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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Amory Lovins: Winning the oil endgame | TED Talk
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

rejuvenate

v. to make someone or something look or feel younger, fresher, or more lively

synonym: revitalize, renew, refresh

(1) **rejuvenate** a downtown area, (2) **rejuvenate** energy

The spa treatment promised to **rejuvenate** her skin and leave her feeling refreshed.

endgame

n. the final stage or outcome of a long and complex process or sequence of events, especially one that involves a struggle or competition

synonym: outcome, finale, conclusion

(1) **endgame** strategies, (2) chess **endgame**

The athlete's **endgame** was to win an Olympic gold medal before retiring from the sport

pentagon

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

synonym: five-sided shape, quinquangle

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

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

perusal

n. the act of reading or examining something, often carefully and thoroughly; a close and detailed examination or scrutiny

synonym : reading, examination, scrutiny

(1) careful **perusal**, (2) thorough **perusal**

After a brief **perusal** of the document, he signed it with confidence.

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.

illuminating

adj. making something clear or easy to understand; providing light

synonym : enlightening, informative, clarifying

(1) **illuminating** light, (2) an **illuminating** answer

The lecture was **illuminating** and gave me a new perspective on the topic.

remnant

n. a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something

synonym : remainder, leftover, residue

(1) **remnant** of the past, (2) **remnants** of fabric

The only **remnant** left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.

innovate

v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

synonym : bring in, introduce, found

(1) **innovate** a new method, (2) **innovate** the quality of his life

Companies developing self-driving cars consistently **innovate** the emerging technologies.

backlog

n. a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet

synonym : accumulation, pile-up, logjam

(1) **backlog** of work, (2) data **backlog**

The company needed help to keep up with the **backlog** of orders.

biofuel

n. a fuel produced from organic matter, such as crops or waste material, that can be used to replace or supplement traditional fossil fuels

synonym : renewable energy, green fuel, alternative fuel

(1) **biofuel** production, (2) **biofuel** technology

The airplane was powered by a **biofuel** made from plant-based materials.

retool

v. to adapt, modify, or overhaul something, often a system or process, to make it more efficient or effective for its intended purpose or to meet changing needs or demands

synonym : revamp, remodel, adapt

(1) **retool** a strategy, (2) **retool** a business

We need to **retool** our manufacturing process and invest in new technology to stay competitive in the market.

distort

v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

synonym : fudge, deform, contort

(1) **distort** the facts, (2) **distort** the economy

Economists contend that taxes **distort** consumer behavior in general.

treasury

n. the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual

synonym : coffer, exchequer, bank

(1) **treasury** bonds, (2) **treasury** money

The protracted war nearly depleted the country's **treasury**.

nub

n. the central and most important point or core; a small, pointed piece or protuberance

synonym : heart, core, bump

(1) get to the **nub**, (2) the **nub** of the bone

The **nub** of the problem was that no one knew how to fix the software glitch.

horsepower

n. a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time

synonym : HP, power, energy

(1) maximum **horsepower**, (2) engine **horsepower**

The company's new generator has a **horsepower** rating of 1000, making it ideal for large buildings.

aerodynamics

n. the study of the motion of air, particularly its interaction with solid objects moving through it, such as aircraft or cars

synonym : aeromechanics, aeronautics, airflow

(1) **aerodynamics** research, (2) **aerodynamics** design

The **aerodynamics** of the car allowed it to glide smoothly through the air.

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**.

sedan

n. a car with four doors and a closed roof, designed to seat a small number of passengers in comfort; a type of automobile that is larger and more luxurious than a compact or subcompact car

synonym : car, automobile, vehicle

(1) **sedan** car, (2) a black **sedan**

I prefer driving a **sedan** over a larger SUV because it's easier to park.

gratify

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

synonym: please, satisfy, fulfill

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

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

devote

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

synonym: commit, dedicate, apply

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

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

moreover

adv. indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before

synonym: furthermore, besides, in addition

(1) **moreover**, she decided to go, (2) but **moreover**, they work well together

The company is environmentally conscious, and **moreover**, it uses sustainable materials in its products.

