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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Woody Norris: Hypersonic sound and other inventions | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

phonograph

n. an early sound-reproducing machine that plays audio recordings, typically in the form of cylindrical or disc-shaped records; often referred to as an early version of the record player or gramophone

synonym: gramophone, record player, vinyl player

(1) antique **phonograph**, (2) portable **phonograph**

My grandparents used to listen to their favorite songs on the vinyl **phonograph**.

hinge

n. a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close

synonym: joint, pivot

(1) a stiff **hinge**, (2) insecure **hinge**

His involvement is the **hinge** of our plan.

pivot

n. a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances

synonym: center point, fulcrum, heart

(1) center- **pivot** irrigation, (2) **pivot** point

The team needed to come up with a **pivot** strategy to turn things around.

tirade

n. a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation

synonym : rant, diatribe, harangue

(1) **tirade** against him, (2) launch a **tirade**

The politician went on a **tirade** about the opposition party's policies.

supersonic

adj. relating to or having a speed above the speed of sound (roughly 767 miles per hour or 1,235 kilometers per hour at sea level)

synonym : hypersonic, ultrasonic, transonic

(1) **supersonic** aircraft, (2) **supersonic** wind tunnel

The spacecraft reentered the Earth's atmosphere at **supersonic** speeds.

reflector

n. a surface or object that reflects light, sound, or heat in a specific direction, often used to redirect or focus these elements toward a desired target or area

synonym : mirror

(1) **reflector** coating, (2) vehicle **reflector**

The cyclist wore a **reflector** vest to increase visibility on the road at night.

loudspeaker

n. an electronic device that amplifies sound, typically used to address a large audience or to play music or other audio content in public areas

synonym : speaker, loudhailer, megaphone

(1) wireless **loudspeaker**, (2) **loudspeaker** system

The teacher spoke through the **loudspeaker** so that every student could hear the announcement.

gadget

n. a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job

synonym : appliance, gimmick, device

(1) a handy **gadget**, (2) time-saving **gadget**

I found the kitchen **gadget** that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.

megaphone

n. a large, cone-shaped device used to amplify sound, often used by speakers or performers to address large audiences or crowds

synonym : loud hailer, bullhorn, amplification system

(1) **megaphone** announcement, (2) **megaphone** protest

The coach used a **megaphone** to communicate with his team during the game.

sharpen

v. to make something, usually a blade or point, sharp or sharper; to enhance or improve the clarity, focus, or effectiveness of something

synonym : hone, enhance, improve

(1) **sharpen** your focus, (2) **sharpen** a pencil

I must **sharpen** my knives before cooking to ensure precise and efficient cutting.

aural

adj. (also "audial") relating to the sense of hearing or the ear; pertaining to the perception or reception of sound

synonym : auditory, sonic, acoustic

(1) **aural** skills, (2) **aural** examination

The **aural** experience at the concert was breathtaking, with the music filling the entire venue.

waterfall

n. a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock

synonym : cascade, falls, rapids

(1) scenic **waterfall**, (2) a **waterfall** with a fall of ten feet

Years of river erosion have formed the uniquely shaped **waterfall** basin.

flake

n. a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent

synonym : chip, bit, shred

(1) **flakes** of snow, (2) **flake** graphite

She found a paint **flake** on the wall and realized it was time to repaint the room.

toothpaste

n. a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath

synonym : paste, gel, dentifrice

(1) **toothpaste** hygiene product, (2) **toothpaste** tube

I always use mint-flavored **toothpaste** to refresh my mouth in the morning and at night.

anew

adv. in a new or different way

synonym : again, once more, fresh

(1) arm **anew**, (2) review **anew**

He decided to start **anew** and leave his old life behind.

slogan

n. a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

synonym : catchphrase, tagline, motto

(1) catchy **slogan**, (2) advertising **slogan**

The company spent months researching and testing different brand **slogans** before finally settling on 'Just Do It' as their new tagline.

devise

v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

synonym : create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

offend

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

synonym : insult, hurt, anger

(1) **offend** his sensibilities, (2) **offend** a customer

His rude comments **offended** many people at the party.

