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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Lauren Zalaznick: *The conscience of television | TED Talk*

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

berate

v. to scold or criticize harshly, often in a loud or angry manner; to rebuke or chastise severely

synonym: rebuke, scold, criticize

(1) **berate** him for his mistakes, (2) **berate** a child

She would **berate** her husband for not taking out the trash every day.

disseminate

v. to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse

synonym: spread, circulate, propagate

(1) **disseminate** propaganda, (2) **disseminate** knowledge

It is important to **disseminate** accurate information to the public to prevent false rumors from spreading.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym: buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

primal

adj. of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive

synonym : original, fundamental, basic

(1) **primal** eras, (2) **primal** fear

The **primal** instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.

instinct

n. an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

synonym : intuition, aptitude, feeling

(1) **instinct** for self-preservation, (2) aggressive **instinct**

When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial **instinct** was to flee.

acquisitive

adj. seeking to acquire or possess things, especially material possessions, often in a greedy or excessive manner

synonym : greedy, rapacious, grasping

(1) an **acquisitive** nature, (2) an **acquisitive** mindset

The **acquisitive** businessman constantly sought out new opportunities for expanding his empire.

temper

n. a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object

synonym : mood, disposition, nature

(1) a hasty **temper**, (2) bridle my **temper**

The **temper** of the steel needs to be just right to ensure the product's durability.

tame

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

synonym : domesticate, soften, (adjective) harmless

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

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

tempting

adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

synonym : alluring, attractive, inviting

(1) **tempting** offer, (2) sound very **tempting**

The chocolate cake was too **tempting** for me to resist.

ambiguity

n. the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning

synonym : uncertainty, vagueness, obscurity

(1) free from **ambiguity**, (2) avoid **ambiguity** in writing

The **ambiguity** in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.

outrage

n. an intense feeling of anger or indignation in response to something that is perceived as unfair, unjust, or offensive; a public display of anger or protest against such injustices

synonym : indignation, fury, anger

(1) public **outrage**, (2) **outrage** over injustice

There was widespread **outrage** over the government's handling of the situation.

rabbi

n. a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher

synonym : clergyman, priest, teacher

(1) son of a **rabbi**, (2) the city's communal **rabbi**

The chief **rabbi** chanted a prayer.

stern

adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude

synonym : severe, harsh, strict

(1) **stern** warning, (2) a **stern** look

The students' antics did not amuse the **stern** teacher.

superstar

n. a very famous and successful performer or athlete

synonym : celebrity, icon, megastar

(1) **superstar** athlete, (2) jazz **superstar**

She is a **superstar** in the music industry.

uplift

n. the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits

synonym: upthrust, upheaval, (verb) raise

(1) **uplift** mountains, (2) **uplift** my spirit

The **uplift** in the stock market has been a relief to investors.

wane

v. to decrease in size, strength, or intensity

synonym: decrease, diminish, fade

(1) **wane** over time, (2) **wane** in popularity

The fragrance of this material **wanes** over weeks to months.

riot

n. a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

synonym: disturbance, unrest, upheaval

(1) **riot** police, (2) **riot** control gas

The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

plummet

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

synonym: drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

challenger

n. a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge

synonym: contender, rival, contestant

(1) **challenger** brand, (2) political **challenger**

The **challenger** in the boxing match put up a good fight.

meme

n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an

image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

synonym: buzzword, trend

(1) pronounce **meme**, (2) religious **meme**

This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet **meme**.

irreverence

n. a lack of respect or reverence; the act of treating something that is usually considered serious or sacred in a disrespectful or light-hearted manner

synonym: blasphemy, disrespect, sacrilege

(1) sense of **irreverence**, (2) **irreverence** for the past

The comedian's **irreverence** towards authority figures often brought him great popularity.

bonanza

n. a situation or event in which there is a sudden and profitable discovery or success, usually related to a significant amount of wealth, resources, or opportunities; a large deposit of valuable ore or precious minerals

synonym: windfall, godsend, treasure trove

(1) shopping **bonanza**, (2) financial **bonanza**

The recent oil discovery in the region has led to an economic **bonanza** for the local community.

irreverent

adj. lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

synonym: disrespectful, impious, sacrilegious

(1) **irreverent** comment, (2) **irreverent** attitude

The comedian's **irreverent** jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.

