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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Steven Pinker: Human nature and the blank slate |

TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

quote

v. to repeat or reproduce the words or statement of someone else, often acknowledging the source; to give an estimated cost or price for goods or services

synonym : cite, reference, mention

(1) **quote** a source, (2) **quote** a price

In his speech, he **quoted** a famous philosopher to emphasize his point.

instinct

n. an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

synonym : intuition, aptitude, feeling

(1) **instinct** for self-preservation, (2) aggressive **instinct**

When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial **instinct** was to flee.

anthropology

n. the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

(1) social **anthropology**, (2) **anthropology** of religion

The areas of **anthropology** and psychology are significantly related to one another.

predispose

v. to make someone susceptible

synonym : dispose, incline

(1) **predispose** to the development of cancer,

(2) **predispose** me to become a novelist

Her outstanding achievement **predisposes** people to like her.

temperament

n. a person's nature or disposition, especially as it permanently affects their behavior

synonym : disposition, character, personality

(1) the **temperament** of an engineer, (2) a hysterical **temperament**

She has a calm **temperament** and never gets overly upset or angry.

innate

adj. existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience

synonym : natural, inherent, inborn

(1) **innate** ability, (2) **innate** quality

The belief in **innate** human goodness is a common philosophical concept.

heterosexual

adj. attracted to individuals of the opposite sex

synonym : straight, conventional

(1) **heterosexual** relationship, (2) **heterosexual** marriage

He identified as **heterosexual** and had never considered being with someone of the same gender.

indistinct

adj. not clear or easily seen, heard, or understood

synonym : faint, blurred, hazy

(1) **indistinct** memory, (2) **indistinct** pronunciation

The **indistinct** shape in the fog made it difficult to determine what it was.

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.

construe

v. to interpret or understand the meaning of something, typically in a particular way; to analyze or explain the grammar or structure of a sentence or phrase

synonym: interpret, understand, decipher

(1) **construe** a contract, (2) **construe** a sentence

It isn't easy to **construe** his intentions without knowing him better.

wean

v. to gradually stop feeding a baby or young animal with its mother's milk and to start or accustom to eating other food

synonym: ablactate

(1) **wean** a person from a bad habit, (2) **wean** my baby from the breast

It's difficult to **wean** an addict off drugs once they're hooked.

worldview

n. a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world

synonym: perspective, position, viewpoint

(1) mainstream **worldview**, (2) the **worldview** of the ancient civilization

The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing **worldviews**.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

intricately

adv. in a manner that involves a lot of detailed and complex arrangement or planning; with many interconnected parts or components

synonym : complexly, elaborately

(1) **intricately** woven, (2) **intricately** decorated

The watch was **intricately** designed, with many small moving parts.

neurobiology

n. a field of biology that studies the structure, function, and development of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves encompassing a wide range of research topics, including the molecular and cellular processes involved in neural signaling, the organization of neural circuits, and the neural basis of behavior, cognition, and emotion

synonym : brain science, neural science, neurology

(1) **neurobiology** research, (2) cellular **neurobiology**

The professor's research in **neurobiology** has led to groundbreaking discoveries in the field of brain science.

fraternal

adj. relating to or like a brother or brothers; (of twins) derived from two separate fertilized ova (= the female reproductive cell)

synonym : brotherly, congenial, biovular

(1) **fraternal** twins, (2) a **fraternal** association

He recommended that they take out **fraternal** life insurance.

lobe

n. a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver

synonym : part, section, division

(1) **lobe** of the liver, (2) frontal **lobe**

The lungs are divided into five **lobes**.

contraption

n. a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual

synonym : device, gadget, machinery

(1) farming **contraption**, (2) complicated **contraption**

The inventor created a **contraption** that could turn salt water into drinking water.

exaggeration

n. an overstatement of facts or description; the act of making something seem larger, more important, or more significant than it is

synonym: hyperbole, overstatement, embellishment

(1) sensational **exaggeration**, (2) minimal **exaggeration**

His story was filled with obvious **exaggerations**.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym: surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church

Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

Jewish

adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism

synonym: Judaic

(1) **Jewish** history, (2) **Jewish** culture

My friend is a **Jewish** woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.

sneeze

v. to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants

synonym: exhale, whiff, blow

(1) **sneeze** into my hand, (2) **sneeze** loudly

Whenever I get a cold, I tend to **sneeze** a lot.

congenial

adj. pleasant, friendly, or pleasing in nature; compatible or well-suited

synonym : friendly, pleasant, affable

(1) **congenial** atmosphere, (2) **congenial** company

She's a **congenial** host who always makes people feel welcome in her home.

perfectible

adj. capable of being improved or made perfect; having the potential for achieving an ideal or flawless state

synonym : improvable, ameliorable, flawless

(1) **perfectible** skills, (2) **perfectible** knowledge

Philosophers throughout history have explored the concept of a **perfectible** society.

condemn

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

synonym : criticize, denounce, censure

(1) **condemn** violence, (2) **condemn** crime

The government was **condemned** for its handling of the crisis.

ignoble

adj. lacking qualities or characteristics that are noble, honorable, or admirable; morally or socially inferior

synonym : lowly, base, dishonorable

(1) **ignoble** character, (2) **ignoble** motive

His **ignoble** behavior tarnished his once respectable reputation.

greedy

adj. having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food

synonym : avaricious, covetous, grasping

(1) **greedy** person, (2) **greedy** for money

His **greedy** behavior led him to steal from the company.

counteract

v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

synonym : balance, offset, compensate

(1) **counteract** the effect of poison, (2) **counteract** global warming

Our body's immune system produces antibodies to **counteract** disease.

depletion

n. the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level

synonym : exhaustion, deficiency, reduction

(1) **depletion** of bodily fluids, (2) **depletion** of ozone

The **depletion** of natural resources is a major concern for environmentalists.

needless

adj. describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences

synonym : unnecessary, pointless, superfluous

(1) **needless** argument, (2) **needless** waste

This **needless** paperwork is wasting our time and resources.

