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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Denis Dutton: A Darwinian theory of beauty | TED

Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

postmodern

adj. relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation

synonym: contemporary, poststructural, relativistic

(1) **postmodern** art, (2) **postmodern** anthropology

The **postmodern** architecture of the building was a contrast to the traditional designs in the neighborhood.

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.

bigwig

n. a powerful or influential person, especially in a particular sphere or organization; an important figure or high-ranking individual

synonym : executive, kingpin, mogul

(1) business **bigwig**, (2) political **bigwig**

The **bigwig** from the company's headquarters visited our office to discuss the new project.

barnacle

n. a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object

synonym : cirripede, shellfish, crustacean

(1) **barnacle** growth, (2) **barnacle** removal

The bottom of the boat was covered in **barnacles**, slowing its speed in the water.

pigeon

n. a stout-bodied bird with a small head, short legs, and a short, cooing call, typically found in cities and domesticated for food

(1) a racing **pigeon**, (2) **pigeon** on the roof

The **pigeon** perched on the windowsill, pecking at the bread crumbs left for it.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym : cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

uniformity

n. the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity

synonym :

uniformness, consistency, sameness

(1) lack of **uniformity**, (2) strive for **uniformity**

The **uniformity** of the products in this brand results from strict quality control measures.

adore

v. to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence

synonym: cherish, worship, idolize

(1) truly **adore** him, (2) **adore** the way she styles her hair

Children seem to **adore** chocolate ice cream no matter where they're from.

reconstruct

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

synonym: rebuild, revamp, reorganize

(1) **reconstruct** an image, (2) **reconstruct** the original text

They've decided to **reconstruct** a ruined castle.

engrave

v. to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner

synonym: carve, inscribe, etch

(1) **engrave** initials, (2) **engrave** metal

He wanted to **engrave** his wedding ring with their initials as a lasting symbol of their love.

prehistoric

adj. belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable

synonym: ancient, primitive, archaic

(1) **prehistoric** settlements, (2) **prehistoric** times

Scientists often fail to date archeological or **prehistorical** findings.

Pleistocene

adj. relating to the geological epoch between the Pliocene and Holocene, characterized by extensive glaciations and the presence of early human ancestors

synonym : glacial, ice age, epoch

(1) marine **Pleistocene** deposits, (2) **Pleistocene** climate fluctuations

Mammoths, saber-toothed cats, and giant ground sloths are examples of **Pleistocene** megafauna.

situ

adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

synonym : situational, contextual, circumstantial

(1) ex- **situ** conservation, (2) in- **situ** control

Melanoma in **situ** is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.

enlist

v. to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization

synonym : join, sign up, appoint

(1) **enlist** in a cause, (2) **enlist** for a soldier

He decided to **enlist** in the military after graduating from high school.

intensify

v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength

synonym : amplify, boost, strengthen

(1) **intensify** diplomatic efforts, (2) **intensify** a good relationship

Rebels have pledged to **intensify** the armed struggle against the dictatorship.

pancreas

n. a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine

synonym : gland, organ, islet

(1) **pancreas** inflammation, (2) **pancreas** function

The endocrine function of the **pancreas** involves the

secretion of hormones such as insulin.

fingernail

n. the hard, slightly curved part that covers the outer tip of each finger

synonym: claw, paw

(1) **fingernail** biting, (2) fake **fingernail**

The car body scraped off with a **fingernail**.

revulsion

n. a strong feeling of disgust, loathing, or aversion; an intense reaction that is often triggered by something unpleasant or offensive

synonym: disgust, repugnance, aversion

(1) sense of **revulsion**, (2) physical **revulsion**

His **revulsion** towards the cruel treatment of animals led him to become a vegan.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

malt

n. grains, typically barley that has been soaked, germinated, and dried in a specific process, used as a key ingredient in the production of beer, whisky, and malt vinegar, and used as a sweet or flavored ingredient in foods

synonym: grain, cereal, barley

(1) **malt** whiskey, (2) **malt** vinegar

The **malt** extract is a key ingredient in this homemade bread recipe, giving it a unique flavor.

barbecue

n. a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food

synonym: grill, cookout, outdoor cooking

(1) **barbecue** sauce, (2) **barbecue** grill

The **barbecue** at the park was a hit with all the families who attended.

rib

n. each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

synonym : costa

(1) brake a **rib**, (2) **rib** cage

The accident caused a cracked **rib**.

