

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Zainab Salbi: Women, wartime and the dream of peace | TED Talk

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

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

passee

adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

synonym: outdated, old-fashioned, antique

(1) **passee** entertainment, (2) **passee** trend

Bell-bottom jeans, once considered **passee** fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.

nameless

adj. without a name or unknown; not named or identified

synonym: anonymous, unknown, unidentified

(1) **nameless** fear, (2) **nameless** child

The victim could only describe their attacker as a **nameless** figure in the darkness.

stereotype

n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

(1) avoid **stereotype**, (2) negative **stereotypes**

Changing **stereotypes** about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.

tattered

adj. worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart

synonym : ripped, shabby, worn-out

(1) **tattered** clothes, (2) **tattered** umbrella

The **tattered** book was falling apart at the seams from being read too many times.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym : detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

staccato

adj. a style of musical performance or composition that involves playing each note separately and distinctly, with a sharp or abrupt tone; speech or writing that is abrupt or disjointed

synonym : abrupt, sharp, detached

(1) **staccato** rhythm, (2) **staccato** speech

The pianist played the piece with **staccato** notes, creating a lively and upbeat sound.

gunfire

n. the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time

synonym : gunshots, firing, shooting

(1) lethal **gunfire**, (2) burst of **gunfire**

The journalist heard the sound of **gunfire** while reporting in a war zone.

wrench

v. to pull or twist something suddenly or violently

synonym : twist, turn, bend

(1) **wrench** off the lock, (2) **wrench** my back

A deep sigh was **wrenched** from his chest.

ominous

adj. giving the impression that something bad is going to happen; foreboding

synonym : foreboding, portentous, ill-boding

(1) an **ominous** silence, (2) **ominous** sign

The **ominous** clouds in the sky foretold of an approaching storm.

drone

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

synonym : hum, whirr, idler

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

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

wail

v. to make a prolonged, high-pitched cry expressing grief, pain, or anger

synonym : moan, keen, lament

(1) **wail** in sorrow, (2) **wail** in pain

The baby **wailed** loudly, signaling its hunger.

siren

n. a device that emits a loud, piercing sound, typically used as a warning or to get attention; historically, a creature in Greek mythology whose enchanting voice would lure sailors toward danger

synonym : alarm, warning, alert

(1) fire truck **siren**, (2) police **siren**

I heard the **siren** of an ambulance and moved my car to the side of the road.

dissonant

adj. sounds that are not in harmony or are in conflict with one another; an uncomfortable or tense feeling caused by conflicting ideas or emotions

synonym : discordant, harsh, inharmonious

(1) a **dissonant** voice, (2) **dissonant** note

The **dissonant** sound from the poorly tuned instruments was painful to listen to.

screech

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

synonym : shriek, scream, yelp

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

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

thunderous

adj. producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive

synonym : thundering, booming, loud

(1) **thunderous** roar, (2) **thunderous** noise

The **thunderous** applause lasted for several minutes after the performance.

unbearable

adj. not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable

synonym : intolerable, insufferable, unendurable

(1) **unbearable** heat, (2) **unbearable** pain

The loss of his wife was an **unbearable** sorrow that he found hard to overcome.

besiege

v. to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands

synonym : beset, encircle, surround

(1) **besiege** a fortress, (2) **besiege** an enemy

Enemy troops **besieged** the town during the war.

preoccupation

n. the state or condition of thinking about something continuously or obsessively

synonym : fetish, obsession, fixation

(1) **preoccupation** with work, (2) military **preoccupation**

She has an obsessive **preoccupation** with weight and shape.

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.

drawdown

n. the reduction or depletion of a resource, such as water, as a result of extraction or use; the act of withdrawing funds from an account or asset, typically associated with investment or borrowing

synonym : decline, reduction, decrease

(1) **drawdown** period, (2) investment **drawdown**

The organization initiated a **drawdown** of resources from its disaster relief fund to assist the affected communities.

sting

v. to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick

synonym : bite, prick, poke

(1) **sting** me on the arm, (2) **sting** his face

Bees **sting** as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.