snore

v. to make a loud, harsh breathing sound while sleeping, often due to an obstruction in the airways or other respiratory issues; to sound boring, monotonous, or dull

synonym : doze, slumber, yawn

(1) **snore** in my sleep, (2) **snore** peacefully

I couldn't sleep because my roommate **snored** loudly every night.

gratify

v. to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite

synonym: please, satisfy, fulfill

(1) **gratify** desires, (2) **gratify** curiosity

I always try to **gratify** my boss by achieving the sales target every month.

pricy

adj. expensive or costly; having a high price or worth

synonym: expensive, costly, dear

(1) **pricy** hotel, (2) **pricy** gift

The restaurant had **pricy** menu items, but the food was worth it.

thunderous

adj. producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive

synonym: thundering, booming, loud

(1) **thunderous** roar, (2) **thunderous** noise

The **thunderous** applause lasted for several minutes after the performance.

hertz

n. the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals

synonym: frequency, cycles per second

(1) audio **hertz**, (2) tera- **hertz** radiation

The human ear can detect sounds with frequencies ranging from 20 to 20,000 **hertz**.

emit

v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.

synonym: give off, radiate, expel

(1) **emit** a gamma ray, (2) **emit** air pollution

During the unloading, the container box **emits** a clicking sound.

decibel

n. (also "dB") a unit used to measure the intensity of sound or the comparative loudness of two sounds based on a logarithmic scale

synonym: dB, sound level, volume

(1) **decibel** level, (2) adjust the **decibel**

The concert reached 100 **decibels**, causing many people to cover their ears.

propagate

v. to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction

synonym: spread, multiply, reproduce

(1) **propagate** a rumor, (2) **propagate** plants

The company is working hard to **propagate** their brand message to as many people as possible

barometer

n. an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure and is used to predict changes in weather; a measure of the prevailing conditions or trends within a particular situation or environment

synonym: indicator, gauge, measure

(1) economic **barometer**, (2) air pressure **barometer**

The number of patients in the hospital is a useful **barometer** of regional health trends.

shorten

v. to make something shorter in length, duration, or extent; to reduce the length of something; to make something briefer or more concise

synonym: reduce, truncate, abridge

(1) **shorten** the deadline, (2) **shorten** the sentence

I want to **shorten** my haircut before the summer heat arrives.

symphony

n. a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements

synonym : orchestra, harmony, concert

(1) a **symphony** orchestra, (2) a beautiful **symphony**

The frequent performances of the **symphony** prove its popularity.

troop

n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

synonym : group, unit, band

(1) the members of a military **troop**, (2) a **troop** of deer

The **troop** of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.

hillside

n. the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline

synonym : slope, incline

(1) **hillside** landscape, (2) **hillside** vineyard

The hikers were stunned by the beautiful wildflowers on the **hillside**.

whisper

v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

synonym : murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves

He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

countenance

n. a person's face or facial expression; support or approval of something or someone

synonym : facial expression, look, expression

(1) affable **countenance**, (2) confident **countenance**

The painting captured the **countenance** of the model perfectly.

Kelvin

n. a unit of measurement for temperature in the International System of Units (SI), which starts at

absolute zero, the theoretical lowest limit of temperature, and named after the British physicist William Thomson, also known as Lord Kelvin

synonym : K, degree

(1) **Kelvin** scale, (2) **Kelvin** measurement

The scientist cooled the sample to just a couple of **Kelvin** to observe quantum effects.

determinant

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

synonym : cause, factor, element

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

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

turret

n. a small tower or tall structure, often found on the corner of a building, typically used for defensive purposes; a rotating armored structure on a military vehicle or ship for mounting weapons

synonym : tower, fortification, bastion

(1) medieval **turret**, (2) **turret** lathe

The **turret** atop the castle provided a panoramic view of the surrounding area.

penetrating

adj. able to pierce or enter deeply into something; having a sharp, intense quality that cuts through superficiality or confusion

synonym : keen, piercing, sharp

(1) **penetrating** gaze, (2) **penetrating** analysis

The **penetrating** smell of freshly brewed coffee filled the room.

