1) **sober** discussion, (2) as **sober** as a judge

He led a **sober** life.

slack

adj. lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude

synonym : loose, lax, floppy

(1) a **slack** rope, (2) **slack** performance

The team's **slack** attitude towards deadlines caused the project to fall behind schedule.

crunch

n. a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation

synonym : crushing, snapping, crisis

(1) financial **crunch**, (2) a gas **crunch**

The **crunch** of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.

dandelion

n. a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine

synonym : blowball

(1) **dandelion** root, (2) **dandelion** tea

In the summer, fields are filled with yellow **dandelion** flowers.

centerpiece

n. the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table

synonym : highlight, focal point, heart

(1) the **centerpiece** of the meal, (2) **centerpiece** proposal

His writing activities are the **centerpiece** of his life.

thanksgiving

n. an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year

synonym : gratitude, appreciation, recognition

(1) **thanksgiving** traditions, (2) **thanksgiving** parade

My family gathers together every year for **thanksgiving** dinner.

bakery

n. a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold

synonym : bakeshop, bakehouse

(1) run a **bakery**, (2) **bakery** industry

He worked at the **bakery** as a baker.

linebacker

n. a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team

synonym : defensive back

(1) **linebacker** position, (2) rookie **linebacker**

The team's defensive strategy relied heavily on their **linebacker's** ability to read the opposing team's offense.

fearsome

adj. causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable

synonym : terrifying, alarming, intimidating

(1) **fearsome** creature, (2) **fearsome** reputation

The dragon's **fearsome** roar echoed through the valley.

foursome

n. a group of four people or things, particularly used to refer to a group of four individuals playing a game or sport together, such as in golf or tennis doubles

synonym : group, quartet, team

(1) golf **foursome**, (2) tennis **foursome**

The talented **foursome** performed a stunning acrobatic routine at the circus.

ram

v. to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force

synonym : crash, collide, slam

(1) **ram** the door open, (2) **ram** into the ice

The car **rammed** into the wall, causing significant damage.

- situ** *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
synonym: situational, contextual, circumstantial
(1) ex- **situ** conservation, (2) in- **situ** control
Melanoma in **situ** is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.
- pickle** *n.* vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation
synonym: jam, predicament, quagmire
(1) **pickle** a cucumber, (2) **pickle** barrel
The **pickle** must have an acidity level high enough to inhibit the growth of bacteria.
- roast** *v.* to cook food by surrounding it with hot, dry air, especially in an oven
synonym: bake, broil, grill
(1) **roast** coffee beans, (2) **roast** beef
The chef **roasted** the chicken to perfection in the oven.
- tuna** *n.* a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals
(1) **tuna** steak, (2) canned **tuna**
I made a **tuna** sandwich for lunch today.
- lasagna** *n.* a type of dish consisting of layers of pasta, cheese, meat, or vegetables, typically topped with tomato sauce and baked in an oven; a traditional staple of Italian cuisine
synonym: pasta bake, casserole, baked ziti
(1) **lasagna** recipe, (2) **lasagna** noodles
I always order spinach **lasagna** at my favorite Italian restaurant.

casserole

n. a dish made by cooking food, typically meat, vegetables, and a starch, such as potatoes or pasta, in a deep dish either in the oven or on the stovetop; the dish itself that is used for cooking and serving the dish

synonym : stew, hotpot, gratin

(1) vegetable **casserole**, (2) chicken **casserole**

I will bring a **casserole** dish to the potluck dinner.

brownie

n. a small square or rectangular piece of chocolate cake, typically with nuts or chocolate chips; (brownie point) a figurative reward or recognition for doing something good or helpful

synonym : bar, cake, square

(1) earn **Brownie** points, (2) **brownie** recipe

She baked a batch of chocolate chip **brownies** for the office party.

tart

n. a small pastry with a sweet or savory filling, typically with a shortcrust pastry base; a woman who is perceived to be sexually promiscuous; (adjective) sharp, tangy, or acidic in taste

synonym : pie, pastry, quiche

(1) **tart** flavor, (2) custard **tart**

The lemon **tart** at the bakery was simply divine.

