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Maz Jobrani: Did you hear the one about the Iranian-American? | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- axis** *n.* a real or imaginary straight line through a body or figure around which the object turns; a group of countries in special alliance
synonym : central, core, pole
(1) vertical **axis**, (2) a coordinate **axis**
The earth's **axis** of rotation is tilted 66.5 degrees to the ecliptic plane.
- evil** *adj.* profoundly immoral, cruel, and wicked; having or exerting a harmful effect on people
synonym : malign, corruption, immorality
(1) **evil** ways, (2) a charm against **evil**
Corruption is an **evil** act for any reason.
- comedy** *n.* a genre of dramatic entertainment that aims to amuse and provoke laughter by depicting amusing or ludicrous situations, characters, or events; the use of humor, wit, and satire in writing, films, and other forms of entertainment
synonym : humor, farce, satire
(1) **comedy** series, (2) romantic **comedy**
I love going to see live **comedy** shows with my friends.

solo

adv. without anybody else or anything else; alone

synonym : alone

(1) a **solo** vocal recital, (2) a **solo** flight

I would love to **solo** camping someday.

conflict

n. a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals

synonym : clash, discord, competition

(1) the **conflict** between good and evil, (2) the longstanding **conflict**

He and I often had **conflicts**, not only in personality but also in ideology.

nuclear

adj. of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom; deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy

synonym : atomic

(1) **nuclear** fusion, (2) use of **nuclear** power

Many countries have now agreed to a treaty banning the use of **nuclear** weapons.

dilemma

n. a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more options, especially that are equally unfavorable ones

synonym : difficulty, plight, predicament

(1) chicken-and-egg **dilemma**, (2) be in a **dilemma**

The choice between bureaucracy and adhococracy represents a common **dilemma**.

passport

n. an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel

synonym : travel document, ID, identity

(1) **passport** renewal, (2) **passport** document

Carrying a valid **passport** is mandatory when traveling to most foreign countries.

patrol

n. the act of guarding an area or conducting surveillance of an area to maintain order, perform security functions, or prevent crime; a group of officers or soldiers that conducts such an operation

synonym : guard, watch, surveillance

(1) **patrol** car, (2) border **patrol**

The highway **patrol** officer pulled over the speeding vehicle on the freeway.

quest

n. a long or challenging search for something

synonym : exploration, inquisition, pursuit

(1) the **quest** for truth, (2) on a **quest** for happiness

That adventurer traveled in **quest** of buried treasure.

passee

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

synonym : outdated, old-fashioned, antique

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

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

freak

n. an abnormality that is not typical or expected

synonym : anomaly, deviation, oddity

(1) a rock **freak**, (2) **freak** weather

The **freak** accident caused the car to flip over and land on its roof.

violation

n. an action that breaches a law, rule, or agreement; an infringement of rights or duties

synonym : breach, transgression, infraction

(1) **violation** law, (2) commit a traffic **violation**

The international community has widely condemned the **violation** of human rights.

overdue

adj. past the expected or scheduled time; not completed or paid on time; delayed, tardy, or postponed

synonym : late, delinquent, outstanding

(1) **overdue** bill, (2) **overdue** task

Her library books were **overdue**, so she had to pay a fine to check out more.

owe

v. to be under a moral or legal obligation to pay or do something in return for something received;

synonym: have an obligation, incur

(1) **owe** \$100 to my friend, (2) **owe** him a grudge

She **owes** her friend a favor for helping her move.

doll

n. a child's toy that typically represents a human figure, especially a young girl; an attractive woman; a woman who is subservient or passive

synonym: puppet, dolly, toy

(1) plastic **doll**, (2) rag **doll**

The antique **doll** was worth thousands of dollars.

accent

n. a distinctive way of pronouncing the words of a language that shows which area, country, or social group a person comes from; particular importance or significance

synonym: articulation, inflection, pronunciation

(1) a foreign **accent**, (2) put the **accent** on comfort

She has a thick southern **accent**.

