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E.O. Wilson: Advice to a young scientist | TED Talk
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

youngster

n. a young person, typically a child or teenager; a creature that is still in its youth or early stages of development

synonym : child, youth, adolescent

(1) **youngster** education, (2) teenage **youngster**

The little **youngster** couldn't wait to open their birthday presents.

astrophysics

n. the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe

(1) **astrophysics** research, (2) neutrino **astrophysics**

He was studying **astrophysics** in an attempt to understand the origins of the universe.

microbiology

n. the study of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and algae, and their role in various fields such as medicine, agriculture, and the environment

(1) a specialist in **microbiology**, (2) **microbiology** laboratory

The field of **microbiology** includes the study of bacteria, fungi, viruses, and other microorganisms.

symbiont

n. an organism that lives in symbiosis (= a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms) with another organism

synonym : partner, associate, collaborator

(1) **symbiont** relationship, (2) intracellular **symbiont**

The **symbiont** in the plant's root system helps to provide the plant with nutrients.

pervade

v. to spread throughout something; to permeate

synonym : permeate, penetrate, suffuse

(1) **pervade** society, (2) **pervade** an atmosphere

The smell of baking bread **pervaded** the kitchen.

startling

adj. extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

synonym : alarming, astonishing, shocking

(1) **startling** earthquake shocks, (2) **startling** discovery

He describes the story with **startling** reality.

ancestor

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

synonym : forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

quench

v. to drink liquid so that you satisfy your thirst

synonym : satisfy, sate, assuage

(1) **quench** a fire, (2) **quench** a rebellion

Her beautiful voice **quenched** the thirst of an ever-growing audience.

sane

adj. mentally sound or normal; having a rational mind

synonym : rational, sound, normal

(1) for a **sane** reason, (2) **sane** judgment

Despite the difficult circumstances, he remained **sane**.

scientifically

adv. in a way that relates to science or is connected with science

(1) investigate **scientifically**, (2) **scientifically** explainable
The hypothesis is not yet **scientifically** proven.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

diplomacy

n. the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

synonym: tact, negotiation, delicacy

(1) the language of **diplomacy**, (2) the art of **diplomacy**

Effective **diplomacy** is necessary to resolve conflicts and maintain relationships between countries.

applause

n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

synonym: clapping, cheering, acclaim

(1) round of **applause**, (2) earn **applause**

The **applause** burst from the audience.

literate

adj. having the ability to read and write; possessing knowledge or understanding of a particular subject or topic

synonym: educated, well-read, knowledgeable

(1) **literate** population, (2) digitally **literate**

Being **literate** in multiple languages can open up many opportunities for travel and work.

statistician

n. a person who studies or is an expert in statistics

synonym: actuary

(1) professional **statisticians**, (2) environmental **statistician**

The firm employs several **statisticians** to develop a recommendation engine.

theorist

n. a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation

synonym: philosopher, academic, scholar

(1) scientific **theorist**, (2) conspiracy **theorist**

The feminist **theorist** criticized traditional models of gender roles and argued for greater equality between the sexes.

scout

n. a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations

synonym: scoutmaster, explorer, surveyor

(1) boy **scout**, (2) **scout** troop

The company sent a **scout** to explore new business opportunities in the overseas market.

foolhardy

adj. recklessly bold or daring, often without considering the potential risks or consequences.; characterized by a lack of caution, prudence, or sensible judgment

synonym: reckless, imprudent, rash

(1) **foolhardy** decision, (2) **foolhardy** behavior

It was **foolhardy** of him to attempt the dangerous stunt without any safety equipment.

phobia

n. an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder

synonym: fear, dread, terror

(1) **phobia** treatment, (2) social **phobia**

She has a **phobia** of spiders and always avoids them.

deprive

v. to take away something from someone

synonym: deny, take away, divest

(1) **deprive** others of profit, (2) **deprive** him of his status
He was **deprived** of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.

immeasurable

adj. too great to be measured or calculated; vast or incalculable in extent or degree; impossible to quantify or express in numerical terms

synonym : boundless, limitless, endless

(1) **immeasurable** joy, (2) **immeasurable** loss

The impact of climate change on the planet is **immeasurable**.

intuition

n. the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

synonym : instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research

Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be influenced by their experiences and biases.

blackboard

n. a large board made of a smooth, usually dark-colored slate attached to a wall used by teachers in schools for writing on with chalk

synonym : chalkboard, slate

(1) chalk on a **blackboard**, (2) electronic **blackboard**

The teacher asked me to rub out the **blackboard**.

