

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Rory Stewart: Time to end the war in Afghanistan |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

invade

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

synonym : intrude, raid, overrun

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

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

troop

n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

synonym : group, unit, band

(1) the members of a military **troop**, (2) a **troop** of deer

The **troop** of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.

rediscover

v. to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost

synonym : recover, get back, revive

(1) **rediscover** a value, (2) **rediscover** an old truth

The painting was **rediscovered** in an attic and turned out to be a long-lost masterpiece.

hubris

n. excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin

synonym : arrogance, conceit, pride

(1) political **hubris**, (2) **hubris** in business

The athlete's **hubris** resulted in him underestimating his competition and losing the game.

overconfidence

n. excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior

synonym : overestimation, hubris, arrogance

(1) **overconfidence** bias, (2) false **overconfidence**

The student's **overconfidence** in their writing abilities caused them not to bother to proofread their essay, resulting in a poor grades.

plunge

v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall

synonym : dive, drop, thrust

(1) **plunge** into the water, (2) **plunge** a dagger through his heart

The company's profits **plunged** after the recall of their new product.

humiliate

v. to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information

synonym : shame, embarrass, degrade

(1) **humiliate** him publicly, (2) **humiliate** the heckler in the audience

The boss **humiliated** her employee by belittling her in front of her colleagues.

footprint

n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

synonym : footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

reassure

v. to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence

synonym : comfort, soothe, bolster

(1) **reassure** anxious patients, (2) **reassure** market

The pilot tried to **reassure** the customers that the planes were safe.

seize

v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

synonym : grab, grasp, capture

(1) **seize** a person's property, (2) **seize** the day

He has the superpower to **seize** a business opportunity.

drown

v. to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater

synonym : douse, drench, overwhelm

(1) **drown** in a bath, (2) I was **drowned** in work

Floods have the potential to **drown** any subsurface animals easily.

micromanagement

n. a style of management characterized by excessive attention to detail and control, often resulting in inefficient or demotivating work environments

synonym : control-freak management, nit-picking, excessive supervision

(1) **micromanagement** approach, (2) **micromanagement** techniques

His manager's **micromanagement** style drove him crazy, making him feel like he couldn't make any decisions on his own.

foreigner

n. a person who is not a citizen or national of the country they are in; someone from a different country, culture, or origin

synonym : outsider, alien, immigrant

(1) **foreigner** visa, (2) unknown **foreigner**

She faced some challenges as a **foreigner** in the business world but was soon respected for her expertise.

mullah

n. an Islamic religious leader or teacher

synonym: cleric, priest, imam

(1) the wife of a **mullah**, (2) **mullah** leader

The **mullahs** in the country have been accused of using their religious authority to justify acts of terrorism.

perplexity

n. confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled

synonym: confusion, bewilderment, uncertainty

(1) a **perplexity** issue, (2) resolve **perplexity**

The **perplexity** of the situation left everyone at a loss for words.

frightening

adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

synonym: scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience

The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

nadir

n. the lowest point, the point of greatest despair or decline, often used metaphorically

synonym: bottom, lowest point, rock bottom

(1) political **nadir**, (2) **nadir** altitude

After the controversial policy was implemented, the country's reputation hit a new **nadir**.

insurgent

adj. rising against established authority or government; characterized by rebellion, dissent, or insurgency

synonym: subversive, rebellious, mutinous

(1) **insurgent** attack, (2) **insurgent** group

The government forces fought brutally against the **insurgent** rebels in the remote region.

fluent

adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

synonym : eloquent, articulate, smooth-spoken

(1) **fluent** Chinese, (2) in a **fluent** tone

She learned five languages but is only **fluent** in two of them.

insurgence

n. an act of rebelling or rising against authority or established order; a revolt or rebellion

synonym : revolt, uprising, rebellion

(1) violent **insurgence**, (2) quell **insurgence**

The government's decision sparked an **insurgence** among the citizens.

litany

n. a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests

(1) **litany** of prayers, (2) **litany** of excuses

The **litany** of complaints from unhappy customers reminded us that we needed to improve our service.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym : surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

optimism

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

synonym : positiveness, sanguinity, bullishness

(1) sense of **optimism**, (2) political **optimism**

There is considerable **optimism** that the economy will recover soon.