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.

horoscope

n. a forecast of a person's future, typically based on a chart or diagram representing the positions of the sun, moon, planets, etc

synonym : astrological chart, celestial map

(1) cast a **horoscope**, (2) believe in **horoscope**

She read her **horoscope** every morning to see what the day had in store for her.

rollercoaster

n. a type of amusement ride that goes up and down very steep slopes and around very sudden bends on which people ride in small and open carriages

synonym: turbulence, upheaval

(1) emotional **rollercoaster**, (2) wooden **rollercoaster**

We finally divorced after experiencing a **rollercoaster** marriage.

nap

n. a short sleep, especially during the day

synonym: rest, doze, drowse

(1) take a **nap**, (2) daytime **nap**

She woke the kids up from their **nap**.

foreman

n. a person in charge of a group of workers, typically in a factory, construction site, or other industrial settings; a juror who presides over jury deliberations and speaks for the group in court

synonym: supervisor, manager, overseer

(1) **foreman** position, (2) **foreman** duties

The **foreman** on the construction site is responsible for overseeing the workers and ensuring that the project is completed on time.

fleeting

adj. brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

synonym: temporary, brief, transitory

(1) for a **fleeting** moment, (2) **fleeting** opportunity

She savored the **fleeting** happiness she felt during the vacation.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. ripe ma__o | <i>n.</i> tropical fruit with smooth, juicy flesh and a large, hard seed in the middle |
| 2. ove_____owing performance | <i>v.</i> to cast a shadow over; to dominate or surpass in importance; to make someone or something seemingly insignificant or less important by comparison |
| 3. prophet of d__m | <i>n.</i> death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided |
| 4. earn Br_____e points | <i>n.</i> a small square or rectangular piece of chocolate cake, typically with nuts or chocolate chips; (brownie point) a figurative reward or recognition for doing something good or helpful |
| 5. ro__t beef | <i>v.</i> to cook food by surrounding it with hot, dry air, especially in an oven |
| 6. feeling of am_____nt | <i>n.</i> a state of great surprise or wonder caused by something extraordinary or unexpected |
| 7. daytime n_p | <i>n.</i> a short sleep, especially during the day |
| 8. br_____e recipe | <i>n.</i> a small square or rectangular piece of chocolate cake, typically with nuts or chocolate chips; (brownie point) a figurative reward or recognition for doing something good or helpful |
| 9. financial cr__h | <i>n.</i> a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation |

ANSWERS: 1. mango, 2. overshadow, 3. doom, 4. brownie, 5. roast, 6. amazement, 7. nap, 8. brownie, 9. crunch

10. su___n a city council
v. to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally
11. liv_____od assistance
n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
12. ease her hea_____ak
n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
13. gl__m-filled room
n. a state of darkness, sadness, or melancholy; a feeling of depression or lack of hope; a state of obscurity or uncertainty
14. tennis fo_____me
n. a group of four people or things, particularly used to refer to a group of four individuals playing a game or sport together, such as in golf or tennis doubles
15. w_d my intended
v. to marry someone
16. sh__y business
adj. characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight
17. ba___y industry
n. a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold
18. as so__r as a judge
adj. not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises
19. fo_____n duties
n. a person in charge of a group of workers, typically in a factory, construction site, or other industrial settings; a juror who presides over jury deliberations and speaks for the group in court

ANSWERS: 10. summon, 11. livelihood, 12. heartbreak, 13. gloom, 14. foursome, 15. wed, 16. shady, 17. bakery, 18. sober, 19. foreman

20. su___n a lawyer *v.* to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally
21. so__r discussion *adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises
22. tw__l a hula hoop *v.* to rotate rapidly around a central point; to spin or whirl around in a circular or spiral motion
23. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
24. canned t__a *n.* a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals
25. fe_____me creature *adj.* causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable
26. a means of liv_____od *n.* a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
27. wo___e a few steps *v.* to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down
28. r_m into the ice *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
29. cast a ho_____pe *n.* a forecast of a person's future, typically based on a chart or diagram representing the positions of the sun, moon, planets, etc

ANSWERS: 20. summon, 21. sober, 22. twirl, 23. excite, 24. tuna, 25. fearsome, 26. livelihood, 27. wobble, 28. ram, 29. horoscope

30. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
31. la_____a recipe *n.* a type of dish consisting of layers of pasta, cheese, meat, or vegetables, typically topped with tomato sauce and baked in an oven; a traditional staple of Italian cuisine
32. t__t flavor *n.* a small pastry with a sweet or savory filling, typically with a shortcrust pastry base; a woman who is perceived to be sexually promiscuous; (adjective) sharp, tangy, or acidic in taste
33. run a ba_____y *n.* a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold
34. in__x full of emails *n.* an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept
35. popular si_____m *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
36. si_____m series *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
37. walk on_____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
38. the cen_____ce of the meal *n.* the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table

ANSWERS: 30. opportune, 31. lasagna, 32. tart, 33. bakery, 34. inbox, 35. sitcom, 36. sitcom, 37. onstage, 38. centerpiece

39. economic d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
40. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
41. s__k in a hot spring *v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money
42. express am_____nt *n.* a state of great surprise or wonder caused by something extraordinary or unexpected
43. chicken ca_____le *n.* a dish made by cooking food, typically meat, vegetables, and a starch, such as potatoes or pasta, in a deep dish either in the oven or on the stovetop; the dish itself that is used for cooking and serving the dish
44. s__k away stress *v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money
45. pi___e a cucumber *n.* vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation
46. gr___e for loss *v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
47. emotional rol_____ter *n.* a type of amusement ride that goes up and down very steep slopes and around very sudden bends on which people ride in small and open carriages

ANSWERS: 39. doom, 40. excite, 41. soak, 42. amazement, 43. casserole, 44. soak, 45. pickle, 46. grieve, 47. rollercoaster

48. sw__l the wine *v.* to move in a circular or spiral pattern
49. in__x folder *n.* an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept
50. sea sp___e *n.* a soft material with many microscopic pores that can absorb a large amount of liquid and is used for washing and cleaning
51. da_____on tea *n.* a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine
52. believe in ho_____pe *n.* a forecast of a person's future, typically based on a chart or diagram representing the positions of the sun, moon, planets, etc
53. ro__t coffee beans *v.* to cook food by surrounding it with hot, dry air, especially in an oven
54. a sense of gl__m *n.* a state of darkness, sadness, or melancholy; a feeling of depression or lack of hope; a state of obscurity or uncertainty
55. fl_____ng opportunity *adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
56. sc_____h out a slogan *v.* to make a loud, high-pitched, piercing sound, often indicating pain or fear

ANSWERS: 48. swirl, 49. inbox, 50. sponge, 51. dandelion, 52. horoscope, 53. roast, 54. gloom, 55. fleeting, 56. screech

57. fe____me reputation *adj.* causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable
58. sc____h with laughter *v.* to make a loud, high-pitched, piercing sound, often indicating pain or fear
59. gr____e at the sad news *v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
60. custard t__t *n.* a small pastry with a sweet or savory filling, typically with a shortcrust pastry base; a woman who is perceived to be sexually promiscuous; (adjective) sharp, tangy, or acidic in taste
61. on the br__k *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
62. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
63. r_m the door open *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
64. tw__l a ribbon *v.* to rotate rapidly around a central point; to spin or whirl around in a circular or spiral motion
65. sw__p down the water slide *v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon
66. sl__k performance *adj.* lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude

ANSWERS: 57. fearsome, 58. screech, 59. grieve, 60. tart, 61. brink, 62. opportune, 63. ram, 64. twirl, 65. swoop, 66. slack

67. t__a steak *n.* a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals
68. sw__l up dirt and dust *v.* to move in a circular or spiral pattern
69. ex-s__u conservation *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
70. go through hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
71. pi___e barrel *n.* vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation
72. fo_____n position *n.* a person in charge of a group of workers, typically in a factory, construction site, or other industrial settings; a juror who presides over jury deliberations and speaks for the group in court
73. sk_____et the cost *v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
74. da_____on root *n.* a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine

ANSWERS: 67. tuna, 68. swirl, 69. situ, 70. heartbreak, 71. pickle, 72. foreman, 73. skyrocket, 74. dandelion

75. for a fl____ng moment *adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
76. lin_____er position *n.* a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team
77. a gas cr____h *n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
78. tha_____ing parade *n.* an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year
79. in-s__u control *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
80. fresh ma__o *n.* tropical fruit with smooth, juicy flesh and a large, hard seed in the middle
81. metallic sp____e *n.* a soft material with many microscopic pores that can absorb a large amount of liquid and is used for washing and cleaning
82. sh__y deal *adj.* characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight

ANSWERS: 75. fleeting, 76. linebacker, 77. crunch, 78. thanksgiving, 79. situ, 80. mango, 81. sponge, 82. shady

83. sw__p up the escalator *v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon
84. wo___e chair *v.* to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down
85. cen_____ce proposal *n.* the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table
86. br__k of war *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
87. wa_____ss at a restaurant *n.* a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe
88. la_____a noodles *n.* a type of dish consisting of layers of pasta, cheese, meat, or vegetables, typically topped with tomato sauce and baked in an oven; a traditional staple of Italian cuisine
89. price sk_____eted *v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
90. take a n_p *n.* a short sleep, especially during the day
91. vegetable ca_____le *n.* a dish made by cooking food, typically meat, vegetables, and a starch, such as potatoes or pasta, in a deep dish either in the oven or on the stovetop; the dish itself that is used for cooking and serving the dish
92. tha_____ing traditions *n.* an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year

ANSWERS: 83. swoop, 84. wobble, 85. centerpiece, 86. brink, 87. waitress, 88. lasagna, 89. skyrocket, 90. nap, 91. casserole, 92. thanksgiving

93. wooden rol_____ter *n.* a type of amusement ride that goes up and down very steep slopes and around very sudden bends on which people ride in small and open carriages
94. ove_____owed by controversy *v.* to cast a shadow over; to dominate or surpass in importance; to make someone or something seemingly insignificant or less important by comparison
95. golf fo_____me *n.* a group of four people or things, particularly used to refer to a group of four individuals playing a game or sport together, such as in golf or tennis doubles
96. appeared on_____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
97. rookie lin_____er *n.* a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team
98. tip the wa_____ss *n.* a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe
99. w_d the rich man *v.* to marry someone
100. a sl__k rope *adj.* lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude

ANSWERS: 93. rollercoaster, 94. overshadow, 95. foursome, 96. onstage, 97. linebacker, 98. waitress, 99. wed, 100. slack

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He performed his magic trick _____ leaving the audience in awe.
adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
2. She woke the kids up from their _____.
n. a short sleep, especially during the day
3. The car _____ into the wall, causing significant damage.
v. to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
4. His writing activities are the _____ of his life.
n. the most important or attractive part of something; something placed at the center of something, as on a table
5. The _____ on the construction site is responsible for overseeing the workers and ensuring that the project is completed on time.
n. a person in charge of a group of workers, typically in a factory, construction site, or other industrial settings; a juror who presides over jury deliberations and speaks for the group in court
6. She _____ the loss of her parents.
v. to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
7. The chef expertly _____ the sauce onto the plate.
v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern
8. The rising young star's talent _____ the rest of the cast.
v. to cast a shadow over; to dominate or surpass in importance; to make someone or something seemingly insignificant or less important by comparison

ANSWERS: 1. onstage, 2. nap, 3. rammed, 4. centerpiece, 5. foreman, 6. grieved, 7. swirled, 8. overshadowed

9. I could no longer earn my own _____.
- n.* a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
10. The chairperson was responsible for _____ committees.
- v.* to order someone to come to or be present at a specific place such as a court, or to arrange a meeting formally
11. I made a _____ sandwich for lunch today.
- n.* a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals
12. Production has decreased, but costs and unemployment have _____ dramatically.
- v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
13. After you register, you will receive an email with a coupon shortly in your _____.
- n.* an electronic folder on a computer or phone where new emails, text messages, etc., that are sent to you are kept
14. The couple will _____ after the tenth anniversary.
- v.* to marry someone
15. We finally divorced after experiencing a _____ marriage.
- n.* a type of amusement ride that goes up and down very steep slopes and around very sudden bends on which people ride in small and open carriages
16. The magician's disappearing act left the audience in _____.
- n.* a state of great surprise or wonder caused by something extraordinary or unexpected

ANSWERS: 9. livelihood, 10. summoning, 11. tuna, 12. skyrocketed, 13. inbox, 14. wed, 15. rollercoaster, 16. amazement

