



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jane Poynter: Life in Biosphere 2 | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

biosphere

n. the part of the Earth and its atmosphere in which living organisms exist, including plants, animals, and microorganisms

synonym : ecosphere, ecospace, ecosystem

(1) terrestrial **biosphere**, (2) artificial **biosphere**

The balance of the **biosphere** is crucial for the survival of species.

rainforest

n. a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

(1) **rainforest** destruction, (2) tropical **rainforest**

The destruction of the **rainforest** is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

savannah

n. a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close

synonym : grassland, plain

(1) **savannah** region, (2) tropical **savannah**

The birds live in tropical forests, **savannahs**, and arid semi-desert environments.

marsh

n. a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog

synonym : bog, swamp, fen

(1) **marsh** bird, (2) river-delta **marsh**

Environmentalists are concerned about the harm to the **marsh**.

succumb

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

synonym: surrender, break down, die

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

He finally **succumbed** to temptation.

dreadful

adj. very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear

synonym: terrible, horrible, awful

(1) **dreadful** accident, (2) **dreadful** news

The conditions of the prison were **dreadful** and inhumane.

toxin

n. a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism

synonym: poison, venom, contaminant

(1) **toxin** exposure, (2) **toxin** production

Mold exposure can release dangerous **toxins** into the air.

choke

v. to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something

synonym: strangle, suffocate, clog

(1) **choke** with anger, (2) **choke** off the blood supply

The baby started to **choke** on a piece of apple.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym: mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing

severe illness if ingested.

ensue

v. to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something

synonym: follow, occur, result

(1) **ensue** within a few years, (2) predict what will **ensue**
A power outage **ensued** after the storm knocked out the electricity.

saga

n. a long, detailed story or account of heroic deeds, family history, or notable events, often consisting of a series of connected episodes

synonym: epic, tale, chronicle

(1) fantasy **saga**, (2) historical **saga**

The epic **saga** of the family's journey through time captivated readers worldwide.

malleable

adj. able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations

synonym: flexible, adaptable, pliable

(1) **malleable** clay, (2) **malleable** attitude

Gold is a **malleable** metal that can be easily shaped into different forms.

negate

v. to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something

synonym: refuse, nullify, annul

(1) **negate** the possibility, (2) **negate** the existing system

Drinking may **negate** the beneficial effects of the drug.

human-made

adj. created or produced by humans; artificial

synonym: artificial, unnatural, manufactured

(1) **human-made** climate change, (2) the worst **human-made** disaster

The bridge is a **human-made** structure and was built to span

the river.

sequester

v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

synonym: isolate, set apart, segregate

(1) **sequester** ten percent of the annual carbon emissions,
(2) **sequester** myself from the world

He approved their requests to **sequester** the jury.

irrigate

v. to supply water to land to help plants grow

synonym: water, drench, soak

(1) **irrigate** fields, (2) **irrigate** the flowers and plants

The water shortage in the region has made it difficult for farmers to **irrigate** their crops.

tandem

n. a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other

synonym: bicycle built for two, double, tandem bike

(1) **tandem** approach, (2) **tandem** skydiving

The **tandem** bike ride was fun for the couple to enjoy together.

apnea

n. a temporary cessation of breathing, especially during sleep; a medical condition characterized by the repeated occurrence of such interruptions

synonym: breathing interruption, suspension of breath

(1) **apnea** treatment, (2) epileptic **apnea**

Sleep **apnea** is a severe condition that causes a person to stop breathing while asleep.

gasp

v. to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise

synonym: breathe, pant, heave

(1) **gasp** for air, (2) **gasp** in shock

The audience **gaped** when the magician made the rabbit disappear from the hat.

irritating

adj. causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation

synonym: annoying, bothersome, vexing

(1) **irritating** noise, (2) **irritating** behavior

The garbage can in the kitchen has been producing an **irritating** smell for days.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym: frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

airlock

n. a chamber between two areas that can be sealed against pressure, allowing the passage of people and objects to go from one area to the other

