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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Erin McKean: The joy of lexicography | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

lexicography

n. the practice, study, or skill of compiling dictionaries; the art, process, or profession of writing, editing, or compiling dictionaries

synonym: dictionary-making, lexicology, vocabulary compilation

(1) dictionary **lexicography**, (2) computational **lexicography**

He's working on a project involving comparative **lexicography** to analyze the evolution of words across different languages.

carve

v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

synonym: sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

perk

n. an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job

synonym: extra, bonus, benefit

(1) **perks** for repeat guests, (2) worker **perk**

A yacht cruise is our company's ultimate **perk**.

lexicographer

n. a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases

synonym : lexicologist, dictionary maker

(1) academic **lexicographer**, (2) famous **lexicographer**

The well-respected **lexicographer** published an innovative new dictionary that redefined the way words are defined

dactyl

n. a metrical foot in poetry consisting of one stressed syllable followed by two unstressed syllables; (of Greek and Latin poetry) a long syllable followed by two short syllables

synonym : finger, digit, toe

(1) prehistoric **dactyl**, (2) **dactyl** pattern

The song began with a haunting **dactyl** rhythm that captivated the audience.

snug

adj. comfortably warm and cozy; fitting tightly and comfortably; compact and efficient in design

synonym : cozy, comfortable, kempt

(1) **snug** blanket, (2) **snug** little house

The baby was fast asleep in his **snug** cot, swaddled in soft, warm blankets.

whistle

v. to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound

synonym : sound, honk, tweet

(1) **whistle** a tune, (2) **whistle** for help

The employee decided to **whistle-blow** on the company's illegal activities.

marvelous

adj. causing wonder or astonishment; excellent

synonym : wonderful, amazing, superb

(1) **marvelous** performance, (2) **marvelous** power

The view from the top of the mountain was **marvelous**.

secondly

adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.

synonym : in the second place, next, subsequently

(1) **secondly** connected, (2) **secondly**, it is important

Firstly, we will discuss the budget; **secondly**, we will go over the schedule.

amuse

v. to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh

synonym : entertain, delight, divert

(1) **amuse** a baby with a rattle, (2) **amuse** guests

He **amused** himself by playing video games during his free time.

modernity

n. the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture

synonym : contemporaneousness, present-day, contemporaneity

(1) spirit of **modernity**, (2) path toward **modernity**

He was fascinated by the contrasts between traditional life and the city's **modernity**.

propulsion

n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

synonym : propelling, driving, actuation

(1) **propulsion** technology, (2) nuclear **propulsion**

The spacecraft's **propulsion** system helped it travel through space.

steampunk

n. a subgenre of science fiction or fantasy that incorporates technology and aesthetic designs inspired by 19th-century industrial steam-powered machinery and Victorian fashion

synonym : retro-futurism, neo-victorianism

(1) **steampunk** fashion, (2) **steampunk** novel

The **steampunk** genre combines Victorian-era design with futuristic technology.

pertain

v. to be relevant or applicable to a particular subject or situation; to belong to or be connected with something

synonym: relate, concern, apply

(1) **pertain** to the case, (2) **pertain** to the topic

The new regulations **pertain** to all employees, regardless of their position.

hedgehog

n. a small, spiny mammal that rolls itself into a ball for protection when threatened; a person who is solitary, introverted, and lacks social skills, often displaying sharp or prickly behavior

synonym: porcupine, spine-fellow

(1) wild **hedgehog**, (2) **hedgehog** habitat

The **hedgehog's** spines provide an effective defense mechanism against predators.

replicate

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

synonym: duplicate, imitate, reproduce

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

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

serendipity

n. the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery

synonym: luck, chance, fortune

(1) **serendipity** moment, (2) **serendipity** discovery

The discovery of penicillin was a result of **serendipity**.

nightclub

n. (also "nightspot") a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks

synonym: discotheque, club, dance hall

(1) **nightclub** entertainment, (2) **nightclub** music

They decided to go to the **nightclub** to dance the night away.

inexorable

adj. describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or unstoppable in force or effect

synonym : relentless, implacable, unyielding

(1) **inexorable** decline, (2) **inexorable** force

His **inexorable** determination to succeed made him a force to be reckoned with.

counterintuitive

adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

synonym : unreasonable, paradoxical, nonsensical

(1) **counterintuitive** results, (2) **counterintuitive** behavior

The **counterintuitive** nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

skew

v. to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.

synonym : slant, tilt, distort

(1) **skew** the message, (2) **skew** social values

The results of the poll are **skewed** because it only surveyed a small group of people.

