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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Felix Dennis: Odes to vice and consequences | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

grub

n. the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously

synonym : larva, food, chow

(1) cook up some **grubs**, (2) **grub** for potatoes

The garden was infested with beetle **grubs**, causing damage to the plant roots.

pillage

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

synonym : looting, plunder, raid

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

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

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.

plat *n.* a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes
synonym: map, chart, diagram
(1) **plat** book, (2) a former **plat** of farmland
The city planning department keeps detailed **plats** of all the local properties.

procrastinate *v.* to postpone doing what you should do, often because it is unpleasant or boring
synonym: delay, dawdle, hesitate
(1) **procrastinate** about a big challenge, (2) **procrastinate** on my homework
He **procrastinated** the matter until it was almost too late.

rum *n.* a distilled alcoholic beverage made from sugarcane or molasses, often aged and typically with a sweet, rich, or spicy flavor
synonym: liquor, spirits, alcohol
(1) **rum** cocktail, (2) spiced **rum**
The **rum** in the pina colada gave the drink its signature kick.

bum *n.* a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive
synonym: hobo, vagrant, tramp
(1) homeless **bum**, (2) lazy **bum**
He used to be a successful businessman, but now he's a washed-up **bum** with nothing to show.

chum *n.* a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish
synonym: friend, companion, mate
(1) school **chum**, (2) new **chum**
He always had a **chum** to play with when he was a child.

grieve

v. to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died

synonym : mourn, lament, sorrow

(1) **grieve** for loss, (2) **grieve** at the sad news

She **grieved** the loss of her parents.

crocodile

n. a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

synonym : alligator, gator, croc

(1) **crocodile** hide, (2) saltwater **crocodile**

The **crocodile** attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear

frail

adj. weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength

synonym : weak, delicate, fragile

(1) **frail** body, (2) **frail** condition

My grandfather's health has declined, and he is now quite **frail**.

thatch

n. a material, such as straw or reeds, used to cover the roofs of houses or other buildings

synonym : straw, grass, reed

(1) cover with **thatch**, (2) **thatch** of hair

The **thatch** roof was made from local grasses and was a traditional design.

haunt

v. to frequent or visit repeatedly, often in a way that is disturbing or unsettling; to occupy or fill the mind, often in a way that is unpleasant or persistent

synonym : stalk, spook, obsess

(1) **haunt** memories, (2) **haunt** my conscience

The crowd's boos and jeers continued to **haunt** the performer long after the show ended.

succumb

v. to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury

synonym: surrender, break down, die

(1) **succumb** to cancer, (2) **succumb** to old age

He finally **succumbed** to temptation.

gorgon

n. in Greek mythology, a female creature with snakes for hair whose gaze turned people to stone; something or someone that causes terror or fear

synonym: medusa, monster, demon

(1) **gorgon** hair, (2) **gorgon** stone

After that last exam, the professor was a total **gorgon** to anyone who tried to ask for clarification.

stoke

v. to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict

synonym: stir up, fuel, ignite

(1) **stoke** a fire, (2) **stoke** passions

The artist used bright colors and bold brushstrokes to **stoke** a sense of vibrancy in their painting.

qualm

n. an uneasy feeling of doubt, uncertainty, or apprehension, often about the morality or propriety of action; a sudden fit or attack of pain or nausea

synonym: unease, apprehension, doubt

(1) **qualms** of conscience, (2) moral **qualms**

The politician didn't seem to have any **qualms** about lying to his constituents.

weep

v. to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain

synonym: cry, sob, mourn

(1) **weep** bitter tears, (2) **weep** for joy

I'm easily moved to tears, so I would **weep** in sympathy if I saw that movie.

folly

n. a lack of good sense or judgment; foolishness or absurdity; specifically, a costly, useless, or pointless building or project that has been created or undertaken for no practical purpose or benefit

synonym : absurdity, foolishness, irrationality

(1) economic **folly**, (2) act of **folly**

It was **folly** for the hiker to climb the dangerous mountain alone.

tuck

v. to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable

synonym : insert, wrap, pinch

(1) **tuck** a baby in the blanket, (2) **tuck** into another cigarette

You should **tuck** your shirt into your trousers.

doom

n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

synonym : judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

foretell

v. to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future

synonym : predict, prophesy, forecast

(1) **foretell** the attack, (2) **foretell** the end of the world

The fortune teller was able to **foretell** the future by reading tarot cards.

womb

n. the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth

synonym : uterus, matrice

(1) tumor of **womb**, (2) **womb** transplant

The fertilized egg implanted itself in the **womb**.

forswear

v. to renounce or reject something, particularly under oath or to break a promise; to give up or swear off something

synonym: renounce, abandon, reject

(1) **forswear** tobacco, (2) **forswear** his criminal lifestyle

I will **forswear** all unhealthy habits and commit to a healthier lifestyle.

caress

v. to touch or stroke gently and affectionately; to express love or tenderness with physical contact

synonym: stroke, fondle, pet

(1) **caress** her hair, (2) **caress** his cheek

The mother gently **caressed** her child's forehead to soothe their fever.

sneer

v. to show contempt or ridicule for someone or something through a facial expression or tone of voice; (noun) a contemptuous or scornful smile or remark

synonym: mock, deride, ridicule

(1) **sneer** openly at him, (2) **sneer** hatefully

She **sneered** at his attempts to impress her.

trump

n. a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

(1) **trump** card, (2) choose **trump**

The **trump** suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.

bumble

v. to move or act clumsily or awkwardly; to speak or behave in an inept or confused manner

synonym: stumble, fumble, blunder

(1) **bumble** his way into a high-paying job, (2) **bumble** through his speeches