(1) an **airlock** chamber, (2) **airlock** module

The mechanic has just inspected the jammed **airlock**.

crank

n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person

synonym: eccentric, oddball, kook

(1) **crank** handle, (2) **crank** caller

The fishing reel had a **crank** that made it easy to reel in the catch.

compost

n. a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil

synonym: fertilizer, humus, manure

(1) organic **compost**, (2) **compost** pile

You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your **compost** to improve the pH balance.

elated

adj. extremely happy, joyful, or excited, often as a result of success or achievement

synonym : joyful, thrilled, ecstatic

(1) **elated** mood, (2) **elated** expression

She was **elated** when she found out she got the job she had hoped for.

recoil

v. to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain

synonym : flinch, shy, shrink

(1) **recoil** in horror, (2) **recoil** from a snake

The gun **recoiled** with a loud bang.

stink

v. to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical

synonym : reek, smell, odor

(1) **stink** up the place, (2) **stink** badly

The garbage in the alley began to **stink** after a few hot days.

armpit

n. the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder

synonym : underarm, axilla

(1) hair of the **armpits**, (2) **armpit** area

This stick will deodorize your **armpits**.

deodorant

n. a product applied to the body, typically under the arms, that helps to eliminate or mask unpleasant body odor

synonym : antiperspirant, scent, fragrant

(1) **deodorant** stick, (2) spray **deodorant**

Make sure to apply **deodorant** before going to the gym.

aisle

n. a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

synonym : corridor, passageway, gangway

(1) **aisle** seat, (2) the center **aisle** of a church

She walked down the **aisle** to the front of the church.

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.

visceral

adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

synonym : instinctive, intuitive, gut

(1) **visceral** organ, (2) **visceral** fear

After watching the horror movie, she had a **visceral** reaction and couldn't sleep all night.

paragon

n. a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection

synonym : model, exemplar, ideal

(1) **paragon** of wisdom, (2) **paragon** of virtue

She is considered a **paragon** of beauty and grace in her community.

envelop

v. to surround and cover completely; to encase

synonym : wrap, cover, surround

(1) **envelop** the whole world, (2) **envelop** her in a bear hug

The fog **enveloped** the city, making it difficult to see.

sneak

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

synonym : creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

stark

adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications

synonym : crude, blunt, desolate

(1) **stark** landscape, (2) **stark** truth

The scenery of the battlefield was **stark** and grey.

eke

v. to make a living or support oneself with difficulty or by supplementing one's income with additional work or resources; to manage or get by with what is available, often by means of careful or thrifty measures

synonym: supplement, stretch, squeeze out

(1) **eke** out a few extra dollars, (2) **eke** out a narrow victory

He managed to **eke** out a living by doing odd jobs.

seawater

n. water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

synonym: saltwater, brine, ocean water

(1) **seawater** pollution, (2) **seawater** bacteria

The desalination plant turned **seawater** into drinking water through a complex process.

mangrove

n. a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it

(1) **mangrove** forest, (2) **mangrove** swamp

The **mangrove** trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.

plantation

n. a large farm or estate, typically in a tropical or subtropical country, used for growing cash crops

synonym: estate, farm, manor

(1) a rubber **plantation**, (2) **plantation** house

The former **plantation** owner struggled to adjust to life without the enslaved people that once worked for him.

whatnot

n. unspecified or unimportant objects, things, or details; miscellaneous items or things; a small, open shelving unit or stand used for displaying various objects or curios

synonym: odds and ends, gizmos, etcetera

(1) books and **whatnot**, (2) clothes and **whatnot**

I need to pick up some groceries, toiletries, and **whatnot** at

the store.

scourge

n. a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely

synonym: plague, disaster, curse

(1) **scourge** of AIDS, (2) bring a **scourge** under control

The plague was a **scourge** that killed millions of people.