physicist

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

resonate

v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

synonym: echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

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.

pentagon

n. a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military

synonym: five-sided shape, quinquangle

(1) equilateral **pentagon**, (2) **pentagon** building

The shape of the building is a distinctive five-sided **pentagon**.

classify

v. to categorize or group something according to a system or set of criteria; to assign something to a particular class or category based on its characteristics or properties

synonym: categorize, sort, arrange

(1) **classify** images, (2) **classify** emails into folders

I need to **classify** these documents for the upcoming audit.

jabber

v. to talk rapidly, unintelligibly, or incoherently; to chatter or babble

synonym: prattle, babble, chatter

(1) **jabber** without pause, (2) **jabber** on the phone

Whenever they discuss their favorite TV show, they just **jabber** in excitement, making it hard to understand their specific points.

attic

n. a space or area, typically bounded by a roof and walls in a house that is located immediately below the roof; often used for storage or as an additional living space

synonym : loft, garret, crawlspace

(1) **attic** space, (2) dusty **attic**

I found an old photo album in the spacious **attic** filled with pictures of my grandparents when they were young.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sc_____r around the internet *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
2. fl__es of snow *n.* a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent
3. thu_____us noise *adj.* producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive
4. too_____te hygiene product *n.* a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath
5. launch a ti___e *n.* a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation
6. ja___r on the phone *v.* to talk rapidly, unintelligibly, or incoherently; to chatter or babble
7. answer in a wh_____r *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
8. ti___e against him *n.* a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation
9. cl_____fy emails into folders *v.* to categorize or group something according to a system or set of criteria; to assign something to a particular class or category based on its characteristics or properties
10. a wa_____ll with a fall of ten feet *n.* a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock

ANSWERS: 1. scatter, 2. flake, 3. thunderous, 4. toothpaste, 5. tirade, 6. jabber, 7. whisper, 8. tirade, 9. classify, 10. waterfall

11. thu_____us roar *adj.* producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive
12. pr__y gift *adj.* expensive or costly; having a high price or worth
13. sh_____n the sentence *v.* to make something shorter in length, duration, or extent; to reduce the length of something; to make something briefer or more concise
14. vehicle re_____or *n.* a surface or object that reflects light, sound, or heat in a specific direction, often used to redirect or focus these elements toward a desired target or area
15. dusty at__c *n.* a space or area, typically bounded by a roof and walls in a house that is located immediately below the roof; often used for storage or as an additional living space
16. the members of a military tr__p *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
17. sup_____ic wind tunnel *adj.* relating to or having a speed above the speed of sound (roughly 767 miles per hour or 1,235 kilometers per hour at sea level)
18. gr_____y desires *v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite

ANSWERS: 11. thunderous, 12. pricy, 13. shorten, 14. reflector, 15. attic, 16. troop, 17. supersonic, 18. gratify

19. hi____de vineyard *n.* the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline
20. Ke____n measurement *n.* a unit of measurement for temperature in the International System of Units (SI), which starts at absolute zero, the theoretical lowest limit of temperature, and named after the British physicist William Thomson, also known as Lord Kelvin
21. sn__e in my sleep *v.* to make a loud, harsh breathing sound while sleeping, often due to an obstruction in the airways or other respiratory issues; to sound boring, monotonous, or dull
22. fl__e graphite *n.* a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent
23. theoretical ph____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
24. au__l examination *adj.* (also "audial") relating to the sense of hearing or the ear; pertaining to the perception or reception of sound
25. e__t air pollution *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
26. insecure hi__e *n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
27. a tr__p of deer *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

ANSWERS: 19. hillside, 20. Kelvin, 21. snore, 22. flake, 23. physicist, 24. aural, 25. emit, 26. hinge, 27. troop

