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Malcolm Gladwell: The strange tale of the Norden bombsight | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

mustache

n. an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip

synonym : whisker

(1) a gray **mustache**, (2) big **mustache**

The actor's **mustache** has become an icon.

domineer

v. to assert one's authority or control over others in an arrogant or overbearing manner; to tyrannize or exercise undue influence over others; to impose one's will forcefully and oppressively

synonym : dominate, control, bully

(1) **domineer** through fear, (2) **domineer** in a situation

He tends to **domineer** over his subordinates, making it difficult for them to express their ideas.

narcissist

n. a person who is excessively self-absorbed, especially regarding their appearance or achievements

synonym : egotist, boaster, braggart

(1) relationship with a **narcissist**, (2) somatic **narcissist**

He thinks she is a high **narcissist** because she always talks about herself and her accomplishments.

suntan

n. a darkening of the skin due to exposure to the sun, often as a result of deliberate sunbathing or outdoor activities

with prolonged exposure to bright sunlight

synonym: sunburn, bronze, skin color

(1) deep **suntan**, (2) **suntan** bed

I spent the day at the beach and got a beautiful **suntan**.

emigrate

v. to leave one's country or region to settle in another

synonym: migrate, relocate, move

(1) **emigrate** to a new country, (2) **emigrate** for better opportunities

Many people **emigrated** from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.

obsess

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

synonym: torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

impediment

n. a hindrance or obstruction in doing something

synonym: obstacle, hindrance, barrier

(1) have a speech **impediment**, (2) biological **impediment**

The language barrier was an **impediment** to their communication.

gadget

n. a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job

synonym: appliance, gimmick, device

(1) a handy **gadget**, (2) time-saving **gadget**

I found the kitchen **gadget** that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.

bombardier

n. a person who operates the bombsights and releases bombs from a bomber aircraft

synonym: airman, air-force, bomber

(1) **bombardier** aircraft, (2) **bombardier** role

The enemy's **bombardier** dropped the bombs on the target.

plexiglas

n. a transparent plastic material that is often used as a substitute for glass in various applications, such as airplane windows and aquariums

synonym : acrylic, lucite, perspex

(1) **plexiglas** partition, (2) **plexiglas** window

The **plexiglass** shield protected the workers from flying debris.

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.

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.

manna

n. a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit

synonym : sustenance, nourishment

(1) **manna** from heaven, (2) **manna** in the desert

In the desert, the travelers survived by eating **manna**, a miraculous food on the ground.

trench

n. a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

synonym : aqueduct, ditch, channel

(1) deep-sea **trench**, (2) **trench** excavator

A **trench** was being dug alongside the road by workers.

pinpoint

v. to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

synonym : name, direct, identify

(1) **pinpoint** the problem, (2) **pinpoint** signs of manipulation

This radar quickly **pinpoints** the position of the enemy.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym : Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

divulge

v. to reveal or make known something that was previously secret or confidential; to disclose information that was previously concealed or hidden

synonym : reveal, disclose, expose

(1) **divulge** whereabouts, (2) **divulge** information

He promised not to **divulge** confidential information to anyone.

shroud

n. a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically

synonym : cover, veil, cloak

(1) **shroud** of mystery, (2) **shroud** of suspicion

The protective **shroud** covered the body in the coffin at the funeral.

handcuff

n. a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process

synonym : shackle, bind, restraint

(1) **handcuff** his wrists, (2) break free from **handcuffs**

The police officer put **handcuffs** on the suspect before

placing them in the squad car.

incendiary

adj. intended to cause fires, arson, or combustible materials;
capable of causing a fire

synonym : flaming, explosive, blazing

(1) **incendiary** bombs, (2) **incendiary** speech

The arsonist used an **incendiary** device to start the fire.

grail

n. a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable

synonym : chalice, treasure, quest

(1) holy **grail**, (2) ultimate **grail**

The search for the **grail** is often used as a metaphor for any difficult quest or task.

secondly

adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.

synonym : in the second place, next, subsequently

(1) **secondly** connected, (2) **secondly**, it is important

Firstly, we will discuss the budget; **secondly**, we will go over the schedule.

gyroscope

n. a device consisting of a spinning wheel or disk mounted in such a way that it can rotate freely in any direction, used to maintain balance, stability, or orientation in navigation, aerospace, or other systems

synonym : gyro, stabilizer, compass

(1) **gyroscope** sensor, (2) inertial navigation **gyroscope**

The **gyroscope** in the spacecraft helps to stabilize its orientation during the mission.

pulley

n. a wheel or set of wheels with a grooved rim around which a cord or rope runs, used to change the direction or point of application of a force, especially to lift heavy objects

synonym : block and tackle, hoist, lift

(1) **pulley** system, (2) movable **pulley**

The construction worker used a fixed **pulley** to lift the heavy equipment to the top floor.

dud *n.* any product, project, or person that doesn't perform or live up to expectations; a rejected or useless item, especially an explosive device that fails to detonate
synonym: failure, flop, duff
(1) **dud** grenade, (2) **dud** investment
The new product turned out to be a **dud** and could have sold better in the market.

precaution *n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
synonym: safeguard, measure, provision
(1) airborne **precaution**, (2) take extra **precautions**
As a **precaution**, the company locked all of its doors after a threat was made.

enamored *adj.* deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
synonym: captivated, smitten, in love
(1) **enamored** of the idea, (2) **enamored** of bygone days
He had been **enamored** with her since the first time he saw her.