pollutant

n. a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil

synonym: contaminant, toxic substance

(1) noxious **pollutant**, (2) water **pollutant**

The factory's use of chemicals has made it a significant **pollutant** in the area.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

synonym: contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread

We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

effluent

n. liquid waste or sewage that is discharged or released into a body of water; a byproduct or waste material that flows out or is expelled from a manufacturing process or system

synonym: outflow, discharge, sewage

(1) **effluent** discharge, (2) toxic **effluent**

The factory's **effluent** was carefully monitored to ensure it didn't harm the environment.

creditor

n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

swamp

n. an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation

synonym: marsh, mire, bog

(1) muddy **swamp**, (2) **swamp** tour

The lowland **swamp** was full of dangerous animals and poisonous plants.

biocide

n. a substance or agent that is capable of killing or inhibiting the growth of living organisms, especially those that are considered harmful or undesirable

synonym: pesticide, antimicrobial, insecticide

(1) **biocide** resistance, (2) use of **biocides**

The extensive use of **biocides** in agriculture has raised concerns about environmental impact.

unintentional

adj. not done or made on purpose; accidental

synonym: accidental, unforeseen, spontaneous

(1) avoid **unintentional** harm, (2) **unintentional** insult

The mistake was **unintentional** and made in good faith.

deforestation

n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area

synonym: clear-cutting, desertification

(1) **deforestation** of the tropics, (2) the lowest **deforestation** rate

Large-scale **deforestation** also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.

wisp

n. a thin, delicate strand or vestige of something, such as smoke, vapor, or a piece of hair; a faint, barely perceptible indication or hint of something; a small creature or fairy, often depicted as a hovering, translucent figure

synonym: strand, thread, filament

(1) a **wisp** of mist, (2) a **wisp** of conversation

The **wisp** of smoke from the candle added to the room's cozy ambiance.

fir

n. a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches

synonym : pine, spruce, cedar

(1) **fir** branch, (2) **fir** forest

The smell of fresh **fir** trees filled the air at the Christmas tree farm.

biophilia

n. a deeply ingrained human affinity or love for the natural world and living organisms coined by biologist E.O. Wilson, which refers to the innate connection and attraction humans have toward nature

synonym : love of nature, affinity for living organisms

(1) **biophilia** in healthcare, (2) natural **biophilia**

The **biophilia** hypothesis suggests that humans have an innate love for nature and a desire to connect with other living systems.

nurture

v. to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing

synonym : boost, cultivate, enable

(1) **nurture** love, (2) **nurture** his talents

Schools should **nurture** children's mutual interest spirit.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

rake

n. a garden tool with a long handle and curved, pointed teeth used for gathering fallen leaves, grass clippings, and other debris from lawns and gardens; a dissolute or immoral person, often one who pursues pleasure and debauchery to excess

synonym : scraper, harrow, hoe

(1) bamboo **rake**, (2) **rake's** behavior

The golf course has special **rakes** for smoothing out the sand traps.

throttle

v. to control or restrict the flow or speed of something, such as an engine or a person's actions; to strangle or choke someone or something; (noun) a mechanism or device that controls the flow of fuel or power to an engine, regulating its speed or power output

synonym : choke, strangle, suffocate

(1) **throttle** down economic growth, (2) go full **throttle**

The driver had to **throttle** the car to climb the steep hill quickly.

untidy

adj. not neat or organized; messy; lacking order or tidiness in appearance or arrangement

synonym : messy, disorganized, slovenly

(1) **untidy** handwriting, (2) **untidy** appearance

Her **untidy** room was cluttered with clothes and books.

topsoil

n. the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors

synonym : top layer, surface soil, humus

(1) **topsoil** erosion, (2) nutrient-rich **topsoil**

The farmer trucked in some fresh **topsoil** to improve the fertility of his fields.

hawk

n. a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations

synonym : militarist, jingo, aggressor

(1) cast off a **hawk**, (2) congressional **hawk**

That team signed a center forward who was a ball- **hawk**.