hippie

n. a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence,

communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values

synonym: bohemian, beatnik, free spirit

(1) **hippie** lifestyle, (2) **hippie** music

The fashion of the **hippie** movement included unconventional clothing such as tie-dye shirts and bell-bottom jeans.

bellwether

n. an influential or leading person or thing that serves as a guide or indicator of future trends or developments

synonym: leader, trendsetter, pacesetter

(1) political **bellwether**, (2) **bellwether** stock

The company's success in the market serves as a **bellwether** for the industry as a whole.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

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

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

breakout

n. an escape or sudden release from confinement, often used to describe a prison break or a spread of a disease

synonym: escape, eruption, jailbreak

(1) fire **breakout**, (2) stock market **breakout**

The prisoners staged a **breakout** and escaped from the prison.

broth

n. a liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been cooked, used as a base for soups and stews

synonym: bouillon, consomme, soup

(1) chicken **broth**, (2) remains of **broth**

I always add a bit of **broth** to my soup to give it more flavor.

Norman

adj. relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of

Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

synonym: medieval, antique, archaic

(1) **norman** cathedral, (2) **norman** invasion

The **Norman** architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

bunker

n. a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel

synonym: shelter, fortification, defense

(1) coal **bunker**, (2) **bunker** facility

The soldiers took cover in the dug-out **bunker** during the bombing.

shove

v. to push someone or something in a rough way

synonym: push, jab, elbow

(1) **shove** a person aside, (2) **shove** hamburger into my mouth

He forcibly **shoved** the flyer into my bag.

bionic

adj. relating to or using technology or devices that enhance or replace biological functions, typically in a way that mimics or improves upon the original

(1) **bionic** exoskeleton, (2) **bionic** technology

The soldier was fitted with a **bionic** arm after losing him in combat.

glamorous

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

synonym: alluring, bewitching, enchanting

(1) **glamorous** movie stars, (2) cast **glamorous** eyes

The south coast is less **glamorous** yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

psyche

n. the human soul, mind, or spirit

synonym: mind, soul, spirit

(1) deep **psyche**, (2) **psyche** healing

The therapist helped her understand the workings of her **psyche** and how to cope with her anxiety.

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.

succumb

v. to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury

synonym: surrender, break down, die

(1) **succumb** to cancer, (2) **succumb** to old age

He finally **succumbed** to temptation.

anthrax

n. a serious bacterial infection caused by *Bacillus anthracis* that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated

synonym: fever, splenic fever, wool sorters' disease

(1) **anthrax** infection, (2) **anthrax** vaccine

Scientists are currently researching new treatments for **anthrax** that could improve survival rates in infected individuals

lexicon

n. all the words and phrases of a particular language or branch of knowledge, such as nautical or medical

synonym: glossary, dictionary, vocabulary

(1) Greek-English **lexicon**, (2) **lexicon** of business phrases

This bilingual **lexicon** was essential for his language improvement.

nostalgia

n. a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past

synonym: longing, wistfulness, yearning

(1) a warm **nostalgia**, (2) **nostalgia** trip

The ice cream truck's sound brought back **nostalgia** for my childhood.

idol

n. an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered

synonym: icon, hero, legend

(1) **idol** worship, (2) **idol** singer

He was an **idol** to his fans, who looked up to him as a role model.

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.

epitome

n. a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type

synonym: embodiment, apotheosis

(1) an **epitome** of history, (2) world's **epitome**

He was the **epitome** of courage, always standing up for his beliefs.

menopause

n. the natural cessation of menstruation and fertility in women, typically occurring between the ages of 45 and 55

synonym : climacteric, midlife transition

(1) **menopause** symptoms, (2) before **menopause**

The onset of **menopause** can bring about various physical and emotional changes in women.

cougar

n. a large predatory feline animal, also known as a mountain lion or puma, which is native to the Americas; an older woman who pursues sexual or romantic relationships with much younger men

synonym : puma, catamount, panther

(1) **cougar** lift, (2) the **cougar's** ex-husband

We saw a large **cougar** as we hiked through the mountains.