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**.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym : robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

casualty

n. a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim

synonym : victim, injured, fatality

(1) civilian **casualty**, (2) military **casualty**

Unfortunately, the driver was the only **casualty** in the car accident.

sterile

adj. free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing

synonym: clean, germ-free, hygienic

(1) **sterile** environment, (2) a **sterile** man

Surgeons must use **sterile** instruments to prevent infection during an operation.

conceive

v. to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant

synonym: imagine, envision, concoct

(1) **conceive** of an idea, (2) **conceive** a child

I can't **conceive** he'd want to harm us.

mutilate

v. to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably

synonym: maim, disfigure, deform

(1) **mutilate** a document, (2) **mutilate** a body

It is cruel for anyone to **mutilate** an animal for any reason.

numb

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

synonym: dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

unseen

adj. not seen or noticed; not perceived

synonym: invisible, hidden, undercover

(1) **unseen** danger, (2) an **unseen** force

The consequences of the pandemic remain **unseen** as scientists continue to research the virus.

villager

n. a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional

community

synonym : resident, inhabitant, countryperson

(1) **villager** community, (2) local **villager**

The rural **villagers** were saddened by the destruction of their homes in the natural disaster.

extremist

n. a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views

synonym : radical, fanatic, zealot

(1) **extremist** political views, (2) radical **extremist**

The **extremist** group planned a series of violent attacks to push its agenda.

checkmate

v. to win a game of chess by putting the opponent's king in a position where it is unable to escape capture; to defeat or frustrate an opponent entirely; (noun) a situation where one person or side has put another in a position where they cannot escape defeat

synonym : outwit, outmaneuver, defeat

(1) **checkmate** with a pawn, (2) a **checkmate** situation

The chess player carefully planned his moves to **checkmate** his opponent in just a few moves.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

puppet

n. a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else

synonym : marionette, dummy, mannequin

(1) **puppet** theater, (2) corporate **puppet**

The politician was merely a **puppet** for the wealthy elite.

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.

snipe

v. to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism

synonym: criticize, disparage, sharpshoot

(1) **snipe** at the suspect, (2) **snipe** at each other

The politician **sniped** at his opponent during the debate.

cello

n. a large stringed instrument of the viola family, typically held between the knees when played; also known as violoncello

synonym: violoncello, violincello

(1) the beautiful sound of a **cello**, (2) **cello** music

She played a passionate solo on her **cello**.

violet

adj. between blue and purple in hue

synonym: purple

(1) bluish- **violet**, (2) **violet** quartz

Red and **violet** are opposites on the color spectrum.

massacre

n. the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals

synonym: slaughter, bloodbath, butchery

(1) **massacre** in the village, (2) animal **massacre**

The **massacre** of innocent civilians in the war zone was a tragic event.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
synonym: entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

frontline

adj. in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy

synonym: battlefield, cutting edge

(1) **frontline** health workers, (2) at the **frontline** of the war

Within days, the new aircraft was in **frontline** service.

toenail

n. the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance

synonym: nail, claw, hoof

(1) **toenail** fungus, (2) ingrown **toenail**

I accidentally stubbed my toe and broke my **toenail**.

displace

v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

synonym: evict, exile, remove

(1) **displace** workers, (2) **displace** the explosive power

The construction of the new dam will **displace** hundreds of families living downstream.

kidnapping

n. the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

synonym: abduction, snatch, kidnap

(1) **kidnapping** attempt, (2) mass **kidnapping**

She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated **kidnapping**.

pillage

n. the act of looting or plundering, particularly during times of war or conflict; the theft or destruction of property or valuables; (verb) to rob, loot, or plunder a place or area,

usually in a violent and destructive way

synonym : looting, plunder, raid

(1) violent **pillage**, (2) **pillage** gold and other treasures

The army's village **pillage** left the residents without food or shelter.

sibling

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

synonym : brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**

Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

singe

v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

synonym : sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric

I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

wrongdoing

n. an improper or illegal behavior or action

synonym : misconduct, crime, offense

(1) an accusation of **wrongdoing**, (2) willful **wrongdoing**

The CEO of the company denied any **wrongdoing** while admitting to mismanagement.