peacock

n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family

(1) as proud as a **peacock**, (2) male **peacock**

The vibrant feathers of the **peacock** made it stand out in the garden.

arouse

v. to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response

synonym : excite, stimulate, stir

(1) **arouse** desire, (2) **arouse** suspicion

The rousing speech by the politician **aroused** the audience to action.

fascination

n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

synonym : allure, attraction, charm

(1) rapt in **fascination**, (2) the **fascination** with classical music

I looked at the painting in **fascination**.

obsession

n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person

synonym : compulsion, fixation, enthusiasm

(1) **obsession** with character, (2) national **obsession**

Gambling became an **obsession** for him, and he eventually lost everything.

exert

v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
synonym: apply, use, maintain

(1) **exert** control, (2) **exert** influence

He **exerted** himself to lift the heavyweight.

magnetism

n. the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something

synonym: attraction, charisma, allure

(1) the **magnetism** of the moon, (2) animal **magnetism**

The child was drawn to the **magnetism** of the colorful toy display in the store.

savannah

n. a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close

synonym: grassland, plain

(1) **savannah** region, (2) tropical **savannah**

The birds live in tropical forests, **savannahs**, and arid semi-desert environments.

intersperse

v. to scatter or distribute among or between other things; to insert or place something at intervals

synonym: scatter, distribute, insert

(1) **intersperse** his speech, (2) **intersperse** exclamation marks

The author **interspersed** anecdotes throughout the book to break up the text and make it more engaging.

copse

n. a small group or thicket of trees or bushes; a small wooded area or grove

synonym: thicket, grove, woodland

(1) dense **copse**, (2) **copse** clearing

The hiking trail led us through a picturesque **copse** of trees.

scramble

v. to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you

synonym : jumble, disarrange

(1) **scramble** my mind, (2) **scramble** for support

Local business owners **scrambled** to find skilled workers.

bluish

adj. having a color that is a shade of blue

synonym : blue, azure, navy

(1) **bluish** cloth, (2) **bluish** color

The flowers had a **bluish** tint, indicating they needed to be riper.

greenery

n. plant life, especially lush and flourishing vegetation

synonym : vegetation, plants, foliage

(1) the **greenery** in a courtyard, (2) **greenery** environment

The city plans to add more **greenery** in public spaces to improve air quality and aesthetic.

riverbank

n. the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes

synonym : riverside, embankment

(1) **riverbank** erosion, (2) walk along the **riverbank**

We enjoyed a picnic on the **riverbank** and watched the boats go by.

shoreline

n. a line that separates land and sea

(1) **shoreline** erosion, (2) coral-reef **shoreline**

Flooding occurs along the city's **shoreline** due to the storm surge.

exhaustive

adj. comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned

synonym : thorough, complete, comprehensive

(1) **exhaustive** study, (2) **exhaustive** review

The team conducted an **exhaustive** search for the missing hiker, but unfortunately, she was never found.

stupendous

adj. extremely impressive, astonishing, or remarkable; of a size or degree that is difficult to comprehend or imagine

synonym : colossal, enormous, gigantic

(1) **stupendous** achievement, (2) **stupendous** view

The fireworks display was **stupendous**, lighting up the entire sky with vibrant colors.

skillful

adj. possessing or demonstrating a high level of proficiency, ability, or expertise in a particular skill or activity; adept or accomplished in a specific area

synonym : adept, proficient, adroit

(1) **skillful** craftsmanship, (2) **skillful** negotiation

The **skillful** artist effortlessly painted a masterpiece with precision and finesse.

ochre

n. a natural earth pigment that ranges in color from yellow to reddish-brown, often used as a dye and in early forms of painting and art

synonym : yellow earth, golden ochre

(1) **ochre** pigment, (2) apply **ochre**

The artist used **ochre** paint to create a warm and earthy tone in the landscape.

artifact

n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

synonym : antique, relic, heirloom

(1) paleolithic **artifacts**, (2) Peruvian **artifacts**

The museum has a vast collection of Greek **artifacts**.

ache

v. to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain

synonym : hurt, throb, smart

(1) **ache** abominably, (2) **ache** all the time

I **ache** all over after running a marathon yesterday.