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.

dismal

adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair

synonym : gloomy, depressing, dreary

(1) **dismal** failure, (2) **dismal** performance

The weather was so **dismal** that we decided to stay indoors all day.

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.

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.

disinclined

adj. lacking enthusiasm or a willingness to do something; having a lack of desire or inclination towards a particular action or behavior; not feeling disposed or eager to undertake something

synonym : reluctant, unwilling, hesitant

(1) **disinclined** to help, (2) **disinclined** to socialize

Due to her heavy workload, she was **disinclined** to participate in the group project.

exaggerate

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

synonym : overstate, overestimate, amplify

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

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

terrify

v. to frighten someone very much

synonym : unnerve, scare, horrify

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

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

policymaker

n. a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

synonym : lawmaker, legislator

(1) education **policymaker**, (2) regional **policymaker**

Policymakers struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.

diplomat

n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

synonym : envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**

The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

armored

adj. protected by armor or reinforced with metal plates or other heavy materials

synonym : fortified, protected, shielded

(1) **armored** vehicle, (2) **armored** suit

The **armored** tank could withstand the enemy's attacks without any damage.

sect

n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

synonym : group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

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.

alacrity

n. cheerful readiness or willingness to do something; eagerness or promptness in responding to a request or opportunity

synonym : eagerness, readiness, willingness

(1) with remarkable **alacrity**, (2) perform with **alacrity**

The new employee showed great **alacrity** in completing tasks and impressing her boss.

humility

n. the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

synonym : humbleness, modesty, unpretentiousness

(1) develop an attitude of **humility**, (2) lack of **humility**

We were filled with **humility** at the sight of the Queen.

legitimacy

n. the state or quality of being allowed and acceptable under the law; the state or quality of being founded on a reasonable or acceptable reason

synonym : legality, lawfulness, authenticity

(1) democratic **legitimacy**, (2) challenge the **legitimacy**

I'm going to deny the **legitimacy** of his claim.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym : spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

synchronize

v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

synonym: coordinate, accompany, harmonize

(1) **synchronize** movements, (2) **synchronize** our watches

The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly **synchronized**.

sub-Saharan

adj. of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

(1) **sub-Saharan** Africa, (2) **sub-Saharan** countries

The coffee producers in **sub-Saharan** countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.

blizzard

n. a severe snowstorm that is accompanied by strong winds and low temperatures, often leading to very limited visibility and dangerous travel conditions

synonym: snowstorm, whiteout, bluster

(1) **blizzard** warning, (2) heavy **blizzard**

The city declared a snow emergency and warned residents to stay off the streets during the **blizzard**.

avalanche

n. a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances

synonym: snowslide, snowfall, downfall

(1) **avalanche** warning, (2) an **avalanche** of questions

The skiers narrowly escaped the **avalanche** by taking shelter behind a nearby rock.

relentless

adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks

synonym: unyielding, tireless, unremitting

(1) **relentless** attack, (2) face **relentless** pressure

The athlete's **relentless** training paid off in the end.

firefighter

n. a person whose job is to extinguish fires

(1) forest **firefighter**, (2) decided to be a **firefighter**

The **firefighter** broke into the house bravely to rescue the children.

inconceivable

adj. hard to imagine or believe

synonym: unimaginable, impossible, unthinkable

(1) **inconceivable** pain, (2) **inconceivable** ideas

It would be **inconceivable** for him to alter his behavior.

slogan

n. a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

synonym: catchphrase, tagline, motto

(1) catchy **slogan**, (2) advertising **slogan**

The company spent months researching and testing different brand **slogans** before finally settling on 'Just Do It' as their new tagline.

pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

synonym: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

tempt

v. to make someone want to do or have something, especially something that is unnecessary or wrong

synonym: entice, lure, attract

(1) **tempt** young people, (2) **tempt** the taste buds

Though he was evil, he never **tempted** his friends into wrongdoing.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pl___e into the water
v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
2. make ast_____ng gains
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
3. forest fir_____er
n. a person whose job is to extinguish fires
4. violent ins_____ce
n. an act of rebelling or rising against authority or established order; a revolt or rebellion
5. with remarkable al_____ty
n. cheerful readiness or willingness to do something; eagerness or promptness in responding to a request or opportunity
6. imp_____ion on stage
n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
7. se__e a person's property
v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
8. cast fri_____ng eyes
adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
9. se_____ly, it is important
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
10. 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