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.

pentagon *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military

synonym : five-sided shape, quinquangle

(1) equilateral **pentagon**, (2) **pentagon** building

The shape of the building is a distinctive five-sided **pentagon**.

squadron

n. a military unit consisting of a headquarters and several units or subunits, typically composed of two or more flights of aircraft

synonym : flight, air wing, air group

(1) **squadron** leader, (2) bomber **squadron**

The combined **squadron** was responsible for protecting the airspace of the country.

fir

n. a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches

synonym : pine, spruce, cedar

(1) **fir** branch, (2) **fir** forest

The smell of fresh **fir** trees filled the air at the Christmas tree farm.

scourge

n. a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely

synonym : plague, disaster, curse

(1) **scourge** of AIDS, (2) bring a **scourge** under control

The plague was a **scourge** that killed millions of people.

brilliantly

adv. in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively

synonym : brightly, radiantly, excellently

(1) **brilliantly** executed, (2) **brilliantly** lit

He played the piano **brilliantly** at the concert.

drone

n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

synonym : hum, whirr, idler

(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**

He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.

grandchild

n. a child of someone's son or daughter

synonym : offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

militant

n. willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal

synonym : combative, aggressive, bellicose

(1) **militant** nations, (2) a **militant** reformer

The **militant** group launched a series of attacks on government buildings.

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym : slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

infatuate

v. to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something

synonym : beguile, captivate, charm

(1) **infatuate** the audience, (2) make me **infatuated**

He has been **infatuated** with her since he met her.

postscript

n. (also denoted as "P.S. ") an additional remark or note added at the end of a letter or other document after the

main body has been completed; something that is added as an afterthought or supplemental information

synonym : P.S., addendum, afterword

(1) **postscript** message, (2) short **postscript**

I wrote a **postscript** at the bottom of the invitation, informing guests to bring their drinks.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. bom_____er aircraft | <i>n.</i> a person who operates the bombsights and releases bombs from a bomber aircraft |
| 2. deep su____n | <i>n.</i> a darkening of the skin due to exposure to the sun, often as a result of deliberate sunbathing or outdoor activities with prolonged exposure to bright sunlight |
| 3. airborne pre_____on | <i>n.</i> a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness |
| 4. gy_____pe sensor | <i>n.</i> a device consisting of a spinning wheel or disk mounted in such a way that it can rotate freely in any direction, used to maintain balance, stability, or orientation in navigation, aerospace, or other systems |
| 5. a mi_____nt reformer | <i>n.</i> willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal |
| 6. somatic nar_____st | <i>n.</i> a person who is excessively self-absorbed, especially regarding their appearance or achievements |
| 7. holy gr__l | <i>n.</i> a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable |
| 8. di_____e information | <i>v.</i> to reveal or make known something that was previously secret or confidential; to disclose information that was previously concealed or hidden |

ANSWERS: 1. bombardier, 2. suntan, 3. precaution, 4. gyroscope, 5. militant, 6. narcissist, 7. grail, 8. divulge

9. sh___d of suspicion *n.* a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically
10. ob___s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
11. sc_____e of AIDS *n.* a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely
12. f_r forest *n.* a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches
13. ma__a in the desert *n.* a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit
14. do_____er in a situation *v.* to assert one's authority or control over others in an arrogant or overbearing manner; to tyrannize or exercise undue influence over others; to impose one's will forcefully and oppressively
15. en_____ed of the idea *adj.* deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
16. improve hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much

ANSWERS: 9. shroud, 10. obsess, 11. scourge, 12. fir, 13. manna, 14. domineer, 15. enamored, 16. hundredfold

17. big mu____he *n.* an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip
18. inc____ry bombs *adj.* intended to cause fires, arson, or combustible materials; capable of causing a fire
19. pl____as window *n.* a transparent plastic material that is often used as a substitute for glass in various applications, such as airplane windows and aquariums
20. pe____on building *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
21. inc____ry speech *adj.* intended to cause fires, arson, or combustible materials; capable of causing a fire
22. pu____y system *n.* a wheel or set of wheels with a grooved rim around which a cord or rope runs, used to change the direction or point of application of a force, especially to lift heavy objects
23. tr____h excavator *n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water
24. su____n bed *n.* a darkening of the skin due to exposure to the sun, often as a result of deliberate sunbathing or outdoor activities with prolonged exposure to bright sunlight