riverine

adj. relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river

synonym : river-related, fluvial, stream

(1) **riverine** areas, (2) **riverine** ecosystem

The army conducted **riverine** operations to secure the border area.

revolt

n. to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

synonym : rebellion, uprising, insurgence

(1) **revolt** against existing ways of thinking, (2) **revolt** against the dictator

The people tried to **revolt** to oust the tyrant.

algae

n. A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots

(1) **algae** biofuel, (2) blue **algae**

Algae has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.

dinosaur

n. a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin

synonym : reptile, beast, monster

(1) hulking **dinosaur**, (2) **dinosaur** fossil

The discovery of a new **dinosaur** species made headlines in the scientific community.

exhale

v. to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently

synonym : breathe out, expel, emit

(1) **exhale** a big sigh, (2) **exhale** cigarette smoke

He took a deep breath and slowly began to **exhale**.

grandchild

n. a child of someone's son or daughter

synonym : offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. books and wh_____t | <i>n.</i> unspecified or unimportant objects, things, or details; miscellaneous items or things; a small, open shelving unit or stand used for displaying various objects or curios |
| 2. ex___e cigarette smoke | <i>v.</i> to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently |
| 3. g__p in shock | <i>v.</i> to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise |
| 4. st__k landscape | <i>adj.</i> empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications |
| 5. pla_____on house | <i>n.</i> a large farm or estate, typically in a tropical or subtropical country, used for growing cash crops |
| 6. en__e within a few years | <i>v.</i> to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something |
| 7. def_____ion of the tropics | <i>n.</i> the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area |
| 8. th_____le down economic growth | <i>v.</i> to control or restrict the flow or speed of something, such as an engine or a person's actions; to strangle or choke someone or something; (noun) a mechanism or device that controls the flow of fuel or power to an engine, regulating its speed or power output |

ANSWERS: 1. whatnot, 2. exhale, 3. gasp, 4. stark, 5. plantation, 6. ensue, 7. deforestation, 8. throttle

9. co_____t pile *n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
10. al__e biofuel *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
11. e_e out a few extra dollars *v.* to make a living or support oneself with difficulty or by supplementing one's income with additional work or resources; to manage or get by with what is available, often by means of careful or thrifty measures
12. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
13. el__d expression *adj.* extremely happy, joyful, or excited, often as a result of success or achievement
14. organic co_____t *n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
15. ta__m skydiving *n.* a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other
16. the center ai__e of a church *n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

ANSWERS: 9. compost, 10. algae, 11. eke, 12. astonishing, 13. elated, 14. compost, 15. tandem, 16. aisle

17. cr__k handle *n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
18. st__k up the place *v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical
19. se____er bacteria *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
20. ir____te the flowers and plants *v.* to supply water to land to help plants grow
21. cast off a h__k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
22. su____b to cancer *v.* to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
23. nutrient-rich to____l *n.* the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors
24. se____er myself from the world *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
25. ar____t area *n.* the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder

ANSWERS: 17. crank, 18. stink, 19. seawater, 20. irrigate, 21. hawk, 22. succumb, 23. topsoil, 24. sequester, 25. armpit

26. un___y appearance *adj.* not neat or organized; messy; lacking order or tidiness in appearance or arrangement
27. ir_____te fields *v.* to supply water to land to help plants grow
28. nu_____e his talents *v.* to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing
29. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
30. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
31. terrestrial bi_____re *n.* the part of the Earth and its atmosphere in which living organisms exist, including plants, animals, and microorganisms
32. artificial bi_____re *n.* the part of the Earth and its atmosphere in which living organisms exist, including plants, animals, and microorganisms
33. un___y handwriting *adj.* not neat or organized; messy; lacking order or tidiness in appearance or arrangement
34. ne___e the possibility *v.* to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something
35. bring a sc_____e under control *n.* a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely
36. re___t against existing ways of thinking *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

ANSWERS: 26. untidy, 27. irrigate, 28. nurture, 29. industrious, 30. grandchild, 31. biosphere, 32. biosphere, 33. untidy, 34. negate, 35. scourge, 36. revolt