cast

v. to cause light or shadow to appear on a surface; to assign or choose someone such as an actor or representative, especially by selection process

synonym: throw, project, select

(1) **cast** a ballot, (2) **cast** a charming eye

This accident **cast** a dark shadow over their lives.

descent

n. the act or process of moving downward; a person's family origins

synonym: fall, drop, family

(1) **descent** from nobility, (2) **descent** of family

The **descent** from the mountain was steep and rocky.

hijack

v. to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence

synonym : commandeer, seize, pirate

(1) **hijack** a helicopter, (2) **hijack** a phone number

He made a desperate effort to **hijack** an airliner.

bomb

n. a weapon that explodes and is used to kill or injure people or to cause damage to something

synonym : missile, explosive, ammunition

(1) atomic **bombs**, (2) disarm the **bomb**

The use of cluster **bombs** is strictly prohibited by international law.

strap

n. a long, narrow strip or belt of leather, fabric, or another material used for binding, fastening, or supporting something or someone; a band or string that attaches one object to another, often used to secure items during transport

synonym : band, belt, sling

(1) leather **strap**, (2) camera **strap**

The athlete tightened the **strap** on his running shoes before the race.

mess

n. a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy

synonym : disarray, confusion, predicament

(1) have a whole **mess**, (2) get into a **mess**

He made a frightful **mess** in his room.

guilty

adj. feeling responsible for or having done something wrong or criminal

synonym : culpable, blameworthy, at fault

(1) feel a bit **guilty**, (2) **guilty** verdict

After much contemplation, the suspect decided to plead **guilty** to the theft charge.

involve

v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else

synonym: implicate, include, engage

(1) **involve** a lot of paperwork, (2) **involve** a high degree of risk

The investigation **involves** several government agencies and is expected to take several months.

memo

n. a short written message or communication intended for internal use within an organization or company

synonym: memorandum, note, reminder

(1) a **memo** pad, (2) **memo** content

I received a **memo** from the CEO outlining the new company policies.

creditor

n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

conclude

v. to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning

synonym: complete, finish, decide

(1) **conclude** a meeting, (2) **conclude** that he is healthy

We **concluded** a cease-fire.

statistics

n. the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

(1) **statistics** for cancer, (2) official **statistics**

The **statistics** demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.

jack

n. a mechanical device used for lifting or supporting heavy objects

synonym: lever, crank, wrench

(1) a **jack** of all trades, (2) a line-in **jack**

He used a **jack** to lift the car to change the tire.

convert

v. to have a talk with someone; (adjective) reversed in order, relation, or action

synonym: alter, remake, transform

(1) **convert** fat into energy, (2) **convert** base 10 to base 16
I want to **convert** my sadness into strength.

damn

v. to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger

synonym: curse, condemn, denounce

(1) **damn** the consequences, (2) **damn** with faint praise
The company's poor financial performance is likely to **damn** the CEO's chances of being re-elected to the board.

encourage

v. to give someone support, confidence, or hope; to persuade someone to do or continue to do something by making it easier for them and making them believe it is a good thing to do

synonym: facilitate, persuade, stimulate

(1) **encourage** a sense of affinity, (2) **encourage** antisocial behavior

They **encouraged** customers with a premium for loyal patronage.

obsess

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

synonym: torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

mall

n. a large, enclosed shopping center that typically contains many stores, restaurants, and other businesses

synonym: shopping center, shopping complex

(1) largest electronic **mall**, (2) **mall** crawler

Many people go to the shopping **mall** to socialize and spend time with friends.

beep

v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

synonym : bleep, honk, buzz

(1) **beep** out a warning, (2) **beep** the horn

The timer **beeped**, reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.

crazy

adj. stupid or not sensible; very angry

synonym : insane, absurd, bizarre

(1) **crazy** about cars and racing, (2) a **crazy** scheme

The rain and thunder are **crazy** today.