circulate

v. to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

synonym : flow, disperse, rotate

(1) **circulate** a rumor, (2) **circulate** an agenda before the meeting

The fan **circulates** the air in the room quickly.

posit

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

synonym : assert, declare, assume

(1) **posit** the existence of life after death, (2) **posit** the premise

We should **posit** several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

disquiet

n. a feeling of anxiety or unease; a sense of restlessness or agitation; a state of mental or emotional disturbance; (verb) to cause or feel unease, restlessness, or agitation

synonym : anxiety, unrest, uneasiness

(1) cause **disquiet** among the residents, (2) mood of **disquiet**

The **disquiet** in the community grew as rumors spread about the upcoming changes.

slander

n. the act of making false and damaging statements about someone

synonym : defamation, libel, calumny

(1) **slander** of goods, (2) **slander** lawsuit

He was accused of **slander** when he spread rumors about his boss.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

synonym : bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

lifespan

n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

synonym : duration, lifetime, continuance

(1) **lifespan** extension, (2) **lifespan** retrieval curve

Generally speaking, men have a shorter **lifespan** than women.

generalization

n. the act of making a broad statement or conclusion based on limited information or experience; a statement that applies to a large group or category of things or people, often without considering the unique qualities or circumstances of each individual

synonym : stereotype, oversimplification, abstraction

(1) hasty **generalization**, (2) **generalization** of the problem

It's unfair to make a **generalization** about an entire group of people based on stereotypes.

barrage

n. a concentrated and continuous outpouring or overwhelming amount of something, such as bombs, questions, criticisms, or comments; a defensive barrier

of artillery fire or gunfire

synonym : onslaught, bombardment, hail

(1) **barrage** of questions, (2) artillery **barrage**

She used a **barrage** of facts and figures to make her argument.

enrage

v. to make someone extremely angry

synonym : anger, incense, infuriate

(1) **enrage** the international community, (2) **enrage** critics

The news of the betrayal **enraged** him.

irate

adj. feeling or showing strong anger or annoyance

synonym : angry, furious, indignant

(1) **irate** protesters, (2) **irate** tone

The **irate** customer demanded a refund for the faulty product.

venom

n. a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging

synonym : poison, toxin, hating

(1) the **venom** of a lizard, (2) injected **venom**

The snake's **venom** is highly toxic and can be fatal to humans.

vituperate

v. to criticize or berate someone severely or abusively; to use harsh and abusive language towards someone

synonym : berate, criticize, condemn

(1) **vituperate** the media's coverage, (2) **vituperate** criticism

I was shocked to hear my boss **vituperate** me in front of the entire team.

inadvertently

adv. unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent

synonym : unknowingly, unintentionally, accidentally

(1) **inadvertently** deleted, (2) **inadvertently** omitted

I **inadvertently** left my phone at home this morning and felt

lost.

exile

n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons

synonym: banishment, expulsion, deportation

(1) **exile** community, (2) political **exile**

The **exiled** king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.

arouse

v. to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response

synonym: excite, stimulate, stir

(1) **arouse** desire, (2) **arouse** suspicion

The rousing speech by the politician **aroused** the audience to action.

symmetrical

adj. having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts

synonym: harmonious, balanced, proportional

(1) **symmetrical** triangle, (2) **symmetrical** pattern

This figure is **symmetrical** about the x-axis.

highbrow

adj. relating to or appealing to people who are highly educated or intellectual; involving or interested in serious artistic or cultural ideas

synonym: intellectual, cultured, refined

(1) **highbrow** conversation, (2) **highbrow** music

She only reads **highbrow** literature, such as classic novels and philosophical essays.

deplore

v. to feel or express strong disapproval or condemnation towards something; to regard with grief, regret, or deep sorrow

synonym: condemn, lament, mourn

(1) **deplore** his misfortune, (2) **deplore** the behavior

I **deplore** using violence to solve conflicts and believe in peaceful resolutions.

commercialize

v. to make something available for sale or use on a large scale

synonym: monetize, capitalize, marketize

(1) **commercialize** my patents, (2) **commercialize** idea

The company is trying to **commercialize** its new product.

repertory

n. a collection of works, such as plays, operas, or pieces of music, that a company or performer is prepared to perform

synonym: repertoire, stock, inventory

(1) a **repertory** of information, (2) **repertory** company

The theater's **repertory** included a mix of classic and contemporary plays.

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.

dilute

v. to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it

synonym: weaken, thin, reduce

(1) **dilute** acid with water, (2) **dilute** a great idea

She **diluted** the concentrated juice with water.

rerun

n. the act of repeating or replaying a previously aired episode of a television show or a past event or performance; (verb) to broadcast or play again an item, especially a television or radio program; to run a race or other sporting event again

synonym: repeat, replay, re-airing

(1) **rerun** episode, (2) **rerun** of a TV show

I missed the episode of my favorite show, so I hope they will air a **rerun** soon.

sitcom

n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format

synonym : comedy, TV show

(1) **sitcom** series, (2) popular **sitcom**

I love to watch **sitcoms** when I need a good laugh.

dwindle

v. to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller

synonym : shrink, decrease, fade

(1) **dwindle** in importance, (2) **dwindle** to almost nothing

The crowds at the festival **dwindled** as the night went on.

blockbuster

n. a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money

synonym : hit, success, smash

(1) **blockbuster** movie, (2) international **blockbuster**

The new action movie is expected to be a **blockbuster** hit.

flourish

v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

synonym : boom, advance, succeed

(1) **flourish** economically, (2) **flourish** worldwide

The Ottoman Empire **flourished** for over five centuries.

skyrocket

v. to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;

synonym : rocket, soar, shoot up

(1) **skyrocket** the cost, (2) price **skyrocketed**

Production has decreased, but costs and unemployment have **skyrocketed** dramatically.

disinvestment

n. the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector

synonym : divestment, withdrawal, pullout

(1) **disinvestment** strategy, (2) **disinvestment** plan

The company's decision to engage in **disinvestment** led to a

reduction in its overall portfolio.

