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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ellen Dunham-Jones: Retrofitting suburbia | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

unintended

adj. not planned or meant

synonym: accidental, unconsenting, involuntary

(1) **unintended** bias, (2) **unintended** misunderstanding

Excessive human interference in the global environment may bring **unintended** consequences.

retrofit

v. to put a new component or accessory into a machine that did not initially have it when manufactured

synonym: backfit, reconstruct, recycle

(1) **retrofit** an electronic system, (2) **retrofit** applications

A **retrofit** may involve putting in new door jambs.

inhabit

v. to live in a specific location; to reside

synonym: settle, occupy, populate

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

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

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.

opportune

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

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

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

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

dweller

n. a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location

synonym: resident, occupant, inhabitant

(1) city **dweller**, (2) rural **dweller**

The mountain **dweller** lived off the land and had a deep connection to nature.

footprint

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

synonym: footmark, imprint, impression

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

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

suburbanite

n. a person who lives in a suburban area, which is often a residential area near a larger city or urban center

synonym: resident, suburban dweller

(1) **suburbanite** neighborhood, (2) upscale **suburbanite**

The **suburbanite** lifestyle is often associated with a car-dependent culture.

urbanize

v. to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns

synonym: develop, modernize, city-build

(1) **urbanize** a region, (2) **urbanize** transportation systems

The government plans to **urbanize** the rural area by building more housing units and improving transportation infrastructure.

sedentary

adj. characterized by or involving a lot of sitting or little physical activity; inactive or lacking in exercise or

movement

synonym: inactive, stationary, immobile

(1) **sedentary** desk job, (2) **sedentary** behavior

His **sedentary** lifestyle and lack of exercise contributed to his declining health.

alarming

adj. causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing

synonym: forbidding, concerning, disturbing

(1) **alarming** news, (2) **alarming** statistics

The sudden rise in crime rates in our neighborhood is quite **alarming**.

escalate

v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

synonym: increase, intensify, expand

(1) **escalate** into a major international incident, (2) to **escalate**

The situation quickly **escalated** and turned violent.

leafy

adj. covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat

synonym: verdant, leaf-covered, foliated

(1) **leafy** canopy, (2) **leafy** suburbs

The neighborhood is known for its **leafy** trees and verdant gardens.

soulless

adj. having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling

synonym: heartless, affectless, cold-blooded

(1) he is **soulless** and mechanical, (2) in a **soulless** manner

She is sitting in a tree with a **soulless** look after hearing the news.

retiring

adj. withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved

synonym : shy, leaving, quitting

(1) near **retiring** age, (2) a **retiring** pension

The **retiring** CEO passed on the reins to his successor.

demography

n. the study of the statistics of human populations, such as size, growth, density, distribution, and vital statistics

synonym : population statistics, human ecology

(1) **demography** study, (2) the city's **demography** report

The **demography** of the country is changing rapidly due to migration and the aging population

underperform

v. to perform less successfully or effectively than expected, needed, or desired; to fail to meet one's own or others' expectations or standards

synonym : underachieve, perform poorly, fall short

(1) **underperform** expectations, (2) **underperform** the market

The team **underperformed** in the championship game, leading to their defeat.

asphalt

n. a black, sticky substance that is used to surface roads, roofs, and other structures made from a mixture of sand, gravel, and a petroleum-based material called bitumen

synonym : tar, road surface, blacktop

(1) **asphalt** pavement, (2) **asphalt** driveway

The road crew was laying fresh **asphalt** on the highway.

postwar

adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies

synonym : subsequent, aftermath

(1) **postwar** years, (2) **postwar** society

The **postwar** period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.

leapfrog

n. a children's game in which players take turns jumping over each other's stooped backs

synonym: hopping, jumpfrog

(1) **leapfrog** game, (2) **leapfrog** technology

During recess, the children played a game of **leapfrog** in the schoolyard.

sprawl

v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out

synonym: drape, spread out

(1) **sprawl** out luxuriously on the sofa, (2) **sprawl** for acres

The lush vegetation **sprawls** across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.