recession

n. a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases

synonym : downturn, slump, contraction

(1) **recession** period, (2) recover from a **recession**

The country is facing a **recession**, with high unemployment and low GDP.

gram

n. a metric unit of weight equal to one-thousandth of a kilogram

(1) centimeter- **gram-second** system, (2) **gram** amount

How much is it per one hundred **grams**?

regulation

n. an official rule made and maintained by a government or some other authority; the act of controlling or directing something according to a rule

synonym : constraint, restriction, rule

(1) a company **regulation**, (2) **regulation** by the government

The **regulation** approved by Congress was perfunctorily implemented.

playground

n. an area where many people go for recreation, especially at a school or in a park

synonym : park, garden, sandbox

(1) a well-equipped **playground**, (2) a **playground** on the roof

There is a woods with a creek near the school **playground**.

slide

v. to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption

synonym : glide, drift, drop

(1) **slide** a card across the table, (2) **slide** a glance

If necessary, you can **slide** the front seats forward.

whoosh

n. a rushing or swishing sound, such as that made by something moving quickly through the air or by a sudden gust of wind; (verb) to move swiftly with a rushing or whooshing sound

synonym : swoosh, swish, whizz

(1) **whoosh** of a falling object, (2) hear a **whoosh**

The **whoosh** of the wind through the trees was the only sound in the forest.

stereotype

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

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

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

obvious

adj. easy to see, discover or understand

synonym : apparent, conspicuous, evident

(1) **obvious** reasons, (2) his conclusion was **obvious**

There are **obvious** differences between the two wine-producing regions.

lobby

n. a large area inside the entrance of a public building where people can meet and wait; a group of people who

try to persuade a politician, the government, or an official group to influence legislation

synonym : entrance, hall, anteroom

(1) **lobby** for legislation, (2) a hotel **lobby**

That **lobby** group actively advocated environmental protection to the government.

standing

adj. existing or remaining upright; having a vertical position;
(noun) social, financial, or professional status or reputation

synonym : upright, vertical, (noun) position

(1) **standing** water, (2) his social **standing**

The **standing** concert was packed with fans.

suit

n. a set of clothes that are made from the same material; a claim or complaint that a person or organization can file in court against another party; (verb) to be fit or acceptable for

synonym : clothes, lawsuit, (verb) fit

(1) **suit** and tie restaurant, (2) **suit** at law

Six **suits** are awaiting trial or verdict.

mustache

n. an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip

synonym : whisker

(1) a gray **mustache**, (2) big **mustache**

The actor's **mustache** has become an icon.

stare

v. to gaze or look fixedly and intently at someone or something, often in a questioning, curious, or suspicious manner; (noun) a fixed, intense, and prolonged gaze or look

synonym : gaze, look, gawk

(1) **stare** blankly, (2) give a menacing **stare**

He couldn't help but **stare** at the beautiful sunset over the ocean.

excuse

n. a reason or explanation, either true or invented, given to justify a fault or defend your behavior; (verb) to make someone free from blame or clear from guilt

synonym : apology, justification, reason

(1) **excuse** for inaction, (2) perfect **excuse**

He quickly fabricated an **excuse** for not attending the meeting.

bond

n. a close emotional connection between two or more people; a certificate of debt that a government or corporation issues to raise money

synonym : bind, adhesion, attachment

(1) **bond** as a family, (2) global **bond** market

They had formed a friendship **bond**.

hop

v. to jump lightly and quickly on one foot or both feet; to move rapidly from one place to another; to travel using an aircraft, bus, etc.