She tends to **bumble** through her work, making careless errors along the way.

bully

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate,

harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
synonym : tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak

The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

bureaucracy

n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives

synonym : administration, government, system

(1) government **bureaucracy**, (2) arbitrary **bureaucracy**

The bumbling **bureaucracy** made it difficult to get the permits we needed.

infancy

n. the state or period of being a baby or very young child

synonym : childhood, babyhood, juvenescence

(1) **infancy** stage, (2) in early **infancy**

The technology is still in its **infancy** and has much room for improvement.

pervasive

adj. spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place

synonym : extensive, ubiquitous, prevalent

(1) **pervasive** language, (2) the **pervasive** odor of garlic

Suspicion and worry were **pervasive** in our minds.

hail

v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

synonym : greet, salute, welcome

(1) **hail** the victorious team with cheers, (2) **hail** forecast

People in the area were forced to **hail** a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.

Jovian

adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

synonym : Jupiter, giant planet

(1) **Jovian** satellites, (2) **Jovian** planet

The **Jovian** moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.

sorcery

n. the use of magic, often associated with evil or supernatural powers; witchcraft

synonym : magic, witchcraft, enchantment

(1) mystical **sorcery**, (2) dark **sorcery**

He claimed that he could perform **sorcery** and cast spells.

titanic

adj. of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

synonym : colossal, massive, immense

(1) **titanic** battle, (2) **titanic** compound

The **titanic** ship sank on its maiden voyage.

siren

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

synonym : alarm, warning, alert

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

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

enslave

v. to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

synonym : coerce, deprive, imprison

(1) **enslave** poor peasants, (2) **enslave** indigenous people

Her beauty **enslaved** me completely.

upstart

n. a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer

synonym : parvenu, newbie, newcomer

(1) **upstart** company, (2) ambitious **upstart**

The **upstart** politician made a splash in the election, challenging the established incumbents.

extol

v. to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes

synonym : praise, admire, acclaim

(1) **extol** the beauty, (2) **extol** the benefits

The teacher **extolled** the virtues of hard work and dedication to her students.

aye

adv. an outdated word meaning "yes," used to indicate agreement or assent, particularly in official contexts such as voting or parliamentary procedures; forever or always; (noun) agreement or affirmation

synonym : yes, certainly, indeed

(1) **aye** vote, (2) **aye** claimed

The captain nodded in **aye**, showing his agreement with the plan.

godchild

n. a child or young person who is baptized and sponsored by a godparent, typically chosen from among close family or friends

synonym : godson, goddaughter

(1) **godchild's** christening, (2) baptized **godchild**

I feel honored that they asked me to be their daughter's **godchild**.

fawn

adj. having a light yellowish-brown or tawny color, often resembling the color of a young deer; excessively flattering or obsequious to seek favor or attention

synonym : pale, beige, sandy

(1) **fawn** coat, (2) white-tailed **fawn**

She had a **fawn-colored** dress that looked perfect for the wedding.

torch

n. a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle

synonym : flashlight, lantern, flare

(1) the **torch** of learning, (2) **torch** song

She used an electric **torch** to light her way through the dark cave.

resentment

n. bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly

synonym : bitterness, enmity, animosity

(1) abiding **resentment**, (2) bitter **resentment**

She felt **resentment** towards her boss for not giving her a promotion.

lava

n. molten rock that has been extruded from a volcano and solidified; a highly fluid, highly heated substance or material

synonym : molten rock, magma, volcanic rock

(1) **lava** flow, (2) molten **lava**

The volcano's eruption caused a **lava** river to flow down the mountainside.

wrath

n. extreme anger

synonym : fury, irritation, anger

(1) **wrath** of God, (2) a high person's **wrath**

He finally exploded with **wrath** due to the team's repeated failures.

wary

adj. cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience

synonym : cautious, suspicious, leery

(1) a **wary** statesman, (2) **wary** of marriage

She was **wary** of meeting new people because of past experiences.

wane

v. to decrease in size, strength, or intensity

synonym : decrease, diminish, fade

(1) **wane** over time, (2) **wane** in popularity

The fragrance of this material **wanes** over weeks to months.

feign

v. to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone

synonym: pretend, simulate, falsify

(1) **feign** a stomachache, (2) **feign** a false laugh

Some animals **feign** death when in danger.

guile

n. the use of deceit or cunning to achieve one's goals; sly or cunning behavior, often with the intent to deceive

synonym: cunning, deceit, trickery

(1) cunning **guile**, (2) political **guile**

She used a combination of charm and **guile** strategy to work her way up in the company.

bluster

v. to speak or act in a loud, noisy, and forceful way, often in an attempt to intimidate or impress others; to boast or brag in a threatening or blustery manner; (noun) loud, aggressive, or indignant talk with little substance

synonym: boast, brag, blow

(1) **bluster** him into the belief, (2) theatrical **bluster**

The politician **blustered** about the importance of his new policy.

batter

v. to hit something or someone repeatedly with much force; (noun, baseball) a ballplayer who is batting

synonym: beat, pound, strike

(1) **batter** the eggs, (2) the **batter's** box

He got so angry that he **battered** the door down.