paraphrase

v. to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

synonym: rephrase, reword, reinterpret

(1) **paraphrase** a poem into prose, (2) **paraphrase** the meaning

He **paraphrased** the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.

saccharine

adj. overly sweet or sentimental to the point of being cloying or sickly; artificially or excessively sweet

synonym: syrupy, sugary, sweet

(1) **saccharine** flavor, (2) **saccharine** words

The **saccharine** sweetness of the cake was almost too much to handle.

kitsch

n. art, objects, or design considered to be tasteless and overly sentimental, often produced to appeal to popular or commercial taste rather than for artistic value

synonym: schlock, sentimentality

(1) **kitsch** art, (2) **kitsch** decor

The garden gnome statue is cheesy **kitsch**, but some people love that style.

bourgeois

n. a member of the middle class, typically with conservative or conformist attitudes or values; a person who seeks material wealth or social status through conventional means; a person concerned with conventional, materialistic pursuits

synonym: middle-class, capitalist, materialist

(1) **bourgeois** lifestyle, (2) **bourgeois** values

The **bourgeois** neighborhood was known for its upscale shops and trendy cafes.

tacky

adj. having a cheap or vulgar appearance, taste, or quality; lacking style or sophistication; gaudy or tastelessly

showy

synonym : gaudy, garish, brassy

(1) **tacky** jewelry, (2) **tacky** decorations

The wedding had a **tacky** gold theme, which did not sit well with many guests.

depict

v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

synonym : illustrate, describe, express

(1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation

His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

postmodern

adj. relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation

synonym : contemporary, poststructural, relativistic

(1) **postmodern** art, (2) **postmodern** anthropology

The **postmodern** architecture of the building was a contrast to the traditional designs in the neighborhood.

rhyme

n. a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting

synonym : verse, poetry, meter

(1) **rhyme** poem, (2) write in **rhyme**

The poem had a consistent **rhyme** scheme throughout.

ornament

n. a decoration or embellishment that adds beauty or enhances the appearance of something, especially a Christmas tree or a piece of jewelry

synonym : decoration, embellishment, adornment

(1) Christmas **ornament**, (2) glass **ornament**

The **ornament** on the tree was delicate and intricate, adding to its beauty.

butler

n. a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties

synonym :

valet, majordomo, manservant

(1) **butler** service, (2) household **butler**

The personal **butler** announced that dinner was ready, and the guests went to the dining room.

structuralism

n. a theoretical approach or methodology that analyzes and interprets phenomena by examining their underlying structures or systems

synonym: formalism, systematic approach

(1) **structuralism** in anthropology, (2) cultural **structuralism**

The literary theory of **structuralism** analyzes a text's underlying structures and systems.

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.

hegemony

n. the dominance or influence of one group, country, or ideology over others, especially in political, economic, or cultural domains

synonym: dominance, leadership, supremacy

(1) regional **hegemony**, (2) corporate **hegemony**

For decades, the US has been viewed as having economic and military **hegemony** worldwide.

converge

v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

synonym: congregate, assemble, concentrate

(1) **converge** of a series, (2) **converge** from different points

The two rivers **converge** into one near this area.

disdain

v. to look down on

synonym: scorn, despise, ridicule

(1) **disdain** the offer of a bribe, (2) **disdain** the policemen
Even in the Middle Ages, people **disdained** forced labor.

deflect

v. to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone

synonym: deter, redirect, sidetrack

(1) **deflect** a blow, (2) **deflect** his criticism

The soccer player was able to **deflect** the ball away from the goal.

ire

n. intense or extreme anger or wrath; a strong feeling of displeasure or hostility towards someone or something

synonym: anger, wrath, fury

(1) **ire-filled** rant, (2) public **ire**

The company's blatant disregard for customer service has provoked the **ire** of its clients.

profess

v. to declare openly, often publicly or formally, that one has a particular skill, belief, or feeling; to admit or affirm

synonym: declare, claim, confess

(1) **profess** innocence, (2) **profess** law

He **professes** his love for her every day, showering her with gifts and affection.

besiege

v. to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands

synonym: beset, encircle, surround

(1) **besiege** a fortress, (2) **besiege** an enemy

Enemy troops **besieged** the town during the war.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm**

opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

instill

v. to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually

synonym: implant, ingrain, inculcate

(1) **instill** confidence, (2) **instill** medication into my eye

The teacher attempted to **instill** the importance of hard work in her students.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

dexterity

n. skill and speed in performing physical tasks, especially with the hands; mental skill or adroitness in dealing with situations or problems

synonym: skillfulness, agility, expertise

(1) **dexterity** with the pen, (2) manual **dexterity**

The surgeon's **dexterity** was impressive during the delicate surgery.

devote

v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

synonym: commit, dedicate, apply

(1) **devote** all of my energies, (2) **devote** my own life

He **devoted** himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.

sympathize

v. to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences

synonym: empathize, understand, commiserate

(1) **sympathize** with a tragic hero, (2) **sympathize** with their

situation

I **sympathize** with your struggles and am here to support you through them.

sober

adj. not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

synonym: calm, lucid, temperate

(1) **sober** discussion, (2) as **sober** as a judge

He led a **sober** life.

heritable

adj. able to be passed down or transmitted from one generation to the next

synonym: inherited, passed down, transmitted

(1) non- **heritable** variation, (2) **heritable** disease

The **heritable** trait was passed down through the generations.

chant

n. a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation

synonym: hymn, mantra, (verb) recite

(1) **chant** melodies, (2) **chant** in the chapel

The soccer game crowd broke into a **chant** of "Go, team, go!"

redo

v. to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable

synonym: revise, remake, rework

(1) **redo** a kitchen, (2) **redo** a project

I had to **redo** my entire presentation because the formatting was off.

sibling

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

synonym: brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**

Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

uterus

n. a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth

synonym : womb

(1) **uterus** cancer, (2) bleeding from **uterus**

The physician prescribed medication to relieve the contraction of the **uterus**.

dogma

n. a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted

synonym : doctrine, tenet, creed

(1) religious **dogma**, (2) the secret **dogma**

All members strictly followed the **dogma** of the organization.

eloquent

adj. able to speak or write clearly and impressively

synonym : persuasive, fluent, well-spoken

(1) an **eloquent** speaker, (2) **eloquent** writing

She gave an **eloquent** speech at the graduation ceremony.