whacked

adj. exhausted or extremely tired; mentally or physically drained; behaving strangely or eccentrically; crazy or bizarre

synonym: exhausted, drained, spent

(1) **whacked** sense of humor, (2) **whacked** idea

After pulling three all-nighters in a row, she was completely **whacked** out.

vanish

v. disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely

synonym : disappear, go away, evaporate

(1) **vanish** into thin air, (2) **vanish** amid the crowd

Two months later, my tumor **vanished** utterly.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym : braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story

The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

conundrum

n. a confusing and difficult problem or question

synonym : puzzle, riddle, enigma

(1) **conundrum** of choice, (2) pose a **conundrum**

The group faced a **conundrum** when they couldn't decide whether to go hiking or to the beach.

inefficient

adj. lacking the ability or skill and not making the best use of time, money, energy, etc.

synonym : ineffective, counterproductive, inadequate

(1) **inefficient** use, (2) **inefficient** management

The system is still so **inefficient** that it is useless.

thermodynamics

n. the area of physics that deals with heat, work, and temperature and their relation to energy, entropy, and the physical properties of matter and radiation

(1) applied **thermodynamics**, (2) the laws of **thermodynamics**

The second law of **thermodynamics** denies the existence of a perpetual motion engine.

supple

adj. flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

synonym : flexible, pliable, bendable

(1) **supple** muscles, (2) **supple** leather

The ballerina's **supple** movements left the audience mesmerized.

hoist

v. to elevate or drag anything to a higher position, usually with the help of ropes or specific equipment

synonym : raise, lift, haul up

(1) **hoist** the flags, (2) **hoist** the anchor

The surgeon **hoisted** the patient onto the operation table.

mold

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

synonym : cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

feedstock

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

synonym : raw material, input, supply

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

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

cellulose

n. a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials

synonym : fiber, paper, wood pulp

(1) **cellulose** acetate, (2) **cellulose** insulation

The **cellulose** content in fruits and vegetables contributes to their dietary fiber.

automaker

n. a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles

synonym : carmaker, vehicle maker, automobilist

(1) Japanese **automaker**, (2) luxury **automaker**

The **automaker's** sales have increased by 10% this quarter, thanks to strong consumer demand.

cheaply

adv. in a stingy or inexpensive manner

synonym : inexpensively, tattily, stingily

(1) **cheaply** available, (2) buy stock **cheaply**

You can live very **cheaply** in Southeast Asia.

clunky

adj. heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement

synonym : clumsy, bulky, burdensome

(1) **clunky** phrasing, (2) **clunky** robot

Refined character portrayal makes up for **clunky** gameplay.

creditworthy

adj. of or relating to a person or entity that has a strong credit history and is therefore seen as likely to repay any loans or debts they may incur, typically associated with lower interest rates and more favorable loan terms

synonym : dependable, trustworthy

(1) **creditworthy** borrower, (2) **creditworthy** business

The bank only lends money to **creditworthy** individuals with a proven financial responsibility track record.

disparity

n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things

synonym : difference, inequality, gap

(1) the **disparity** between theory and reality, (2) income **disparity**

There is a significant **disparity** in pay between men and women in the company.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym : suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

bounty

n. a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task

synonym: reward, premium, recompense

(1) cash **bounty**, (2) a **bounty** on exports

The **bounty** hunter was hired to capture the notorious criminal and bring him to justice.

retrain

v. to teach or learn a new or different set of skills or knowledge, usually to adapt to a new job, situation, or technology

synonym: educate, instruct

(1) **retrain** employees, (2) **retrain** skills

She plans to **retrain** in a new field after retiring from her current career.

convergent

adj. tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge

synonym: merging, meeting

(1) **convergent** beam, (2) **convergent** thinking

The similarities between the two cultures suggest **convergent** evolution.

hydrocarbon

n. an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon

(1) **hydrocarbon** production, (2) **hydrocarbon** molecules in crude oil

Burning **hydrocarbons** releases water vapor and carbon dioxide.

carbohydrate

n. (also carb) any of a class of organic compounds that includes sugars, starch, and cellulose and are a principal source of energy in the diet of animals

synonym: sugar, starch, cellulose

(1) complex **carbohydrate**, (2) **carbohydrate** metabolism

Foods high in **carbohydrates** include bread, pasta, and rice.