ANSWERS: 1. plunge, 2. astonishing, 3. firefighter, 4. insurgence, 5. alacrity, 6. improvisation, 7. seize, 8. frightening, 9. secondly, 10. germ

11. li___y of excuses *n.* a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests
12. in_____t estate *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
13. the threats te_____y him *v.* to frighten someone very much
14. the wife of a mu___h *n.* an Islamic religious leader or teacher
15. fo_____nts in the snow *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
16. fri_____ng experience *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
17. decided to be a fir_____er *n.* a person whose job is to extinguish fires
18. challenge the leg_____cy *n.* the state or quality of being allowed and acceptable under the law; the state or quality of being founded on a reasonable or acceptable reason
19. se__e the day *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
20. s__t beliefs *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
21. catchy sl___n *n.* a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

ANSWERS: 11. litany, 12. inherit, 13. terrify, 14. mullah, 15. footprint, 16. frightening, 17. firefighter, 18. legitimacy, 19. seize, 20. sect, 21. slogan

22. develop an attitude of hu____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
23. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
24. red_____er a value *v.* to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost
25. inc_____ble pain *adj.* hard to imagine or believe
26. red_____er an old truth *v.* to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost
27. rel_____ss attack *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
28. ove_____nce bias *n.* excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior
29. exa_____te story *v.* to describe or represent something as better or worse than it is
30. dr__n in a bath *v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
31. heavy bl_____rd *n.* a severe snowstorm that is accompanied by strong winds and low temperatures, often leading to very limited visibility and dangerous travel conditions
32. education pol_____er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

ANSWERS: 22. humility, 23. improvisation, 24. rediscover, 25. inconceivable, 26. rediscover, 27. relentless, 28. overconfidence, 29. exaggerate, 30. drown, 31. blizzard, 32. policymaker

33. allied di____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
34. na__r altitude *n.* the lowest point, the point of greatest despair or decline, often used metaphorically
35. te__t young people *v.* to make someone want to do or have something, especially something that is unnecessary or wrong
36. financial cr____h *n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
37. di____l performance *adj.* depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
38. syn_____ze movements *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
39. ar_____d vehicle *adj.* protected by armor or reinforced with metal plates or other heavy materials
40. in____e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
41. a gas cr____h *n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
42. political na__r *n.* the lowest point, the point of greatest despair or decline, often used metaphorically

ANSWERS: 33. diplomat, 34. nadir, 35. tempt, 36. crunch, 37. dismal, 38. synchronize, 39. armored, 40. invade, 41. crunch, 42. nadir

43. exa_____te in degree *v.* to describe or represent something as better or worse than it is
44. fl____t Chinese *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
45. lack of hu_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
46. hu_____te him publicly *v.* to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information
47. fo_____er visa *n.* a person who is not a citizen or national of the country they are in; someone from a different country, culture, or origin
48. ar_____d suit *adj.* protected by armor or reinforced with metal plates or other heavy materials
49. advertising sl____n *n.* a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea
50. di____l failure *adj.* depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
51. a tr__p of deer *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
52. in a fl____t tone *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

ANSWERS: 43. exaggerate, 44. fluent, 45. humility, 46. humiliate, 47. foreigner, 48. armored, 49. slogan, 50. dismal, 51. troop, 52. fluent

53. political op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
54. the members of a military tr__p *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
55. li___y of prayers *n.* a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests
56. a per_____ty issue *n.* confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled
57. baseless pre_____on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
58. false ove_____nce *n.* excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior
59. re_____re market *v.* to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
60. re_____re anxious patients *v.* to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
61. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
62. te_____y people *v.* to frighten someone very much

ANSWERS: 53. optimism, 54. troop, 55. litany, 56. perplexity, 57. pretension, 58. overconfidence, 59. reassure, 60. reassure, 61. astonishing, 62. terrify