37. el___d mood *adj.* extremely happy, joyful, or excited, often as a result of success or achievement
38. to_____l erosion *n.* the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors
39. sc_____e of AIDS *n.* a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely
40. predict what will en___e *v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
41. ne___e the existing system *v.* to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something
42. re___t against the dictator *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
43. cr__k caller *n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
44. ma__h bird *n.* a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
45. ma_____ve swamp *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
46. se_____er pollution *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

ANSWERS: 37. elated, 38. topsoil, 39. scourge, 40. ensue, 41. negate, 42. revolt, 43. crank, 44. marsh, 45. mangrove, 46. seawater

47. hair of the ar___ts *n.* the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder
48. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
49. di_____ur fossil *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
50. irr_____ng noise *adj.* causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation
51. an ai_____k chamber *n.* a chamber between two areas that can be sealed against pressure, allowing the passage of people and objects to go from one area to the other
52. po_____e the thread *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
53. the worst hum_____de disaster *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
54. po_____e the air *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
55. blue al__e *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
56. sa_____ah region *n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close

ANSWERS: 47. armpit, 48. terrifying, 49. dinosaur, 50. irritating, 51. airlock, 52. pollute, 53. human-made, 54. pollute, 55. algae, 56. savannah

57. re___l from a snake *v.* to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain
58. congressional h__k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
59. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
60. st__k badly *v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical
61. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
62. ri_____ne ecosystem *adj.* relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river
63. vi_____al organ *adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
64. sn__k a cigarette *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
65. natural bi_____ia *n.* a deeply ingrained human affinity or love for the natural world and living organisms coined by biologist E.O. Wilson, which refers to the innate connection and attraction humans have toward nature

ANSWERS: 57. recoil, 58. hawk, 59. astonishing, 60. stink, 61. industrious, 62. riverine, 63. visceral, 64. sneak, 65. biophilia

66. dr____ul news *adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
67. spray de_____nt *n.* a product applied to the body, typically under the arms, that helps to eliminate or mask unpleasant body odor
68. sn__k out of danger *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
69. historical s__a *n.* a long, detailed story or account of heroic deeds, family history, or notable events, often consisting of a series of connected episodes
70. noxious po_____nt *n.* a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil
71. e_e out a narrow victory *v.* to make a living or support oneself with difficulty or by supplementing one's income with additional work or resources; to manage or get by with what is available, often by means of careful or thrifty measures
72. vi_____al fear *adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
73. a w__p of mist *n.* a thin, delicate strand or vestige of something, such as smoke, vapor, or a piece of hair; a faint, barely perceptible indication or hint of something; a small creature or fairy, often depicted as a hovering, translucent figure

ANSWERS: 66. dreadful, 67. deodorant, 68. sneak, 69. saga, 70. pollutant, 71. eke, 72. visceral, 73. wisp

74. dr____ul accident *adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
75. r__e's behavior *n.* a garden tool with a long handle and curved, pointed teeth used for gathering fallen leaves, grass clippings, and other debris from lawns and gardens; a dissolute or immoral person, often one who pursues pleasure and debauchery to excess
76. f_r branch *n.* a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches
77. f_r forest *n.* a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches
78. ta____m approach *n.* a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other
79. bankrupt cr____or *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
80. tropical rai____st *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
81. en____p her in a bear hug *v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase
82. epileptic ap__a *n.* a temporary cessation of breathing, especially during sleep; a medical condition characterized by the repeated occurrence of such interruptions

ANSWERS: 74. dreadful, 75. rake, 76. fir, 77. fir, 78. tandem, 79. creditor, 80. rainforest, 81. envelop, 82. apnea