Session 2: Spelling

1. violent pi____e
n. the act of looting or plundering, particularly during times of war or conflict; the theft or destruction of property or valuables; (verb) to rob, loot, or plunder a place or area, usually in a violent and destructive way
2. civilian ca____ty
n. a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim
3. dr__e flight
n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
4. wr____h my back
v. to pull or twist something suddenly or violently
5. ex____e in popularity
v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
6. at the fr____ne of the war
adj. in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy
7. pa__e trend
adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
8. di____ce the explosive power
v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

ANSWERS: 1. pillage, 2. casualty, 3. drone, 4. wrench, 5. explode, 6. frontline, 7. passe, 8. displace

9. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
10. mu_____te a document *v.* to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably
11. military pre_____ion *n.* the state or condition of thinking about something continuously or obsessively
12. si__e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
13. na_____ss child *adj.* without a name or unknown; not named or identified
14. a di_____nt voice *adj.* sounds that are not in harmony or are in conflict with one another; an uncomfortable or tense feeling caused by conflicting ideas or emotions
15. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
16. sc_____h out a slogan *v.* to make a loud, high-pitched, piercing sound, often indicating pain or fear
17. bluish-vi____t *adj.* between blue and purple in hue
18. willful wro_____ng *n.* an improper or illegal behavior or action
19. ex_____e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
20. the speaker's dr__e *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

ANSWERS: 9. resilient, 10. mutilate, 11. preoccupation, 12. singe, 13. nameless, 14. dissonant, 15. improvisation, 16. screech, 17. violet, 18. wrongdoing, 19. explode, 20. drone

21. corporate pu___t *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
22. fire truck si__n *n.* a device that emits a loud, piercing sound, typically used as a warning or to get attention; historically, a creature in Greek mythology whose enchanting voice would lure sailors toward danger
23. di_____nt note *adj.* sounds that are not in harmony or are in conflict with one another; an uncomfortable or tense feeling caused by conflicting ideas or emotions
24. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
25. pre_____ion with work *n.* the state or condition of thinking about something continuously or obsessively
26. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
27. sc_____h with laughter *v.* to make a loud, high-pitched, piercing sound, often indicating pain or fear
28. military ca_____ty *n.* a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim
29. a st_____e man *adj.* free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing

ANSWERS: 21. puppet, 22. siren, 23. dissonant, 24. numb, 25. preoccupation, 26. electrify, 27. screech, 28. casualty, 29. sterile

30. wr___h off the lock *v.* to pull or twist something suddenly or violently
31. play with my si_____gs *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
32. unb_____le pain *adj.* not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable
33. thu_____us roar *adj.* producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive
34. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
35. ta_____ed umbrella *adj.* worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart
36. b__y emotion *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
37. ex_____st political views *n.* a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views
38. chicken br__h *n.* a liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been cooked, used as a base for soups and stews
39. investment dr_____wn *n.* the reduction or depletion of a resource, such as water, as a result of extraction or use; the act of withdrawing funds from an account or asset, typically associated with investment or borrowing

ANSWERS: 30. wrench, 31. sibling, 32. unbearable, 33. thunderous, 34. bury, 35. tattered, 36. bury, 37. extremist, 38. broth, 39. drawdown

40. have a si____g quarrel *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
41. w__l in pain *v.* to make a prolonged, high-pitched cry expressing grief, pain, or anger
42. 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.
43. pa__e entertainment *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
44. thu_____us noise *adj.* producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive
45. an un___n force *adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived
46. pi_____e gold and other treasures *n.* the act of looting or plundering, particularly during times of war or conflict; the theft or destruction of property or valuables; (verb) to rob, loot, or plunder a place or area, usually in a violent and destructive way
47. si__e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
48. the beautiful sound of a ce__o *n.* a large stringed instrument of the viola family, typically held between the knees when played; also known as violoncello
49. vi___t quartz *adj.* between blue and purple in hue
50. mass kid_____ng *n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

ANSWERS: 40. sibling, 41. wail, 42. troop, 43. passe, 44. thunderous, 45. unseen, 46. pillage, 47. singe, 48. cello, 49. violet, 50. kidnapping

51. animal ma____re *n.* the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals
52. burst of gu_____e *n.* the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time
53. local vi_____er *n.* a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community
54. police si__n *n.* a device that emits a loud, piercing sound, typically used as a warning or to get attention; historically, a creature in Greek mythology whose enchanting voice would lure sailors toward danger
55. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
56. ce__o music *n.* a large stringed instrument of the viola family, typically held between the knees when played; also known as violoncello
57. ta_____ed clothes *adj.* worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart
58. be_____e a fortress *v.* to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands
59. co_____ve of an idea *v.* to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant

ANSWERS: 51. massacre, 52. gunfire, 53. villager, 54. siren, 55. improvisation, 56. cello, 57. tattered, 58. besiege, 59. conceive