Session 2: Spelling

1. glass or ____nt *n.* a decoration or embellishment that adds beauty or enhances the appearance of something, especially a Christmas tree or a piece of jewelry
2. be ____e an enemy *v.* to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands
3. political ex__e *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
4. minimal exa______ion *n.* an overstatement of facts or description; the act of making something seem larger, more important, or more significant than it is
5. ci____te a rumor *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
6. the ve__m of a lizard *n.* a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging
7. regional he____ny *n.* the dominance or influence of one group, country, or ideology over others, especially in political, economic, or cultural domains
8. w__n my baby from the breast *v.* to gradually stop feeding a baby or young animal with its mother's milk and to start or accustom to eating other food

ANSWERS: 1. ornament, 2. besiege, 3. exile, 4. exaggeration, 5. circulate, 6. venom, 7. hegemony, 8. wean

9. a hysterical tem_____nt *n.* a person's nature or disposition, especially as it permanently affects their behavior
10. in___e quality *adj.* existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience
11. sn___e loudly *v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
12. rh__e poem *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
13. dw_____e to almost nothing *v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
14. r__o a project *v.* to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable
15. co_____ue a contract *v.* to interpret or understand the meaning of something, typically in a particular way; to analyze or explain the grammar or structure of a sentence or phrase
16. price sk_____eted *v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
17. ch__t melodies *n.* a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation

ANSWERS: 9. temperament, 10. innate, 11. sneeze, 12. rhyme, 13. dwindle, 14. redo, 15. construe, 16. skyrocket, 17. chant

18. de____t his criticism *v.* to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
19. per_____le skills *adj.* capable of being improved or made perfect; having the potential for achieving an ideal or flawless state
20. ci_____te an agenda before the meeting *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
21. ta__y jewelry *adj.* having a cheap or vulgar appearance, taste, or quality; lacking style or sophistication; gaudy or tastelessly showy
22. social ant_____ogy *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
23. ki___h art *n.* art, objects, or design considered to be tasteless and overly sentimental, often produced to appeal to popular or commercial taste rather than for artistic value
24. ki___h decor *n.* art, objects, or design considered to be tasteless and overly sentimental, often produced to appeal to popular or commercial taste rather than for artistic value
25. de___t a scene *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

ANSWERS: 18. deflect, 19. perfectible, 20. circulate, 21. tacky, 22. anthropology, 23. kitsch, 24. kitsch, 25. depict

26. re_____ry company *n.* a collection of works, such as plays, operas, or pieces of music, that a company or performer is prepared to perform
27. play with my si_____gs *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
28. co_____n crime *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
29. de___e all of my energies *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
30. sym_____ze with a tragic hero *v.* to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences
31. het_____ual marriage *adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
32. neu_____ogy research *n.* a field of biology that studies the structure, function, and development of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves encompassing a wide range of research topics, including the molecular and cellular processes involved in neural signaling, the organization of neural circuits, and the neural basis of behavior, cognition, and emotion
33. sk_____et the cost *v.* to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;

ANSWERS: 26. repertory, 27. sibling, 28. condemn, 29. devote, 30. sympathize, 31. heterosexual, 32. neurobiology, 33. skyrocket

34. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
35. en___e the international community *v.* to make someone extremely angry
36. de_____ty with the pen *n.* skill and speed in performing physical tasks, especially with the hands; mental skill or adroitness in dealing with situations or problems
37. international blo_____er *n.* a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money
38. gen_____ion of the problem *n.* the act of making a broad statement or conclusion based on limited information or experience; a statement that applies to a large group or category of things or people, often without considering the unique qualities or circumstances of each individual
39. co_____al atmosphere *adj.* pleasant, friendly, or pleasing in nature; compatible or well-suited
40. dis_____ent plan *n.* the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector
41. li_____an extension *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
42. de_____t a blow *v.* to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
43. a beautiful sy_____ny *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements

ANSWERS: 34. neuroscience, 35. enrage, 36. dexterity, 37. blockbuster, 38. generalization, 39. congenial, 40. disinvestment, 41. lifespan, 42. deflect, 43. symphony

44. re__n of a TV show *n.* the act of repeating or replaying a previously aired episode of a television show or a past event or performance; (verb) to broadcast or play again an item, especially a television or radio program; to run a race or other sporting event again
45. st____e financially *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
46. bo_____is values *n.* a member of the middle class, typically with conservative or conformist attitudes or values; a person who seeks material wealth or social status through conventional means; a person concerned with conventional, materialistic pursuits
47. sym_____ze with their situation *v.* to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences
48. re__n episode *n.* the act of repeating or replaying a previously aired episode of a television show or a past event or performance; (verb) to broadcast or play again an item, especially a television or radio program; to run a race or other sporting event again
49. fr_____al twins *adj.* relating to or like a brother or brothers; (of twins) derived from two separate fertilized ova (= the female reproductive cell)

ANSWERS: 44. rerun, 45. stumble, 46. bourgeois, 47. sympathize, 48. rerun, 49. fraternal