ANSWERS: 17. mustache, 18. incendiary, 19. plexiglas, 20. pentagon, 21. incendiary, 22. pulley, 23. trench, 24. suntan

25. make me in_____ted *v.* to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something
26. se_____ly, it is important *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
27. mi_____nt nations *n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
28. the speaker's dr__e *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
29. pos_____pt message *n.* (also denoted as "P.S. ") an additional remark or note added at the end of a letter or other document after the main body has been completed; something that is added as an afterthought or supplemental information
30. equilateral pe_____on *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
31. time-saving ga____t *n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
32. he is ob____sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
33. movable pu____y *n.* a wheel or set of wheels with a grooved rim around which a cord or rope runs, used to change the direction or point of application of a force, especially to lift heavy objects

ANSWERS: 25. infatuate, 26. secondly, 27. militant, 28. drone, 29. postscript, 30. pentagon, 31. gadget, 32. obsess, 33. pulley

34. em____te for better opportunities *v.* to leave one's country or region to settle in another
35. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
36. gra_____ld development *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
37. relationship with a nar_____st *n.* a person who is excessively self-absorbed, especially regarding their appearance or achievements
38. break free from ha_____ffs *n.* a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process
39. d_d investment *n.* any product, project, or person that doesn't perform or live up to expectations; a rejected or useless item, especially an explosive device that fails to detonate
40. a gray mu_____he *n.* an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip
41. en_____ed of bygone days *adj.* deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
42. bri_____ly lit *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
43. do_____er through fear *v.* to assert one's authority or control over others in an arrogant or overbearing manner; to tyrannize or exercise undue influence over others; to impose one's will forcefully and oppressively

ANSWERS: 34. emigrate, 35. excite, 36. grandchild, 37. narcissist, 38. handcuff, 39. dud, 40. mustache, 41. enamored, 42. brilliantly, 43. domineer

44. inertial navigation gy_____pe *n.* a device consisting of a spinning wheel or disk mounted in such a way that it can rotate freely in any direction, used to maintain balance, stability, or orientation in navigation, aerospace, or other systems
45. biological imp_____nt *n.* a hindrance or obstruction in doing something
46. em_____te to a new country *v.* to leave one's country or region to settle in another
47. a handy ga____t *n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
48. before Ch____t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
49. di_____e whereabouts *v.* to reveal or make known something that was previously secret or confidential; to disclose information that was previously concealed or hidden
50. dr__e flight *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
51. bomber sq_____on *n.* a military unit consisting of a headquarters and several units or subunits, typically composed of two or more flights of aircraft
52. have a speech imp_____nt *n.* a hindrance or obstruction in doing something

ANSWERS: 44. gyroscope, 45. impediment, 46. emigrate, 47. gadget, 48. Christ, 49. divulge, 50. drone, 51. squadron, 52. impediment

53. bri_____ly executed *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
54. short pos_____pt *n.* (also denoted as "P.S. ") an additional remark or note added at the end of a letter or other document after the main body has been completed; something that is added as an afterthought or supplemental information
55. company mo__o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
56. 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
57. pl_____as partition *n.* a transparent plastic material that is often used as a substitute for glass in various applications, such as airplane windows and aquariums
58. pi_____nt the problem *v.* to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
59. bring a sc_____e under control *n.* a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely
60. ha_____ff his wrists *n.* a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process

ANSWERS: 53. brilliantly, 54. postscript, 55. motto, 56. germ, 57. plexiglas, 58. pinpoint, 59. scourge, 60. handcuff

61. in_____te the audience *v.* to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something
62. sh____d of mystery *n.* a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically
63. ultimate gr__l *n.* a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable
64. 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
65. deep-sea tr____h *n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water
66. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
67. ex____e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
68. d_d grenade *n.* any product, project, or person that doesn't perform or live up to expectations; a rejected or useless item, especially an explosive device that fails to detonate
69. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

ANSWERS: 61. infatuate, 62. shroud, 63. grail, 64. pickle, 65. trench, 66. grandchild, 67. excite, 68. dud, 69. motto

70. rise nearly hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
71. teaching of Ch___t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
72. 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
73. f_r branch *n.* a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches
74. take extra pre_____ons *n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
75. 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
76. bom_____er role *n.* a person who operates the bombsights and releases bombs from a bomber aircraft
77. ma__a from heaven *n.* a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit

ANSWERS: 70. hundredfold, 71. Christ, 72. germ, 73. fir, 74. precaution, 75. pickle, 76. bombardier, 77. manna

78. se____ly connected *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
79. sq____on leader *n.* a military unit consisting of a headquarters and several units or subunits, typically composed of two or more flights of aircraft
80. pi____nt signs of manipulation *v.* to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