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.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

bluff

v. to try to deceive someone into believing that you can or are going to do something, or that you have knowledge or abilities; (noun) a high steep bank, usually formed by river erosion

synonym : abrupt, cliff, precipice

(1) **bluff** the other side, (2) riverside **bluff**

He **bluffed** a person out of going.

trinket

n. a small decorative item or piece of jewelry that is often of little value or practical use but is cherished for its sentimental or aesthetic qualities

synonym : bauble, ornament, trifle

(1) vintage **trinket**, (2) cheap **trinket**

The little girl loved to collect **trinkets** and display them on her dresser.

bauble

n. a small, decorative trinket or ornament; a showy or gaudy item of little value or significance

synonym : trinket, ornament, decoration

(1) shiny **bauble**, (2) decorative **bauble**

The Christmas tree was adorned with colorful **baubles** and twinkling lights.

sly

adj. having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals

synonym : crafty, sneaky, devious

(1) **sly** tactics, (2) **sly** fox

He had a **sly** smile on his face as he told his joke.

- sty** *n.* a small enclosure or pen for domesticated pigs or other farm animals; a dirty, messy, or disorganized place
synonym: pigsty, pigpen, hog wallow
(1) **sty** in my eye, (2) messy **sty**
The farmer cleaned out the pig **sty** before the new piglets arrived.
- revelry** *n.* lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment
synonym: festivity, merrymaking, celebration
(1) **revelry** in the streets, (2) festival **revelry**
The street was filled with **revelry** on New Year's Eve.
- rut** *n.* a long track or groove worn into the ground, typically by the repeated passage of wheels or other heavy objects; a fixed, boring or monotonous routine or course of action
synonym: groove, track, estrus
(1) falling into a **rut**, (2) boring routine **rut**
The company seems stuck in a **rut** and needs to try something new.
- muck** *n.* dense, wet, and dirty matter or waste, often found in soil or on the ground; animal waste
synonym: dirt, mud, droppings
(1) construction **muck**, (2) **muck** on clothes
The horses waded through the **muck** in the field after the rainstorm.
- peril** *n.* serious and great danger or risk
synonym: hazard, danger, threat
(1) the **peril** of the sea, (2) environmental **peril**
Due to hunger, the lives of the refugees were in **peril**.
- 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.

neanderthalensis

n. a species of the genus Homo that lived in Europe and western and central Asia from about 200,000 to 30,000 years ago

(1) Homo **neanderthalensis**, (2) **neanderthalensis** DNA

The discovery of a **neanderthalensis** burial site was a breakthrough for the team of archaeologists.

bastardize

v. to alter, modify, or degrade something in a way that undermines or violates its original integrity or quality; to create a less authentic or less desirable version of something

synonym: corrupt, debase, pervert

(1) **bastardize** a recipe, (2) **bastardize** culture

We do not want to **bastardize** the text's original meaning through poor translations.

iota

n. an extremely small amount or quantity; a tiny or insignificant element or part; the 9th letter of the Greek alphabet

synonym: bit, particle, jot

(1) without an **iota** of forgiveness, (2) an **iota** of truth

I didn't understand an **iota** of what the professor was saying during the lecture.

inferno

n. a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs

synonym: hell, fiery pit, furnace

(1) a raging **inferno**, (2) devastating **inferno**

The building was consumed by an **inferno**, reducing it to ashes.

offshoot

n. a subsidiary or secondary branch or part of something; a new development or idea that has grown out of a larger one

synonym : branch, derivation, offspring

(1) an **offshoot** of the company, (2) cultural **offshoot**

The new program is an **offshoot** of the main curriculum for students with specific interests.

listless

adj. lacking energy, enthusiasm, or interest; marked by a feeling of lethargy or apathy

synonym : lethargic, languid, apathetic

(1) **listless** mood, (2) spend a **listless** day

After a long day at work, I felt **listless** and unable to do anything productive.

hoard

v. to collect money, valuables, etc., for future use secretly;
(noun) a secret store or collection of money, valuables, etc., for future use

synonym : stockpile, accumulation, stash

(1) **hoard** my possessions, (2) plutonium **hoard**

They **hoarded** a common secret instead of sharing it.

savor

v. to enjoy or appreciate something fully; to relish or delight in something delicious or enjoyable; to preserve or season with a savory flavor

synonym : enjoy, relish, appreciate

(1) **savor** the moment, (2) **savor** the taste

I always like to **savor** a good cup of coffee in the morning.

crave

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

synonym : desire, yearn, long for

(1) **crave** chocolate, (2) **crave** advice from others

She **craves** success and is always pushing herself to do better.

hem

n. the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish

synonym : edge, border, margin

(1) the **hem** of a dress, (2) **hem** the skirt

The **hem** length of her dress was perfect for the evening event.

dabble

v. to engage in an activity in a casual or superficial way; to dip a foot or hand briefly into a liquid

synonym : toy with, tinker with, play at

(1) **dabble** in a hobby, (2) **dabble** at French

They often **dabble** in new business ventures but only commit partially.

babble

n. the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech

synonym : drivel, gabble, gibberish

(1) the **babble** of a crowd, (2) mindless **babble**

Please avoid using excessive jargon or too much technological **babble**.

thirst

n. a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something

synonym : craving, desire, appetite

(1) a burning **thirst**, (2) **thirst** for authority

He read books to quench his **thirst** for knowledge.

scrabble

v. to scratch or scrape at something with one's hands or claws frantically or desperately; to arrange or rearrange letter tiles to form words in a game of Scrabble (= a popular word game using a 15x15 square board and letter tiles) or a similar word game

synonym : scramble, jumble, mix

(1) **scrabble** through her purse, (2) **scrabble** words

The kids eagerly **scrabbled** to find the hidden Easter eggs in the garden.

haggard

adj. looking exhausted, worn out, or gaunt, as from fatigue, illness, or overwork; having a worn or wild appearance,

as if from lack of food or rest

synonym: gaunt, emaciated, exhausted

(1) **haggard** complexion, (2) **haggard** appearance

The prisoners looked **haggard** and emaciated due to the inhumane conditions in the jail.