troupe

n. a group of actors, dancers, or performers who work together as a team, typically in a theatrical or musical production

synonym: company, ensemble, group

(1) **troupe** rehearsal, (2) circus **troupe**

The theater **troupe** is performing Hamlet this weekend.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym: formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

swale

n. a shallow depression or low-lying area of land, often found in a landscape with gentle slopes, which may serve to collect water or direct its flow, and they can also be used as a landscaping technique for stormwater management

synonym: ditch, trough, depression

(1) **swale** drainage, (2) roadside **swale**

The construction site implemented a **swale** system to prevent erosion and sediment runoff.

underestimate

v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

synonym: underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

proclaim

v. to announce or state something publicly and forcefully

synonym: announce, declare, trumpet

(1) **proclaim** victory, (2) **proclaim** law

The leader **proclaimed** a state of emergency in the country.

sociologist

n. a person who studies the institutions and development of human society

(1) religious **sociologist**, (2) French **sociologist**

Sociologist studies the changes in family structure due to modernization.

scrape

v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

synonym: scratch, graze, rub

(1) **scrape** meat off a bone, (2) **scrape** a hole in the ground

He **scraped** the mud off his boots before entering the house.

infill

v. to fill in or complete a space, usually by adding material to fill gaps or voids; (noun) the act of filling in or adding material to a space or gap, often used in construction or architecture to describe the process of filling in open spaces in a building or development

synonym: fill in, complete, pack in

(1) **infill** development, (2) **infill** the cavity with a dental filling

The construction workers will **infill** the trench with concrete.

heyday

n. a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something

synonym: prime, zenith, peak

(1) the **heyday** of rock music, (2) high-tech **heyday**

The restaurant was famous in its **heyday** for its delicious food and famous patrons

promenade

n. a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern

synonym : stroll, walkway, boulevard

(1) evening **promenade**, (2) **promenade** in the park

The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful **promenade** for tourists and locals alike.

multistory

adj. referring to a building or structure that has multiple floors or levels; characterized or designed for multiple stories or levels

synonym : multi-level, high-rise, tower

(1) **multistory** mall, (2) **multistory** car park

The **multistory** building had a stunning rooftop garden.

bulldoze

v. to level or clear an area of land using a bulldozer (= a large, heavy vehicle with a blade on the front); to use force or the threat of force to make them do something or to get them to move out of the way

synonym : level, clear, demolish

(1) **bulldoze** a mound, (2) **bulldoze** a person into buying

They **bulldozed** the old building to make way for a new one.

plow

n. a farming implement used for breaking up and turning over the soil, especially before planting; (verb) to turn over and break up the soil in preparation for planting crops

synonym : plough, cultivator, hoe

(1) **plow** equipment, (2) deeply **plow** the soil

The farmer tied the yoke oxen to the **plow**.

boulevard

n. a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade

synonym : avenue, street, road

(1) tree-lined **boulevard**, (2) residential **boulevard**

The new shopping center is on a bustling **boulevard** in the city's heart.

undesirable

adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance

synonym : objectionable, distasteful, unwanted

(1) **undesirable** outcome, (2) **undesirable** behavior

The smell of the garbage was very **undesirable**.

dignify

v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

synonym : elevate, ennoble, honor

(1) **dignify** the role, (2) **dignify** the occasion

It's important to **dignify** other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.

flint

n. a hard, gray stone that can produce sparks when struck with steel used historically to start fires; a type of microcrystalline quartz used for making tools, weapons, and jewelry

synonym : hardstone, tinder, firestone

(1) **flint** tools, (2) the **flint** on my lighter

The archeologist found a **flint** arrowhead on the dig site.

burgeon

v. to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way

synonym : flourish, bloom, thrive

(1) **burgeon** rapidly, (2) **burgeon** from every corner.

The city's art scene has been **burgeoning** recently, with new galleries and exhibitions popping up regularly.

lakeside

n. (also "lakeshore" or "lakefront") the edge or shore of a lake; an area adjacent to a lake

synonym: shoreline, lakeshore, waterfront

(1) **lakeside** view, (2) **lakeside** cabin

The **lakeside** resort was a perfect destination for a romantic getaway.

wavy

adj. characterized by a series of curves, undulations, or bends that create a rippled or serpentine appearance; not straight or flat

synonym: curly, undulating, rippled

(1) **wavy** pattern, (2) **wavy** sea

The model's hair was long and **wavy**, cascading down her back in soft waves.

culvert

n. a tunnel or pipe that carries water or drains under a road or embankment

synonym: drain, tube, pipe

(1) clogged **culvert**, (2) driveway **culvert**

The **culvert** under the road helps redirect water away from the area during heavy rain.