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**.

charismatic

adj. having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others

synonym : mesmerizing, alluring, captivating

(1) **charismatic** chairman, (2) **charismatic** personality

He was a **charismatic** leader and could persuade others to follow his ideas.

megafauna

n. a term used to describe large animals that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, such as mammoths, mastodons, and saber-toothed tigers, and that are now extinct

synonym : large animals, large mammals

(1) **megafauna** extinction, (2) **megafauna** fossils

Many prehistoric **megafaunas**, such as mammoths and saber-toothed tigers, are now extinct.

writ

n. a written legal order or command

synonym : legal document, order, legal process

(1) a **writ** of summons, (2) issue a **writ**

He was served with a **writ** of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.

screwdriver

n. a tool used for turning screws, typically consisting of a handle and a metal rod with a flattened tip that fits into the slot on the head of a screw; a popular cocktail made with vodka and orange juice

synonym : screw, driver, wrench

(1) open the can with a **screwdriver**, (2) electric **screwdriver**

I need a flathead **screwdriver** to tighten the loose screws on this cabinet.

sledgehammer

n. a large, heavy hammer typically used for breaking up rock, concrete, or other hard materials

synonym : mallet, hammer, crusher

(1) **sledgehammer** blow, (2) **sledgehammer** workout

The construction worker violently swung the **sledgehammer**, demolishing the old wall.

transcend

v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

synonym : surpass, exceed, overcome

(1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

connote

v. to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning

synonym : imply, suggest, signify

(1) **connote** emotion, (2) **connote** symbolism

The word 'home' **connotes** a sense of warmth and comfort.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym : confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

eyeball

n. the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen

(1) **eyeball** motion, (2) redness of the **eyeball**

Increased **eyeball** pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.

abridge

v. to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence

synonym : condense, shorten, abbreviate

(1) **abridge** a biography, (2) **abridge** a speech

I had to **abridge** the novel to fit it into the time allotted for the movie.

polysemy

n. the condition of having multiple meanings or interpretations, often referring to words or symbols that can have different associated meanings in different contexts or situations

synonym : ambiguity, multiple meanings, semantic flexibility

(1) the **polysemy** of common words, (2) multiple **polysemy**

The word "light" is a classic example of **polysemy** in English.

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.

badger

n. a small, burrowing mammal with short legs and a distinctive striped face; a person or thing that persistently annoys or bothers someone; (verb) to pester or harass someone persistently, typically with a series of annoying requests, questions, or demands

synonym: nuisance, annoyance

(1) **badger** territory, (2) **badger** him with questions

The **badger's** thick fur and tough skin make it well-suited for digging and burrowing in rough terrain.

burrow

v. to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal

synonym: tunnel, dig, excavate

(1) **burrow** through the forest, (2) **burrow** into a mystery

You can't **burrow** through solid metal.

pleat

n. a fold or crease made in cloth or paper by doubling or bending over one part of it and pressing it down; a ridge or a raised line on a surface

synonym: fold, plait, tuck

(1) **pleat** skirt, (2) accordion **pleat**

The dress had a **pleat** in the front that added some elegant detail.

Elizabethan

n. pertaining to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I of England (1558-1603); relating to the culture, literature, and history of that time period

(1) **Elizabethan** religious settlement, (2) **Elizabethan** theatre

The **Elizabethan** era is known for its rich literature and theatrical productions.

numb

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

synonym : dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

lumpy

adj. having many small bumps, irregularities, or unevenness; forming or consisting of small lumps

synonym : bumpy, uneven, lopsided

(1) **lumpy** mattress, (2) **lumpy** sugar

The batter for the cake was **lumpy** and needed to be smoothed out.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym : consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

ornithologist

n. a person who studies, observes or is an expert in the scientific field of ornithology, which is the study of birds

synonym : birdwatcher, avian expert

(1) amateur **ornithologist**, (2) **ornithologist** group

The documentary featured interviews with several renowned **ornithologists** discussing the bird population decline.

electroplate

v. to coat or cover an object with a layer of metal, typically by using an electric current; to apply a thin metallic layer onto a surface for decorative or protective purposes

synonym : plate, coat, cover

(1) **electroplate** jewelry, (2) **electroplate** a metal surface

The jewelry manufacturer will **electroplate** the silver necklace with a thin layer of gold.

comet

n. a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun

synonym : meteor, asteroid, meteoroid

(1) the surface of the **comet**, (2) **comet** Halley
The **comet's** bright tail could be seen in the night sky.