63. mic_____ent approach *n.* a style of management characterized by excessive attention to detail and control, often resulting in inefficient or demotivating work environments
64. face rel_____ss pressure *adj.* persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks
65. se_____ly connected *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
66. regional pol_____er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
67. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
68. pl___e a dagger through his heart *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
69. secret s__t *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
70. sub_____an Africa *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
71. I was dr__ned in work *v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
72. an av_____he of questions *n.* a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances

ANSWERS: 63. micromanagement, 64. relentless, 65. secondly, 66. policymaker, 67. footprint, 68. plunge, 69. sect, 70. sub-Saharan, 71. drown, 72. avalanche

73. mic_____ent techniques *n.* a style of management characterized by excessive attention to detail and control, often resulting in inefficient or demotivating work environments
74. bl_____rd warning *n.* a severe snowstorm that is accompanied by strong winds and low temperatures, often leading to very limited visibility and dangerous travel conditions
75. mu____h leader *n.* an Islamic religious leader or teacher
76. syn_____ze our watches *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
77. inc_____ble ideas *adj.* hard to imagine or believe
78. dis_____ed to socialize *adj.* lacking enthusiasm or a willingness to do something; having a lack of desire or inclination towards a particular action or behavior; not feeling disposed or eager to undertake something
79. resolve per_____ty *n.* confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled
80. unknown fo_____er *n.* a person who is not a citizen or national of the country they are in; someone from a different country, culture, or origin
81. in____e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
82. expel a di_____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

ANSWERS: 73. micromanagement, 74. blizzard, 75. mullah, 76. synchronize, 77. inconceivable, 78. disinclined, 79. perplexity, 80. foreigner, 81. invade, 82. diplomat

83. in_____t ancestral property *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
84. quell ins_____ce *n.* an act of rebelling or rising against authority or established order; a revolt or rebellion
85. perform with al_____ty *n.* cheerful readiness or willingness to do something; eagerness or promptness in responding to a request or opportunity
86. political hu_____s *n.* excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
87. in_____nt attack *adj.* rising against established authority or government; characterized by rebellion, dissent, or insurgency
88. in_____nt group *adj.* rising against established authority or government; characterized by rebellion, dissent, or insurgency
89. sub_____an countries *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
90. dis_____ed to help *adj.* lacking enthusiasm or a willingness to do something; having a lack of desire or inclination towards a particular action or behavior; not feeling disposed or eager to undertake something
91. pre_____on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 83. inherit, 84. insurgence, 85. alacrity, 86. hubris, 87. insurgent, 88. insurgent, 89. sub-Saharan, 90. disinclined, 91. pretension

92. sense of op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
93. hu____s in business *n.* excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
94. av_____he warning *n.* a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances
95. hu_____te the heckler in the audience *v.* to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information
96. 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
97. te__t the taste buds *v.* to make someone want to do or have something, especially something that is unnecessary or wrong
98. democratic leg_____cy *n.* the state or quality of being allowed and acceptable under the law; the state or quality of being founded on a reasonable or acceptable reason

ANSWERS: 92. optimism, 93. hubris, 94. avalanche, 95. humiliate, 96. germ, 97. tempt, 98. legitimacy

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly _____.
v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
2. The skiers narrowly escaped the _____ by taking shelter behind a nearby rock.
n. a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances
3. The _____ broke into the house bravely to rescue the children.
n. a person whose job is to extinguish fires
4. The minority _____ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.
n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
5. The weather was so _____ that we decided to stay indoors all day.
adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
6. She faced some challenges as a _____ in the business world but was soon respected for her expertise.
n. a person who is not a citizen or national of the country they are in; someone from a different country, culture, or origin
7. The athlete's _____ resulted in him underestimating his competition and losing the game.
n. excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin

ANSWERS: 1. synchronized, 2. avalanche, 3. firefighter, 4. sect, 5. dismal, 6. foreigner, 7. hubris

8. The city declared a snow emergency and warned residents to stay off the streets during the _____.
- n.* a severe snowstorm that is accompanied by strong winds and low temperatures, often leading to very limited visibility and dangerous travel conditions
9. The new employee showed great _____ in completing tasks and impressing her boss.
- n.* cheerful readiness or willingness to do something; eagerness or promptness in responding to a request or opportunity
10. The _____ of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.
- n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
11. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
- v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
12. He has the superpower to _____ a business opportunity.
- v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
13. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
- adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
14. 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.