83. avoid uni_____nal harm *adj.* not done or made on purpose; accidental
84. uni_____nal insult *adj.* not done or made on purpose; accidental
85. to__n exposure *n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism
86. de_____nt stick *n.* a product applied to the body, typically under the arms, that helps to eliminate or mask unpleasant body odor
87. river-delta ma__h *n.* a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
88. ch__e with anger *v.* to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something
89. ma_____le attitude *adj.* able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations
90. ef_____nt discharge *n.* liquid waste or sewage that is discharged or released into a body of water; a byproduct or waste material that flows out or is expelled from a manufacturing process or system
91. st__k truth *adj.* empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications

ANSWERS: 83. unintentional, 84. unintentional, 85. toxin, 86. deodorant, 87. marsh, 88. choke, 89. malleable, 90. effluent, 91. stark

100. ex___e a big sigh *v.* to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently
101. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
102. symbiotic fu___s *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
103. clothes and wh_____t *n.* unspecified or unimportant objects, things, or details; miscellaneous items or things; a small, open shelving unit or stand used for displaying various objects or curios
104. the cr_____or's claims *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
105. se_____er ten percent of the annual carbon emissions *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
106. irr_____ng behavior *adj.* causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation
107. gra_____ld development *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
108. tropical sa_____ah *n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
109. g__p for air *v.* to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise

ANSWERS: 100. exhale, 101. terrifying, 102. fungus, 103. whatnot, 104. creditor, 105. sequester, 106. irritating, 107. grandchild, 108. savannah, 109. gasp

110. ri____ne areas *adj.* relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river
111. ma____ve forest *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
112. rai____st destruction *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
113. fantasy s__a *n.* a long, detailed story or account of heroic deeds, family history, or notable events, often consisting of a series of connected episodes
114. pa____n of virtue *n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection
115. hum____de climate change *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
116. to__n production *n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism
117. fu___s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

ANSWERS: 110. riverine, 111. mangrove, 112. rainforest, 113. saga, 114. paragon, 115. human-made, 116. toxin, 117. fungus

118. the lowest def_____ion rate *n.* the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
119. bi_____e resistance *n.* a substance or agent that is capable of killing or inhibiting the growth of living organisms, especially those that are considered harmful or undesirable
120. use of bi_____es *n.* a substance or agent that is capable of killing or inhibiting the growth of living organisms, especially those that are considered harmful or undesirable
121. ma_____le clay *adj.* able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations
122. water po_____nt *n.* a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil
123. toxic ef_____nt *n.* liquid waste or sewage that is discharged or released into a body of water; a byproduct or waste material that flows out or is expelled from a manufacturing process or system
124. ai__e seat *n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure
125. sw__p tour *n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation

ANSWERS: 118. deforestation, 119. biocide, 120. biocide, 121. malleable, 122. pollutant, 123. effluent, 124. aisle, 125. swamp

126. ch__e off the blood supply *v.* to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something
127. bamboo r__e *n.* a garden tool with a long handle and curved, pointed teeth used for gathering fallen leaves, grass clippings, and other debris from lawns and gardens; a dissolute or immoral person, often one who pursues pleasure and debauchery to excess
128. pa_____n of wisdom *n.* a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection
129. hulking di_____ur *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
130. re___l in horror *v.* to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain
131. a w__p of conversation *n.* a thin, delicate strand or vestige of something, such as smoke, vapor, or a piece of hair; a faint, barely perceptible indication or hint of something; a small creature or fairy, often depicted as a hovering, translucent figure
132. nu_____e love *v.* to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing

ANSWERS: 126. choke, 127. rake, 128. paragon, 129. dinosaur, 130. recoil, 131. wisp, 132. nurture

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The plague was a _____ that killed millions of people.
n. a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely

2. The scenery of the battlefield was _____ and grey.
adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications

3. He approved their requests to _____ the jury.
v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

4. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

5. The fishing reel had a _____ that made it easy to reel in the catch.
n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person

6. The mechanic has just inspected the jammed _____.
n. a chamber between two areas that can be sealed against pressure, allowing the passage of people and objects to go from one area to the other