pimp

n. a person, typically a man, who lives off the earnings of a prostitute or sex worker

synonym: pandar, procurer, hustler

(1) **pimp** lifestyle, (2) **pimp** culture

The lazy **pimp** controlled and exploited the women working for him.

babel

n. a loud noise, typically referring to the confusion of many voices talking at once, derived from the biblical story of the Tower of Babel, in which God caused confusion among people by making them speak different languages

synonym: confusion, chaos, disorder

(1) a **babel** of confusion, (2) **babel** of languages

The classroom was a **babel** of excitement as the students prepared for their field trip.

tyranny

n. a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

synonym: despotism, oppression, dictatorship

(1) brutal **tyranny**, (2) **tyranny** of the majority

The country was ruled by a **tyranny** that oppressed its citizens.

covet

v. to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for

synonym: desire, yearn, crave

(1) **covet** wealth, (2) **covet** fame

She couldn't help but **covet** her friend's designer handbag.

spur

n. a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something

synonym: encouragement, motivation, stimulus

(1) **spur** of the moment, (2) **spur** a momentum of economic growth

The threat of losing his job was the **spur** he needed to work harder.

abyss

n. a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void

synonym: chasm, cavity, gulf

(1) the **abyss** of time, (2) an **abyss** of hopelessness

The deep sea is an **abyss** of mystery and discovery.

Session 2: Spelling

1. st__e a fire
v. to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict
2. h__l forecast
v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky
3. an i__a of truth
n. an extremely small amount or quantity; a tiny or insignificant element or part; the 9th letter of the Greek alphabet
4. sn__r openly at him
v. to show contempt or ridicule for someone or something through a facial expression or tone of voice; (noun) a contemptuous or scornful smile or remark
5. government bur_____cy
n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
6. sa__r the moment
v. to enjoy or appreciate something fully; to relish or delight in something delicious or enjoyable; to preserve or season with a savory flavor
7. h__l the victorious team with cheers
v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

ANSWERS: 1. stoke, 2. hail, 3. iota, 4. sneer, 5. bureaucracy, 6. savor, 7. hail

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8. a high person's wr__h | <i>n.</i> extreme anger |
| 9. spend a li____ss day | <i>adj.</i> lacking energy, enthusiasm, or interest; marked by a feeling of lethargy or apathy |
| 10. sa__r the taste | <i>v.</i> to enjoy or appreciate something fully; to relish or delight in something delicious or enjoyable; to preserve or season with a savory flavor |
| 11. l__a flow | <i>n.</i> molten rock that has been extruded from a volcano and solidified; a highly fluid, highly heated substance or material |
| 12. gr___e for loss | <i>v.</i> to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died |
| 13. w__e over time | <i>v.</i> to decrease in size, strength, or intensity |
| 14. en____e indigenous people | <i>v.</i> to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action |
| 15. fo____ll the end of the world | <i>v.</i> to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future |
| 16. imp_____ion on stage | <i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation |
| 17. the pe____ve odor of garlic | <i>adj.</i> spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place |
| 18. moral qu__ms | <i>n.</i> an uneasy feeling of doubt, uncertainty, or apprehension, often about the morality or propriety of action; a sudden fit or attack of pain or nausea |

ANSWERS: 8. wrath, 9. listless, 10. savor, 11. lava, 12. grieve, 13. wane, 14. enslave, 15. foretell, 16. improvisation, 17. pervasive, 18. qualm

28. cunning gu__e *n.* the use of deceit or cunning to achieve one's goals; sly or cunning behavior, often with the intent to deceive
29. su_____b to cancer *v.* to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
30. w__b transplant *n.* the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth
31. brutal ty_____y *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
32. abiding res_____nt *n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
33. festival re_____y *n.* lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment
34. ca____s her hair *v.* to touch or stroke gently and affectionately; to express love or tenderness with physical contact
35. fo_____ar tobacco *v.* to renounce or reject something, particularly under oath or to break a promise; to give up or swear off something
36. a_e claimed *adv.* an outdated word meaning "yes," used to indicate agreement or assent, particularly in official contexts such as voting or parliamentary procedures; forever or always; (noun) agreement or affirmation

ANSWERS: 28. guile, 29. succumb, 30. womb, 31. tyranny, 32. resentment, 33. revelry, 34. caress, 35. forswear, 36. aye

37. decorative ba___e *n.* a small, decorative trinket or ornament; a showy or gaudy item of little value or significance
38. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
39. cr__e chocolate *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
40. li_____ss mood *adj.* lacking energy, enthusiasm, or interest; marked by a feeling of lethargy or apathy
41. go_____ld's christening *n.* a child or young person who is baptized and sponsored by a godparent, typically chosen from among close family or friends
42. tr__p card *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
43. baptized go_____ld *n.* a child or young person who is baptized and sponsored by a godparent, typically chosen from among close family or friends
44. co__t wealth *v.* to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
45. theatrical bl_____r *v.* to speak or act in a loud, noisy, and forceful way, often in an attempt to intimidate or impress others; to boast or brag in a threatening or blustery manner; (noun) loud, aggressive, or indignant talk with little substance

ANSWERS: 37. bauble, 38. improvisation, 39. crave, 40. listless, 41. godchild, 42. trump, 43. godchild, 44. covet, 45. bluster