tranche

n. a portion or segment of something, especially a financial investment that is divided or allocated according to a specific criterion or formula

synonym : portion, segment, slice

(1) large **tranche**, (2) **tranche** of debt

The latest **tranche** of funding will help the company expand its operations.

gulf

n. a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land

synonym : chasm, divide, abyss

(1) **gulf** war, (2) **gulf** stream

The **Gulf** of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.

rerun

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

synonym : repeat, replay, re-airing

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

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

Session 2: Spelling

1. ill_____ing light *adj.* making something clear or easy to understand; providing light
2. mo_____er, she decided to go *adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
3. cre_____thy borrower *adj.* of or relating to a person or entity that has a strong credit history and is therefore seen as likely to repay any loans or debts they may incur, typically associated with lower interest rates and more favorable loan terms
4. the n_b of the bone *n.* the central and most important point or core; a small, pointed piece or protuberance
5. ba_____g of work *n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet
6. cash bo____y *n.* a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task
7. con_____nt thinking *adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge

ANSWERS: 1. illuminating, 2. moreover, 3. creditworthy, 4. nub, 5. backlog, 6. bounty, 7. convergent

8. de___e my own life *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
9. we___e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
10. rej_____te a downtown area *v.* to make someone or something look or feel younger, fresher, or more lively
11. rej_____te energy *v.* to make someone or something look or feel younger, fresher, or more lively
12. thorough pe_____l *n.* the act of reading or examining something, often carefully and thoroughly; a close and detailed examination or scrutiny
13. ho__t the anchor *v.* to elevate or drag anything to a higher position, usually with the help of ropes or specific equipment
14. re_____n skills *v.* to teach or learn a new or different set of skills or knowledge, usually to adapt to a new job, situation, or technology
15. applied the_____ics *n.* the area of physics that deals with heat, work, and temperature and their relation to energy, entropy, and the physical properties of matter and radiation
16. ch_____y available *adv.* in a stingy or inexpensive manner
17. re___l a business *v.* to adapt, modify, or overhaul something, often a system or process, to make it more efficient or effective for its intended purpose or to meet changing needs or demands

ANSWERS: 8. devote, 9. weave, 10. rejuvenate, 11. rejuvenate, 12. perusal, 13. hoist, 14. retrain, 15. thermodynamics, 16. cheaply, 17. retool

18. con_____nt beam *adj.* tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge
19. se__n car *n.* a car with four doors and a closed roof, designed to seat a small number of passengers in comfort; a type of automobile that is larger and more luxurious than a compact or subcompact car
20. va___h amid the crowd *v.* disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely
21. chess en_____e *n.* the final stage or outcome of a long and complex process or sequence of events, especially one that involves a struggle or competition
22. de___e all of my energies *v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
23. ce_____se insulation *n.* a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials
24. pose a co_____um *n.* a confusing and difficult problem or question
25. di_____t the facts *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
26. complex car_____ate *n.* (also carb) any of a class of organic compounds that includes sugars, starch, and cellulose and are a principal source of energy in the diet of animals

ANSWERS: 18. convergent, 19. sedan, 20. vanish, 21. endgame, 22. devote, 23. cellulose, 24. conundrum, 25. distort, 26. carbohydrate

27. g__f war *n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
28. Japanese au_____er *n.* a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles
29. tr_____e of debt *n.* a portion or segment of something, especially a financial investment that is divided or allocated according to a specific criterion or formula
30. wh_____d idea *adj.* exhausted or extremely tired; mentally or physically drained; behaving strangely or eccentrically; crazy or bizarre
31. gr_____y curiosity *v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite
32. get to the n_b *n.* the central and most important point or core; a small, pointed piece or protuberance
33. tr_____ry money *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
34. cl_____y robot *adj.* heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement
35. income di_____ty *n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
36. re_____t of the past *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something

ANSWERS: 27. gulf, 28. automaker, 29. tranche, 30. whacked, 31. gratify, 32. nub, 33. treasury, 34. clunky, 35. disparity, 36. remnant