60. an accusation of wro_____ng *n.* an improper or illegal behavior or action
61. pu___t theater *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
62. 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.
63. st___g his face *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
64. a n___b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
65. vi_____er community *n.* a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community
66. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
67. radical ex_____st *n.* a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views
68. avoid ste_____pe *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

ANSWERS: 60. wrongdoing, 61. puppet, 62. troop, 63. sting, 64. numb, 65. villager, 66. resilient, 67. extremist, 68. stereotype

69. ma_____re in the village *n.* the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals
70. to_____l fungus *n.* the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance
71. ingrown to_____l *n.* the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance
72. st_____to speech *adj.* a style of musical performance or composition that involves playing each note separately and distinctly, with a sharp or abrupt tone; speech or writing that is abrupt or disjointed
73. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
74. st_____e environment *adj.* free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing
75. om_____s sign *adj.* giving the impression that something bad is going to happen; foreboding
76. ch_____te with a pawn *v.* to win a game of chess by putting the opponent's king in a position where it is unable to escape capture; to defeat or frustrate an opponent entirely; (noun) a situation where one person or side has put another in a position where they cannot escape defeat

ANSWERS: 69. massacre, 70. toenail, 71. toenail, 72. staccato, 73. electrify, 74. sterile, 75. ominous, 76. checkmate

77. un___n danger *adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived
78. w__l in sorrow *v.* to make a prolonged, high-pitched cry expressing grief, pain, or anger
79. kid_____ng attempt *n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
80. lethal gu_____e *n.* the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time
81. sn__e at each other *v.* to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism
82. na_____ss fear *adj.* without a name or unknown; not named or identified
83. negative ste_____pes *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
84. co_____ve a child *v.* to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
85. di_____ce workers *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
86. mu_____te a body *v.* to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably

ANSWERS: 77. unseen, 78. wail, 79. kidnapping, 80. gunfire, 81. snipe, 82. nameless, 83. stereotype, 84. conceive, 85. displace, 86. mutilate

87. a ch_____te situation *v.* to win a game of chess by putting the opponent's king in a position where it is unable to escape capture; to defeat or frustrate an opponent entirely; (noun) a situation where one person or side has put another in a position where they cannot escape defeat
88. be_____e an enemy *v.* to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands
89. fr_____ne health workers *adj.* in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy
90. an om_____s silence *adj.* giving the impression that something bad is going to happen; foreboding
91. sn__e at the suspect *v.* to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism
92. unb_____le heat *adj.* not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable
93. st__g me on the arm *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
94. st_____to rhythm *adj.* a style of musical performance or composition that involves playing each note separately and distinctly, with a sharp or abrupt tone; speech or writing that is abrupt or disjointed

ANSWERS: 87. checkmate, 88. besiege, 89. frontline, 90. ominous, 91. snipe, 92. unbearable, 93. sting, 94. staccato

95. dr____wn period *n.* the reduction or depletion of a resource, such as water, as a result of extraction or use; the act of withdrawing funds from an account or asset, typically associated with investment or borrowing
96. remains of br__h *n.* a liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been cooked, used as a base for soups and stews

ANSWERS: 95. drawdown, 96. broth

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Changing _____ about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.
n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
2. She played a passionate solo on her _____.
n. a large stringed instrument of the viola family, typically held between the knees when played; also known as violoncello
3. Within days, the new aircraft was in _____ service.
adj. in the most critical or dangerous position; in the military line or part of an army closest to the enemy
4. My left arm became _____.
adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
5. It is cruel for anyone to _____ an animal for any reason.
v. to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably
6. The army's village _____ left the residents without food or shelter.
n. the act of looting or plundering, particularly during times of war or conflict; the theft or destruction of property or valuables; (verb) to rob, loot, or plunder a place or area, usually in a violent and destructive way
7. The _____ of innocent civilians in the war zone was a tragic event.
n. the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals

ANSWERS: 1. stereotypes, 2. cello, 3. frontline, 4. numb, 5. mutilate, 6. pillage, 7. massacre