longevity

n. the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service

synonym : seniority, endurance

(1) **longevity** crisis, (2) **longevity** genes

He is proud of the **longevity** of the business.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. ind_____us student | <i>adj.</i> hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort |
| 2. deep ps___e | <i>n.</i> the human soul, mind, or spirit |
| 3. bel_____er stock | <i>n.</i> an influential or leading person or thing that serves as a guide or indicator of future trends or developments |
| 4. pl_____ting sales | <i>v.</i> to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply |
| 5. dis_____te propaganda | <i>v.</i> to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse |
| 6. fire br_____ut | <i>n.</i> an escape or sudden release from confinement, often used to describe a prison break or a spread of a disease |
| 7. remains of br__h | <i>n.</i> a liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been cooked, used as a base for soups and stews |
| 8. r__t police | <i>n.</i> a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals |
| 9. an_____x vaccine | <i>n.</i> a serious bacterial infection caused by <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated |

ANSWERS: 1. industrious, 2. psyche, 3. bellwether, 4. plummet, 5. disseminate, 6. breakout, 7. broth, 8. riot, 9. anthrax

10. hi___e lifestyle *n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
11. financial bo____a *n.* a situation or event in which there is a sudden and profitable discovery or success, usually related to a significant amount of wealth, resources, or opportunities; a large deposit of valuable ore or precious minerals
12. world's ep____e *n.* a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type
13. an ep____e of history *n.* a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type
14. me____se symptoms *n.* the natural cessation of menstruation and fertility in women, typically occurring between the ages of 45 and 55
15. sh__e a person aside *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
16. w__e over time *v.* to decrease in size, strength, or intensity
17. irr____nt attitude *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

ANSWERS: 10. hippie, 11. bonanza, 12. epitome, 13. epitome, 14. menopause, 15. shove, 16. wane, 17. irreverent

18. a t__e animal
- v. to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
19. lo_____ty crisis
- n. the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
20. no___n cathedral
- adj. relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period
21. ind_____us worker
- adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
22. di_____t sleep
- v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
23. i__l worship
- n. an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered
24. 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
25. cha_____er brand
- n. a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge

ANSWERS: 18. tame, 19. longevity, 20. Norman, 21. industrious, 22. disrupt, 23. idol, 24. sitcom, 25. challenger

26. pr___l fear *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
27. an acq_____ve mindset *adj.* seeking to acquire or possess things, especially material possessions, often in a greedy or excessive manner
28. sound very te_____ng *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
29. avoid am_____ty in writing *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
30. di_____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
31. up___t my spirit *n.* the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits
32. irr_____ce for the past *n.* a lack of respect or reverence; the act of treating something that is usually considered serious or sacred in a disrespectful or light-hearted manner
33. t__e a wild beast *v.* to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
34. coal bu___r *n.* a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel

ANSWERS: 26. primal, 27. acquisitive, 28. tempting, 29. ambiguity, 30. disrupt, 31. uplift, 32. irreverence, 33. tame, 34. bunker

35. shopping bo____a *n.* a situation or event in which there is a sudden and profitable discovery or success, usually related to a significant amount of wealth, resources, or opportunities; a large deposit of valuable ore or precious minerals
36. pl____t against other major currencies *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
37. religious m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
38. gl_____us movie stars *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
39. ou____e over injustice *n.* an intense feeling of anger or indignation in response to something that is perceived as unfair, unjust, or offensive; a public display of anger or protest against such injustices
40. a st__n look *adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
41. hu____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
42. a warm no_____ia *n.* a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past

ANSWERS: 35. bonanza, 36. plummet, 37. meme, 38. glamorous, 39. outrage, 40. stern, 41. humming, 42. nostalgia

43. before me _____se *n.* the natural cessation of menstruation and fertility in women, typically occurring between the ages of 45 and 55
44. chicken br__h *n.* a liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been cooked, used as a base for soups and stews
45. the co___r's ex-husband *n.* a large predatory feline animal, also known as a mountain lion or puma, which is native to the Americas; an older woman who pursues sexual or romantic relationships with much younger men
46. pr___l eras *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
47. te_____ng offer *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
48. bridle my te___r *n.* a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object
49. hu_____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
50. w__e in popularity *v.* to decrease in size, strength, or intensity
51. up___t mountains *n.* the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits

ANSWERS: 43. menopause, 44. broth, 45. cougar, 46. primal, 47. tempting, 48. temper, 49. humming, 50. wane, 51. uplift

52. the city's communal ra__i *n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
53. dis_____te knowledge *v.* to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse
54. an_____x infection *n.* a serious bacterial infection caused by Bacillus anthracis that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated
55. an acq_____ve nature *adj.* seeking to acquire or possess things, especially material possessions, often in a greedy or excessive manner
56. bi___c exoskeleton *adj.* relating to or using technology or devices that enhance or replace biological functions, typically in a way that mimics or improves upon the original
57. public ou_____e *n.* an intense feeling of anger or indignation in response to something that is perceived as unfair, unjust, or offensive; a public display of anger or protest against such injustices
58. i__l singer *n.* an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered
59. r__t control gas *n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