synonym : jump, bounce, skip

(1) **hop** on one foot, (2) **hop** from one place to another

The rabbit **hopped** over the fence.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pa__e entertainment *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
2. a cr__y scheme *adj.* stupid or not sensible; very angry
3. reg_____on by the government *n.* an official rule made and maintained by a government or some other authority; the act of controlling or directing something according to a rule
4. h_p from one place to another *v.* to jump lightly and quickly on one foot or both feet; to move rapidly from one place to another; to travel using an aircraft, bus, etc.
5. c__t a charming eye *v.* to cause light or shadow to appear on a surface; to assign or choose someone such as an actor or representative, especially by selection process
6. h_p on one foot *v.* to jump lightly and quickly on one foot or both feet; to move rapidly from one place to another; to travel using an aircraft, bus, etc.
7. en_____ge antisocial behavior *v.* to give someone support, confidence, or hope; to persuade someone to do or continue to do something by making it easier for them and making them believe it is a good thing to do
8. re_____on period *n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases

ANSWERS: 1. passe, 2. crazy, 3. regulation, 4. hop, 5. cast, 6. hop, 7. encourage, 8. recession

9. plastic d__l *n.* a child's toy that typically represents a human figure, especially a young girl; an attractive woman; a woman who is subservient or passive
10. cr__y about cars and racing *adj.* stupid or not sensible; very angry
11. lo__y for legislation *n.* a large area inside the entrance of a public building where people can meet and wait; a group of people who try to persuade a politician, the government, or an official group to influence legislation
12. global b__d market *n.* a close emotional connection between two or more people; a certificate of debt that a government or corporation issues to raise money
13. o_e \$100 to my friend *v.* to be under a moral or legal obligation to pay or do something in return for something received;
14. give a menacing st__e *v.* to gaze or look fixedly and intently at someone or something, often in a questioning, curious, or suspicious manner; (noun) a fixed, intense, and prolonged gaze or look
15. nu____r fusion *adj.* of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom; deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy
16. romantic co____y *n.* a genre of dramatic entertainment that aims to amuse and provoke laughter by depicting amusing or ludicrous situations, characters, or events; the use of humor, wit, and satire in writing, films, and other forms of entertainment

ANSWERS: 9. doll, 10. crazy, 11. lobby, 12. bond, 13. owe, 14. stare, 15. nuclear, 16. comedy

17. atomic b__bs *n.* a weapon that explodes and is used to kill or injure people or to cause damage to something
18. a s__o flight *adv.* without anybody else or anything else; alone
19. co_____t base 10 to base 16 *v.* to have a talk with someone; (adjective) reversed in order, relation, or action
20. d__n with faint praise *v.* to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger
21. pa___l car *n.* the act of guarding an area or conducting surveillance of an area to maintain order, perform security functions, or prevent crime; a group of officers or soldiers that conducts such an operation
22. sl__e a card across the table *v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption
23. sl__e a glance *v.* to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption
24. a m__o pad *n.* a short written message or communication intended for internal use within an organization or company
25. d__n the consequences *v.* to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger
26. recover from a re_____on *n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases

ANSWERS: 17. bomb, 18. solo, 19. convert, 20. damn, 21. patrol, 22. slide, 23. slide, 24. memo, 25. damn, 26. recession

27. leather st__p *n.* a long, narrow strip or belt of leather, fabric, or another material used for binding, fastening, or supporting something or someone; a band or string that attaches one object to another, often used to secure items during transport
28. vertical a__s *n.* a real or imaginary straight line through a body or figure around which the object turns; a group of countries in special alliance
29. a gray mu____he *n.* an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip
30. on a qu__t for happiness *n.* a long or challenging search for something
31. e__l ways *adj.* profoundly immoral, cruel, and wicked; having or exerting a harmful effect on people
32. have a whole m__s *n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy
33. ex___e for inaction *n.* a reason or explanation, either true or invented, given to justify a fault or defend your behavior; (verb) to make someone free from blame or clear from guilt
34. a coordinate a__s *n.* a real or imaginary straight line through a body or figure around which the object turns; a group of countries in special alliance

ANSWERS: 27. strap, 28. axis, 29. mustache, 30. quest, 31. evil, 32. mess, 33. excuse, 34. axis

35. co___y series *n.* a genre of dramatic entertainment that aims to amuse and provoke laughter by depicting amusing or ludicrous situations, characters, or events; the use of humor, wit, and satire in writing, films, and other forms of entertainment
36. a line-in j__k *n.* a mechanical device used for lifting or supporting heavy objects
37. a foreign ac___t *n.* a distinctive way of pronouncing the words of a language that shows which area, country, or social group a person comes from; particular importance or significance
38. his conclusion was ob____s *adj.* easy to see, discover or understand
39. gu___y verdict *adj.* feeling responsible for or having done something wrong or criminal
40. b__p the horn *v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
41. a pla_____nd on the roof *n.* an area where many people go for recreation, especially at a school or in a park
42. negative ste____pes *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
43. ob____s reasons *adj.* easy to see, discover or understand
44. camera st__p *n.* a long, narrow strip or belt of leather, fabric, or another material used for binding, fastening, or supporting something or someone; a band or string that attaches one object to another, often used to secure items during transport

ANSWERS: 35. comedy, 36. jack, 37. accent, 38. obvious, 39. guilty, 40. beep, 41. playground, 42. stereotype, 43. obvious, 44. strap

45. hear a wh___h *n.* a rushing or swishing sound, such as that made by something moving quickly through the air or by a sudden gust of wind; (verb) to move swiftly with a rushing or whooshing sound
46. he is ob___sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
47. the longstanding co____ct *n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals
48. border pa___l *n.* the act of guarding an area or conducting surveillance of an area to maintain order, perform security functions, or prevent crime; a group of officers or soldiers that conducts such an operation
49. bankrupt cr____or *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
50. the qu__t for truth *n.* a long or challenging search for something
51. b__d as a family *n.* a close emotional connection between two or more people; a certificate of debt that a government or corporation issues to raise money
52. g__m amount *n.* a metric unit of weight equal to one-thousandth of a kilogram
53. co____t fat into energy *v.* to have a talk with someone; (adjective) reversed in order, relation, or action
54. m__l crawler *n.* a large, enclosed shopping center that typically contains many stores, restaurants, and other businesses

ANSWERS: 45. whoosh, 46. obsess, 47. conflict, 48. patrol, 49. creditor, 50. quest, 51. bond, 52. gram, 53. convert, 54. mall

55. a company reg_____on *n.* an official rule made and maintained by a government or some other authority; the act of controlling or directing something according to a rule
56. rag d__l *n.* a child's toy that typically represents a human figure, especially a young girl; an attractive woman; a woman who is subservient or passive
57. in_____e a high degree of risk *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
58. use of nu_____r power *adj.* of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom; deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy
59. hi___k a helicopter *v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence
60. c__t a ballot *v.* to cause light or shadow to appear on a surface; to assign or choose someone such as an actor or representative, especially by selection process
61. avoid ste_____pe *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
62. disarm the b__b *n.* a weapon that explodes and is used to kill or injure people or to cause damage to something

ANSWERS: 55. regulation, 56. doll, 57. involve, 58. nuclear, 59. hijack, 60. cast, 61. stereotype, 62. bomb

63. a hotel lo__y *n.* a large area inside the entrance of a public building where people can meet and wait; a group of people who try to persuade a politician, the government, or an official group to influence legislation
64. pa____rt document *n.* an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel
65. big mu____he *n.* an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip
66. his social st____ng *adj.* existing or remaining upright; having a vertical position; (noun) social, financial, or professional status or reputation
67. co____de a meeting *v.* to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning
68. o_e him a grudge *v.* to be under a moral or legal obligation to pay or do something in return for something received;
69. commit a traffic vi____on *n.* an action that breaches a law, rule, or agreement; an infringement of rights or duties
70. ov____e task *adj.* past the expected or scheduled time; not completed or paid on time; delayed, tardy, or postponed
71. the co____ct between good and evil *n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals

ANSWERS: 63. lobby, 64. passport, 65. mustache, 66. standing, 67. conclude, 68. owe, 69. violation, 70. overdue, 71. conflict

72. m__o content *n.* a short written message or communication intended for internal use within an organization or company
73. put the ac___t on comfort *n.* a distinctive way of pronouncing the words of a language that shows which area, country, or social group a person comes from; particular importance or significance
74. a s__o vocal recital *adv.* without anybody else or anything else; alone
75. ob___s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
76. fr__k weather *n.* an abnormality that is not typical or expected
77. en_____ge a sense of affinity *v.* to give someone support, confidence, or hope; to persuade someone to do or continue to do something by making it easier for them and making them believe it is a good thing to do
78. st_____ng water *adj.* existing or remaining upright; having a vertical position; (noun) social, financial, or professional status or reputation
79. wh___h of a falling object *n.* a rushing or swishing sound, such as that made by something moving quickly through the air or by a sudden gust of wind; (verb) to move swiftly with a rushing or whooshing sound
80. s__t and tie restaurant *n.* a set of clothes that are made from the same material; a claim or complaint that a person or organization can file in court against another party; (verb) to be fit or acceptable for

ANSWERS: 72. memo, 73. accent, 74. solo, 75. obsess, 76. freak, 77. encourage, 78. standing, 79. whoosh, 80. suit

81. largest electronic m__l *n.* a large, enclosed shopping center that typically contains many stores, restaurants, and other businesses
82. de____t from nobility *n.* the act or process of moving downward; a person's family origins
83. perfect ex___e *n.* a reason or explanation, either true or invented, given to justify a fault or defend your behavior; (verb) to make someone free from blame or clear from guilt
84. a j__k of all trades *n.* a mechanical device used for lifting or supporting heavy objects
85. s__t at law *n.* a set of clothes that are made from the same material; a claim or complaint that a person or organization can file in court against another party; (verb) to be fit or acceptable for
86. vi_____on law *n.* an action that breaches a law, rule, or agreement; an infringement of rights or duties
87. co____de that he is healthy *v.* to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning
88. pa____rt renewal *n.* an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel
89. sta_____cs for cancer *n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

ANSWERS: 81. mall, 82. descent, 83. excuse, 84. jack, 85. suit, 86. violation, 87. conclude, 88. passport, 89. statistics

90. be in a di____a *n.* a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more options, especially that are equally unfavorable ones
91. chicken-and-egg di____a *n.* a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more options, especially that are equally unfavorable ones
92. a charm against e__l *adj.* profoundly immoral, cruel, and wicked; having or exerting a harmful effect on people
93. official sta_____cs *n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
94. feel a bit gu____y *adj.* feeling responsible for or having done something wrong or criminal
95. in_____e a lot of paperwork *v.* to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
96. st__e blankly *v.* to gaze or look fixedly and intently at someone or something, often in a questioning, curious, or suspicious manner; (noun) a fixed, intense, and prolonged gaze or look
97. hi___k a phone number *v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence
98. de_____t of family *n.* the act or process of moving downward; a person's family origins

ANSWERS: 90. dilemma, 91. dilemma, 92. evil, 93. statistics, 94. guilty, 95. involve, 96. stare, 97. hijack, 98. descent

99. a rock fr__k *n.* an abnormality that is not typical or expected
100. pa__e trend *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
101. the cr____or's claims *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
102. a well-equipped pla_____nd *n.* an area where many people go for recreation, especially at a school or in a park
103. get into a m__s *n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy
104. b__p out a warning *v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
105. centimeter-g__m-second system *n.* a metric unit of weight equal to one-thousandth of a kilogram
106. ov_____e bill *adj.* past the expected or scheduled time; not completed or paid on time; delayed, tardy, or postponed