28. cl____fy images *v.* to categorize or group something according to a system or set of criteria; to assign something to a particular class or category based on its characteristics or properties
29. of____d a customer *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
30. air pressure ba____er *n.* an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure and is used to predict changes in weather; a measure of the prevailing conditions or trends within a particular situation or environment
31. economic ba____er *n.* an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure and is used to predict changes in weather; a measure of the prevailing conditions or trends within a particular situation or environment
32. ja____r without pause *v.* to talk rapidly, unintelligibly, or incoherently; to chatter or babble
33. a beautiful sy____ny *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
34. me____ne announcement *n.* a large, cone-shaped device used to amplify sound, often used by speakers or performers to address large audiences or crowds
35. gr____y curiosity *v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite

ANSWERS: 28. classify, 29. offend, 30. barometer, 31. barometer, 32. jabber, 33. symphony, 34. megaphone, 35. gratify

36. of___d his sensibilities *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
37. pr_____te a rumor *v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
38. tera-he__z radiation *n.* the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals
39. e__t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
40. center-pi__t irrigation *n.* a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances
41. scenic wa_____ll *n.* a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock
42. pe_____on building *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
43. time-saving ga___t *n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
44. re_____te in the same frequency *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
45. pr_____te plants *v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction

ANSWERS: 36. offend, 37. propagate, 38. hertz, 39. emit, 40. pivot, 41. waterfall, 42. pentagon, 43. gadget, 44. resonate, 45. propagate

46. review a__w *adv.* in a new or different way
47. a stiff hi__e *n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
48. pr__y hotel *adj.* expensive or costly; having a high price or worth
49. a handy ga___t *n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
50. sh_____n the deadline *v.* to make something shorter in length, duration, or extent; to reduce the length of something; to make something briefer or more concise
51. talented ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
52. sup_____ic aircraft *adj.* relating to or having a speed above the speed of sound (roughly 767 miles per hour or 1,235 kilometers per hour at sea level)
53. pen_____ng analysis *adj.* able to pierce or enter deeply into something; having a sharp, intense quality that cuts through superficiality or confusion
54. audio he__z *n.* the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals
55. deeply re_____te with the consumers *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
56. sc_____r seeds *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions

ANSWERS: 46. anew, 47. hinge, 48. pricy, 49. gadget, 50. shorten, 51. physicist, 52. supersonic, 53. penetrating, 54. hertz, 55. resonate, 56. scatter

57. affable cou_____ce *n.* a person's face or facial expression; support or approval of something or someone
58. Ke___n scale *n.* a unit of measurement for temperature in the International System of Units (SI), which starts at absolute zero, the theoretical lowest limit of temperature, and named after the British physicist William Thomson, also known as Lord Kelvin
59. de_____l level *n.* (also "dB") a unit used to measure the intensity of sound or the comparative loudness of two sounds based on a logarithmic scale
60. pen_____ng gaze *adj.* able to pierce or enter deeply into something; having a sharp, intense quality that cuts through superficiality or confusion
61. medieval tu___t *n.* a small tower or tall structure, often found on the corner of a building, typically used for defensive purposes; a rotating armored structure on a military vehicle or ship for mounting weapons
62. equilateral pe_____on *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
63. confident cou_____ce *n.* a person's face or facial expression; support or approval of something or someone

ANSWERS: 57. countenance, 58. Kelvin, 59. decibel, 60. penetrating, 61. turret, 62. pentagon, 63. countenance

64. at__c space *n.* a space or area, typically bounded by a roof and walls in a house that is located immediately below the roof; often used for storage or as an additional living space
65. advertising sl___n *n.* a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea
66. sn__e peacefully *v.* to make a loud, harsh breathing sound while sleeping, often due to an obstruction in the airways or other respiratory issues; to sound boring, monotonous, or dull
67. de___e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
68. sh_____n a pencil *v.* to make something, usually a blade or point, sharp or sharper; to enhance or improve the clarity, focus, or effectiveness of something
69. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
70. re_____or coating *n.* a surface or object that reflects light, sound, or heat in a specific direction, often used to redirect or focus these elements toward a desired target or area

ANSWERS: 64. attic, 65. slogan, 66. snore, 67. devise, 68. sharpen, 69. determinant, 70. reflector