ANSWERS: 52. rabbi, 53. disseminate, 54. anthrax, 55. acquisitive, 56. bionic, 57. outrage, 58. idol, 59. riot

60. jazz su_____ar *n.* a very famous and successful performer or athlete
61. hi___e music *n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
62. le_____n of business phrases *n.* all the words and phrases of a particular language or branch of knowledge, such as nautical or medical
63. bu___r facility *n.* a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel
64. 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
65. aggressive in_____ct *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
66. lo_____ty genes *n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
67. pronounce m___e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

ANSWERS: 60. superstar, 61. hippie, 62. lexicon, 63. bunker, 64. fir, 65. instinct, 66. longevity, 67. meme

68. su_____ar athlete *n.* a very famous and successful performer or athlete
69. son of a ra__i *n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
70. bi___c technology *adj.* relating to or using technology or devices that enhance or replace biological functions, typically in a way that mimics or improves upon the original
71. political cha_____er *n.* a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge
72. sense of irr_____ce *n.* a lack of respect or reverence; the act of treating something that is usually considered serious or sacred in a disrespectful or light-hearted manner
73. su_____b to cancer *v.* to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
74. no_____ia trip *n.* a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past
75. no___n invasion *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

ANSWERS: 68. superstar, 69. rabbi, 70. bionic, 71. challenger, 72. irreverence, 73. succumb, 74. nostalgia, 75. Norman

76. be___e a child *v.* to scold or criticize harshly, often in a loud or angry manner; to rebuke or chastise severely
77. 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
78. su____b to old age *v.* to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
79. political bel____er *n.* an influential or leading person or thing that serves as a guide or indicator of future trends or developments
80. stock market br____ut *n.* an escape or sudden release from confinement, often used to describe a prison break or a spread of a disease
81. a hasty te___r *n.* a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object
82. irr____nt comment *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
83. be___e him for his mistakes *v.* to scold or criticize harshly, often in a loud or angry manner; to rebuke or chastise severely
84. sh__e hamburger into my mouth *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way

ANSWERS: 76. berate, 77. sitcom, 78. succumb, 79. bellwether, 80. breakout, 81. temper, 82. irreverent, 83. berate, 84. shove

85. st__n warning *adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
86. cast gl_____us eyes *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
87. Greek-English le_____n *n.* all the words and phrases of a particular language or branch of knowledge, such as nautical or medical
88. ps___e healing *n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit
89. co___r lift *n.* a large predatory feline animal, also known as a mountain lion or puma, which is native to the Americas; an older woman who pursues sexual or romantic relationships with much younger men
90. 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
91. free from am_____ty *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
92. in_____ct for self-preservation *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

ANSWERS: 85. stern, 86. glamorous, 87. lexicon, 88. psyche, 89. cougar, 90. fir, 91. ambiguity, 92. instinct

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company's success in the market serves as a _____ for the industry as a whole.
 - n.* an influential or leading person or thing that serves as a guide or indicator of future trends or developments

2. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
 - adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

3. We have to _____ substantial financial deficits at first.
 - v.* to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training

4. The _____ of the steel needs to be just right to ensure the product's durability.
 - n.* a person's state of mind, emotions, or attitude; a tendency to become angry or excited easily; the elasticity and hardness of a metal object

5. This bilingual _____ was essential for his language improvement.
 - n.* all the words and phrases of a particular language or branch of knowledge, such as nautical or medical

6. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
 - v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

7. She is a _____ in the music industry.
 - n.* a very famous and successful performer or athlete

ANSWERS: 1. bellwether, 2. humming, 3. tame, 4. temper, 5. lexicon, 6. disrupt, 7. superstar

8. 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
9. He finally _____ to temptation.
- v.* to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
10. The _____ in the stock market has been a relief to investors.
- n.* the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits
11. There was widespread _____ over the government's handling of the situation.
- n.* an intense feeling of anger or indignation in response to something that is perceived as unfair, unjust, or offensive; a public display of anger or protest against such injustices
12. The onset of _____ can bring about various physical and emotional changes in women.
- n.* the natural cessation of menstruation and fertility in women, typically occurring between the ages of 45 and 55
13. The _____ instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.
- adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
14. When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial _____ was to flee.
- n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
15. The soldiers took cover in the dug-out _____ during the bombing.
- n.* a concrete shelter or underground room, typically for storing ammunition or protecting people from enemy fire; a hazard on a golf course; a large container for storing fuel