archaeology

n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures

(1) the institute of **archaeology**, (2) prehistoric **archaeology**
She teaches **archaeology** at the local university.

artifact

n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

synonym: antique, relic, heirloom

(1) paleolithic **artifacts**, (2) Peruvian **artifacts**
The museum has a vast collection of Greek **artifacts**.

provenance

n. the origin, source, or history of something, particularly relating to an object or work of art; the documentation or record of the ownership and history of a valuable item

synonym: origin, source, pedigree

(1) data **provenance**, (2) food **provenance**
The **provenance** of the artwork was carefully researched before it was purchased.

synecdoche

n. a figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole or vice versa; using a specific word or phrase to refer to a larger concept or group

synonym: metonymy, figure of speech, part for whole

(1) **synecdoche** example, (2) literary **synecdoche**
The character's name became a **synecdoche** for all lawyers in the movie.

doe

n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym: rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**
Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. de_____te a chapter to the subject | <i>v.</i> to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use |
| 2. am__e guests | <i>v.</i> to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh |
| 3. d_e rabbit | <i>n.</i> a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit |
| 4. p__ks for repeat guests | <i>n.</i> an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job |
| 5. pro_____on technology | <i>n.</i> the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means |
| 6. accordion pl__t | <i>n.</i> a fold or crease made in cloth or paper by doubling or bending over one part of it and pressing it down; a ridge or a raised line on a surface |
| 7. a w__t of summons | <i>n.</i> a written legal order or command |
| 8. literary syn_____he | <i>n.</i> a figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole or vice versa; using a specific word or phrase to refer to a larger concept or group |
| 9. computational lex_____phy | <i>n.</i> the practice, study, or skill of compiling dictionaries; the art, process, or profession of writing, editing, or compiling dictionaries |

ANSWERS: 1. dedicate, 2. amuse, 3. doe, 4. perk, 5. propulsion, 6. pleat, 7. writ, 8. synecdoche, 9. lexicography

10. me_____na fossils *n.* a term used to describe large animals that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, such as mammoths, mastodons, and saber-toothed tigers, and that are now extinct
11. ca__e a statue *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
12. Eli_____an theatre *n.* pertaining to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I of England (1558-1603); relating to the culture, literature, and history of that time period
13. ni_____ub music *n.* (also "nightspot") a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks
14. re_____te the cell *v.* to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
15. ser_____ty moment *n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
16. mainstream wo_____ew *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
17. syn_____he example *n.* a figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole or vice versa; using a specific word or phrase to refer to a larger concept or group
18. st_____nk novel *n.* a subgenre of science fiction or fantasy that incorporates technology and aesthetic designs inspired by 19th-century industrial steam-powered machinery and Victorian fashion

ANSWERS: 10. megafauna, 11. carve, 12. Elizabethan, 13. nightclub, 14. replicate, 15. serendipity, 16. worldview, 17. synecdoche, 18. steampunk

19. co_____e the listener
v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
20. de_____te a few hours
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
21. nuclear pro_____on
n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means
22. bu____w through the forest
v. to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal
23. prehistoric arc_____gy
n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
24. orn_____ist group
n. a person who studies, observes or is an expert in the scientific field of ornithology, which is the study of birds
25. ma_____us power
adj. causing wonder or astonishment; excellent
26. am__e a baby with a rattle
v. to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh
27. se_____ly, it is important
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
28. ba____r territory
n. a small, burrowing mammal with short legs and a distinctive striped face; a person or thing that persistently annoys or bothers someone; (verb) to pester or harass someone persistently, typically with a series of annoying requests, questions, or demands

ANSWERS: 19. confuse, 20. dedicate, 21. propulsion, 22. burrow, 23. archaeology, 24. ornithologist, 25. marvelous, 26. amuse, 27. secondly, 28. badger

29. academic lex_____her *n.* a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases
30. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
31. data pro_____ce *n.* the origin, source, or history of something, particularly relating to an object or work of art; the documentation or record of the ownership and history of a valuable item
32. gr____y for money *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
33. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
34. issue a w__t *n.* a written legal order or command
35. redness of the ey_____l *n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
36. ey_____l motion *n.* the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
37. ser_____ty discovery *n.* the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
38. da____l pattern *n.* a metrical foot in poetry consisting of one stressed syllable followed by two unstressed syllables; (of Greek and Latin poetry) a long syllable followed by two short syllables