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**.

accuse

v. to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing

synonym: charge, blame, criticize

(1) **accuse** his rudeness, (2) **accuse** each other

The witness **accused** the defendant of committing the robbery.

faux

adj. not genuine; fake, or artificial; made to resemble something that it is not

synonym: imitation, artificial, simulated

(1) **faux** painting, (2) **faux** fur

She was embarrassed to realize her designer handbag was a **faux** leather knockoff.

phony

adj. not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious

synonym: fake, fraudulent, counterfeit

(1) **phony** excuse, (2) **phony** smile

He's a **phony** salesman who promises things he can't deliver.

wince

v. to make a slight involuntary grimace or shrinking movement due to pain, distress, or embarrassment;
(*noun*) a facial expression or bodily gesture of pain, discomfort, or embarrassment in response to an unpleasant or unwelcome stimulus

synonym: flinch, grimace, twitch

(1) **wince** at the sound, (2) a slight **wince**

He **winc**ed as he saw his favorite vase fall and shatter on the ground.

Session 2: Spelling

1. rec_____ct an image *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
2. roadside sw___e *n.* a shallow depression or low-lying area of land, often found in a landscape with gentle slopes, which may serve to collect water or direct its flow, and they can also be used as a landscaping technique for stormwater management
3. evening pr_____de *n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
4. circus tr___e *n.* a group of actors, dancers, or performers who work together as a team, typically in a theatrical or musical production
5. a slight wi___e *v.* to make a slight involuntary grimace or shrinking movement due to pain, distress, or embarrassment; (noun) a facial expression or bodily gesture of pain, discomfort, or embarrassment in response to an unpleasant or unwelcome stimulus
6. in a so_____ss manner *adj.* having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling

ANSWERS: 1. reconstruct, 2. swale, 3. promenade, 4. troupe, 5. wince, 6. soulless

7. di____y the role *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
8. mul_____ry mall *adj.* referring to a building or structure that has multiple floors or levels; characterized or designed for multiple stories or levels
9. as_____t driveway *n.* a black, sticky substance that is used to surface roads, roofs, and other structures made from a mixture of sand, gravel, and a petroleum-based material called bitumen
10. w__y sea *adj.* characterized by a series of curves, undulations, or bends that create a rippled or serpentine appearance; not straight or flat
11. la_____de cabin *n.* (also "lakeshore" or "lakefront") the edge or shore of a lake; an area adjacent to a lake
12. la_____de view *n.* (also "lakeshore" or "lakefront") the edge or shore of a lake; an area adjacent to a lake
13. ph__y smile *adj.* not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious
14. ph__y excuse *adj.* not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious
15. uni_____ed misunderstanding *adj.* not planned or meant
16. le__y canopy *adj.* covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat

ANSWERS: 7. dignify, 8. multistory, 9. asphalt, 10. wavy, 11. lakeside, 12. lakeside, 13. phony, 14. phony, 15. unintended, 16. leafy

17. und_____ate the probability *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
18. as_____t pavement *n.* a black, sticky substance that is used to surface roads, roofs, and other structures made from a mixture of sand, gravel, and a petroleum-based material called bitumen
19. f__x fur *adj.* not genuine; fake, or artificial; made to resemble something that it is not
20. the fl__t on my lighter *n.* a hard, gray stone that can produce sparks when struck with steel used historically to start fires; a type of microcrystalline quartz used for making tools, weapons, and jewelry
21. French soc_____st *n.* a person who studies the institutions and development of human society
22. und_____orm expectations *v.* to perform less successfully or effectively than expected, needed, or desired; to fail to meet one's own or others' expectations or standards
23. in_____t a cave *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
24. sc_____e meat off a bone *v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
25. ac_____e each other *v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
26. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