- ax** *n.* a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
synonym : hatchet, chopper, tomahawk
(1) chop wood with an **ax**, (2) an **ax** in the toolbox
He used an **ax** to chop the firewood for the campfire.
- chop** *v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
synonym : cut, hack, slice
(1) **chop** wood, (2) **chop** a meet with a knife
The cook **chopped** the vegetables for the soup.
- gorge** *n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
synonym : canyon, gully, ravine
(1) cast the **gorge**, (2) the **gorges** of the Yangtse River
We must pass through the narrow **gorge** with a stream running through it.
- arresting** *adj.* attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
synonym : striking, impressive, captivating
(1) an **arresting** image, (2) an **arresting** sight
The painting's **arresting** beauty made it difficult to look away.
- symmetrical** *adj.* having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts
synonym : harmonious, balanced, proportional
(1) **symmetrical** triangle, (2) **symmetrical** pattern
This figure is **symmetrical** about the x-axis.
- teardrop** *n.* anything shaped like a falling drop as a pendant gem on an earring; a single tear that falls from the eye
synonym : tear
(1) **teardrop** balloon, (2) **teardrop** earring

Teardrop rubies and diamonds were set in white gold.

unearth

v. to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: discover, uncover, expose

(1) **unearth** burial mound, (2) **unearth** a mystery

The detective **unearthed** a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.

scatter

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions

synonym: disperse, spread, bestrew

(1) **scatter** seeds, (2) **scatter** around the internet

The hunter's approach **scattered** the geese.

roam

v. to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander

synonym: wander, ramble, meander

(1) **roam** freely, (2) **roam** the countryside

I love to **roam** around the city and discover new neighborhoods.

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**.

butcher

n. a person who prepares and sells meat, especially at a retail shop; a person who kills or slaughters animals, especially for food; a person who engages in the relentless or brutal treatment of others

synonym: butcherer, meat cutter, slaughterer

(1) **butcher** knife, (2) local **butcher**

He's a vegetarian and was shocked to see so much meat in the **butcher** shop.

meticulous

adj. cautious and precise; paying great attention to detail
synonym: careful, precise, thorough

(1) take **meticulous** notes, (2) a **meticulous** carpenter
She is known for her **meticulous** attention to detail in her work.

workmanship

n. the quality or skill with which something, especially a crafted item or construction, has been made or done; the level of artistry and craftsmanship displayed in a particular piece of work

synonym: craftsmanship, artistry, skill

(1) the painting's **workmanship**, (2) high **workmanship** standards

The intricate details and flawless craftsmanship in the furniture demonstrate exquisite **workmanship**.

captivate

v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of

synonym: enchant, charm, fascinate

(1) **captivate** public sentiment, (2) **captivate** the mind

The magician **captivated** the audience with his illusions.

contemplate

v. to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

synonym: think over, ponder, consider

(1) **contemplate** a marriage, (2) **contemplated** leaving school

I recently **contemplated** dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.

virtuoso

n. a person highly skilled in music, art, or some other pursuit

synonym: master, artist, expert

(1) versatile **virtuoso**, (2) a **virtuoso** on the guitar

He was a **virtuoso** pianist and played with incredible skill and precision.

craftsman

n. a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials

synonym : artisan, mechanic, workman

(1) **craftsman** skill, (2) a subtle **craftsman**

The adept **craftsman** carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.

consciously

adv. with awareness; in a deliberate manner

synonym : intentionally, deliberately, knowingly

(1) **consciously** aware of a problem, (2) act **consciously**

He **consciously** criticizes her in the publicity.

conscientious

adj. characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions

synonym : diligent, thorough, meticulous

(1) **conscientious** worker, (2) **conscientious** objection

Conscientious student always turned in their assignments on time.

hominid

n. a primate of a family (Hominidae) that includes humans and their fossil ancestors

synonym : human, primate, ancestor

(1) large-toothed **hominid**, (2) **hominid** evolution

Scientists have discovered new fossil evidence of an ancient **hominid** species.

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.

doubtful

adj. uncertain or unlikely to happen

synonym : uncertain, questionable, unsure

(1) a book of **doubtful** authorship, (2) **doubtful** whether

It is **doubtful** that we will be able to finish the project on time.

amuse

v. to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh
synonym: entertain, delight, divert

(1) **amuse** a baby with a rattle, (2) **amuse** guests

He **amused** himself by playing video games during his free time.

amaze

v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
synonym: astound, surprise, stagger

(1) **amaze** and entertain visitors, (2) **amaze** everyone

The magician's tricks **amazed** the audience.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories
synonym: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

hairstyle

n. the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head
synonym: hairdo, coiffure, haircut

(1) modern **hairstyle**, (2) bob **hairstyle**

My sister got a new **hairstyle** for her job interview.