ANSWERS: 8. fir, 9. succumbed, 10. uplift, 11. outrage, 12. menopause, 13. primal, 14. instinct, 15. bunker

16. It is important to _____ accurate information to the public to prevent false rumors from spreading.
- v.* to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse
17. He forcibly _____ the flyer into my bag.
- v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
18. The ice cream truck's sound brought back _____ for my childhood.
- n.* a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past
19. The prisoners staged a _____ and escaped from the prison.
- n.* an escape or sudden release from confinement, often used to describe a prison break or a spread of a disease
20. The students' antics did not amuse the _____ teacher.
- adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
21. 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
22. The chief _____ chanted a prayer.
- n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
23. He is proud of the _____ of the business.
- n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
24. The _____ in the boxing match put up a good fight.
- n.* a person or thing that challenges or competes with someone or something else; a contestant in a competition or challenge

ANSWERS: 16. disseminate, 17. shoved, 18. nostalgia, 19. breakout, 20. stern, 21. sitcoms, 22. rabbi, 23. longevity, 24. challenger

25. The comedian's _____ towards authority figures often brought him great popularity.
- n.* a lack of respect or reverence; the act of treating something that is usually considered serious or sacred in a disrespectful or light-hearted manner
26. The recent oil discovery in the region has led to an economic _____ for the local community.
- n.* a situation or event in which there is a sudden and profitable discovery or success, usually related to a significant amount of wealth, resources, or opportunities; a large deposit of valuable ore or precious minerals
27. The chocolate cake was too _____ for me to resist.
- adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
28. The _____ businessman constantly sought out new opportunities for expanding his empire.
- adj.* seeking to acquire or possess things, especially material possessions, often in a greedy or excessive manner
29. We saw a large _____ as we hiked through the mountains.
- n.* a large predatory feline animal, also known as a mountain lion or puma, which is native to the Americas; an older woman who pursues sexual or romantic relationships with much younger men
30. The _____ architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.
- adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

ANSWERS: 25. irreverence, 26. bonanza, 27. tempting, 28. acquisitive, 29. cougar, 30. Norman

31. The fashion of the _____ movement included unconventional clothing such as tie-dye shirts and bell-bottom jeans.
- n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
32. The soldier was fitted with a _____ arm after losing him in combat.
- adj.* relating to or using technology or devices that enhance or replace biological functions, typically in a way that mimics or improves upon the original
33. The comedian's _____ jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.
- adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
34. The stock prices have _____ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.
- v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
35. I always add a bit of _____ to my soup to give it more flavor.
- n.* a liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been cooked, used as a base for soups and stews
36. Scientists are currently researching new treatments for _____ that could improve survival rates in infected individuals
- n.* a serious bacterial infection caused by *Bacillus anthracis* that can affect both humans and animals; it is characterized by a range of symptoms, including skin blisters, fever, and difficulty breathing, and can be fatal if left untreated
37. This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet _____.
- n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

ANSWERS: 31. hippie, 32. bionic, 33. irreverent, 34. plummeted, 35. broth, 36. anthrax, 37. meme

38. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
39. He was the _____ of courage, always standing up for his beliefs.
n. a person or thing that is a typical or perfect example of a particular quality or type
40. She would _____ her husband for not taking out the trash every day.
v. to scold or criticize harshly, often in a loud or angry manner; to rebuke or chastise severely
41. The _____ in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.
n. the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
42. The south coast is less _____ yet has many clean and appealing hotels.
adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
43. The fragrance of this material _____ over weeks to months.
v. to decrease in size, strength, or intensity
44. The therapist helped her understand the workings of her _____ and how to cope with her anxiety.
n. the human soul, mind, or spirit
45. He was an _____ to his fans, who looked up to him as a role model.
n. an image or representation of a god or goddess, or a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered

ANSWERS: 38. industrious, 39. epitome, 40. berate, 41. ambiguity, 42. glamorous, 43. wanes, 44. psyche, 45. idol

46. The _____ in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.
- n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

ANSWERS: 46. riots