ANSWERS: 17. underestimate, 18. asphalt, 19. faux, 20. flint, 21. sociologist, 22. underperform, 23. inhabit, 24. scrape, 25. accuse, 26. footprint

27. sp___l out luxuriously on the sofa *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
28. und_____orm the market *v.* to perform less successfully or effectively than expected, needed, or desired; to fail to meet one's own or others' expectations or standards
29. high-tech he___y *n.* a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something
30. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
31. tr___e rehearsal *n.* a group of actors, dancers, or performers who work together as a team, typically in a theatrical or musical production
32. f__x painting *adj.* not genuine; fake, or artificial; made to resemble something that it is not
33. upscale sub_____te *n.* a person who lives in a suburban area, which is often a residential area near a larger city or urban center
34. pr_____im law *v.* to announce or state something publicly and forcefully
35. le__y suburbs *adj.* covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat
36. rec_____ct the original text *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
37. sc___e a hole in the ground *v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

ANSWERS: 27. sprawl, 28. underperform, 29. heyday, 30. opportune, 31. troupe, 32. faux, 33. suburbanite, 34. proclaim, 35. leafy, 36. reconstruct, 37. scrape

38. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
39. sw__e drainage *n.* a shallow depression or low-lying area of land, often found in a landscape with gentle slopes, which may serve to collect water or direct its flow, and they can also be used as a landscaping technique for stormwater management
40. w__y pattern *adj.* characterized by a series of curves, undulations, or bends that create a rippled or serpentine appearance; not straight or flat
41. bu_____ze a mound *v.* to level or clear an area of land using a bulldozer (= a large, heavy vehicle with a blade on the front); to use force or the threat of force to make them do something or to get them to move out of the way
42. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
43. near re_____ng age *adj.* withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
44. se_____ry behavior *adj.* characterized by or involving a lot of sitting or little physical activity; inactive or lacking in exercise or movement
45. mul_____ry car park *adj.* referring to a building or structure that has multiple floors or levels; characterized or designed for multiple stories or levels

ANSWERS: 38. institutionalize, 39. swale, 40. wavy, 41. bulldoze, 42. improvisation, 43. retiring, 44. sedentary, 45. multistory

46. tree-lined bo_____rd *n.* a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade
47. pr_____im victory *v.* to announce or state something publicly and forcefully
48. sp_____l for acres *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
49. le_____og game *n.* a children's game in which players take turns jumping over each other's stooped backs
50. le_____og technology *n.* a children's game in which players take turns jumping over each other's stooped backs
51. fo_____nts in the snow *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
52. in_____l development *v.* to fill in or complete a space, usually by adding material to fill gaps or voids; (noun) the act of filling in or adding material to a space or gap, often used in construction or architecture to describe the process of filling in open spaces in a building or development
53. to es_____te *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
54. city dw_____r *n.* a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location

ANSWERS: 46. boulevard, 47. proclaim, 48. sprawl, 49. leapfrog, 50. leapfrog, 51. footprint, 52. infill, 53. escalate, 54. dweller

55. ac___e his rudeness *v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
56. sub_____te neighborhood *n.* a person who lives in a suburban area, which is often a residential area near a larger city or urban center
57. bu_____n from every corner. *v.* to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way
58. the city's dem_____hy report *n.* the study of the statistics of human populations, such as size, growth, density, distribution, and vital statistics
59. religious soc_____st *n.* a person who studies the institutions and development of human society
60. bu_____n rapidly *v.* to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way
61. di_____y the occasion *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
62. se_____ry desk job *adj.* characterized by or involving a lot of sitting or little physical activity; inactive or lacking in exercise or movement
63. pr_____de in the park *n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
64. deeply p__w the soil *n.* a farming implement used for breaking up and turning over the soil, especially before planting; (verb) to turn over and break up the soil in preparation for planting crops

ANSWERS: 55. accuse, 56. suburbanite, 57. burgeon, 58. demography, 59. sociologist, 60. burgeon, 61. dignify, 62. sedentary, 63. promenade, 64. plow