71. arm a__w *adv.* in a new or different way
72. too_____te tube *n.* a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath
73. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
74. de___e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
75. adjust the de_____l *n.* (also "dB") a unit used to measure the intensity of sound or the comparative loudness of two sounds based on a logarithmic scale
76. sh_____n your focus *v.* to make something, usually a blade or point, sharp or sharper; to enhance or improve the clarity, focus, or effectiveness of something
77. hi_____de landscape *n.* the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline
78. a sy_____ny orchestra *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
79. portable pho_____ph *n.* an early sound-reproducing machine that plays audio recordings, typically in the form of cylindrical or disc-shaped records; often referred to as an early version of the record player or gramophone

ANSWERS: 71. anew, 72. toothpaste, 73. determinant, 74. devise, 75. decibel, 76. sharpen, 77. hillside, 78. symphony, 79. phonograph

80. lou_____er system *n.* an electronic device that amplifies sound, typically used to address a large audience or to play music or other audio content in public areas
81. catchy sl____n *n.* a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea
82. pi__t point *n.* a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances
83. au__l skills *adj.* (also "audial") relating to the sense of hearing or the ear; pertaining to the perception or reception of sound
84. antique pho_____ph *n.* an early sound-reproducing machine that plays audio recordings, typically in the form of cylindrical or disc-shaped records; often referred to as an early version of the record player or gramophone
85. wireless lou_____er *n.* an electronic device that amplifies sound, typically used to address a large audience or to play music or other audio content in public areas
86. the wh_____r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
87. me_____ne protest *n.* a large, cone-shaped device used to amplify sound, often used by speakers or performers to address large audiences or crowds

ANSWERS: 80. loudspeaker, 81. slogan, 82. pivot, 83. aural, 84. phonograph, 85. loudspeaker, 86. whisper, 87. megaphone

88. tu___t lathe

n. a small tower or tall structure, often found on the corner of a building, typically used for defensive purposes; a rotating armored structure on a military vehicle or ship for mounting weapons

ANSWERS: 88. turret

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The frequent performances of the _____ prove its popularity.
n. a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
2. My grandparents used to listen to their favorite songs on the vinyl _____.
n. an early sound-reproducing machine that plays audio recordings, typically in the form of cylindrical or disc-shaped records; often referred to as an early version of the record player or gramophone
3. I always use mint-flavored _____ to refresh my mouth in the morning and at night.
n. a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath
4. The painting captured the _____ of the model perfectly.
n. a person's face or facial expression; support or approval of something or someone
5. Whenever they discuss their favorite TV show, they just _____ in excitement, making it hard to understand their specific points.
v. to talk rapidly, unintelligibly, or incoherently; to chatter or babble
6. I must _____ my knives before cooking to ensure precise and efficient cutting.
v. to make something, usually a blade or point, sharp or sharper; to enhance or improve the clarity, focus, or effectiveness of something
7. The _____ smell of freshly brewed coffee filled the room.
adj. able to pierce or enter deeply into something; having a sharp, intense quality that cuts through superficiality or confusion

ANSWERS: 1. symphony, 2. phonograph, 3. toothpaste, 4. countenance, 5. jabber, 6. sharpen, 7. penetrating

8. Years of river erosion have formed the uniquely shaped _____ basin.
- n.* a point in a river or stream where water falls from a high place, for example, over a cliff or rock
9. The cyclist wore a _____ vest to increase visibility on the road at night.
- n.* a surface or object that reflects light, sound, or heat in a specific direction, often used to redirect or focus these elements toward a desired target or area
10. She found a paint _____ on the wall and realized it was time to repaint the room.
- n.* a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent
11. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.
- v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
12. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
13. The hikers were stunned by the beautiful wildflowers on the _____.
- n.* the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline
14. I always try to _____ my boss by achieving the sales target every month.
- v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite
15. The coach used a _____ to communicate with his team during the game.
- n.* a large, cone-shaped device used to amplify sound, often used by speakers or performers to address large audiences or crowds

ANSWERS: 8. waterfall, 9. reflector, 10. flake, 11. offended, 12. determinant, 13. hillside, 14. gratify, 15. megaphone