ANSWERS: 29. lexicographer, 30. doe, 31. provenance, 32. greedy, 33. confuse, 34. writ, 35. eyeball, 36. eyeball, 37. serendipity, 38. dactyl

39. ni_____ub entertainment *n.* (also "nightspot") a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks
40. food pro_____ce *n.* the origin, source, or history of something, particularly relating to an object or work of art; the documentation or record of the ownership and history of a valuable item
41. the institute of arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
42. the surface of the co__t *n.* a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun
43. ine_____le decline *adj.* describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or unstoppable in force or effect
44. dictionary lex_____phy *n.* the practice, study, or skill of compiling dictionaries; the art, process, or profession of writing, editing, or compiling dictionaries
45. the wo_____ew of the ancient civilization *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
46. s__g blanket *adj.* comfortably warm and cozy; fitting tightly and comfortably; compact and efficient in design
47. famous lex_____her *n.* a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases

ANSWERS: 39. nightclub, 40. provenance, 41. archaeology, 42. comet, 43. inexorable, 44. lexicography, 45. worldview, 46. snug, 47. lexicographer

48. wh_____e for help *v.* to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound
49. wild he_____og *n.* a small, spiny mammal that rolls itself into a ball for protection when threatened; a person who is solitary, introverted, and lacks social skills, often displaying sharp or prickly behavior
50. electric scr_____er *n.* a tool used for turning screws, typically consisting of a handle and a metal rod with a flattened tip that fits into the slot on the head of a screw; a popular cocktail made with vodka and orange juice
51. the po_____my of common words *n.* the condition of having multiple meanings or interpretations, often referring to words or symbols that can have different associated meanings in different contexts or situations
52. se_____ly connected *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
53. cha_____ic personality *adj.* having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others
54. ine_____le force *adj.* describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or unstoppable in force or effect

ANSWERS: 48. whistle, 49. hedgehog, 50. screwdriver, 51. polysemy, 52. secondly, 53. charismatic, 54. inexorable

55. s__g little house *adj.* comfortably warm and cozy; fitting tightly and comfortably; compact and efficient in design
56. cou_____ive results *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
57. lu__y mattress *adj.* having many small bumps, irregularities, or unevenness; forming or consisting of small lumps
58. lu__y sugar *adj.* having many small bumps, irregularities, or unevenness; forming or consisting of small lumps
59. worker p__k *n.* an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job
60. ele_____ate jewelry *v.* to coat or cover an object with a layer of metal, typically by using an electric current; to apply a thin metallic layer onto a surface for decorative or protective purposes
61. gr___y person *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
62. pe_____n to the topic *v.* to be relevant or applicable to a particular subject or situation; to belong to or be connected with something
63. ma_____us performance *adj.* causing wonder or astonishment; excellent
64. paleolithic ar_____cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

ANSWERS: 55. snug, 56. counterintuitive, 57. lumpy, 58. lumpy, 59. perk, 60. electroplate, 61. greedy, 62. pertain, 63. marvelous, 64. artifact

65. ca__e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
66. a n__b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
67. bu___w into a mystery *v.* to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal
68. ab_____e a biography *v.* to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence
69. st_____nk fashion *n.* a subgenre of science fiction or fantasy that incorporates technology and aesthetic designs inspired by 19th-century industrial steam-powered machinery and Victorian fashion
70. re_____te data *v.* to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
71. Peruvian ar_____cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
72. ele_____ate a metal surface *v.* to coat or cover an object with a layer of metal, typically by using an electric current; to apply a thin metallic layer onto a surface for decorative or protective purposes
73. ba___r him with questions *n.* a small, burrowing mammal with short legs and a distinctive striped face; a person or thing that persistently annoys or bothers someone; (verb) to pester or harass someone persistently, typically with a series of annoying requests, questions, or demands

ANSWERS: 65. carve, 66. numb, 67. burrow, 68. abridge, 69. steampunk, 70. replicate, 71. artifact, 72. electroplate, 73. badger

74. co____e symbolism *v.* to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning
75. open the can with a scr_____er *n.* a tool used for turning screws, typically consisting of a handle and a metal rod with a flattened tip that fits into the slot on the head of a screw; a popular cocktail made with vodka and orange juice
76. s__w social values *v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
77. ab____e a speech *v.* to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence
78. tr_____nd limits *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
79. sle_____mer blow *n.* a large, heavy hammer typically used for breaking up rock, concrete, or other hard materials
80. sle_____mer workout *n.* a large, heavy hammer typically used for breaking up rock, concrete, or other hard materials
81. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
82. cha_____ic chairman *adj.* having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others