74. al____ng statistics *adj.* causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
75. rural dw____r *n.* a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location
76. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
77. und_____le outcome *adj.* not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance
78. in___l the cavity with a dental filling *v.* to fill in or complete a space, usually by adding material to fill gaps or voids; (noun) the act of filling in or adding material to a space or gap, often used in construction or architecture to describe the process of filling in open spaces in a building or development
79. fl__t tools *n.* a hard, gray stone that can produce sparks when struck with steel used historically to start fires; a type of microcrystalline quartz used for making tools, weapons, and jewelry
80. re____it applications *v.* to put a new component or accessory into a machine that did not initially have it when manufactured
81. the he___y of rock music *n.* a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something
82. re____it an electronic system *v.* to put a new component or accessory into a machine that did not initially have it when manufactured

ANSWERS: 74. alarming, 75. dweller, 76. improvisation, 77. undesirable, 78. infill, 79. flint, 80. retrofit, 81. heyday, 82. retrofit

83. p__w equipment *n.* a farming implement used for breaking up and turning over the soil, especially before planting; (verb) to turn over and break up the soil in preparation for planting crops
84. dem_____hy study *n.* the study of the statistics of human populations, such as size, growth, density, distribution, and vital statistics
85. wi__e at the sound *v.* to make a slight involuntary grimace or shrinking movement due to pain, distress, or embarrassment; (noun) a facial expression or bodily gesture of pain, discomfort, or embarrassment in response to an unpleasant or unwelcome stimulus
86. he is so_____ss and mechanical *adj.* having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling
87. in_____t the stomach *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
88. po_____r years *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
89. und_____le behavior *adj.* not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance
90. uni_____ed bias *adj.* not planned or meant
91. driveway cu_____t *n.* a tunnel or pipe that carries water or drains under a road or embankment

ANSWERS: 83. plow, 84. demography, 85. wince, 86. soulless, 87. inhabit, 88. postwar, 89. undesirable, 90. unintended, 91. culvert

92. al_____ng news *adj.* causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
93. ur_____ze transportation systems *v.* to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns
94. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 92. alarming, 93. urbanize, 94. opportune

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The restaurant was famous in its _____ for its delicious food and famous patrons
n. a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something

2. The lush vegetation _____ across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.
v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out

3. The model's hair was long and _____ cascading down her back in soft waves.
adj. characterized by a series of curves, undulations, or bends that create a rippled or serpentine appearance; not straight or flat

4. The mountain _____ lived off the land and had a deep connection to nature.
n. a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location

5. They _____ the old building to make way for a new one.
v. to level or clear an area of land using a bulldozer (= a large, heavy vehicle with a blade on the front); to use force or the threat of force to make them do something or to get them to move out of the way

6. The _____ under the road helps redirect water away from the area during heavy rain.
n. a tunnel or pipe that carries water or drains under a road or embankment

7. She is sitting in a tree with a _____ look after hearing the news.
adj. having no attractive or exciting character that makes people happy; lacking sensitivity or the capacity for deep feeling

ANSWERS: 1. heyday, 2. sprawls, 3. wavy, 4. dweller, 5. bulldozed, 6. culvert, 7. soulless

8. The _____ period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.
adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
9. The sudden rise in crime rates in our neighborhood is quite _____.
adj. causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
10. The road crew was laying fresh _____ on the highway.
n. a black, sticky substance that is used to surface roads, roofs, and other structures made from a mixture of sand, gravel, and a petroleum-based material called bitumen
11. The smell of the garbage was very _____.
adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance
12. The witness _____ the defendant of committing the robbery.
v. to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
13. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
14. _____ studies the changes in family structure due to modernization.
n. a person who studies the institutions and development of human society
15. He's a _____ salesman who promises things he can't deliver.
adj. not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious

ANSWERS: 8. postwar, 9. alarming, 10. asphalt, 11. undesirable, 12. accused, 13. opportune, 14. Sociologist, 15. phony

16. A _____ may involve putting in new door jambs.
- v. to put a new component or accessory into a machine that did not initially have it when manufactured
17. It's important to _____ other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.
- v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
18. The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful _____ for tourists and locals alike.
- n. a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
19. The situation quickly _____ and turned violent.
- v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
20. He _____ the mud off his boots before entering the house.
- v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
21. The theater _____ is performing Hamlet this weekend.
- n. a group of actors, dancers, or performers who work together as a team, typically in a theatrical or musical production
22. I have no idea what sort of folks _____ the neighborhood.
- v. to live in a specific location; to reside