ANSWERS: 78. secondly, 79. squadron, 80. pinpoint

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Firstly, we will discuss the budget; _____ we will go over the schedule.
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
2. The smell of fresh ____ trees filled the air at the Christmas tree farm.
n. a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches
3. He tends to _____ over his subordinates, making it difficult for them to express their ideas.
v. to assert one's authority or control over others in an arrogant or overbearing manner; to tyrannize or exercise undue influence over others; to impose one's will forcefully and oppressively
4. He promised not to _____ confidential information to anyone.
v. to reveal or make known something that was previously secret or confidential; to disclose information that was previously concealed or hidden
5. He had been _____ with her since the first time he saw her.
adj. deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
6. 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
7. In the desert, the travelers survived by eating _____ a miraculous food on the ground.
n. a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit

ANSWERS: 1. secondly, 2. fir, 3. domineer, 4. divulge, 5. enamored, 6. germ, 7. manna,

8. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.
- v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
9. The news of her promotion _____ her.
- v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
10. The search for the _____ is often used as a metaphor for any difficult quest or task.
- n. a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable
11. He heard a _____ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
- n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
12. The _____ shield protected the workers from flying debris.
- n. a transparent plastic material that is often used as a substitute for glass in various applications, such as airplane windows and aquariums
13. The language barrier was an _____ to their communication.
- n. a hindrance or obstruction in doing something
14. He has been _____ with her since he met her.
- v. to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something
15. The police officer put _____ on the suspect before placing them in the squad car.
- n. a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process

ANSWERS: 8. obsessed, 9. excited, 10. grail, 11. drone, 12. plexiglass, 13. impediment, 14. infatuated, 15. handcuffs

16. I wrote a _____ at the bottom of the invitation, informing guests to bring their drinks.
- n.* (also denoted as "P.S. ") an additional remark or note added at the end of a letter or other document after the main body has been completed; something that is added as an afterthought or supplemental information
17. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.
- n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
18. I found the kitchen _____ that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.
- n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
19. The arsonist used an _____ device to start the fire.
- adj.* intended to cause fires, arson, or combustible materials; capable of causing a fire
20. He played the piano _____ at the concert.
- adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
21. 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
22. He thinks she is a high _____ because she always talks about herself and her accomplishments.
- n.* a person who is excessively self-absorbed, especially regarding their appearance or achievements

ANSWERS: 16. postscript, 17. Christmas, 18. gadget, 19. incendiary, 20. brilliantly, 21. pickle, 22. narcissist

23. The protective _____ covered the body in the coffin at the funeral.
- n.* a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically
24. As a _____ the company locked all of its doors after a threat was made.
- n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
25. Many people _____ from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.
- v.* to leave one's country or region to settle in another
26. The combined _____ was responsible for protecting the airspace of the country.
- n.* a military unit consisting of a headquarters and several units or subunits, typically composed of two or more flights of aircraft
27. The shape of the building is a distinctive five-sided _____.
- n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
28. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
- n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
29. The _____ in the spacecraft helps to stabilize its orientation during the mission.
- n.* a device consisting of a spinning wheel or disk mounted in such a way that it can rotate freely in any direction, used to maintain balance, stability, or orientation in navigation, aerospace, or other systems

ANSWERS: 23. shroud, 24. precaution, 25. emigrated, 26. squadron, 27. pentagon, 28. motto, 29. gyroscope

30. The plague was a _____ that killed millions of people.
n. a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely
31. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.
adj. a hundred times as great or as much
32. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
n. a child of someone's son or daughter
33. The construction worker used a fixed _____ to lift the heavy equipment to the top floor.
n. a wheel or set of wheels with a grooved rim around which a cord or rope runs, used to change the direction or point of application of a force, especially to lift heavy objects
34. The _____ group launched a series of attacks on government buildings.
n. willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
35. The new product turned out to be a ____ and could have sold better in the market.
n. any product, project, or person that doesn't perform or live up to expectations; a rejected or useless item, especially an explosive device that fails to detonate
36. The actor's _____ has become an icon.
n. an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip
37. This radar quickly _____ the position of the enemy.
v. to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

ANSWERS: 30. scourge, 31. hundredfold, 32. grandchild, 33. pulley, 34. militant, 35. dud, 36. mustache, 37. pinpoints

38. I spent the day at the beach and got a beautiful _____.

- n.* a darkening of the skin due to exposure to the sun, often as a result of deliberate sunbathing or outdoor activities with prolonged exposure to bright sunlight

39. A _____ was being dug alongside the road by workers.

- n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

40. The enemy's _____ dropped the bombs on the target.

- n.* a person who operates the bombsights and releases bombs from a bomber aircraft

ANSWERS: 38. suntan, 39. trench, 40. bombardier