ANSWERS: 99. freak, 100. passe, 101. creditor, 102. playground, 103. mess, 104. beep, 105. gram, 106. overdue

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I love going to see live _____ shows with my friends.
n. a genre of dramatic entertainment that aims to amuse and provoke laughter by depicting amusing or ludicrous situations, characters, or events; the use of humor, wit, and satire in writing, films, and other forms of entertainment
2. She _____ her friend a favor for helping her move.
v. to be under a moral or legal obligation to pay or do something in return for something received;
3. Corruption is an _____ act for any reason.
adj. profoundly immoral, cruel, and wicked; having or exerting a harmful effect on people
4. After much contemplation, the suspect decided to plead _____ to the theft charge.
adj. feeling responsible for or having done something wrong or criminal
5. The _____ accident caused the car to flip over and land on its roof.
n. an abnormality that is not typical or expected
6. Six _____ are awaiting trial or verdict.
n. a set of clothes that are made from the same material; a claim or complaint that a person or organization can file in court against another party; (verb) to be fit or acceptable for
7. The athlete tightened the _____ on his running shoes before the race.
n. a long, narrow strip or belt of leather, fabric, or another material used for binding, fastening, or supporting something or someone; a band or string that attaches one object to another, often used to secure items during transport

ANSWERS: 1. comedy, 2. owes, 3. evil, 4. guilty, 5. freak, 6. suits, 7. strap

8. The company's poor financial performance is likely to _____ the CEO's chances of being re-elected to the board.
- v.* to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger
9. He and I often had _____ not only in personality but also in ideology.
- n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals
10. Her library books were _____ so she had to pay a fine to check out more.
- adj.* past the expected or scheduled time; not completed or paid on time; delayed, tardy, or postponed
11. The antique _____ was worth thousands of dollars.
- n.* a child's toy that typically represents a human figure, especially a young girl; an attractive woman; a woman who is subservient or passive
12. I received a _____ from the CEO outlining the new company policies.
- n.* a short written message or communication intended for internal use within an organization or company
13. I would love to _____ camping someday.
- adv.* without anybody else or anything else; alone
14. I asked the lawyer to initiate _____ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.
- n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
15. The _____ demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.
- n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

ANSWERS: 8. damn, 9. conflicts, 10. overdue, 11. doll, 12. memo, 13. solo, 14. creditor, 15. statistics

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

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

17. The country is facing a _____ with high unemployment and low GDP.

n. a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases

18. The earth's _____ of rotation is tilted 66.5 degrees to the ecliptic plane.

n. a real or imaginary straight line through a body or figure around which the object turns; a group of countries in special alliance

19. We _____ a cease-fire.

v. to come to an end or close; to reach a judgment or opinion by reasoning

20. He made a desperate effort to _____ an airliner.

v. to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence

21. The choice between bureaucracy and adhococracy represents a common _____.

n. a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more options, especially that are equally unfavorable ones

22. The use of cluster _____ is strictly prohibited by international law.

n. a weapon that explodes and is used to kill or injure people or to cause damage to something

23. If necessary, you can _____ the front seats forward.

v. to move or cause to move smoothly along a surface without interruption

ANSWERS: 16. passe, 17. recession, 18. axis, 19. concluded, 20. hijack, 21. dilemma, 22. bombs, 23. slide

24. Many people go to the shopping _____ to socialize and spend time with friends.
n. a large, enclosed shopping center that typically contains many stores, restaurants, and other businesses
25. That adventurer traveled in _____ of buried treasure.
n. a long or challenging search for something
26. The investigation _____ several government agencies and is expected to take several months.
v. to include or affect someone or something as a necessary part of something else
27. The _____ approved by Congress was perfunctorily implemented.
n. an official rule made and maintained by a government or some other authority; the act of controlling or directing something according to a rule
28. The rabbit _____ over the fence.
v. to jump lightly and quickly on one foot or both feet; to move rapidly from one place to another; to travel using an aircraft, bus, etc.
29. The highway _____ officer pulled over the speeding vehicle on the freeway.
n. the act of guarding an area or conducting surveillance of an area to maintain order, perform security functions, or prevent crime; a group of officers or soldiers that conducts such an operation
30. This accident _____ a dark shadow over their lives.
v. to cause light or shadow to appear on a surface; to assign or choose someone such as an actor or representative, especially by selection process
31. The timer _____ reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.
v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