conjure

v. to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination

synonym : summon, evoke, call forth

(1) **conjure** evil spirits away, (2) **conjure** a vision

The magician **conjured** up a rabbit out of thin air.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym : open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

sparsely

adv. occurring, existing, or situated at wide intervals; in a scattered or thinly populated manner; with a low density or concentration

synonym : rarely, thinly

(1) **sparsely** attended, (2) **sparsely** decorated

The town was **sparsely** populated, with only a few houses scattered around the area.

inhabit

v. to live in a specific location; to reside

synonym : settle, occupy, populate

(1) **inhabit** a cave, (2) **inhabit** the stomach

I have no idea what sort of folks **inhabit** the neighborhood.

opportune

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

synonym : suitable, timely, practical

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

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

apprentice

n. a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves

synonym : learner, trainee, protégé

(1) **apprentice** carpenter, (2) a young **apprentice**

He took on an **apprentice** to teach him the trade.

dictum

n. a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise

synonym : proverb, aphorism, maxim

(1) the **dictum** of the court, (2) legal **dictum**

The **dictum** of the company was always to put the customer first.

fray

v. to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy

way; to fight or engage in conflict

synonym: tangle, brawl, skirmish

(1) **fray** tempers, (2) **fray** our relationship

The edges of the old blanket had started to **fray**, so I decided to sew them up.

delimit

v. to establish or define the limits, boundaries, or extent of something; to mark or set specific boundaries or parameters

synonym: bound, restrict, define

(1) **delimit** parameters, (2) **delimit** the scope

We need to **delimit** the boundaries of our project to ensure we stay within budget and time constraints.

sprinkler

n. a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting

synonym: sprayer, irrigation system

(1) road **sprinkler**, (2) **sprinkler** irrigation

The **sprinkler** system kept the lawn green and healthy.

populate

v. to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information

synonym: inhabit, occupy, dwell

(1) **populate** the countryside, (2) **populate** the spreadsheet

Deer, squirrels, and birds primarily **populate** the forest.

skimpy

adj. insufficient or inadequate in amount, size, or quality; revealing or covering only a small amount of skin or area of the body

synonym: meager, exiguous, scanty

(1) **skimpy** outfit, (2) **skimpy** bikini

She was uncomfortable in the **skimpy** dress that barely covered her.

categorize

v. to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.

synonym: classify, pigeonhole, sort

(1) **categorize** the image, (2) **categorize** the cause of failure

The biologist **categorized** the viruses into four groups.

norovirus

n. a virus that causes gastroenteritis (= inflammation of the stomach and intestines) that is highly contagious and is often spread through contaminated food or water or by close contact with an infected person

synonym: stomach flu, gastroenteritis, food poisoning

(1) **norovirus** outbreak, (2) suffer from **norovirus**

Proper hand hygiene is essential in preventing the spread of **norovirus**.

quarry

n. a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting

synonym: stone pit, prey, target

(1) **quarry** operation, (2) **quarry** site

The hunter tracked down his **quarry** in the woods.

naturalism

n. a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws

(1) **naturalism** in literature, (2) philosophical **naturalism**

The scientific method is often seen as an embodiment of **naturalism**, as it seeks to understand the natural world through observation and experimentation.

trance

n. a state of altered consciousness in which a person may seem to be asleep or unconscious but, in reality, is highly responsive to suggestion; a state of being deeply absorbed in thought or feeling, often characterized by a heightened awareness of one's surroundings and emotions

synonym: stupor, hypnosis, daydreaming

(1) **trance** state, (2) meditative **trance**

The rhythmic beat of the drums kept the audience in a **trance**.

converse

v. to talk informally

synonym: discourse, discuss, exchange

(1) **converse** with an acquaintance, (2) ask a **converse** question

She enjoyed the opportunity to **converse** with a person who spoke her language.

salute

v. to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way

synonym: greet, acknowledge, acclaim

(1) **salute** to the flag, (2) **salute** him in military fashion

The soldiers stood at attention to **salute** their commanding officer.