50. cultural str_____ism *n.* a theoretical approach or methodology that analyzes and interprets phenomena by examining their underlying structures or systems
51. hom_____us structures *adj.* having the same or similar structure, position, or function, particularly in different species or organisms; related by common ancestry
52. vit_____te the media's coverage *v.* to criticize or berate someone severely or abusively; to use harsh and abusive language towards someone
53. de_____e the behavior *v.* to feel or express strong disapproval or condemnation towards something; to regard with grief, regret, or deep sorrow
54. di_____n the offer of a bribe *v.* to look down on
55. di_____n the policemen *v.* to look down on
56. pre_____se me to become a novelist *v.* to make someone susceptible
57. ind_____ct memory *adj.* not clear or easily seen, heard, or understood
58. Je____h history *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
59. a re_____ry of information *n.* a collection of works, such as plays, operas, or pieces of music, that a company or performer is prepared to perform
60. manual de_____ty *n.* skill and speed in performing physical tasks, especially with the hands; mental skill or adroitness in dealing with situations or problems

ANSWERS: 50. structuralism, 51. homologous, 52. vituperate, 53. deplore, 54. disdain, 55. disdain, 56. predispose, 57. indistinct, 58. Jewish, 59. repertory, 60. dexterity

61. ir__e tone *adj.* feeling or showing strong anger or annoyance
62. in___e ability *adj.* existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience
63. ind_____ct pronunciation *adj.* not clear or easily seen, heard, or understood
64. sl_____r lawsuit *n.* the act of making false and damaging statements about someone
65. non-he_____le variation *adj.* able to be passed down or transmitted from one generation to the next
66. in_____l confidence *v.* to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
67. pr_____s innocence *v.* to declare openly, often publicly or formally, that one has a particular skill, belief, or feeling; to admit or affirm
68. com_____ize my patents *v.* to make something available for sale or use on a large scale
69. qu__e a source *v.* to repeat or reproduce the words or statement of someone else, often acknowledging the source; to give an estimated cost or price for goods or services
70. artillery ba_____e *n.* a concentrated and continuous outpouring or overwhelming amount of something, such as bombs, questions, criticisms, or comments; a defensive barrier of artillery fire or gunfire
71. ig_____e character *adj.* lacking qualities or characteristics that are noble, honorable, or admirable; morally or socially inferior

ANSWERS: 61. irate, 62. innate, 63. indistinct, 64. slander, 65. heritable, 66. instill, 67. profess, 68. commercialize, 69. quote, 70. barrage, 71. ignoble

72. cou_____ct global warming *v.* to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
73. en___e critics *v.* to make someone extremely angry
74. per_____le knowledge *adj.* capable of being improved or made perfect; having the potential for achieving an ideal or flawless state
75. li_____an retrieval curve *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
76. write in rh___e *n.* a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
77. ta___y decorations *adj.* having a cheap or vulgar appearance, taste, or quality; lacking style or sophistication; gaudy or tastelessly showy
78. fl_____sh worldwide *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
79. the secret do__a *n.* a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted
80. as so__r as a judge *adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises
81. in_____ct for self-preservation *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
82. di___e a great idea *v.* to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it

ANSWERS: 72. counteract, 73. enrage, 74. perfectible, 75. lifespan, 76. rhyme, 77. tacky, 78. flourish, 79. dogma, 80. sober, 81. instinct, 82. dilute

83. sl_____r of goods *n.* the act of making false and damaging statements about someone
84. Je____h culture *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
85. farming con_____on *n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual
86. st_____e through life *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
87. ex__e community *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
88. hu_____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
89. blo_____er movie *n.* a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money
90. co_____al company *adj.* pleasant, friendly, or pleasing in nature; compatible or well-suited
91. the Ca_____ic Church *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
92. hi_____ow music *adj.* relating to or appealing to people who are highly educated or intellectual; involving or interested in serious artistic or cultural ideas
93. de___e my own life *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

ANSWERS: 83. slander, 84. Jewish, 85. contraption, 86. stumble, 87. exile, 88. humming, 89. blockbuster, 90. congenial, 91. Catholic, 92. highbrow, 93. devote

94. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
95. co_____ge of a series *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
96. Christmas or_____nt *n.* a decoration or embellishment that adds beauty or enhances the appearance of something, especially a Christmas tree or a piece of jewelry
97. po__t the existence of life after death *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
98. de_____e his misfortune *v.* to feel or express strong disapproval or condemnation towards something; to regard with grief, regret, or deep sorrow
99. gr_____y person *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
100. de_____on of ozone *n.* the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
101. po__t the premise *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
102. gr_____y for money *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
103. bo_____is lifestyle *n.* a member of the middle class, typically with conservative or conformist attitudes or values; a person who seeks material wealth or social status through conventional means; a person concerned with conventional, materialistic pursuits

ANSWERS: 94. neuroscience, 95. converge, 96. ornament, 97. posit, 98. deplore, 99. greedy, 100. depletion, 101. posit, 102. greedy, 103. bourgeois

104. sensational exa_____ion *n.* an overstatement of facts or description; the act of making something seem larger, more important, or more significant than it is
105. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
106. a sy_____ny orchestra *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
107. co_____ge from different points *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
108. pre_____se to the development of cancer *v.* to make someone susceptible
109. co_____ue a sentence *v.* to interpret or understand the meaning of something, typically in a particular way; to analyze or explain the grammar or structure of a sentence or phrase
110. aggressive in_____ct *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
111. ar_____e suspicion *v.* to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response
112. cellular neu_____ogy *n.* a field of biology that studies the structure, function, and development of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves encompassing a wide range of research topics, including the molecular and cellular processes involved in neural signaling, the organization of neural circuits, and the neural basis of behavior, cognition, and emotion

ANSWERS: 104. exaggeration, 105. intellect, 106. symphony, 107. converge, 108. predispose, 109. construe, 110. instinct, 111. arouse, 112. neurobiology

113. co_____n violence *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
114. ig_____e motive *adj.* lacking qualities or characteristics that are noble, honorable, or admirable; morally or socially inferior
115. sym_____al triangle *adj.* having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts
116. hom_____us genes *adj.* having the same or similar structure, position, or function, particularly in different species or organisms; related by common ancestry
117. public i_e *n.* intense or extreme anger or wrath; a strong feeling of displeasure or hostility towards someone or something
118. corporate he_____ny *n.* the dominance or influence of one group, country, or ideology over others, especially in political, economic, or cultural domains
119. de___t a feeling of isolation *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
120. l__e of the liver *n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver
121. i_e-filled rant *n.* intense or extreme anger or wrath; a strong feeling of displeasure or hostility towards someone or something
122. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
123. household bu___r *n.* a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties

ANSWERS: 113. condemn, 114. ignoble, 115. symmetrical, 116. homologous, 117. ire, 118. hegemony, 119. depict, 120. lobe, 121. ire, 122. astonishing, 123. butler

124. si___m series *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
125. par_____se the meaning *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
126. sn___e into my hand *v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
127. ba_____e of questions *n.* a concentrated and continuous outpouring or overwhelming amount of something, such as bombs, questions, criticisms, or comments; a defensive barrier of artillery fire or gunfire
128. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
129. int_____ly woven *adv.* in a manner that involves a lot of detailed and complex arrangement or planning; with many interconnected parts or components
130. cause di_____et among the residents *n.* a feeling of anxiety or unease; a sense of restlessness or agitation; a state of mental or emotional disturbance; (verb) to cause or feel unease, restlessness, or agitation
131. hasty gen_____ion *n.* the act of making a broad statement or conclusion based on limited information or experience; a statement that applies to a large group or category of things or people, often without considering the unique qualities or circumstances of each individual

ANSWERS: 124. sitcom, 125. paraphrase, 126. sneeze, 127. barrage, 128. intellect, 129. intricately, 130. disquiet, 131. generalization

132. vit_____te criticism *v.* to criticize or berate someone severely or abusively; to use harsh and abusive language towards someone
133. het_____ual relationship *adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
134. dw_____e in importance *v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
135. ant_____ogy of religion *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
136. be_____e a fortress *v.* to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands
137. religious do__a *n.* a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted
138. mainstream wo_____ew *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
139. sac_____ne words *adj.* overly sweet or sentimental to the point of being cloying or sickly; artificially or excessively sweet
140. str_____ism in anthropology *n.* a theoretical approach or methodology that analyzes and interprets phenomena by examining their underlying structures or systems

ANSWERS: 132. vituperate, 133. heterosexual, 134. dwindle, 135. anthropology, 136. besiege, 137. dogma, 138. worldview, 139. saccharine, 140. structuralism

141. int_____ly decorated *adv.* in a manner that involves a lot of detailed and complex arrangement or planning; with many interconnected parts or components
142. the wo_____ew of the ancient civilization *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
143. sym_____al pattern *adj.* having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts
144. ca_____ic in his tastes *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
145. complicated con_____on *n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual
146. he_____le disease *adj.* able to be passed down or transmitted from one generation to the next
147. de_____on of bodily fluids *n.* the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
148. cou_____ct the effect of poison *v.* to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
149. ch__t in the chapel *n.* a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation
150. di___e acid with water *v.* to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it

ANSWERS: 141. intricately, 142. worldview, 143. symmetrical, 144. Catholic, 145. contraption, 146. heritable, 147. depletion, 148. counteract, 149. chant, 150. dilute

151. so__r discussion *adj.* not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises
152. ina_____tly deleted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
153. bu___r service *n.* a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties
154. pr_____s law *v.* to declare openly, often publicly or formally, that one has a particular skill, belief, or feeling; to admit or affirm
155. in_____l medication into my eye *v.* to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
156. w__n a person from a bad habit *v.* to gradually stop feeding a baby or young animal with its mother's milk and to start or accustom to eating other food
157. qu__e a price *v.* to repeat or reproduce the words or statement of someone else, often acknowledging the source; to give an estimated cost or price for goods or services
158. com_____ize idea *v.* to make something available for sale or use on a large scale
159. pos_____rn anthropology *adj.* relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation
160. hu_____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

ANSWERS: 151. sober, 152. inadvertently, 153. butler, 154. profess, 155. instill, 156. wean, 157. quote, 158. commercialize, 159. postmodern, 160. humming

161. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
162. mood of di_____et *n.* a feeling of anxiety or unease; a sense of restlessness or agitation; a state of mental or emotional disturbance; (verb) to cause or feel unease, restlessness, or agitation
163. pos_____rn art *adj.* relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation
164. ne_____ss waste *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
165. frontal lobe *n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver
166. a fr_____al association *adj.* relating to or like a brother or brothers; (of twins) derived from two separate fertilized ova (= the female reproductive cell)
167. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
168. ne_____ss argument *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
169. injected ve___m *n.* a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging

ANSWERS: 161. overwhelm, 162. disquiet, 163. postmodern, 164. needless, 165. lobe, 166. fraternal, 167. astonishing, 168. needless, 169. venom

170. ir__e protesters *adj.* feeling or showing strong anger or annoyance
171. par_____se a poem into prose *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
172. el_____nt writing *adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively
173. dis_____ent strategy *n.* the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector
174. ina_____tly omitted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
175. hi_____ow conversation *adj.* relating to or appealing to people who are highly educated or intellectual; involving or interested in serious artistic or cultural ideas
176. popular si_____m *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
177. have a si_____g quarrel *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
178. an el_____nt speaker *adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively
179. ar_____e desire *v.* to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response
180. r__o a kitchen *v.* to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable

ANSWERS: 170. irate, 171. paraphrase, 172. eloquent, 173. disinvestment, 174. inadvertently, 175. highbrow, 176. sitcom, 177. sibling, 178. eloquent, 179. arouse, 180. redo

181. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
182. sac_____ne flavor *adj.* overly sweet or sentimental to the point of being cloying or sickly; artificially or excessively sweet
183. fl_____sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
184. bleeding from ut____s *n.* a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth
185. ut____s cancer *n.* a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth
186. the tem_____nt of an engineer *n.* a person's nature or disposition, especially as it permanently affects their behavior

ANSWERS: 181. overwhelm, 182. saccharine, 183. flourish, 184. uterus, 185. uterus, 186. temperament