ANSWERS: 8. blizzard, 9. alacrity, 10. troop, 11. invade, 12. seize, 13. astonishing, 14. secondly,

15. After the controversial policy was implemented, the country's reputation hit a new _____.

n. the lowest point, the point of greatest despair or decline, often used metaphorically

16. The government forces fought brutally against the _____ rebels in the remote region.

adj. rising against established authority or government; characterized by rebellion, dissent, or insurgency

17. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.

n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

18. It would be best not to _____ your associates into doing complex tasks.

v. to frighten someone very much

19. She _____ the extent of her injuries to get more money from the settlement.

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

20. There is considerable _____ that the economy will recover soon.

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

21. The coffee producers in _____ countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.

adj. of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

22. The _____ of complaints from unhappy customers reminded us that we needed to improve our service.

n. a prolonged or repetitive recitation or listing of something, often with a negative connotation; a repetitive series or list of complaints, criticisms, or requests

ANSWERS: 15. nadir, 16. insurgent, 17. footprint, 18. terrify, 19. exaggerated, 20. optimism, 21. sub-Saharan, 22. litany

23. His _____ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
- n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
24. The painting was _____ in an attic and turned out to be a long-lost masterpiece.
- v.* to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost
25. The company's profits _____ after the recall of their new product.
- v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
26. I'm going to deny the _____ of his claim.
- n.* the state or quality of being allowed and acceptable under the law; the state or quality of being founded on a reasonable or acceptable reason
27. The _____ tank could withstand the enemy's attacks without any damage.
- adj.* protected by armor or reinforced with metal plates or other heavy materials
28. 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
29. After his death, his sons _____ his business.
- v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
30. The company spent months researching and testing different brand _____ before finally settling on 'Just Do It' as their new tagline.
- n.* a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

ANSWERS: 23. pretensions, 24. rediscovered, 25. plunged, 26. legitimacy, 27. armored, 28. germ, 29. inherited, 30. slogans

31. The athlete's _____ training paid off in the end.

adj. persistent and determined; continuing despite difficulties or setbacks

32. The boss _____ her employee by belittling her in front of her colleagues.

v. to cause someone to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or degraded, especially in public or through revealing personal information

33. We were filled with _____ at the sight of the Queen.

n. the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

34. 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

35. The news of the pandemic was a _____ reminder of the fragility of human health.

adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

36. Though he was evil, he never _____ his friends into wrongdoing.

v. to make someone want to do or have something, especially something that is unnecessary or wrong

37. The _____ of the situation left everyone at a loss for words.

n. confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled

38. The pilot tried to _____ the customers that the planes were safe.

v. to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence

39. _____ struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.

n. a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

ANSWERS: 31. relentless, 32. humiliated, 33. humility, 34. crunch, 35. frightening, 36. tempted, 37. perplexity, 38. reassure, 39. Policymakers

40. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
41. She learned five languages but is only _____ in two of them.
- adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
42. Due to her heavy workload, she was _____ to participate in the group project.
- adj.* lacking enthusiasm or a willingness to do something; having a lack of desire or inclination towards a particular action or behavior; not feeling disposed or eager to undertake something
43. It would be _____ for him to alter his behavior.
- adj.* hard to imagine or believe
44. The _____ in the country have been accused of using their religious authority to justify acts of terrorism.
- n.* an Islamic religious leader or teacher
45. The senior _____ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.
- n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
46. His manager's _____ style drove him crazy, making him feel like he couldn't make any decisions on his own.
- n.* a style of management characterized by excessive attention to detail and control, often resulting in inefficient or demotivating work environments

ANSWERS: 40. improvisation, 41. fluent, 42. disinclined, 43. inconceivable, 44. mullahs, 45. diplomat, 46. micromanagement

47. The student's _____ in their writing abilities caused them not to bother to proofread their essay, resulting in a poor grades.
- n.* excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior
48. Floods have the potential to _____ any subsurface animals easily.
- v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
49. The government's decision sparked an _____ among the citizens.
- n.* an act of rebelling or rising against authority or established order; a revolt or rebellion

ANSWERS: 47. overconfidence, 48. drown, 49. insurgence