46. political gu__e *n.* the use of deceit or cunning to achieve one's goals; sly or cunning behavior, often with the intent to deceive
47. a w__y statesman *adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
48. a former p__t of farmland *n.* a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes
49. g__b for potatoes *n.* the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously
50. p__t book *n.* a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes
51. choose tr__p *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
52. environmental pe__l *n.* serious and great danger or risk
53. bas_____ze a recipe *v.* to alter, modify, or degrade something in a way that undermines or violates its original integrity or quality; to create a less authentic or less desirable version of something
54. ti_____c battle *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

ANSWERS: 46. guile, 47. wary, 48. plat, 49. grub, 50. plat, 51. trump, 52. peril, 53. bastardize, 54. titanic

55. vintage tr____t *n.* a small decorative item or piece of jewelry that is often of little value or practical use but is cherished for its sentimental or aesthetic qualities
56. w__y of marriage *adj.* cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
57. an ab__s of hopelessness *n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
58. ha____d appearance *adj.* looking exhausted, worn out, or gaunt, as from fatigue, illness, or overwork; having a worn or wild appearance, as if from lack of food or rest
59. go____n hair *n.* in Greek mythology, a female creature with snakes for hair whose gaze turned people to stone; something or someone that causes terror or fear
60. the h_m of a dress *n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
61. police si__n *n.* a device that emits a loud, piercing sound, typically used as a warning or to get attention; historically, a creature in Greek mythology whose enchanting voice would lure sailors toward danger
62. fe__n a false laugh *v.* to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone

ANSWERS: 55. trinket, 56. wary, 57. abyss, 58. haggard, 59. gorgon, 60. hem, 61. siren, 62. feign

63. arbitrary bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
64. a_e vote *adv.* an outdated word meaning "yes," used to indicate agreement or assent, particularly in official contexts such as voting or parliamentary procedures; forever or always; (noun) agreement or affirmation
65. bl__f the other side *v.* to try to deceive someone into believing that you can or are going to do something, or that you have knowledge or abilities; (noun) a high steep bank, usually formed by river erosion
66. act of fo__y *n.* a lack of good sense or judgment; foolishness or absurdity; specifically, a costly, useless, or pointless building or project that has been created or undertaken for no practical purpose or benefit
67. saltwater cr_____le *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
68. ex__l the beauty *v.* to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes
69. fe__n a stomachache *v.* to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone

ANSWERS: 63. bureaucracy, 64. aye, 65. bluff, 66. folly, 67. crocodile, 68. extol, 69. feign

70. s_y fox *adj.* having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals
71. f__n coat *adj.* having a light yellowish-brown or tawny color, often resembling the color of a young deer; excessively flattering or obsequious to seek favor or attention
72. fire truck si__n *n.* a device that emits a loud, piercing sound, typically used as a warning or to get attention; historically, a creature in Greek mythology whose enchanting voice would lure sailors toward danger
73. bitter res_____nt *n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
74. in early in_____y *n.* the state or period of being a baby or very young child
75. ho__d my possessions *v.* to collect money, valuables, etc., for future use secretly; (noun) a secret store or collection of money, valuables, etc., for future use
76. cr_____le hide *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
77. a ba__l of confusion *n.* a loud noise, typically referring to the confusion of many voices talking at once, derived from the biblical story of the Tower of Babel, in which God caused confusion among people by making them speak different languages

ANSWERS: 70. sly, 71. fawn, 72. siren, 73. resentment, 74. infancy, 75. hoard, 76. crocodile, 77. babel

78. without an i__a of forgiveness *n.* an extremely small amount or quantity; a tiny or insignificant element or part; the 9th letter of the Greek alphabet
79. the ba___e of a crowd *n.* the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech
80. pro_____ate on my homework *v.* to postpone doing what you should do, often because it is unpleasant or boring
81. ex__l the benefits *v.* to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes
82. nea_____sis DNA *n.* a species of the genus Homo that lived in Europe and western and central Asia from about 200,000 to 30,000 years ago
83. ambitious up_____t *n.* a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer
84. tumor of w__b *n.* the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth
85. t__k into another cigarette *v.* to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable
86. mystical so_____y *n.* the use of magic, often associated with evil or supernatural powers; witchcraft
87. s_y tactics *adj.* having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals

ANSWERS: 78. iota, 79. babble, 80. procrastinate, 81. extol, 82. neanderthalensis, 83. upstart, 84. womb, 85. tuck, 86. sorcery, 87. sly

88. Jo___n planet *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
89. a raging in____o *n.* a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs
90. a burning th___t *n.* a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something
91. st__e passions *v.* to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict
92. fr__l body *adj.* weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength
93. lazy b_m *n.* a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive
94. new c__m *n.* a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish
95. bu__y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
96. wr__h of God *n.* extreme anger
97. w__p for joy *v.* to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
98. fr__l condition *adj.* weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength

ANSWERS: 88. Jovian, 89. inferno, 90. thirst, 91. stoke, 92. frail, 93. bum, 94. chum, 95. bully, 96. wrath, 97. weep, 98. frail

99. cover with th___h *n.* a material, such as straw or reeds, used to cover the roofs of houses or other buildings
100. pi_____e gold and other treasures *n.* the act of looting or plundering, particularly during times of war or conflict; the theft or destruction of property or valuables; (verb) to rob, loot, or plunder a place or area, usually in a violent and destructive way
101. spiced r_m *n.* a distilled alcoholic beverage made from sugarcane or molasses, often aged and typically with a sweet, rich, or spicy flavor
102. violent pi_____e *n.* the act of looting or plundering, particularly during times of war or conflict; the theft or destruction of property or valuables; (verb) to rob, loot, or plunder a place or area, usually in a violent and destructive way
103. bu___e his way into a high-paying job *v.* to move or act clumsily or awkwardly; to speak or behave in an inept or confused manner
104. up_____t company *n.* a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer
105. shiny ba___e *n.* a small, decorative trinket or ornament; a showy or gaudy item of little value or significance
106. to__h song *n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle

ANSWERS: 99. thatch, 100. pillage, 101. rum, 102. pillage, 103. bumble, 104. upstart, 105. bauble, 106. torch

124. white-tailed f__n *adj.* having a light yellowish-brown or tawny color, often resembling the color of a young deer; excessively flattering or obsequious to seek favor or attention
125. homeless b_m *n.* a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive
126. bl____r him into the belief *v.* to speak or act in a loud, noisy, and forceful way, often in an attempt to intimidate or impress others; to boast or brag in a threatening or blustery manner; (noun) loud, aggressive, or indignant talk with little substance
127. fo____ar his criminal lifestyle *v.* to renounce or reject something, particularly under oath or to break a promise; to give up or swear off something
128. plutonium ho__d *v.* to collect money, valuables, etc., for future use secretly; (noun) a secret store or collection of money, valuables, etc., for future use
129. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
130. gr___e at the sad news *v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
131. en____e poor peasants *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

ANSWERS: 124. fawn, 125. bum, 126. bluster, 127. forswear, 128. hoard, 129. sham, 130. grieve, 131. enslave

132. s__r a momentum of economic growth
n. a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something
133. cultural of ____ot
n. a subsidiary or secondary branch or part of something; a new development or idea that has grown out of a larger one
134. devastating in ____o
n. a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs
135. th__h of hair
n. a material, such as straw or reeds, used to cover the roofs of houses or other buildings
136. t__k a baby in the blanket
v. to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable
137. ti____c compound
adj. of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
138. s_y in my eye
n. a small enclosure or pen for domesticated pigs or other farm animals; a dirty, messy, or disorganized place
139. fo____ll the attack
v. to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future
140. go__n stone
n. in Greek mythology, a female creature with snakes for hair whose gaze turned people to stone; something or someone that causes terror or fear

ANSWERS: 132. spur, 133. offshoot, 134. inferno, 135. thatch, 136. tuck, 137. titanic, 138. sty, 139. foretell, 140. gorgon

152. p__p culture *n.* a person, typically a man, who lives off the earnings of a prostitute or sex worker
153. Jo___n satellites *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
154. cheap tr_____t *n.* a small decorative item or piece of jewelry that is often of little value or practical use but is cherished for its sentimental or aesthetic qualities
155. da___e at French *v.* to engage in an activity in a casual or superficial way; to dip a foot or hand briefly into a liquid
156. economic d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
157. h_m the skirt *n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
158. the to__h of learning *n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle
159. pe_____ve language *adj.* spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place
160. s__r of the moment *n.* a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something
161. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

ANSWERS: 152. pimp, 153. Jovian, 154. trinket, 155. dabble, 156. doom, 157. hem, 158. torch, 159. pervasive, 160. spur, 161. sham

162. w__p bitter tears *v.* to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
163. ba__l of languages *n.* a loud noise, typically referring to the confusion of many voices talking at once, derived from the biblical story of the Tower of Babel, in which God caused confusion among people by making them speak different languages
164. ty____y of the majority *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
165. sc____le through her purse *v.* to scratch or scrape at something with one's hands or claws frantically or desperately; to arrange or rearrange letter tiles to form words in a game of Scrabble (= a popular word game using a 15x15 square board and letter tiles) or a similar word game
166. cook up some g__bs *n.* the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously
167. in____y stage *n.* the state or period of being a baby or very young child
168. qu__ms of conscience *n.* an uneasy feeling of doubt, uncertainty, or apprehension, often about the morality or propriety of action; a sudden fit or attack of pain or nausea

ANSWERS: 162. weep, 163. babel, 164. tyranny, 165. scrabble, 166. grub, 167. infancy, 168. qualm

169. ba___r the eggs *v.* to hit something or someone repeatedly with much force; (noun, baseball) a ballplayer who is batting
170. co__t fame *v.* to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
171. r_m cocktail *n.* a distilled alcoholic beverage made from sugarcane or molasses, often aged and typically with a sweet, rich, or spicy flavor
172. mindless ba___e *n.* the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech

ANSWERS: 169. batter, 170. covet, 171. rum, 172. babble

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The new program is an _____ of the main curriculum for students with specific interests.
 - n.* a subsidiary or secondary branch or part of something; a new development or idea that has grown out of a larger one
2. The deep sea is an _____ of mystery and discovery.
 - n.* a deep, dark, or seemingly bottomless chasm or void
3. I always like to _____ a good cup of coffee in the morning.
 - v.* to enjoy or appreciate something fully; to relish or delight in something delicious or enjoyable; to preserve or season with a savory flavor
4. Her beauty _____ me completely.
 - v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
5. The fortune teller was able to _____ the future by reading tarot cards.
 - v.* to predict or reveal something that will happen in the future
6. The _____ length of her dress was perfect for the evening event.
 - n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
7. The mother gently _____ her child's forehead to soothe their fever.
 - v.* to touch or stroke gently and affectionately; to express love or tenderness with physical contact

ANSWERS: 1. offshoot, 2. abyss, 3. savor, 4. enslaved, 5. foretell, 6. hem, 7. caressed

8. The _____ suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.
- n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
9. We do not want to _____ the text's original meaning through poor translations.
- v.* to alter, modify, or degrade something in a way that undermines or violates its original integrity or quality; to create a less authentic or less desirable version of something
10. Please avoid using excessive jargon or too much technological _____.
- n.* the sound of many people speaking simultaneously; meaningless talk or speech
11. Due to hunger, the lives of the refugees were in _____.
- n.* serious and great danger or risk
12. The discovery of a _____ burial site was a breakthrough for the team of archaeologists.
- n.* a species of the genus Homo that lived in Europe and western and central Asia from about 200,000 to 30,000 years ago
13. She used an electric _____ to light her way through the dark cave.
- n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle
14. The _____ roof was made from local grasses and was a traditional design.
- n.* a material, such as straw or reeds, used to cover the roofs of houses or other buildings

ANSWERS: 8. trump, 9. bastardize, 10. babble, 11. peril, 12. neanderthalensis, 13. torch, 14. thatch

15. It was _____ for the hiker to climb the dangerous mountain alone.
- n.* a lack of good sense or judgment; foolishness or absurdity; specifically, a costly, useless, or pointless building or project that has been created or undertaken for no practical purpose or benefit
16. He used to be a successful businessman, but now he's a washed-up ____ with nothing to show.
- n.* a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive
17. I'm easily moved to tears, so I would _____ in sympathy if I saw that movie.
- v.* to cry tears because of sadness, rage, or pain
18. The country was ruled by a _____ that oppressed its citizens.
- n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
19. She felt _____ towards her boss for not giving her a promotion.
- n.* bitterness or indignation at being treated unfairly
20. My grandfather's health has declined, and he is now quite _____.
- adj.* weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength
21. 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
22. He always had a _____ to play with when he was a child.
- n.* a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish

ANSWERS: 15. folly, 16. bum, 17. weep, 18. tyranny, 19. resentment, 20. frail, 21. improvisation, 22. chum

23. The street was filled with _____ on New Year's Eve.
- n.* lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment
24. The threat of losing his job was the _____ he needed to work harder.
- n.* a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something
25. The artist used bright colors and bold brushstrokes to _____ a sense of vibrancy in their painting.
- v.* to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict
26. He had a _____ smile on his face as he told his joke.
- adj.* having or showing a secretive or deceptive nature; cunning or crafty in achieving one's goals
27. She tends to _____ through her work, making careless errors along the way.
- v.* to move or act clumsily or awkwardly; to speak or behave in an inept or confused manner
28. She _____ success and is always pushing herself to do better.
- v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
29. The garden was infested with beetle _____ causing damage to the plant roots.
- n.* the larval stage of an insect, particularly beetles, butterflies, or flies; food, especially in the form of unappetizing or unappealing cooked dishes; (verb) to dig or search diligently and laboriously
30. She couldn't help but _____ her friend's designer handbag.
- v.* to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for

ANSWERS: 23. revelry, 24. spur, 25. stoke, 26. sly, 27. bumble, 28. craves, 29. grubs, 30. covet

31. I heard the _____ of an ambulance and moved my car to the side of the road.
- n.* a device that emits a loud, piercing sound, typically used as a warning or to get attention; historically, a creature in Greek mythology whose enchanting voice would lure sailors toward danger
32. The Christmas tree was adorned with colorful _____ and twinkling lights.
- n.* a small, decorative trinket or ornament; a showy or gaudy item of little value or significance
33. The politician _____ about the importance of his new policy.
- v.* to speak or act in a loud, noisy, and forceful way, often in an attempt to intimidate or impress others; to boast or brag in a threatening or blustery manner; (noun) loud, aggressive, or indignant talk with little substance
34. Everyone was aware of the impending _____ but was unable to prevent it.
- n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
35. I feel honored that they asked me to be their daughter's _____.
- n.* a child or young person who is baptized and sponsored by a godparent, typically chosen from among close family or friends
36. The fertilized egg implanted itself in the _____.
- n.* the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth
37. He finally _____ to temptation.
- v.* to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
38. The _____ attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear
- n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

ANSWERS: 31. siren, 32. baubles, 33. blustered, 34. doom, 35. godchild, 36. womb, 37. succumbed, 38. crocodile

39. The bumbling _____ made it difficult to get the permits we needed.
- n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
40. He finally exploded with _____ due to the team's repeated failures.
- n.* extreme anger
41. She _____ at his attempts to impress her.
- v.* to show contempt or ridicule for someone or something through a facial expression or tone of voice; (noun) a contemptuous or scornful smile or remark
42. The schoolyard _____ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.
- n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
43. The little girl loved to collect _____ and display them on her dresser.
- n.* a small decorative item or piece of jewelry that is often of little value or practical use but is cherished for its sentimental or aesthetic qualities
44. People in the area were forced to _____ a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.
- v.* to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky
45. They often _____ in new business ventures but only commit partially.
- v.* to engage in an activity in a casual or superficial way; to dip a foot or hand briefly into a liquid

ANSWERS: 39. bureaucracy, 40. wrath, 41. sneered, 42. bully, 43. trinkets, 44. hail, 45. dabble

46. After that last exam, the professor was a total _____ to anyone who tried to ask for clarification.
- n.* in Greek mythology, a female creature with snakes for hair whose gaze turned people to stone; something or someone that causes terror or fear
47. The building was consumed by an _____ reducing it to ashes.
- n.* a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs
48. The kids eagerly _____ to find the hidden Easter eggs in the garden.
- v.* to scratch or scrape at something with one's hands or claws frantically or desperately; to arrange or rearrange letter tiles to form words in a game of Scrabble (= a popular word game using a 15x15 square board and letter tiles) or a similar word game
49. He got so angry that he _____ the door down.
- v.* to hit something or someone repeatedly with much force; (noun, baseball) a ballplayer who is batting
50. The volcano's eruption caused a _____ river to flow down the mountainside.
- n.* molten rock that has been extruded from a volcano and solidified; a highly fluid, highly heated substance or material
51. The politician didn't seem to have any _____ about lying to his constituents.
- n.* an uneasy feeling of doubt, uncertainty, or apprehension, often about the morality or propriety of action; a sudden fit or attack of pain or nausea
52. I will _____ all unhealthy habits and commit to a healthier lifestyle.
- v.* to renounce or reject something, particularly under oath or to break a promise; to give up or swear off something