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. _____ 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
2. Even in the Middle Ages, people _____ forced labor.
v. to look down on
3. The government was _____ for its handling of the crisis.
v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
4. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.
adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
5. The company's blatant disregard for customer service has provoked the ____ of its clients.
n. intense or extreme anger or wrath; a strong feeling of displeasure or hostility towards someone or something
6. I had to ____ my entire presentation because the formatting was off.
v. to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable
7. The personal _____ announced that dinner was ready, and the guests went to the dining room.
n. a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties

ANSWERS: 1. Homologous, 2. disdained, 3. condemned, 4. catholic, 5. ire, 6. redo, 7. butler

8. The physician prescribed medication to relieve the contraction of the _____.
- n.* a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth
9. I _____ with your struggles and am here to support you through them.
- v.* to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences
10. The _____ sweetness of the cake was almost too much to handle.
- adj.* overly sweet or sentimental to the point of being cloying or sickly; artificially or excessively sweet
11. His son had accurately _____ the bloom.
- v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
12. The lungs are divided into five _____.
- n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver
13. He was accused of _____ when he spread rumors about his boss.
- n.* the act of making false and damaging statements about someone
14. This figure is _____ about the x-axis.
- adj.* having similarity in size, shape, and relative position of corresponding parts
15. I love to watch _____ when I need a good laugh.
- n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
16. The _____ shape in the fog made it difficult to determine what it was.
- adj.* not clear or easily seen, heard, or understood

ANSWERS: 8. uterus, 9. sympathize, 10. saccharine, 11. depicted, 12. lobes, 13. slander, 14. symmetrical, 15. sitcoms, 16. indistinct

17. The teacher attempted to _____ the importance of hard work in her students.
v. to impart, introduce, or cause to be absorbed gradually
18. The _____ trait was passed down through the generations.
adj. able to be passed down or transmitted from one generation to the next
19. The poem had a consistent _____ scheme throughout.
n. a word or phrase that has the same last sound as another word or phrase, often used in poetry and songwriting
20. The wedding had a _____ gold theme, which did not sit well with many guests.
adj. having a cheap or vulgar appearance, taste, or quality; lacking style or sophistication; gaudy or tastelessly showy
21. Production has decreased, but costs and unemployment have _____ dramatically.
v. to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly;
22. The watch was _____ designed, with many small moving parts.
adv. in a manner that involves a lot of detailed and complex arrangement or planning; with many interconnected parts or components
23. The fan _____ the air in the room quickly.
v. to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
24. He led a _____ life.
adj. not drunk or affected by alcohol; dignified in manner or character and committed to keeping promises

ANSWERS: 17. instill, 18. heritable, 19. rhyme, 20. tacky, 21. skyrocketed, 22. intricately, 23. circulates, 24. sober

25. The belief in _____ human goodness is a common philosophical concept.
adj. existing naturally or from birth; inherent or inborn; not acquired or learned through experience
26. The rousing speech by the politician _____ the audience to action.
v. to awaken strong feelings or emotions in someone; to excite or inspire a physical or emotional response
27. The company's decision to engage in _____ led to a reduction in its overall portfolio.
n. the act of reducing or withdrawing the amount of money you have provided in a particular area or sector
28. The _____ in the community grew as rumors spread about the upcoming changes.
n. a feeling of anxiety or unease; a sense of restlessness or agitation; a state of mental or emotional disturbance; (*v.*) to cause or feel unease, restlessness, or agitation
29. Whenever I get a cold, I tend to _____ a lot.
v. to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
30. The new action movie is expected to be a _____ hit.
n. a movie, book, or other product that is extremely successful and popular, especially one that makes much money
31. He _____ the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.
v. to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

ANSWERS: 25. innate, 26. aroused, 27. disinvestment, 28. disquiet, 29. sneeze, 30. blockbuster, 31. paraphrased

32. The garden gnome statue is cheesy _____ but some people love that style.
- n.* art, objects, or design considered to be tasteless and overly sentimental, often produced to appeal to popular or commercial taste rather than for artistic value
33. The soccer game crowd broke into a _____ of "Go, team, go!"
- n.* a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation
34. The _____ king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.
- n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
35. The professor's research in _____ has led to groundbreaking discoveries in the field of brain science.
- n.* a field of biology that studies the structure, function, and development of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves encompassing a wide range of research topics, including the molecular and cellular processes involved in neural signaling, the organization of neural circuits, and the neural basis of behavior, cognition, and emotion
36. Children often copy their parents or elder _____.
- n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
37. He _____ himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.
- v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
38. The inventor created a _____ that could turn salt water into drinking water.
- n.* a machine or device that is made up of a combination of interconnected parts and often appears complicated or unusual

ANSWERS: 32. kitsch, 33. chant, 34. exiled, 35. neurobiology, 36. siblings, 37. devoted, 38. contraption

39. It's difficult to _____ an addict off drugs once they're hooked.
- v.* to gradually stop feeding a baby or young animal with its mother's milk and to start or accustom to eating other food
40. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
41. She has a calm _____ and never gets overly upset or angry.
- n.* a person's nature or disposition, especially as it permanently affects their behavior
42. The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing _____.
- n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
43. I _____ using violence to solve conflicts and believe in peaceful resolutions.
- v.* to feel or express strong disapproval or condemnation towards something; to regard with grief, regret, or deep sorrow
44. The _____ customer demanded a refund for the faulty product.
- adj.* feeling or showing strong anger or annoyance
45. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
- n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
46. His story was filled with obvious _____.
- n.* an overstatement of facts or description; the act of making something seem larger, more important, or more significant than it is

ANSWERS: 39. wean, 40. intellect, 41. temperament, 42. worldviews, 43. deplore, 44. irate, 45. neuroscience, 46. exaggerations

47. It's unfair to make a _____ about an entire group of people based on stereotypes.
- n.* the act of making a broad statement or conclusion based on limited information or experience; a statement that applies to a large group or category of things or people, often without considering the unique qualities or circumstances of each individual
48. The crowds at the festival _____ as the night went on.
- v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
49. In his speech, he _____ a famous philosopher to emphasize his point.
- v.* to repeat or reproduce the words or statement of someone else, often acknowledging the source; to give an estimated cost or price for goods or services
50. The _____ of natural resources is a major concern for environmentalists.
- n.* the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
51. The theater's _____ included a mix of classic and contemporary plays.
- n.* a collection of works, such as plays, operas, or pieces of music, that a company or performer is prepared to perform
52. I _____ left my phone at home this morning and felt lost.
- adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
53. Enemy troops _____ the town during the war.
- v.* to surround and attack or harass with relentless persistence; to crowd or overwhelm with a large number of requests or demands

ANSWERS: 47. generalization, 48. dwindled, 49. quoted, 50. depletion, 51. repertory, 52. inadvertently, 53. besieged

54. She gave an _____ speech at the graduation ceremony.

adj. able to speak or write clearly and impressively

55. Generally speaking, men have a shorter _____ than women.

n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

56. The _____ architecture of the building was a contrast to the traditional designs in the neighborhood.

adj. relating to or characterized by a rejection of objective truth and global cultural narratives and instead emphasizing the role of personal interpretation

57. The _____ on the tree was delicate and intricate, adding to its beauty.

n. a decoration or embellishment that adds beauty or enhances the appearance of something, especially a Christmas tree or a piece of jewelry

58. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

59. The snake's _____ is highly toxic and can be fatal to humans.

n. a toxic substance produced by an animal, typically a snake or insect, and injected into prey or an enemy by biting or stinging

60. For decades, the US has been viewed as having economic and military _____ worldwide.

n. the dominance or influence of one group, country, or ideology over others, especially in political, economic, or cultural domains

61. Our body's immune system produces antibodies to _____ disease.

v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

ANSWERS: 54. eloquent, 55. lifespan, 56. postmodern, 57. ornament, 58. posit, 59. venom, 60. hegemony, 61. counteract

62. She _____ the concentrated juice with water.
v. to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it
63. I missed the episode of my favorite show, so I hope they will air a _____ soon.
n. the act of repeating or replaying a previously aired episode of a television show or a past event or performance; (verb) to broadcast or play again an item, especially a television or radio program; to run a race or other sporting event again
64. This _____ paperwork is wasting our time and resources.
adj. describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
65. She _____ over the tree root.
v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
66. Philosophers throughout history have explored the concept of a _____ society.
adj. capable of being improved or made perfect; having the potential for achieving an ideal or flawless state
67. The news of the betrayal _____ him.
v. to make someone extremely angry
68. My friend is a _____ woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.
adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
69. He _____ his love for her every day, showering her with gifts and affection.
v. to declare openly, often publicly or formally, that one has a particular skill, belief, or feeling; to admit or affirm

ANSWERS: 62. diluted, 63. rerun, 64. needless, 65. stumbled, 66. perfectible, 67. enraged, 68. Jewish, 69. professes

70. The areas of _____ and psychology are significantly related to one another.
- n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
71. She used a _____ of facts and figures to make her argument.
- n.* a concentrated and continuous outpouring or overwhelming amount of something, such as bombs, questions, criticisms, or comments; a defensive barrier of artillery fire or gunfire
72. He identified as _____ and had never considered being with someone of the same gender.
- adj.* attracted to individuals of the opposite sex
73. The _____ neighborhood was known for its upscale shops and trendy cafes.
- n.* a member of the middle class, typically with conservative or conformist attitudes or values; a person who seeks material wealth or social status through conventional means; a person concerned with conventional, materialistic pursuits
74. When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial _____ was to flee.
- n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
75. She only reads _____ literature, such as classic novels and philosophical essays.
- adj.* relating to or appealing to people who are highly educated or intellectual; involving or interested in serious artistic or cultural ideas

ANSWERS: 70. anthropology, 71. barrage, 72. heterosexual, 73. bourgeois, 74. instinct, 75. highbrow

76. The company is trying to _____ its new product.
v. to make something available for sale or use on a large scale
77. All members strictly followed the _____ of the organization.
n. a belief or set of beliefs that the members of a group accept without being questioned or doubted
78. I was shocked to hear my boss _____ me in front of the entire team.
v. to criticize or berate someone severely or abusively; to use harsh and abusive language towards someone
79. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
80. He recommended that they take out _____ life insurance.
adj. relating to or like a brother or brothers; (of twins) derived from two separate fertilized ova (= the female reproductive cell)
81. It isn't easy to _____ his intentions without knowing him better.
v. to interpret or understand the meaning of something, typically in a particular way; to analyze or explain the grammar or structure of a sentence or phrase
82. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
83. His _____ behavior led him to steal from the company.
adj. having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food

ANSWERS: 76. commercialize, 77. dogma, 78. vituperate, 79. overwhelm, 80. fraternal, 81. construe, 82. astonishing, 83. greedy

84. His _____ behavior tarnished his once respectable reputation.

adj. lacking qualities or characteristics that are noble, honorable, or admirable; morally or socially inferior

85. The surgeon's _____ was impressive during the delicate surgery.

n. skill and speed in performing physical tasks, especially with the hands; mental skill or adroitness in dealing with situations or problems

86. 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

87. Her outstanding achievement _____ people to like her.

v. to make someone susceptible

88. The Ottoman Empire _____ for over five centuries.

v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

89. The literary theory of _____ analyzes a text's underlying structures and systems.

n. a theoretical approach or methodology that analyzes and interprets phenomena by examining their underlying structures or systems

90. The soccer player was able to _____ the ball away from the goal.

v. to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone

91. She's a _____ host who always makes people feel welcome in her home.

adj. pleasant, friendly, or pleasing in nature; compatible or well-suited

ANSWERS: 84. ignoble, 85. dexterity, 86. symphony, 87. predisposes, 88. flourished, 89. structuralism, 90. deflect, 91. congenial

92. The two rivers _____ into one near this area.

- v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

93. 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

ANSWERS: 92. converge, 93. humming