7. The former _____ owner struggled to adjust to life without the enslaved people that once worked for him.
n. a large farm or estate, typically in a tropical or subtropical country, used for growing cash crops

ANSWERS: 1. scourge, 2. stark, 3. sequester, 4. fungus, 5. crank, 6. airlock, 7. plantation

8. The factory's use of chemicals has made it a significant _____ in the area.
n. a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil
9. The _____ trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.
n. a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
10. The destruction of the _____ is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.
n. a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
11. I asked the lawyer to initiate _____ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.
n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
12. She is considered a _____ of beauty and grace in her community.
n. a person or thing that is regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality or characteristic; a model of excellence or perfection
13. The extensive use of _____ in agriculture has raised concerns about environmental impact.
n. a substance or agent that is capable of killing or inhibiting the growth of living organisms, especially those that are considered harmful or undesirable
14. She was _____ when she found out she got the job she had hoped for.
adj. extremely happy, joyful, or excited, often as a result of success or achievement
15. The farmer trucked in some fresh _____ to improve the fertility of his fields.
n. the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors

ANSWERS: 8. pollutant, 9. mangrove, 10. rainforest, 11. creditor, 12. paragon, 13. biocides, 14. elated, 15. topsoil

16. Environmentalists are concerned about the harm to the _____.
- n.* a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
17. Make sure to apply _____ before going to the gym.
- n.* a product applied to the body, typically under the arms, that helps to eliminate or mask unpleasant body odor
18. The _____ of smoke from the candle added to the room's cozy ambiance.
- n.* a thin, delicate strand or vestige of something, such as smoke, vapor, or a piece of hair; a faint, barely perceptible indication or hint of something; a small creature or fairy, often depicted as a hovering, translucent figure
19. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
20. He finally _____ to temptation.
- v.* to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
21. I need to pick up some groceries, toiletries, and _____ at the store.
- n.* unspecified or unimportant objects, things, or details; miscellaneous items or things; a small, open shelving unit or stand used for displaying various objects or curios
22. Her _____ room was cluttered with clothes and books.
- adj.* not neat or organized; messy; lacking order or tidiness in appearance or arrangement
23. The garbage can in the kitchen has been producing an _____ smell for days.
- adj.* causing annoyance, frustration, or exasperation; provoking impatience or irritation

ANSWERS: 16. marsh, 17. deodorant, 18. wisp, 19. industrious, 20. succumbed, 21. whatnot, 22. untidy, 23. irritating

24. The water shortage in the region has made it difficult for farmers to _____ their crops.
- v.* to supply water to land to help plants grow
25. The lowland _____ was full of dangerous animals and poisonous plants.
- n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation
26. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
- n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
27. You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your _____ to improve the pH balance.
- n.* a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
28. Drinking may _____ the beneficial effects of the drug.
- v.* to make something ineffective or null; to deny the truth of something
29. The driver had to _____ the car to climb the steep hill quickly.
- v.* to control or restrict the flow or speed of something, such as an engine or a person's actions; to strangle or choke someone or something; (noun) a mechanism or device that controls the flow of fuel or power to an engine, regulating its speed or power output
30. Sleep _____ is a severe condition that causes a person to stop breathing while asleep.
- n.* a temporary cessation of breathing, especially during sleep; a medical condition characterized by the repeated occurrence of such interruptions

ANSWERS: 24. irrigate, 25. swamp, 26. grandchild, 27. compost, 28. negate, 29. throttle, 30. apnea

31. Mold exposure can release dangerous _____ into the air.
- n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism
32. The audience _____ when the magician made the rabbit disappear from the hat.
- v.* to inhale sharply and audibly, often in response to strong emotion or sensation; to catch one's breath suddenly, often due to shock or surprise
33. Schools should _____ children's mutual interest spirit.
- v.* to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing
34. That team signed a center forward who was a ball-_____.
- n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
35. The garbage in the alley began to _____ after a few hot days.
- v.* to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical
36. The children tried to _____ out and eat the candy.
- v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
37. The conditions of the prison were _____ and inhumane.
- adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
38. The golf course has special _____ for smoothing out the sand traps.
- n.* a garden tool with a long handle and curved, pointed teeth used for gathering fallen leaves, grass clippings, and other debris from lawns and gardens; a dissolute or immoral person, often one who pursues pleasure and debauchery to excess