ANSWERS: 16. retrofit, 17. dignify, 18. promenade, 19. escalated, 20. scraped, 21. troupe, 22. inhabit

23. They've decided to _____ a ruined castle.
- v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
24. He _____ as he saw his favorite vase fall and shatter on the ground.
- v. to make a slight involuntary grimace or shrinking movement due to pain, distress, or embarrassment; (noun) a facial expression or bodily gesture of pain, discomfort, or embarrassment in response to an unpleasant or unwelcome stimulus
25. The construction workers will _____ the trench with concrete.
- v. to fill in or complete a space, usually by adding material to fill gaps or voids; (noun) the act of filling in or adding material to a space or gap, often used in construction or architecture to describe the process of filling in open spaces in a building or development
26. During recess, the children played a game of _____ in the schoolyard.
- n. a children's game in which players take turns jumping over each other's stooped backs
27. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.
- n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
28. The new shopping center is on a bustling _____ in the city's heart.
- n. a wide street or avenue, often lined with trees and featuring multiple lanes of traffic, sidewalks, and sometimes a central median or promenade
29. The _____ resort was a perfect destination for a romantic getaway.
- n. (also "lakeshore" or "lakefront") the edge or shore of a lake; an area adjacent to a lake

ANSWERS: 23. reconstruct, 24. winced, 25. infill, 26. leapfrog, 27. footprint, 28. boulevard, 29. lakeside

30. The neighborhood is known for its _____ trees and verdant gardens.
adj. covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat
31. She was embarrassed to realize her designer handbag was a _____ leather knockoff.
adj. not genuine; fake, or artificial; made to resemble something that it is not
32. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
33. The archeologist found a _____ arrowhead on the dig site.
n. a hard, gray stone that can produce sparks when struck with steel used historically to start fires; a type of microcrystalline quartz used for making tools, weapons, and jewelry
34. The city's art scene has been _____ recently, with new galleries and exhibitions popping up regularly.
v. to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way
35. Excessive human interference in the global environment may bring _____ consequences.
adj. not planned or meant
36. The farmer tied the yoke oxen to the _____.
n. a farming implement used for breaking up and turning over the soil, especially before planting; (verb) to turn over and break up the soil in preparation for planting crops

ANSWERS: 30. leafy, 31. faux, 32. institutionalize, 33. flint, 34. burgeoning, 35. unintended, 36. plow

37. 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
38. His _____ lifestyle and lack of exercise contributed to his declining health.
- adj.* characterized by or involving a lot of sitting or little physical activity; inactive or lacking in exercise or movement
39. The _____ building had a stunning rooftop garden.
- adj.* referring to a building or structure that has multiple floors or levels; characterized or designed for multiple stories or levels
40. The leader _____ a state of emergency in the country.
- v.* to announce or state something publicly and forcefully
41. The construction site implemented a _____ system to prevent erosion and sediment runoff.
- n.* a shallow depression or low-lying area of land, often found in a landscape with gentle slopes, which may serve to collect water or direct its flow, and they can also be used as a landscaping technique for stormwater management
42. The _____ of the country is changing rapidly due to migration and the aging population
- n.* the study of the statistics of human populations, such as size, growth, density, distribution, and vital statistics
43. The government plans to _____ the rural area by building more housing units and improving transportation infrastructure.
- v.* to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns

ANSWERS: 37. improvisation, 38. sedentary, 39. multistory, 40. proclaimed, 41. swale, 42. demography, 43. urbanize

44. The _____ lifestyle is often associated with a car-dependent culture.
n. a person who lives in a suburban area, which is often a residential area near a larger city or urban center
45. The _____ CEO passed on the reins to his successor.
adj. withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
46. The team _____ in the championship game, leading to their defeat.
v. to perform less successfully or effectively than expected, needed, or desired; to fail to meet one's own or others' expectations or standards
47. They frequently _____ their abilities and felt inferior.
v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

ANSWERS: 44. suburbanite, 45. retiring, 46. underperformed, 47. underestimated