Session 2: Spelling

1. yo_____er education
n. a young person, typically a child or teenager; a creature that is still in its youth or early stages of development
2. nat_____sm in literature
n. a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws
3. cat_____ze the image
v. to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.
4. an op_____ne remark
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
5. electronic bla_____rd
n. a large board made of a smooth, usually dark-colored slate attached to a wall used by teachers in schools for writing on with chalk
6. road sp_____er
n. a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting
7. tr___e state
n. a state of altered consciousness in which a person may seem to be asleep or unconscious but, in reality, is highly responsive to suggestion; a state of being deeply absorbed in thought or feeling, often characterized by a heightened awareness of one's surroundings and emotions

ANSWERS: 1. youngster, 2. naturalism, 3. categorize, 4. opportune, 5. blackboard, 6. sprinkler, 7. trance

8. sy_____nt relationship *n.* an organism that lives in symbiosis (= a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms) with another organism
9. co_____e a vision *v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination
10. fo_____dy decision *adj.* recklessly bold or daring, often without considering the potential risks or consequences.; characterized by a lack of caution, prudence, or sensible judgment
11. po_____te the spreadsheet *v.* to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information
12. mic_____ogy laboratory *n.* the study of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and algae, and their role in various fields such as medicine, agriculture, and the environment
13. a specialist in mic_____ogy *n.* the study of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and algae, and their role in various fields such as medicine, agriculture, and the environment
14. co_____se with an acquaintance *v.* to talk informally
15. s__e judgment *adj.* mentally sound or normal; having a rational mind

ANSWERS: 8. symbiont, 9. conjure, 10. foolhardy, 11. populate, 12. microbiology, 13. microbiology, 14. converse, 15. sane

16. an____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
17. sa___e to the flag *v.* to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way
18. po____te the countryside *v.* to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information
19. round of ap____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
20. conspiracy th____st *n.* a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation
21. sp____ly decorated *adv.* occurring, existing, or situated at wide intervals; in a scattered or thinly populated manner; with a low density or concentration
22. traditional me____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
23. sa___e him in military fashion *v.* to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way

ANSWERS: 16. ancestor, 17. salute, 18. populate, 19. applause, 20. theorist, 21. sparsely, 22. medicinal, 23. salute

24. sci_____lly explainable *adv.* in a way that relates to science or is connected with science
25. no_____us outbreak *n.* a virus that causes gastroenteritis (= inflammation of the stomach and intestines) that is highly contagious and is often spread through contaminated food or water or by close contact with an infected person
26. cat_____ze the cause of failure *v.* to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.
27. sc__t troop *n.* a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations
28. sk___y bikini *adj.* insufficient or inadequate in amount, size, or quality; revealing or covering only a small amount of skin or area of the body
29. ast_____ics research *n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe
30. st_____ng discovery *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
31. creative in_____on *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

ANSWERS: 24. scientifically, 25. norovirus, 26. categorize, 27. scout, 28. skimpy, 29. astrophysics, 30. startling, 31. intuition

32. professional sta_____ians *n.* a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
33. de_____e others of profit *v.* to take away something from someone
34. the di____m of the court *n.* a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise
35. suffer from no_____us *n.* a virus that causes gastroenteritis (= inflammation of the stomach and intestines) that is highly contagious and is often spread through contaminated food or water or by close contact with an infected person
36. chalk on a bla_____rd *n.* a large board made of a smooth, usually dark-colored slate attached to a wall used by teachers in schools for writing on with chalk
37. the language of di_____cy *n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way
38. meditative tr____e *n.* a state of altered consciousness in which a person may seem to be asleep or unconscious but, in reality, is highly responsive to suggestion; a state of being deeply absorbed in thought or feeling, often characterized by a heightened awareness of one's surroundings and emotions
39. intracellular sy_____nt *n.* an organism that lives in symbiosis (= a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms) with another organism

ANSWERS: 32. statistician, 33. deprive, 34. dictum, 35. norovirus, 36. blackboard, 37. diplomacy, 38. trance, 39. symbiont

40. teenage yo_____er *n.* a young person, typically a child or teenager; a creature that is still in its youth or early stages of development
41. st_____ng earthquake shocks *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
42. earliest human an_____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
43. sp_____er irrigation *n.* a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting
44. earn ap_____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
45. de_____t the scope *v.* to establish or define the limits, boundaries, or extent of something; to mark or set specific boundaries or parameters
46. in_____t a cave *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
47. co_____e evil spirits away *v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination
48. neutrino ast_____ics *n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe
49. de_____e him of his status *v.* to take away something from someone
50. in_____on research *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