16. The _____ of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.
- n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
17. I found an old photo album in the spacious _____ filled with pictures of my grandparents when they were young.
- n.* a space or area, typically bounded by a roof and walls in a house that is located immediately below the roof; often used for storage or as an additional living space
18. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
- v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
19. I want to _____ my haircut before the summer heat arrives.
- v.* to make something shorter in length, duration, or extent; to reduce the length of something; to make something briefer or more concise
20. The _____ experience at the concert was breathtaking, with the music filling the entire venue.
- adj.* (also "audial") relating to the sense of hearing or the ear; pertaining to the perception or reception of sound
21. The _____ atop the castle provided a panoramic view of the surrounding area.
- n.* a small tower or tall structure, often found on the corner of a building, typically used for defensive purposes; a rotating armored structure on a military vehicle or ship for mounting weapons
22. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.
- n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

ANSWERS: 16. troop, 17. attic, 18. emits, 19. shorten, 20. aural, 21. turret, 22. physicist

23. I need to _____ these documents for the upcoming audit.
- v. to categorize or group something according to a system or set of criteria; to assign something to a particular class or category based on its characteristics or properties
24. The human ear can detect sounds with frequencies ranging from 20 to 20,000 _____.
- n. the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals
25. He took me aside and _____ in my ear.
- v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
26. He decided to start _____ and leave his old life behind.
- adv. in a new or different way
27. The concert reached 100 _____ causing many people to cover their ears.
- n. (also "dB") a unit used to measure the intensity of sound or the comparative loudness of two sounds based on a logarithmic scale
28. They had to _____ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
- v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
29. The company spent months researching and testing different brand _____ before finally settling on 'Just Do It' as their new tagline.
- n. a short, catchy phrase or motto that is used by a person, organization, or company to promote a particular product, cause, or idea

ANSWERS: 23. classify, 24. hertz, 25. whispered, 26. anew, 27. decibels, 28. devise, 29. slogans

30. The scientist cooled the sample to just a couple of _____ to observe quantum effects.
- n.* a unit of measurement for temperature in the International System of Units (SI), which starts at absolute zero, the theoretical lowest limit of temperature, and named after the British physicist William Thomson, also known as Lord Kelvin
31. The teacher spoke through the _____ so that every student could hear the announcement.
- n.* an electronic device that amplifies sound, typically used to address a large audience or to play music or other audio content in public areas
32. I couldn't sleep because my roommate _____ loudly every night.
- v.* to make a loud, harsh breathing sound while sleeping, often due to an obstruction in the airways or other respiratory issues; to sound boring, monotonous, or dull
33. His involvement is the _____ of our plan.
- n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
34. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.
- v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
35. The restaurant had _____ menu items, but the food was worth it.
- adj.* expensive or costly; having a high price or worth
36. The team needed to come up with a _____ strategy to turn things around.
- n.* a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances

ANSWERS: 30. Kelvin, 31. loudspeaker, 32. snored, 33. hinge, 34. scattered, 35. pricy, 36. pivot

37. The company is working hard to _____ their brand message to as many people as possible
- v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
38. The sound _____ well in this theater.
- v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
39. The politician went on a _____ about the opposition party's policies.
- n.* a long, angry speech or outburst of criticism or condemnation
40. The number of patients in the hospital is a useful _____ of regional health trends.
- n.* an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure and is used to predict changes in weather; a measure of the prevailing conditions or trends within a particular situation or environment
41. The shape of the building is a distinctive five-sided _____.
- n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
42. I found the kitchen _____ that will serve as a bottle opener in the store.
- n.* a small tool or device that is useful for a particular job
43. The _____ applause lasted for several minutes after the performance.
- adj.* producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive
44. The spacecraft reentered the Earth's atmosphere at _____ speeds.
- adj.* relating to or having a speed above the speed of sound (roughly 767 miles per hour or 1,235 kilometers per hour at sea level)

ANSWERS: 37. propagate, 38. resonates, 39. tirade, 40. barometer, 41. pentagon, 42. gadget, 43. thunderous, 44. supersonic

ANSWERS: