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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Craig Venter: On the verge of creating synthetic life | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

synthesize

v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

synonym: incorporate, amalgamate

(1) **synthesize** molecules, (2) **synthesize** information

The spider can **synthesize** multiple different silk proteins.

pare

v. to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements

synonym: trim, shave, reduce

(1) **pare** an apple, (2) **pare** back wasteful spending

I must **pare** down my wardrobe and donate some of my clothes to charity.

regenerate

v. to improve or renew an area, institution, system, etc., especially by making it more active or successful

synonym: renew, revive, improve

(1) **regenerate** bone tissue, (2) a **regenerate** sinner

The new CEO's primary mission is to **regenerate** the company on the verge of bankruptcy.

genital

adj. of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs

synonym : reproductive, genetic, sexual

(1) **genital** bleeding, (2) pain in the **genital** area

The **genital** organs of the human body are necessary for reproduction.

replicate

v. to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results

synonym : duplicate, imitate, reproduce

(1) **replicate** the cell, (2) **replicate** data

The experiment was **replicated** several times to ensure accuracy.

inert

adj. lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive

synonym : motionless, inactive, dormant

(1) **inert** gases, (2) **inert** ingredients

The rock was completely **inert** and didn't react when we tried to break it open.

bioethics

n. the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and biology

synonym : medical ethics, bio-morality

(1) **bioethics** committee, (2) **bioethics** research

Using animals in medical research raises complex questions about **bioethics** and animal welfare.

degenerate

v. (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition

synonym : deteriorate, decline, decay

(1) **degenerate** into a disagreement, (2) **degenerate** into recession

The once-thriving city has **degenerated** into a crime-ridden slum.

phi *n.* the 21st letter of the Greek alphabet, used in mathematics and sciences to represent various concepts such as the golden ratio, magnetic flux, and phase angle
(1) golden **phi** ratio, (2) **phi** coefficient
The mathematician explained the significance of **phi** in the sequence of Fibonacci numbers.

coli *n.* a bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
(1) E. **coli** bacteria strain, (2) **coli** cells
The study of Escherichia **coli** has led to important advancements in areas such as antibiotic resistance, gut microbiome, and synthetic biology.

industrious *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous
(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student
He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

watermark *n.* a visible or invisible design or pattern that is embedded into paper or other surfaces and is used to prevent counterfeiting or illegal copying
synonym: logo, insignia, emblem
(1) copyright **watermark**, (2) **watermark** logo
The **watermark** on the document ensured that it could not be forged or duplicated without permission.

autograph *n.* a person's signature or handwritten inscription, especially that of a famous or admired individual
synonym: signature, sign-off, inscription
(1) **autograph** collection, (2) celebrity **autograph**
I was thrilled to get the **autograph** of my favorite musician after the concert.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym: sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

chew

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

synonym: masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

playoff

n. a series of games or matches played among teams or individuals to determine the winner of a competition or championship, particularly in sports

synonym: elimination game, finals

(1) **playoff** game, (2) 18-hole **playoff**

The team made it to the **playoff** round and is one step closer to the championship.

homologous

adj. having the same or similar structure, position, or function, particularly in different species or organisms; related by common ancestry

synonym: corresponding, analogous, similar

(1) **homologous** genes, (2) **homologous** structures

Homologous recombination is a process that can occur during DNA repair.

recombine

v. to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic material is broken and joined to other genetic material)

(1) **recombine** at the surface, (2) ability to **recombine**

Some scientists argue that the genes in food should not be artificially **recombined**.

radiology

n. the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries

synonym : medical imaging, radiography, radioscopy

(1) interventional **radiology**, (2) diagnostic **radiology**

The patient underwent a **radiology** scan to diagnose their medical condition.

desiccate

v. to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly

synonym : dehydrate, dry up, exsiccate

(1) **desiccate** food, (2) **desiccated** milk

The bricks were **desiccated** by the hot air completely.

aqueous

adj. of or pertaining to water; containing, dissolved in, or related to water; watery or liquid in nature

synonym : watery, liquid, fluid

(1) **aqueous** medium, (2) **aqueous** environment

The medication must be stored in an **aqueous** solution to maintain effectiveness.

micrograph

n. a photograph or image that has been taken through a microscope or magnifying lens, typically used for scientific or medical purposes

synonym : microphotograph

(1) **micrograph** image, (2) high-resolution **micrograph**

The **micrograph** of the cell shows detailed structures that the naked eye cannot see.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym : buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

eukaryotic

n. organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope

(1) **eukaryotic** algae, (2) **eukaryotic** genome

Mitochondria exist in every **eukaryotic** cell.

archaea

n. a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats

synonym : microbe, microorganism

(1) **archaea** microorganism, (2) thermophile **archaea**

The study of **archaea** is important for understanding the origins of life on Earth

purify

v. to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it

synonym : refine, filter, clarify

(1) **purify** hydrogen gas, (2) **purify** the blood

The equipment is frequently used to **purify** and distribute drinking water.

microbe

n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

synonym : germ, microorganism, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microbe**, (2) **microbes** sterilizer

Microbes thrive on the surface of the human skin.

trait

n. a particular feature of your nature

synonym : attribute, feature, quality

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

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

alchemy

n. a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious

synonym : sorcery, magic, transmutation

(1) **alchemy** experiment, (2) **alchemy** of emotions

Today, the study of **alchemy** remains an important part of the history of science and philosophy

genesis

n. the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind

synonym : beginning, creation, provenance

(1) the **genesis** of civilization, (2) in the Book of **Genesis**

The politician's remarks became the **genesis** of the clash between the two countries.

speciation

n. the evolutionary process by which populations evolve to become distinct species

(1) chemical **speciation**, (2) **speciation** of wildlife

Speciation allows for divergent evolutionary trends within species.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym : curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

octane

n. a hydrocarbon compound (C₈H₁₈) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and greater resistance to engine knock

synonym : fuel, gas, gasoline

(1) **octane** compound, (2) low- **octane** fuel

Premium gas has a higher **octane** rating, which makes it more expensive than regular gasoline.

butanol

n. a colorless liquid alcohol compound with four carbon atoms, commonly used as a solvent or as a fuel additive

synonym : butyl alcohol

(1) **butanol** solvent, (2) **butanol** production

Due to its low vapor pressure, **butanol** fuel is considered safer for storage and transport than other biofuels.

feedstock

n. the raw material or substances that are used to make a product, particularly in industrial or manufacturing processes

synonym: raw material, input, supply

(1) **feedstock** supply, (2) **feedstock** procurement

Corn is a common **feedstock** for ethanol production.

methane

n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

(1) atmospheric **methane**, (2) reduce **methane** emissions

The ignition of **methane** gas in the plant killed five employees.

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**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ar____a microorganism *n.* a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats
2. pu____y the blood *v.* to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it
3. re____te data *v.* to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
4. thermophile ar____a *n.* a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats
5. deg____te into a disagreement *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
6. chemical spe____on *n.* the evolutionary process by which populations evolve to become distinct species
7. p_i coefficient *n.* the 21st letter of the Greek alphabet, used in mathematics and sciences to represent various concepts such as the golden ratio, magnetic flux, and phase angle

ANSWERS: 1. archaea, 2. purify, 3. replicate, 4. archaea, 5. degenerate, 6. speciation, 7. phi

8. aq_____s environment *adj.* of or pertaining to water; containing, dissolved in, or related to water; watery or liquid in nature
9. euk_____ic algae *n.* organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope
10. a reg_____te sinner *v.* to improve or renew an area, institution, system, etc., especially by making it more active or successful
11. personality tr__ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature
12. fe_____ck supply *n.* the raw material or substances that are used to make a product, particularly in industrial or manufacturing processes
13. the ge_____s of civilization *n.* the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind
14. chemical tr__t *n.* a particular feature of your nature
15. syn_____ze information *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
16. in the Book of Ge_____s *n.* the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind
17. E. c__i bacteria strain *n.* a bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry

ANSWERS: 8. aqueous, 9. eukaryotic, 10. regenerate, 11. trait, 12. feedstock, 13. genesis, 14. trait, 15. synthesize, 16. genesis, 17. coli

18. hu____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
19. c__i cells *n.* a bacterium of the genus *Escherichia* that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
20. in__t gases *adj.* lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive
21. pu____y hydrogen gas *v.* to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it
22. wa_____rk logo *n.* a visible or invisible design or pattern that is embedded into paper or other surfaces and is used to prevent counterfeiting or illegal copying
23. deg_____te into recession *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
24. low-oc____e fuel *n.* a hydrocarbon compound (C₈H₁₈) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and greater resistance to engine knock
25. aq____s medium *adj.* of or pertaining to water; containing, dissolved in, or related to water; watery or liquid in nature
26. pain in the ge____l area *adj.* of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs

ANSWERS: 18. humming, 19. coli, 20. inert, 21. purify, 22. watermark, 23. degenerate, 24. octane, 25. aqueous, 26. genital

27. fe_____ck procurement *n.* the raw material or substances that are used to make a product, particularly in industrial or manufacturing processes
28. diagnostic ra_____gy *n.* the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries
29. de_____ted milk *v.* to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly
30. in__t ingredients *adj.* lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive
31. mic_____ph image *n.* a photograph or image that has been taken through a microscope or magnifying lens, typically used for scientific or medical purposes
32. p__e back wasteful spending *v.* to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements
33. high-resolution mic_____ph *n.* a photograph or image that has been taken through a microscope or magnifying lens, typically used for scientific or medical purposes
34. al_____y experiment *n.* a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious

ANSWERS: 27. feedstock, 28. radiology, 29. desiccate, 30. inert, 31. micrograph, 32. pare, 33. micrograph, 34. alchemy

35. golden p_i ratio *n.* the 21st letter of the Greek alphabet, used in mathematics and sciences to represent various concepts such as the golden ratio, magnetic flux, and phase angle
36. re_____ne at the surface *v.* to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic material is broken and joined to other genetic material)
37. copyright wa_____rk *n.* a visible or invisible design or pattern that is embedded into paper or other surfaces and is used to prevent counterfeiting or illegal copying
38. don't dis_____nt me *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
39. pl_____f game *n.* a series of games or matches played among teams or individuals to determine the winner of a competition or championship, particularly in sports
40. hom_____us structures *adj.* having the same or similar structure, position, or function, particularly in different species or organisms; related by common ancestry
41. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
42. reduce me_____e emissions *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

ANSWERS: 35. phi, 36. recombine, 37. watermark, 38. disappoint, 39. playoff, 40. homologous, 41. medicinal, 42. methane

43. hom_____us genes *adj.* having the same or similar structure, position, or function, particularly in different species or organisms; related by common ancestry
44. p__e an apple *v.* to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements
45. atmospheric me_____e *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
46. mi_____es sterilizer *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
47. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
48. spe_____on of wildlife *n.* the evolutionary process by which populations evolve to become distinct species
49. bu_____l solvent *n.* a colorless liquid alcohol compound with four carbon atoms, commonly used as a solvent or as a fuel additive
50. ge_____l bleeding *adj.* of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs
51. bu_____l production *n.* a colorless liquid alcohol compound with four carbon atoms, commonly used as a solvent or as a fuel additive

ANSWERS: 43. homologous, 44. pare, 45. methane, 46. microbe, 47. improvisation, 48. speciation, 49. butanol, 50. genital, 51. butanol

52. reg_____te bone tissue *v.* to improve or renew an area, institution, system, etc., especially by making it more active or successful
53. au_____ph collection *n.* a person's signature or handwritten inscription, especially that of a famous or admired individual
54. syn_____ze molecules *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
55. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
56. interventional ra_____gy *n.* the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries
57. 18-hole pl_____f *n.* a series of games or matches played among teams or individuals to determine the winner of a competition or championship, particularly in sports
58. oc___e compound *n.* a hydrocarbon compound (C₈H₁₈) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and greater resistance to engine knock
59. c__w each word *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
60. al_____y of emotions *n.* a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious

ANSWERS: 52. regenerate, 53. autograph, 54. synthesize, 55. disappoint, 56. radiology, 57. playoff, 58. octane, 59. chew, 60. alchemy

61. ability to re_____ne
v. to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic material is broken and joined to other genetic material)
62. bi_____cs committee
n. the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and biology
63. hu_____g bird
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
64. de_____te food
v. to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly
65. jazz imp_____ion
n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
66. me_____al chemistry
adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
67. ind_____us student
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
68. euk_____ic genome
n. organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope
69. bi_____cs research
n. the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and biology
70. ind_____us worker
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 61. recombine, 62. bioethics, 63. humming, 64. desiccate, 65. improvisation, 66. medicinal, 67. industrious, 68. eukaryotic, 69. bioethics, 70. industrious

71. re_____te the cell *v.* to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
72. c__w a stick of gum *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
73. pathogenic mi_____e *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
74. celebrity au_____ph *n.* a person's signature or handwritten inscription, especially that of a famous or admired individual

ANSWERS: 71. replicate, 72. chew, 73. microbe, 74. autograph

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The equipment is frequently used to _____ and distribute drinking water.
 - v. to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it

2. The spider can _____ multiple different silk proteins.
 - v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

3. Using animals in medical research raises complex questions about _____ and animal welfare.
 - n. the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and biology

4. The bricks were _____ by the hot air completely.
 - v. to remove moisture and liquids from something thoroughly

5. _____ thrive on the surface of the human skin.
 - n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

6. 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

7. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
 - adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 1. purify, 2. synthesize, 3. bioethics, 4. desiccated, 5. Microbes, 6. improvisation, 7. industrious

8. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
- v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
9. _____ allows for divergent evolutionary trends within species.
- n.* the evolutionary process by which populations evolve to become distinct species
10. The study of Escherichia ____ has led to important advancements in areas such as antibiotic resistance, gut microbiome, and synthetic biology.
- n.* a bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
11. The ignition of _____ gas in the plant killed five employees.
- n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
12. I was thrilled to get the _____ of my favorite musician after the concert.
- n.* a person's signature or handwritten inscription, especially that of a famous or admired individual
13. The mathematician explained the significance of ____ in the sequence of Fibonacci numbers.
- n.* the 21st letter of the Greek alphabet, used in mathematics and sciences to represent various concepts such as the golden ratio, magnetic flux, and phase angle
14. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.
- n.* a particular feature of your nature

ANSWERS: 8. disappoint, 9. Speciation, 10. coli, 11. methane, 12. autograph, 13. phi, 14. traits

15. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

16. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

17. The medication must be stored in an _____ solution to maintain effectiveness.

adj. of or pertaining to water; containing, dissolved in, or related to water; watery or liquid in nature

18. The rock was completely _____ and didn't react when we tried to break it open.

adj. lacking the ability to move or act, often used to describe an object or substance that is inactive or non-reactive

19. Premium gas has a higher _____ rating, which makes it more expensive than regular gasoline.

n. a hydrocarbon compound (C₈H₁₈) that is a component of gasoline and is used as a measure of fuel quality, with higher octane ratings indicating better performance and greater resistance to engine knock

20. The team made it to the _____ round and is one step closer to the championship.

n. a series of games or matches played among teams or individuals to determine the winner of a competition or championship, particularly in sports

21. Mitochondria exist in every _____ cell.

n. organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope

22. The _____ of the cell shows detailed structures that the naked eye cannot see.

n. a photograph or image that has been taken through a microscope or magnifying lens, typically used for scientific or medical purposes

ANSWERS: 15. humming, 16. medicinal, 17. aqueous, 18. inert, 19. octane, 20. playoff, 21. eukaryotic, 22. micrograph

23. My dog loves to _____ on bones.

- v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

24. The once-thriving city has _____ into a crime-ridden slum.

- v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition

25. The _____ organs of the human body are necessary for reproduction.

- adj.* of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs

26. The experiment was _____ several times to ensure accuracy.

- v.* to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results

27. Corn is a common _____ for ethanol production.

- n.* the raw material or substances that are used to make a product, particularly in industrial or manufacturing processes

28. Some scientists argue that the genes in food should not be artificially _____.

- v.* to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic material is broken and joined to other genetic material)

29. The _____ on the document ensured that it could not be forged or duplicated without permission.

- n.* a visible or invisible design or pattern that is embedded into paper or other surfaces and is used to prevent counterfeiting or illegal copying

30. The patient underwent a _____ scan to diagnose their medical condition.

- n.* the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries

ANSWERS: 23. chew, 24. degenerated, 25. genital, 26. replicated, 27. feedstock, 28. recombined, 29. watermark, 30. radiology

31. The politician's remarks became the _____ of the clash between the two countries.
- n.* the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind
32. Today, the study of _____ remains an important part of the history of science and philosophy
- n.* a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious
33. I must _____ down my wardrobe and donate some of my clothes to charity.
- v.* to trim or cut away the outer edges or excess of something, often about physical objects or figurative concepts; to reduce or simplify something to its most essential or crucial elements
34. Due to its low vapor pressure, _____ fuel is considered safer for storage and transport than other biofuels.
- n.* a colorless liquid alcohol compound with four carbon atoms, commonly used as a solvent or as a fuel additive
35. The study of _____ is important for understanding the origins of life on Earth
- n.* a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats
36. _____ recombination is a process that can occur during DNA repair.
- adj.* having the same or similar structure, position, or function, particularly in different species or organisms; related by common ancestry

ANSWERS: 31. genesis, 32. alchemy, 33. pare, 34. butanol, 35. archaea, 36. Homologous

37. The new CEO's primary mission is to _____ the company on the verge of bankruptcy.
- v. to improve or renew an area, institution, system, etc., especially by making it more active or successful

ANSWERS: 37. regenerate