ANSWERS: 31. toxins, 32. gasped, 33. nurture, 34. hawk, 35. stink, 36. sneak, 37.

dreadful, 38. rakes

39. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.
- v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
40. The discovery of a new _____ species made headlines in the scientific community.
- n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
41. The army conducted _____ operations to secure the border area.
- adj.* relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river
42. The baby started to _____ on a piece of apple.
- v.* to prevent or obstruct the normal breathing or swallowing of someone or something
43. The fog _____ the city, making it difficult to see.
- v.* to surround and cover completely; to encase
44. She walked down the _____ to the front of the church.
- n.* a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure
45. Gold is a _____ metal that can be easily shaped into different forms.
- adj.* able to be easily shaped, molded, or manipulated, particularly in a physical or metaphorical sense; capable of being adapted or changed according to different circumstances or situations
46. The smell of fresh _____ trees filled the air at the Christmas tree farm.
- n.* a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches

ANSWERS: 39. pollute, 40. dinosaur, 41. riverine, 42. choke, 43. enveloped, 44. aisle, 45. malleable, 46. fir

47. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.
adj. very frightening or intimidating
48. The balance of the _____ is crucial for the survival of species.
n. the part of the Earth and its atmosphere in which living organisms exist, including plants, animals, and microorganisms
49. The epic _____ of the family's journey through time captivated readers worldwide.
n. a long, detailed story or account of heroic deeds, family history, or notable events, often consisting of a series of connected episodes
50. The factory's _____ was carefully monitored to ensure it didn't harm the environment.
n. liquid waste or sewage that is discharged or released into a body of water; a byproduct or waste material that flows out or is expelled from a manufacturing process or system
51. After watching the horror movie, she had a _____ reaction and couldn't sleep all night.
adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
52. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
53. This stick will deodorize your _____.
n. the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder
54. The desalination plant turned _____ into drinking water through a complex process.
n. water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

ANSWERS: 47. terrifying, 48. biosphere, 49. saga, 50. effluent, 51. visceral, 52. astonishing, 53. armpits, 54. seawater

55. The _____ bike ride was fun for the couple to enjoy together.
- n.* a device or arrangement that allows two or more things to be connected or work together in a coordinated manner; a bicycle built for two people to ride in a line, with one behind the other
56. He managed to ___ out a living by doing odd jobs.
- v.* to make a living or support oneself with difficulty or by supplementing one's income with additional work or resources; to manage or get by with what is available, often by means of careful or thrifty measures
57. The birds live in tropical forests, _____ and arid semi-desert environments.
- n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
58. The bridge is a _____ structure and was built to span the river.
- adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
59. A power outage _____ after the storm knocked out the electricity.
- v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
60. The gun _____ with a loud bang.
- v.* to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain
61. _____ has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.
- n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
62. The _____ hypothesis suggests that humans have an innate love for nature and a desire to connect with other living systems.
- n.* a deeply ingrained human affinity or love for the natural world and living organisms coined by biologist E.O. Wilson, which refers to the innate connection and attraction humans have toward nature

ANSWERS: 55. tandem, 56. eke, 57. savannahs, 58. human-made, 59. ensued, 60. recoiled, 61. Algae, 62. biophilia

63. Large-scale _____ also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.

n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area

64. The mistake was _____ and made in good faith.

adj. not done or made on purpose; accidental

65. The people tried to _____ to oust the tyrant.

n. to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

66. He took a deep breath and slowly began to _____.

v. to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently

ANSWERS: 63. deforestation, 64. unintentional, 65. revolt, 66. exhale