8. The _____ clouds in the sky foretold of an approaching storm.
adj. giving the impression that something bad is going to happen; foreboding
9. Surgeons must use _____ instruments to prevent infection during an operation.
adj. free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing
10. The journalist heard the sound of _____ while reporting in a war zone.
n. the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time
11. Enemy troops _____ the town during the war.
v. to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands
12. The organization initiated a _____ of resources from its disaster relief fund to assist the affected communities.
n. the reduction or depletion of a resource, such as water, as a result of extraction or use; the act of withdrawing funds from an account or asset, typically associated with investment or borrowing
13. I can't _____ he'd want to harm us.
v. to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
14. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.
v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
15. The chess player carefully planned his moves to _____ his opponent in just a few moves.
v. to win a game of chess by putting the opponent's king in a position where it is unable to escape capture; to defeat or frustrate an opponent entirely; (noun) a situation where one person or side has put another in a position where they cannot escape defeat

ANSWERS: 8. ominous, 9. sterile, 10. gunfire, 11. besieged, 12. drawdown, 13.

conceive, 14. bury, 15. checkmate

16. Bell-bottom jeans, once considered _____ fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.

adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

17. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

18. The baby _____ loudly, signaling its hunger.

v. to make a prolonged, high-pitched cry expressing grief, pain, or anger

19. She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated _____.

n. the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

20. The rural _____ were saddened by the destruction of their homes in the natural disaster.

n. a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community

21. Red and _____ are opposites on the color spectrum.

adj. between blue and purple in hue

22. Unfortunately, the driver was the only _____ in the car accident.

n. a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim

23. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 16. passe, 17. exploded, 18. wailed, 19. kidnapping, 20. villagers, 21. violet, 22. casualty, 23. electrify

24. He heard a _____ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
- n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
25. I accidentally stubbed my toe and broke my _____.
- n.* the hard, flat covering on the end of a toe, made of layers of dead skin cells; often requires regular grooming and trimming to maintain proper hygiene and appearance
26. She has an obsessive _____ with weight and shape.
- n.* the state or condition of thinking about something continuously or obsessively
27. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
- adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
28. I heard the _____ of an ambulance and moved my car to the side of the road.
- n.* a device that emits a loud, piercing sound, typically used as a warning or to get attention; historically, a creature in Greek mythology whose enchanting voice would lure sailors toward danger
29. Children often copy their parents or elder _____.
- n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
30. The CEO of the company denied any _____ while admitting to mismanagement.
- n.* an improper or illegal behavior or action
31. 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

ANSWERS: 24. drone, 25. toenail, 26. preoccupation, 27. resilient, 28. siren, 29. siblings, 30. wrongdoing, 31. improvisation

32. 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.

33. A deep sigh was _____ from his chest.

v. to pull or twist something suddenly or violently

34. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and _____ my dress.

v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

35. The loss of his wife was an _____ sorrow that he found hard to overcome.

adj. not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable

36. The _____ sound from the poorly tuned instruments was painful to listen to.

adj. sounds that are not in harmony or are in conflict with one another; an uncomfortable or tense feeling caused by conflicting ideas or emotions

37. Bees _____ as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.

v. to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick

38. The _____ applause lasted for several minutes after the performance.

adj. producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive

39. The _____ book was falling apart at the seams from being read too many times.

adj. worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart

ANSWERS: 32. troop, 33. wrenched, 34. singed, 35. unbearable, 36. dissonant, 37. sting, 38. thunderous, 39. tattered

40. The brakes on the car began to _____ as the driver suddenly stopped at the intersection.
- v.* to make a loud, high-pitched, piercing sound, often indicating pain or fear
41. 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
42. The _____ group planned a series of violent attacks to push its agenda.
- n.* a person who holds extreme political or religious views and who is willing to use violent or illegal methods to promote those views
43. The construction of the new dam will _____ hundreds of families living downstream.
- v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
44. The politician _____ at his opponent during the debate.
- v.* to make a sly or spiteful remark, often in a concealed or indirect way; to target someone with an unfair or unwarranted attack or criticism
45. The pianist played the piece with _____ notes, creating a lively and upbeat sound.
- adj.* a style of musical performance or composition that involves playing each note separately and distinctly, with a sharp or abrupt tone; speech or writing that is abrupt or disjointed
46. The politician was merely a _____ for the wealthy elite.
- n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else

ANSWERS: 40. screech, 41. broth, 42. extremist, 43. displace, 44. sniped, 45. staccato, 46. puppet

47. The consequences of the pandemic remain _____ as scientists continue to research the virus.

adj. not seen or noticed; not perceived

48. The victim could only describe their attacker as a _____ figure in the darkness.

adj. without a name or unknown; not named or identified

ANSWERS: 47. unseen, 48. nameless