ANSWERS: 74. connote, 75. screwdriver, 76. skew, 77. abridge, 78. transcend, 79. sledgehammer, 80. sledgehammer, 81. numb, 82. charismatic

83. multiple po____my *n.* the condition of having multiple meanings or interpretations, often referring to words or symbols that can have different associated meanings in different contexts or situations
84. s__w the message *v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
85. tr_____nd boundaries *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
86. amateur orn_____ist *n.* a person who studies, observes or is an expert in the scientific field of ornithology, which is the study of birds
87. cou_____ive behavior *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
88. co__t Halley *n.* a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun
89. pl__t skirt *n.* a fold or crease made in cloth or paper by doubling or bending over one part of it and pressing it down; a ridge or a raised line on a surface
90. prehistoric da___l *n.* a metrical foot in poetry consisting of one stressed syllable followed by two unstressed syllables; (of Greek and Latin poetry) a long syllable followed by two short syllables
91. wh_____e a tune *v.* to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound

ANSWERS: 83. polysemy, 84. skew, 85. transcend, 86. ornithologist, 87. counterintuitive, 88. comet, 89. pleat, 90. dactyl, 91. whistle

92. co____e emotion *v.* to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning
93. spirit of mo_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture
94. Eli_____an religious settlement *n.* pertaining to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I of England (1558-1603); relating to the culture, literature, and history of that time period
95. me_____na extinction *n.* a term used to describe large animals that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, such as mammoths, mastodons, and saber-toothed tigers, and that are now extinct
96. pe_____n to the case *v.* to be relevant or applicable to a particular subject or situation; to belong to or be connected with something
97. path toward mo_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture
98. he_____og habitat *n.* a small, spiny mammal that rolls itself into a ball for protection when threatened; a person who is solitary, introverted, and lacks social skills, often displaying sharp or prickly behavior

ANSWERS: 92. connote, 93. modernity, 94. Elizabethan, 95. megafauna, 96. pertain, 97. modernity, 98. hedgehog

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The discovery of penicillin was a result of _____.
n. the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way; a fortunate accident or discovery
2. The construction worker violently swung the _____ demolishing the old wall.
n. a large, heavy hammer typically used for breaking up rock, concrete, or other hard materials
3. A yacht cruise is our company's ultimate _____.
n. an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job
4. The _____ genre combines Victorian-era design with futuristic technology.
n. a subgenre of science fiction or fantasy that incorporates technology and aesthetic designs inspired by 19th-century industrial steam-powered machinery and Victorian fashion
5. Increased _____ pressure leads to the development of glaucoma.
n. the round part of the eye of a vertebrate that is usually inside the head and, therefore, cannot be seen
6. My left arm became _____.
adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
7. He was fascinated by the contrasts between traditional life and the city's _____.
n. the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture

ANSWERS: 1. serendipity, 2. sledgehammer, 3. perk, 4. steampunk, 5. eyeball, 6. numb, 7. modernity

8. You can't _____ through solid metal.
- v.* to excavate a hole or make a tunnel in the ground by digging, typically for use as a dwelling of an animal
9. The word "light" is a classic example of _____ in English.
- n.* the condition of having multiple meanings or interpretations, often referring to words or symbols that can have different associated meanings in different contexts or situations
10. Many prehistoric _____ such as mammoths and saber-toothed tigers, are now extinct.
- n.* a term used to describe large animals that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, such as mammoths, mastodons, and saber-toothed tigers, and that are now extinct
11. They decided to go to the _____ to dance the night away.
- n.* (also "nightspot") a venue that typically operates late into the night, offering music, dancing, and drinks
12. The _____ thick fur and tough skin make it well-suited for digging and burrowing in rough terrain.
- n.* a small, burrowing mammal with short legs and a distinctive striped face; a person or thing that persistently annoys or bothers someone; (verb) to pester or harass someone persistently, typically with a series of annoying requests, questions, or demands
13. Firstly, we will discuss the budget; _____ we will go over the schedule.
- adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.

ANSWERS: 8. burrow, 9. polysemy, 10. megafaunas, 11. nightclub, 12. badger's, 13. secondly,

14. He _____ his life to helping others.

- v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

15. The word 'home' _____ a sense of warmth and comfort.

- v.* to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning

16. The _____ bright tail could be seen in the night sky.

- n.* a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun

17. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.