ANSWERS: 24. mall, 25. quest, 26. involves, 27. regulation, 28. hopped, 29. patrol, 30. cast, 31. beeped,

32. There is a woods with a creek near the school _____.
- n.* an area where many people go for recreation, especially at a school or in a park
33. There are _____ differences between the two wine-producing regions.
- adj.* easy to see, discover or understand
34. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.
- v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
35. Changing _____ about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.
- n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
36. He couldn't help but _____ at the beautiful sunset over the ocean.
- v.* to gaze or look fixedly and intently at someone or something, often in a questioning, curious, or suspicious manner; (noun) a fixed, intense, and prolonged gaze or look
37. The rain and thunder are _____ today.
- adj.* stupid or not sensible; very angry
38. The international community has widely condemned the _____ of human rights.
- n.* an action that breaches a law, rule, or agreement; an infringement of rights or duties
39. He used a _____ to lift the car to change the tire.
- n.* a mechanical device used for lifting or supporting heavy objects

ANSWERS: 32. playground, 33. obvious, 34. obsessed, 35. stereotypes, 36. stare, 37. crazy, 38. violation, 39. jack

40. How much is it per one hundred _____
- n.* a metric unit of weight equal to one-thousandth of a kilogram
41. Many countries have now agreed to a treaty banning the use of _____ weapons.
- adj.* of or relating to or constituting the nucleus of an atom; deriving destructive energy from the release of atomic energy
42. That _____ group actively advocated environmental protection to the government.
- n.* a large area inside the entrance of a public building where people can meet and wait; a group of people who try to persuade a politician, the government, or an official group to influence legislation
43. The _____ from the mountain was steep and rocky.
- n.* the act or process of moving downward; a person's family origins
44. She has a thick southern _____.
- n.* a distinctive way of pronouncing the words of a language that shows which area, country, or social group a person comes from; particular importance or significance
45. He made a frightful _____ in his room.
- n.* a state of confusion, dirtiness, or untidiness; (verb) to fail to do something or to make something dirty or untidy
46. I want to _____ my sadness into strength.
- v.* to have a talk with someone; (adjective) reversed in order, relation, or action
47. The _____ of the wind through the trees was the only sound in the forest.
- n.* a rushing or swishing sound, such as that made by something moving quickly through the air or by a sudden gust of wind; (verb) to move swiftly with a rushing or whooshing sound

ANSWERS: 40. grams?, 41. nuclear, 42. lobby, 43. descent, 44. accent, 45. mess, 46. convert, 47. whoosh

48. Carrying a valid _____ is mandatory when traveling to most foreign countries.
- n.* an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel
49. They _____ customers with a premium for loyal patronage.
- v.* to give someone support, confidence, or hope; to persuade someone to do or continue to do something by making it easier for them and making them believe it is a good thing to do
50. They had formed a friendship _____.
- n.* a close emotional connection between two or more people; a certificate of debt that a government or corporation issues to raise money
51. The _____ concert was packed with fans.
- adj.* existing or remaining upright; having a vertical position; (noun) social, financial, or professional status or reputation
52. He quickly fabricated an _____ for not attending the meeting.
- n.* a reason or explanation, either true or invented, given to justify a fault or defend your behavior; (verb) to make someone free from blame or clear from guilt
53. The actor's _____ has become an icon.
- n.* an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip

ANSWERS: 48. passport, 49. encouraged, 50. bond, 51. standing, 52. excuse, 53. mustache