ANSWERS: 46. gorgon, 47. inferno, 48. scrabbled, 49. battered, 50. lava, 51. qualms, 52. forswear

53. She had a _____ dress that looked perfect for the wedding.
adj. having a light yellowish-brown or tawny color, often resembling the color of a young deer; excessively flattering or obsequious to seek favor or attention
54. The captain nodded in _____ showing his agreement with the plan.
adv. an outdated word meaning "yes," used to indicate agreement or assent, particularly in official contexts such as voting or parliamentary procedures; forever or always; (noun) agreement or affirmation
55. The classroom was a _____ of excitement as the students prepared for their field trip.
n. a loud noise, typically referring to the confusion of many voices talking at once, derived from the biblical story of the Tower of Babel, in which God caused confusion among people by making them speak different languages
56. The teacher _____ the virtues of hard work and dedication to her students.
v. to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes
57. The technology is still in its _____ and has much room for improvement.
n. the state or period of being a baby or very young child
58. She _____ the loss of her parents.
v. to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
59. They _____ a common secret instead of sharing it.
v. to collect money, valuables, etc., for future use secretly; (noun) a secret store or collection of money, valuables, etc., for future use
60. The city planning department keeps detailed _____ of all the local properties.
n. a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes

ANSWERS: 53. fawn-colored, 54. aye, 55. babel, 56. extolled, 57. infancy, 58. grieved, 59. hoarded, 60. plats

61. She used a combination of charm and _____ strategy to work her way up in the company.

n. the use of deceit or cunning to achieve one's goals; sly or cunning behavior, often with the intent to deceive

62. After a long day at work, I felt _____ and unable to do anything productive.

adj. lacking energy, enthusiasm, or interest; marked by a feeling of lethargy or apathy

63. You should _____ your shirt into your trousers.

v. to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable

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

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

65. The data he prepared was completely _____.

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

66. The _____ in the pina colada gave the drink its signature kick.

n. a distilled alcoholic beverage made from sugarcane or molasses, often aged and typically with a sweet, rich, or spicy flavor

67. The lazy _____ controlled and exploited the women working for him.

n. a person, typically a man, who lives off the earnings of a prostitute or sex worker

68. The farmer cleaned out the pig _____ before the new piglets arrived.

n. a small enclosure or pen for domesticated pigs or other farm animals; a dirty, messy, or disorganized place

ANSWERS: 61. guile, 62. listless, 63. tuck, 64. ancestor, 65. sham, 66. rum, 67. pimp, 68. sty

69. The army's village _____ left the residents without food or shelter.
n. the act of looting or plundering, particularly during times of war or conflict; the theft or destruction of property or valuables; (verb) to rob, loot, or plunder a place or area, usually in a violent and destructive way
70. I didn't understand an _____ of what the professor was saying during the lecture.
n. an extremely small amount or quantity; a tiny or insignificant element or part; the 9th letter of the Greek alphabet
71. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.
v. to cause to separate and go in different directions
72. He _____ the matter until it was almost too late.
v. to postpone doing what you should do, often because it is unpleasant or boring
73. Suspicion and worry were _____ in our minds.
adj. spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place
74. He _____ a person out of going.
v. to try to deceive someone into believing that you can or are going to do something, or that you have knowledge or abilities; (noun) a high steep bank, usually formed by river erosion
75. She was _____ of meeting new people because of past experiences.
adj. cautious or distrustful, especially because of a previous bad experience
76. The horses waded through the _____ in the field after the rainstorm.
n. dense, wet, and dirty matter or waste, often found in soil or on the ground; animal waste

ANSWERS: 69. pillage, 70. iota, 71. scattered, 72. procrastinated, 73. pervasive, 74. bluffed, 75. wary, 76. muck

77. The _____ politician made a splash in the election, challenging the established incumbents.
- n.* a person who has recently risen to a position of power, especially one who behaves arrogantly; an ambitious or presumptuous newcomer
78. The _____ ship sank on its maiden voyage.
- adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
79. The crowd's boos and jeers continued to _____ the performer long after the show ended.
- v.* to frequent or visit repeatedly, often in a way that is disturbing or unsettling; to occupy or fill the mind, often in a way that is unpleasant or persistent
80. The fragrance of this material _____ over weeks to months.
- v.* to decrease in size, strength, or intensity
81. The prisoners looked _____ and emaciated due to the inhumane conditions in the jail.
- adj.* looking exhausted, worn out, or gaunt, as from fatigue, illness, or overwork; having a worn or wild appearance, as if from lack of food or rest
82. The company seems stuck in a ____ and needs to try something new.
- n.* a long track or groove worn into the ground, typically by the repeated passage of wheels or other heavy objects; a fixed, boring or monotonous routine or course of action
83. The _____ moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.
- adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

ANSWERS: 77. upstart, 78. titanic, 79. haunt, 80. wanes, 81. haggard, 82. rut, 83. Jovian

84. He read books to quench his _____ for knowledge.

n. a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something

85. Some animals _____ death when in danger.

v. to pretend to have or to be affected by something, usually to deceive or trick someone

86. He claimed that he could perform _____ and cast spells.

n. the use of magic, often associated with evil or supernatural powers; witchcraft

ANSWERS: 84. thirst, 85. feign, 86. sorcery