- n.* a written legal order or command

18. Her remarks _____ the debate.

- v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

19. Hunters use a whistle that makes the _____ sound to lure stags.

- n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

20. The spacecraft's _____ system helped it travel through space.

- n.* the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

21. The museum has a vast collection of Greek _____.

- n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

ANSWERS: 14. dedicated, 15. connotes, 16. comet's, 17. writ, 18. confused, 19. doe, 20. propulsion, 21. artifacts

22. The _____ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

23. I had to _____ the novel to fit it into the time allotted for the movie.

v. to shorten or condense a book, a play, a speech, etc., while maintaining its essence

24. The _____ spines provide an effective defense mechanism against predators.

n. a small, spiny mammal that rolls itself into a ball for protection when threatened; a person who is solitary, introverted, and lacks social skills, often displaying sharp or prickly behavior

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

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

26. The well-respected _____ published an innovative new dictionary that redefined the way words are defined

n. a person who compiles or edits dictionaries, often by studying and documenting the meanings, origins, and usage of words and phrases

27. He's working on a project involving comparative _____ to analyze the evolution of words across different languages.

n. the practice, study, or skill of compiling dictionaries; the art, process, or profession of writing, editing, or compiling dictionaries

28. The batter for the cake was _____ and needed to be smoothed out.

adj. having many small bumps, irregularities, or unevenness; forming or consisting of small lumps

ANSWERS: 22. counterintuitive, 23. abridge, 24. hedgehog's, 25. replicated, 26. lexicographer, 27. lexicography, 28. lumpy

29. I need a flathead _____ to tighten the loose screws on this cabinet.
- n.* a tool used for turning screws, typically consisting of a handle and a metal rod with a flattened tip that fits into the slot on the head of a screw; a popular cocktail made with vodka and orange juice
30. The dress had a _____ in the front that added some elegant detail.
- n.* a fold or crease made in cloth or paper by doubling or bending over one part of it and pressing it down; a ridge or a raised line on a surface
31. This statue is _____ from a single tree trunk.
- v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
32. She teaches _____ at the local university.
- n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
33. The _____ era is known for its rich literature and theatrical productions.
- n.* pertaining to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I of England (1558-1603); relating to the culture, literature, and history of that time period
34. His _____ behavior led him to steal from the company.
- adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
35. The employee decided to _____ on the company's illegal activities.
- v.* to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound
36. The music _____ cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.
- v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

ANSWERS: 29. screwdriver, 30. pleat, 31. carved, 32. archaeology, 33. Elizabethan, 34. greedy, 35. whistle-blow, 36. transcended

37. The song began with a haunting _____ rhythm that captivated the audience.
n. a metrical foot in poetry consisting of one stressed syllable followed by two unstressed syllables; (of Greek and Latin poetry) a long syllable followed by two short syllables
38. The view from the top of the mountain was _____.
adj. causing wonder or astonishment; excellent
39. The baby was fast asleep in his _____ cot, swaddled in soft, warm blankets.
adj. comfortably warm and cozy; fitting tightly and comfortably; compact and efficient in design
40. The _____ of the artwork was carefully researched before it was purchased.
n. the origin, source, or history of something, particularly relating to an object or work of art; the documentation or record of the ownership and history of a valuable item
41. 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
42. His _____ determination to succeed made him a force to be reckoned with.
adj. describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or unstoppable in force or effect
43. The documentary featured interviews with several renowned _____ discussing the bird population decline.
n. a person who studies, observes or is an expert in the scientific field of ornithology, which is the study of birds

ANSWERS: 37. dactyl, 38. marvelous, 39. snug, 40. provenance, 41. worldviews, 42. inexorable, 43. ornithologists

44. The new regulations _____ to all employees, regardless of their position.
- v.* to be relevant or applicable to a particular subject or situation; to belong to or be connected with something
45. The character's name became a _____ for all lawyers in the movie.
- n.* a figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole or vice versa; using a specific word or phrase to refer to a larger concept or group
46. He was a _____ leader and could persuade others to follow his ideas.
- adj.* having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others
47. The results of the poll are _____ because it only surveyed a small group of people.
- v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
48. He _____ himself by playing video games during his free time.
- v.* to entertain or divert the mind; to make someone laugh
49. The jewelry manufacturer will _____ the silver necklace with a thin layer of gold.
- v.* to coat or cover an object with a layer of metal, typically by using an electric current; to apply a thin metallic layer onto a surface for decorative or protective purposes

ANSWERS: 44. pertain, 45. synecdoche, 46. charismatic, 47. skewed, 48. amused, 49. electroplate