trait

n. a particular feature of your nature
synonym: attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

ancestral

adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past
synonym: hereditary, inherited, patrimonial

(1) an **ancestral** graveyard, (2) **ancestral** roots

The **ancestral** home has been in the family for generations.

craving

n. a strong desire of wanting something

synonym: desire, appetite, longing

(1) **craving** for revenge, (2) curb our **cravings**

I have a **craving** for nicotine.

innate

adj. existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience

synonym: natural, inherent, inborn

(1) **innate** ability, (2) **innate** quality

The belief in **innate** human goodness is a common philosophical concept.

sparkle

v. to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy

synonym: shine, glimmer, twinkle

(1) **sparkle** like a gem, (2) **sparkle** from receiving light

The diamond **sparkled** in the sunlight.

descendant

n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal

synonym: child, offspring, heir

(1) **descendant** of a pioneer, (2) third-generation

descendant

Those warriors' **descendants** are still skilled archers.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. c__p a meet with a knife | <i>v.</i> to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife |
| 2. environmental det_____nt | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 3. bu_____r knife | <i>n.</i> a person who prepares and sells meat, especially at a retail shop; a person who kills or slaughters animals, especially for food; a person who engages in the relentless or brutal treatment of others |
| 4. r_b cage | <i>n.</i> each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule |
| 5. an ax in the toolbox | <i>n.</i> a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials |
| 6. courtroom sto_____ing | <i>n.</i> the act or art of narrating or writing stories |
| 7. Ple_____ne climate fluctuations | <i>adj.</i> relating to the geological epoch between the Pliocene and Holocene, characterized by extensive glaciations and the presence of early human ancestors |
| 8. fake fin_____il | <i>n.</i> the hard, slightly curved part that covers the outer tip of each finger |

ANSWERS: 1. chop, 2. determinant, 3. butcher, 4. rib, 5. ax, 6. storytelling, 7. Pleistocene, 8. fingernail

9. animal ma_____sm *n.* the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something
10. the ma_____sm of the moon *n.* the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something
11. versatile vi_____so *n.* a person highly skilled in music, art, or some other pursuit
12. stu_____us achievement *adj.* extremely impressive, astonishing, or remarkable; of a size or degree that is difficult to comprehend or imagine
13. coral-reef sh_____ne *n.* a line that separates land and sea
14. en_____e initials *v.* to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner
15. the gr_____ry in a courtyard *n.* plant life, especially lush and flourishing vegetation
16. con_____ted leaving school *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
17. earliest human an_____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

ANSWERS: 9. magnetism, 10. magnetism, 11. virtuoso, 12. stupendous, 13. shoreline, 14. engrave, 15. greenery, 16. contemplate, 17. ancestor

18. ex__t influence *v.* to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
19. con_____ly aware of a problem *adv.* with awareness; in a deliberate manner
20. ex-s__u conservation *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
21. walk along the ri_____nk *n.* the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes
22. cast the go__e *n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
23. co__e clearing *n.* a small group or thicket of trees or bushes; a small wooded area or grove
24. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
25. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
26. ob_____on with character *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
27. pa_____as inflammation *n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine
28. bl___h color *adj.* having a color that is a shade of blue

ANSWERS: 18. exert, 19. consciously, 20. situ, 21. riverbank, 22. gorge, 23. copse, 24. storytelling, 25. intellect, 26. obsession, 27. pancreas, 28. bluish

29. truly ad__e him *v.* to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence
30. sa_____ah region *n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
31. am__e and entertain visitors *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
32. 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
33. ba_____ue grill *n.* a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food
34. fin_____il biting *n.* the hard, slightly curved part that covers the outer tip of each finger
35. an_____al roots *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
36. rapt in fas_____on *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
37. ba_____ue sauce *n.* a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food

ANSWERS: 29. adore, 30. savannah, 31. amaze, 32. theorist, 33. barbecue, 34. fingernail, 35. ancestral, 36. fascination, 37. barbecue

38. marine Ple_____ne deposits *adj.* relating to the geological epoch between the Pliocene and Holocene, characterized by extensive glaciations and the presence of early human ancestors
39. 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
40. the painting's wor_____ip *n.* the quality or skill with which something, especially a crafted item or construction, has been made or done; the level of artistry and craftsmanship displayed in a particular piece of work
41. apply oc__e *n.* a natural earth pigment that ranges in color from yellow to reddish-brown, often used as a dye and in early forms of painting and art
42. des_____nt of a pioneer *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
43. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
44. sp_____e from receiving light *v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
45. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
46. sym_____al triangle *adj.* having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts

ANSWERS: 38. Pleistocene, 39. theorist, 40. workmanship, 41. ochre, 42. descendant, 43. numb, 44. sparkle, 45. intellect, 46. symmetrical

47. sc_____le my mind *v.* to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you
48. business bi____g *n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in a particular sphere or organization; an important figure or high-ranking individual
49. third-generation des_____nt *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
50. begin to r_t *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
51. take met_____us notes *adj.* cautious and precise; paying great attention to detail
52. ba_____le growth *n.* a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object
53. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
54. ca_____te public sentiment *v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of
55. en_____e metal *v.* to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner

ANSWERS: 47. scramble, 48. bigwig, 49. descendant, 50. rot, 51. meticulous, 52. barnacle, 53. determinant, 54. captivate, 55. engrave

56. ar___e desire *v.* to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response
57. political bi___g *n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in a particular sphere or organization; an important figure or high-ranking individual
58. in_____fy diplomatic efforts *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
59. sk_____ul negotiation *adj.* possessing or demonstrating a high level of proficiency, ability, or expertise in a particular skill or activity; adept or accomplished in a specific area
60. un_____h burial mound *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
61. te_____op balloon *n.* anything shaped like a falling drop as a pendant gem on an earring; a single tear that falls from the eye
62. rec_____ct an image *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
63. ri_____nk erosion *n.* the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes
64. sense of re_____on *n.* a strong feeling of disgust, loathing, or aversion; an intense reaction that is often triggered by something unpleasant or offensive
65. sc_____r around the internet *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions

ANSWERS: 56. arouse, 57. bigwig, 58. intensify, 59. skillful, 60. unearth, 61. teardrop, 62. reconstruct, 63. riverbank, 64. revulsion, 65. scatter

66. ba____le removal *n.* a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object
67. pre____ic times *adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable
68. tropical sa____ah *n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
69. as proud as a pe____k *n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
70. gr____ry environment *n.* plant life, especially lush and flourishing vegetation
71. cr____an skill *n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
72. r__m the countryside *v.* to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
73. the fas____on with classical music *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
74. curb our cr____gs *n.* a strong desire of wanting something
75. large-toothed ho____d *n.* a primate of a family (Hominidae) that includes humans and their fossil ancestors
76. m__t vinegar *n.* grains, typically barley that has been soaked, germinated, and dried in a specific process, used as a key ingredient in the production of beer, whisky, and malt vinegar, and used as a sweet or flavored ingredient in foods

ANSWERS: 66. barnacle, 67. prehistoric, 68. savannah, 69. peacock, 70. greenery, 71. craftsman, 72. roam, 73. fascination, 74. craving, 75. hominid, 76. malt

77. a book of do____ul authorship *adj.* uncertain or unlikely to happen
78. m__t whiskey *n.* grains, typically barley that has been soaked, germinated, and dried in a specific process, used as a key ingredient in the production of beer, whisky, and malt vinegar, and used as a sweet or flavored ingredient in foods
79. ho____d evolution *n.* a primate of a family (Hominidae) that includes humans and their fossil ancestors
80. am__e a baby with a rattle *v.* to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh
81. sc____r seeds *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
82. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
83. local bu____r *n.* a person who prepares and sells meat, especially at a retail shop; a person who kills or slaughters animals, especially for food; a person who engages in the relentless or brutal treatment of others
84. a__e all the time *v.* to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain
85. dense co__e *n.* a small group or thicket of trees or bushes; a small wooded area or grove
86. in____fy a good relationship *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
87. am__e guests *v.* to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh

ANSWERS: 77. doubtful, 78. malt, 79. hominid, 80. amuse, 81. scatter, 82. rot, 83. butcher, 84. ache, 85. copse, 86. intensify, 87. amuse

88. an ar_____ng sight *adj.* attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
89. int_____se his speech *v.* to scatter or distribute among or between other things; to insert or place something at intervals
90. sym_____al pattern *adj.* having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts
91. oc__e pigment *n.* a natural earth pigment that ranges in color from yellow to reddish-brown, often used as a dye and in early forms of painting and art
92. lack of uni_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity
93. cr_____g for revenge *n.* a strong desire of wanting something
94. male pe_____k *n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
95. physical re_____on *n.* a strong feeling of disgust, loathing, or aversion; an intense reaction that is often triggered by something unpleasant or offensive
96. pi____n on the roof *n.* a stout-bodied bird with a small head, short legs, and a short, cooing call, typically found in cities and domesticated for food
97. sc_____le for support *v.* to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you