17. She _____ her hair absentmindedly as she listened to the conversation.
- v.* to rotate rapidly around a central point; to spin or whirl around in a circular or spiral motion
18. The talented _____ performed a stunning acrobatic routine at the circus.
- n.* a group of four people or things, particularly used to refer to a group of four individuals playing a game or sport together, such as in golf or tennis doubles
19. The _____ of the rainy weather was beginning to affect her mood.
- n.* a state of darkness, sadness, or melancholy; a feeling of depression or lack of hope; a state of obscurity or uncertainty
20. The team's defensive strategy relied heavily on their _____ ability to read the opposing team's offense.
- n.* a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team
21. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.
- n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
22. The friendly _____ brought the food to the table and asked if they needed anything else.
- n.* a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe
23. I always order spinach _____ at my favorite Italian restaurant.
- n.* a type of dish consisting of layers of pasta, cheese, meat, or vegetables, typically topped with tomato sauce and baked in an oven; a traditional staple of Italian cuisine

ANSWERS: 17. twirled, 18. foursome, 19. gloom, 20. linebacker's, 21. heartbreak, 22. waitress, 23. lasagna

24. He led a _____ life.

adj. not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

25. Melanoma in _____ is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.

adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

26. The tree provided some _____ relief from the scorching sun.

adj. characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight

27. She baked a batch of chocolate chip _____ for the office party.

n. a small square or rectangular piece of chocolate cake, typically with nuts or chocolate chips; (brownie point) a figurative reward or recognition for doing something good or helpful

28. I love to watch _____ when I need a good laugh.

n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format

29. She savored the _____ happiness she felt during the vacation.

adj. brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

30. In the summer, fields are filled with yellow _____ flowers.

n. a common weed with a bright yellow flower and deeply notched leaves that is often seen growing in lawns and other grassy areas; its leaves can be eaten as a salad green, and its roots are sometimes used in herbal medicine

ANSWERS: 24. sober, 25. situ, 26. shady, 27. brownies, 28. sitcoms, 29. fleeting, 30. dandelion

31. The eagle _____ down from the sky to catch its prey.

- v.* to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon

32. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

33. The lemon _____ at the bakery was simply divine.

- n.* a small pastry with a sweet or savory filling, typically with a shortcrust pastry base; a woman who is perceived to be sexually promiscuous; (adjective) sharp, tangy, or acidic in taste

34. Everyone was aware of the impending _____ but was unable to prevent it.

- n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

35. He worked at the _____ as a baker.

- n.* a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold

36. The news of her promotion _____ her.

- v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

37. The table _____ a little when I put my drink on it.

- v.* to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down

38. The _____ must have an acidity level high enough to inhibit the growth of bacteria.

- n.* vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation

ANSWERS: 31. swooped, 32. opportune, 33. tart, 34. doom, 35. bakery, 36. excited, 37. wobbled, 38. pickle

39. 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
40. The _____ of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.
n. a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
41. The team's _____ attitude towards deadlines caused the project to fall behind schedule.
adj. lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude
42. My family gathers together every year for _____ dinner.
n. an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year
43. The brakes on the car began to _____ as the driver suddenly stopped at the intersection.
v. to make a loud, high-pitched, piercing sound, often indicating pain or fear
44. She read her _____ every morning to see what the day had in store for her.
n. a forecast of a person's future, typically based on a chart or diagram representing the positions of the sun, moon, planets, etc
45. I _____ the shirt in the sink before washing it.
v. to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money

ANSWERS: 39. mango, 40. crunch, 41. slack, 42. thanksgiving, 43. screech, 44. horoscope, 45. soaked

46. The chef _____ the chicken to perfection in the oven.

v. to cook food by surrounding it with hot, dry air, especially in an oven

47. The tiny marine _____ has existed for more than 500 million years.

n. a soft material with many microscopic pores that can absorb a large amount of liquid and is used for washing and cleaning

48. We were on the _____ of a financial crisis.

n. the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

49. The dragon's _____ roar echoed through the valley.

adj. causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable

50. I will bring a _____ dish to the potluck dinner.

n. a dish made by cooking food, typically meat, vegetables, and a starch, such as potatoes or pasta, in a deep dish either in the oven or on the stovetop; the dish itself that is used for cooking and serving the dish

ANSWERS: 46. roasted, 47. sponge, 48. brink, 49. fearsome, 50. casserole