ANSWERS: 40. youngster, 41. startling, 42. ancestor, 43. sprinkler, 44. applause, 45. delimit, 46. inhabit, 47. conjure, 48. astrophysics, 49. deprive, 50. intuition

51. pe____e society *v.* to spread throughout something; to permeate
52. a young app_____ce *n.* a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves
53. environmental sta_____ian *n.* a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
54. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
55. de_____t parameters *v.* to establish or define the limits, boundaries, or extent of something; to mark or set specific boundaries or parameters
56. fo_____dy behavior *adj.* recklessly bold or daring, often without considering the potential risks or consequences.; characterized by a lack of caution, prudence, or sensible judgment
57. qu___h a rebellion *v.* to drink liquid so that you satisfy your thirst
58. in_____t the stomach *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
59. boy sc__t *n.* a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations
60. li_____te population *adj.* having the ability to read and write; possessing knowledge or understanding of a particular subject or topic

ANSWERS: 51. pervade, 52. apprentice, 53. statistician, 54. medicinal, 55. delimit, 56. foolhardy, 57. quench, 58. inhabit, 59. scout, 60. literate

61. app_____ce carpenter *n.* a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves
62. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
63. investigate sci_____lly *adv.* in a way that relates to science or is connected with science
64. sk___y outfit *adj.* insufficient or inadequate in amount, size, or quality; revealing or covering only a small amount of skin or area of the body
65. the art of di_____cy *n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way
66. ask a co_____se question *v.* to talk informally
67. f___y our relationship *v.* to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage in conflict
68. social ph___a *n.* an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder
69. sp_____ly attended *adv.* occurring, existing, or situated at wide intervals; in a scattered or thinly populated manner; with a low density or concentration

ANSWERS: 61. apprentice, 62. opportune, 63. scientifically, 64. skimpy, 65. diplomacy, 66. converse, 67. fray, 68. phobia, 69. sparsely

70. imm_____ble joy *adj.* too great to be measured or calculated; vast or incalculable in extent or degree; impossible to quantify or express in numerical terms
71. ph___a treatment *n.* an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder
72. digitally li_____te *adj.* having the ability to read and write; possessing knowledge or understanding of a particular subject or topic
73. qu___h a fire *v.* to drink liquid so that you satisfy your thirst
74. imm_____ble loss *adj.* too great to be measured or calculated; vast or incalculable in extent or degree; impossible to quantify or express in numerical terms
75. legal di___m *n.* a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise
76. for a s___e reason *adj.* mentally sound or normal; having a rational mind
77. scientific th_____st *n.* a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation
78. qu___y site *n.* a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting

ANSWERS: 70. immeasurable, 71. phobia, 72. literate, 73. quench, 74. immeasurable, 75. dictum, 76. sane, 77. theorist, 78. quarry

79. un___d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
80. philosophical nat_____sm *n.* a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws
81. un___d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
82. qu___y operation *n.* a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting
83. f___y tempers *v.* to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage in conflict
84. pe_____e an atmosphere *v.* to spread throughout something; to permeate

ANSWERS: 79. unfold, 80. naturalism, 81. unfold, 82. quarry, 83. fray, 84. pervade

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The scientific method is often seen as an embodiment of _____ as it seeks to understand the natural world through observation and experimentation.
 - n.* a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws

2. Proper hand hygiene is essential in preventing the spread of _____.
 - n.* a virus that causes gastroenteritis (= inflammation of the stomach and intestines) that is highly contagious and is often spread through contaminated food or water or by close contact with an infected person

3. The _____ burst from the audience.
 - n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

4. Being _____ in multiple languages can open up many opportunities for travel and work.
 - adj.* having the ability to read and write; possessing knowledge or understanding of a particular subject or topic

5. Some studies suggest that people's _____ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.
 - n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

6. The biologist _____ the viruses into four groups.
 - v.* to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.

7. The impact of climate change on the planet is _____.
 - adj.* too great to be measured or calculated; vast or incalculable in extent or degree; impossible to quantify or express in numerical terms

ANSWERS: 1. naturalism, 2. norovirus, 3. applause, 4. literate, 5. intuitions, 6. categorized, 7. immeasurable