ANSWERS: 88. arresting, 89. intersperse, 90. symmetrical, 91. ochre, 92. uniformity, 93. craving, 94. peacock, 95. revulsion, 96. pigeon, 97. scramble

98. exh_____ve study *adj.* comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned
99. chop wood with an ax *n.* a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
100. chemical tr__t *n.* a particular feature of your nature
101. stu_____us view *adj.* extremely impressive, astonishing, or remarkable; of a size or degree that is difficult to comprehend or imagine
102. a met_____us carpenter *adj.* cautious and precise; paying great attention to detail
103. exh_____ve review *adj.* comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned
104. sk_____ul craftsmanship *adj.* possessing or demonstrating a high level of proficiency, ability, or expertise in a particular skill or activity; adept or accomplished in a specific area
105. personality tr__ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature
106. pre_____ic settlements *adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable
107. brake a r_b *n.* each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule
108. r__m freely *v.* to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
109. ex__t control *v.* to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play

ANSWERS: 98. exhaustive, 99. ax, 100. trait, 101. stupendous, 102. meticulous, 103. exhaustive, 104. skillful, 105. trait, 106. prehistoric, 107. rib, 108. roam, 109. exert

110. un_____h a mystery *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
111. an an_____al graveyard *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
112. strive for uni_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity
113. pos_____rn anthropology *adj.* relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation
114. am__e everyone *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
115. paleolithic ar_____cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
116. a vi_____so on the guitar *n.* a person highly skilled in music, art, or some other pursuit
117. high wor_____ip standards *n.* the quality or skill with which something, especially a crafted item or construction, has been made or done; the level of artistry and craftsmanship displayed in a particular piece of work
118. the go__es of the Yangtse River *n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
119. an ar_____ng image *adj.* attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something

ANSWERS: 110. unearth, 111. ancestral, 112. uniformity, 113. postmodern, 114. amaze, 115. artifact, 116. virtuoso, 117. workmanship, 118. gorge, 119. arresting

120. a n__b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
121. modern ha_____le *n.* the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head
122. ar___e suspicion *v.* to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response
123. a subtle cr_____an *n.* a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
124. in-s__u control *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
125. sp_____e like a gem *v.* to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
126. pos_____rn art *adj.* relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation
127. rec_____ct the original text *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
128. en___t for a soldier *v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization
129. bob ha_____le *n.* the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head
130. Peruvian ar_____cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

ANSWERS: 120. numb, 121. hairstyle, 122. arouse, 123. craftsman, 124. situ, 125. sparkle, 126. postmodern, 127. reconstruct, 128. enlist, 129. hairstyle, 130. artifact

131. con_____ous objection *adj.* characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions
132. en___t in a cause *v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization
133. a racing pi___n *n.* a stout-bodied bird with a small head, short legs, and a short, cooing call, typically found in cities and domesticated for food
134. in___e ability *adj.* existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience
135. an_____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
136. te_____op earring *n.* anything shaped like a falling drop as a pendant gem on an earring; a single tear that falls from the eye
137. con_____te a marriage *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
138. c__p wood *v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
139. bl___h cloth *adj.* having a color that is a shade of blue
140. a__e abominably *v.* to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain
141. in___e quality *adj.* existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience

ANSWERS: 131. conscientious, 132. enlist, 133. pigeon, 134. innate, 135. ancestor, 136. teardrop, 137. contemplate, 138. chop, 139. bluish, 140. ache, 141. innate

142. act con_____ly *adv.* with awareness; in a deliberate manner
143. national ob_____on *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
144. ad__e the way she styles her hair *v.* to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence
145. int_____se exclamation marks *v.* to scatter or distribute among or between other things; to insert or place something at intervals
146. con_____ous worker *adj.* characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions
147. sh_____ne erosion *n.* a line that separates land and sea
148. pa_____as function *n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine
149. do_____ul whether *adj.* uncertain or unlikely to happen
150. ca_____te the mind *v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of

ANSWERS: 142. consciously, 143. obsession, 144. adore, 145. intersperse, 146. conscientious, 147. shoreline, 148. pancreas, 149. doubtful, 150. captivate

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She is known for her _____ attention to detail in her work.
adj. cautious and precise; paying great attention to detail

2. 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

3. The fireworks display was _____ lighting up the entire sky with vibrant colors.
adj. extremely impressive, astonishing, or remarkable; of a size or degree that is difficult to comprehend or imagine

4. The intricate details and flawless craftsmanship in the furniture demonstrate exquisite _____.
n. the quality or skill with which something, especially a crafted item or construction, has been made or done; the level of artistry and craftsmanship displayed in a particular piece of work

5. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

6. I love to _____ around the city and discover new neighborhoods.
v. to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander

ANSWERS: 1. meticulous, 2. theorist, 3. stupendous, 4. workmanship, 5. determinant, 6. roam

7. The _____ from the company's headquarters visited our office to discuss the new project.
- n.* a powerful or influential person, especially in a particular sphere or organization; an important figure or high-ranking individual
8. The endocrine function of the _____ involves the secretion of hormones such as insulin.
- n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine
9. The _____ artist effortlessly painted a masterpiece with precision and finesse.
- adj.* possessing or demonstrating a high level of proficiency, ability, or expertise in a particular skill or activity; adept or accomplished in a specific area
10. He wanted to _____ his wedding ring with their initials as a lasting symbol of their love.
- v.* to carve, cut, or etch a design, message, or image onto a surface, often using a sharp tool or laser; to permanently record or mark something in a lasting manner
11. The city plans to add more _____ in public spaces to improve air quality and aesthetic.
- n.* plant life, especially lush and flourishing vegetation
12. Local business owners _____ to find skilled workers.
- v.* to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you
13. He _____ himself by playing video games during his free time.
- v.* to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh

ANSWERS: 7. bigwig, 8. pancreas, 9. skillful, 10. engrave, 11. greenery, 12. scrambled, 13. amused

14. The author _____ anecdotes throughout the book to break up the text and make it more engaging.
- v.* to scatter or distribute among or between other things; to insert or place something at intervals
15. The _____ perched on the windowsill, pecking at the bread crumbs left for it.
- n.* a stout-bodied bird with a small head, short legs, and a short, cooing call, typically found in cities and domesticated for food
16. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.
- n.* a particular feature of your nature
17. The painting's _____ beauty made it difficult to look away.
- adj.* attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
18. The _____ at the park was a hit with all the families who attended.
- n.* a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food
19. The _____ architecture of the building was a contrast to the traditional designs in the neighborhood.
- adj.* relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation
20. The flowers had a _____ tint, indicating they needed to be riper.
- adj.* having a color that is a shade of blue
21. I recently _____ dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.
- v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

ANSWERS: 14. interspersed, 15. pigeon, 16. traits, 17. arresting, 18. barbecue, 19. postmodern, 20. bluish, 21. contemplated

22. The belief in _____ human goodness is a common philosophical concept.
adj. existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience
23. He's a vegetarian and was shocked to see so much meat in the _____ shop.
n. a person who prepares and sells meat, especially at a retail shop; a person who kills or slaughters animals, especially for food; a person who engages in the relentless or brutal treatment of others
24. He _____ himself to lift the heavyweight.
v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
25. The adept _____ carefully carved the wooden figurine with precision and skill.
n. a skilled worker who creates handmade objects, especially one who works with wood, metal, or other materials
26. The cook _____ the vegetables for the soup.
v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
27. The museum has a vast collection of Greek _____.
n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
28. The child was drawn to the _____ of the colorful toy display in the store.
n. the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something
29. He used an ___ to chop the firewood for the campfire.
n. a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials

ANSWERS: 22. innate, 23. butcher, 24. exerted, 25. craftsman, 26. chopped, 27. artifacts, 28. magnetism, 29. ax

30. Children seem to _____ chocolate ice cream no matter where they're from.
v. to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence
31. Scientists often fail to date archeological or _____ findings.
adj. belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable
32. The rousing speech by the politician _____ the audience to action.
v. to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response
33. The _____ home has been in the family for generations.
adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past
34. Scientists have discovered new fossil evidence of an ancient _____ species.
n. a primate of a family (Hominidae) that includes humans and their fossil ancestors
35. He _____ criticizes her in the publicity.
adv. with awareness; in a deliberate manner
36. He was a _____ pianist and played with incredible skill and precision.
n. a person highly skilled in music, art, or some other pursuit
37. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.
v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
38. Those warriors' _____ are still skilled archers.
n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal

ANSWERS: 30. adore, 31. prehistorical, 32. aroused, 33. ancestral, 34. hominid, 35. consciously, 36. virtuoso, 37. rot, 38. descendants

39. Rebels have pledged to _____ the armed struggle against the dictatorship.
v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
40. Mammoths, saber-toothed cats, and giant ground sloths are examples of _____ megafauna.
adj. relating to the geological epoch between the Pliocene and Holocene, characterized by extensive glaciations and the presence of early human ancestors
41. They've decided to _____ a ruined castle.
v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
42. We must pass through the narrow _____ with a stream running through it.
n. a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
43. The diamond _____ in the sunlight.
v. to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
44. His _____ towards the cruel treatment of animals led him to become a vegan.
n. a strong feeling of disgust, loathing, or aversion; an intense reaction that is often triggered by something unpleasant or offensive
45. Gambling became an _____ for him, and he eventually lost everything.
n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
46. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 39. intensify, 40. Pleistocene, 41. reconstruct, 42. gorge, 43. sparkled, 44. revulsion, 45. obsession, 46. storytelling

47. The detective _____ a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.
- v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
48. I have a _____ for nicotine.
- n.* a strong desire of wanting something
49. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.
- v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
50. The bottom of the boat was covered in _____ slowing its speed in the water.
- n.* a type of crustacean that attaches itself to hard surfaces underwater, such as rocks, ships, or docks; a metaphorical term used to describe a person or object that is difficult to remove or separate from another person or object
51. _____ rubies and diamonds were set in white gold.
- n.* anything shaped like a falling drop as a pendant gem on an earring; a single tear that falls from the eye
52. The car body scraped off with a _____.
- n.* the hard, slightly curved part that covers the outer tip of each finger
53. The hiking trail led us through a picturesque _____ of trees.
- n.* a small group or thicket of trees or bushes; a small wooded area or grove
54. I looked at the painting in _____.
- n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

ANSWERS: 47. unearthed, 48. craving, 49. scattered, 50. barnacles, 51. Teardrop, 52. fingernail, 53. copse, 54. fascination

55. _____ student always turned in their assignments on time.
adj. characterized by a sense of duty or responsibility; diligent, meticulous, and careful in one's work or actions
56. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
57. The magician _____ the audience with his illusions.
v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of
58. Flooding occurs along the city's _____ due to the storm surge.
n. a line that separates land and sea
59. The artist used _____ paint to create a warm and earthy tone in the landscape.
n. a natural earth pigment that ranges in color from yellow to reddish-brown, often used as a dye and in early forms of painting and art
60. The _____ extract is a key ingredient in this homemade bread recipe, giving it a unique flavor.
n. grains, typically barley that has been soaked, germinated, and dried in a specific process, used as a key ingredient in the production of beer, whisky, and malt vinegar, and used as a sweet or flavored ingredient in foods
61. This figure is _____ about the x-axis.
adj. having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts
62. He decided to _____ in the military after graduating from high school.
v. to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization

ANSWERS: 55. Conscientious, 56. intellect, 57. captivated, 58. shoreline, 59. ochre, 60. malt, 61. symmetrical, 62. enlist

63. We enjoyed a picnic on the _____ and watched the boats go by.
n. the land along the edge of a river, often used for recreation or agricultural purposes
64. The vibrant feathers of the _____ made it stand out in the garden.
n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
65. The magician's tricks _____ the audience.
v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
66. My sister got a new _____ for her job interview.
n. the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head
67. Melanoma in _____ is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.
adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
68. The birds live in tropical forests, _____ and arid semi-desert environments.
n. a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
69. My left arm became _____.
adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
70. I _____ all over after running a marathon yesterday.
v. to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain

ANSWERS: 63. riverbank, 64. peacock, 65. amazed, 66. hairstyle, 67. situ, 68. savannahs, 69. numb, 70. ache

71. It is _____ that we will be able to finish the project on time.

adj. uncertain or unlikely to happen

72. The _____ of the products in this brand results from strict quality control measures.

n. the state or quality of being the same or consistent in form, character, or action; the absence of variation or diversity

73. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

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

74. The accident caused a cracked _____.

n. each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

75. The team conducted an _____ search for the missing hiker, but unfortunately, she was never found.

adj. comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned

ANSWERS: 71. doubtful, 72. uniformity, 73. ancestor, 74. rib, 75. exhaustive