8. He was studying _____ in an attempt to understand the origins of the universe.
- n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe
9. She enjoyed the opportunity to _____ with a person who spoke her language.
- v.* to talk informally
10. The rhythmic beat of the drums kept the audience in a _____.
- n.* a state of altered consciousness in which a person may seem to be asleep or unconscious but, in reality, is highly responsive to suggestion; a state of being deeply absorbed in thought or feeling, often characterized by a heightened awareness of one's surroundings and emotions
11. The _____ of the company was always to put the customer first.
- n.* a formal pronouncement or authoritative statement; a saying or maxim that is considered to be true or wise
12. The hunter tracked down his _____ in the woods.
- n.* a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting
13. He describes the story with _____ reality.
- adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
14. I have no idea what sort of folks _____ the neighborhood.
- v.* to live in a specific location; to reside

ANSWERS: 8. astrophysics, 9. converse, 10. trance, 11. dictum, 12. quarry, 13. startling, 14. inhabit

15. The _____ in the plant's root system helps to provide the plant with nutrients.
n. an organism that lives in symbiosis (= a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms) with another organism
16. The smell of baking bread _____ the kitchen.
v. to spread throughout something; to permeate
17. The edges of the old blanket had started to _____ so I decided to sew them up.
v. to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage in conflict
18. The hypothesis is not yet _____ proven.
adv. in a way that relates to science or is connected with science
19. The soldiers stood at attention to _____ their commanding officer.
v. to show respect or recognition for someone or something, often by making a gesture or performing an action; to greet or acknowledge someone in a formal or ceremonious way
20. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.
n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
21. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
22. It was _____ of him to attempt the dangerous stunt without any safety equipment.
adj. recklessly bold or daring, often without considering the potential risks or consequences.; characterized by a lack of caution, prudence, or sensible judgment

ANSWERS: 15. symbiont, 16. pervaded, 17. fray, 18. scientifically, 19. salute, 20. ancestor, 21. unfolded, 22. foolhardy

23. The little _____ couldn't wait to open their birthday presents.
- n.* a young person, typically a child or teenager; a creature that is still in its youth or early stages of development
24. The magician _____ up a rabbit out of thin air.
- v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination
25. Deer, squirrels, and birds primarily _____ the forest.
- v.* to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information
26. The teacher asked me to rub out the _____.
- n.* a large board made of a smooth, usually dark-colored slate attached to a wall used by teachers in schools for writing on with chalk
27. She has a _____ of spiders and always avoids them.
- n.* an extreme or irrational fear of a particular object, person, situation, or activity; a type of anxiety disorder
28. The _____ system kept the lawn green and healthy.
- n.* a device that sprays water over a large area used especially for watering crops or gardens or for firefighting
29. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
30. He took on an _____ to teach him the trade.
- n.* a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves

ANSWERS: 23. youngster, 24. conjured, 25. populate, 26. blackboard, 27. phobia, 28. sprinkler, 29. opportune, 30. apprentice

31. She was uncomfortable in the _____ dress that barely covered her.
adj. insufficient or inadequate in amount, size, or quality; revealing or covering only a small amount of skin or area of the body
32. The feminist _____ criticized traditional models of gender roles and argued for greater equality between the sexes.
n. a person who develops or formulates theories about a particular subject, especially in the sciences or social sciences; someone who engages in theoretical thinking or speculation
33. The firm employs several _____ to develop a recommendation engine.
n. a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
34. Despite the difficult circumstances, he remained _____.
adj. mentally sound or normal; having a rational mind
35. Her beautiful voice _____ the thirst of an ever-growing audience.
v. to drink liquid so that you satisfy your thirst
36. The field of _____ includes the study of bacteria, fungi, viruses, and other microorganisms.
n. the study of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and algae, and their role in various fields such as medicine, agriculture, and the environment
37. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
38. Effective _____ is necessary to resolve conflicts and maintain relationships between countries.
n. the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

ANSWERS: 31. skimpy, 32. theorist, 33. statisticians, 34. sane, 35. quenched, 36. microbiology, 37. medicinal, 38. diplomacy

39. The company sent a _____ to explore new business opportunities in the overseas market.

- n.* a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations

40. We need to _____ the boundaries of our project to ensure we stay within budget and time constraints.

- v.* to establish or define the limits, boundaries, or extent of something; to mark or set specific boundaries or parameters

41. He was _____ of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.

- v.* to take away something from someone

42. The town was _____ populated, with only a few houses scattered around the area.

- adv.* occurring, existing, or situated at wide intervals; in a scattered or thinly populated manner; with a low density or concentration

ANSWERS: 39. scout, 40. delimit, 41. deprived, 42. sparsely