37. tr____ry bonds *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
38. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
39. an ill_____ing answer *adj.* making something clear or easy to understand; providing light
40. m__d allergy *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
41. fe_____ck procurement *n.* the raw material or substances that are used to make a product, particularly in industrial or manufacturing processes
42. ine_____nt use *adj.* lacking the ability or skill and not making the best use of time, money, energy, etc.
43. we__e on a loom *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
44. bi_____l technology *n.* a fuel produced from organic matter, such as crops or waste material, that can be used to replace or supplement traditional fossil fuels
45. hyd_____on molecules in crude oil *n.* an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon

ANSWERS: 37. treasury, 38. opportune, 39. illuminating, 40. mold, 41. feedstock, 42. inefficient, 43. weave, 44. biofuel, 45. hydrocarbon

46. re___l a strategy *v.* to adapt, modify, or overhaul something, often a system or process, to make it more efficient or effective for its intended purpose or to meet changing needs or demands
47. careful pe_____l *n.* the act of reading or examining something, often carefully and thoroughly; a close and detailed examination or scrutiny
48. a n__b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
49. ce_____se acetate *n.* a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials
50. in_____te the quality of his life *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
51. re__n of a TV show *n.* the act of repeating or replaying a previously aired episode of a television show or a past event or performance; (*v.*) to broadcast or play again an item, especially a television or radio program; to run a race or other sporting event again
52. aer_____ics research *n.* the study of the motion of air, particularly its interaction with solid objects moving through it, such as aircraft or cars
53. re_____n employees *v.* to teach or learn a new or different set of skills or knowledge, usually to adapt to a new job, situation, or technology

ANSWERS: 46. retool, 47. perusal, 48. numb, 49. cellulose, 50. innovate, 51. rerun, 52. aerodynamics, 53. retrain

54. gr____y desires *v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite
55. re____ts of fabric *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
56. cre____thy business *adj.* of or relating to a person or entity that has a strong credit history and is therefore seen as likely to repay any loans or debts they may incur, typically associated with lower interest rates and more favorable loan terms
57. a bo____y on exports *n.* a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task
58. the di____ty between theory and reality *n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
59. ho__t the flags *v.* to elevate or drag anything to a higher position, usually with the help of ropes or specific equipment
60. hyd____on production *n.* an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon
61. the laws of the____ics *n.* the area of physics that deals with heat, work, and temperature and their relation to energy, entropy, and the physical properties of matter and radiation

ANSWERS: 54. gratify, 55. remnant, 56. creditworthy, 57. bounty, 58. disparity, 59. hoist, 60. hydrocarbon, 61. thermodynamics

62. cl___y phrasing *adj.* heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement
63. wh____d sense of humor *adj.* exhausted or extremely tired; mentally or physically drained; behaving strangely or eccentrically; crazy or bizarre
64. equilateral pe____on *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
65. bi____l production *n.* a fuel produced from organic matter, such as crops or waste material, that can be used to replace or supplement traditional fossil fuels
66. car_____ate metabolism *n.* (also carb) any of a class of organic compounds that includes sugars, starch, and cellulose and are a principal source of energy in the diet of animals
67. en____e strategies *n.* the final stage or outcome of a long and complex process or sequence of events, especially one that involves a struggle or competition
68. va___h into thin air *v.* disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely
69. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
70. luxury au_____er *n.* a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles

ANSWERS: 62. clunky, 63. whacked, 64. pentagon, 65. biofuel, 66. carbohydrate, 67. endgame, 68. vanish, 69. industrious, 70. automaker

71. a casting m__d *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
72. a black se__n *n.* a car with four doors and a closed roof, designed to seat a small number of passengers in comfort; a type of automobile that is larger and more luxurious than a compact or subcompact car
73. buy stock ch____y *adv.* in a stingy or inexpensive manner
74. co_____um of choice *n.* a confusing and difficult problem or question
75. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
76. maximum hor_____er *n.* a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time
77. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
78. engine hor_____er *n.* a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time

ANSWERS: 71. mold, 72. sedan, 73. cheaply, 74. conundrum, 75. industrious, 76. horsepower, 77. opportune, 78. horsepower

79. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
80. aer_____ics design *n.* the study of the motion of air, particularly its interaction with solid objects moving through it, such as aircraft or cars
81. data ba_____g *n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet
82. re__n episode *n.* the act of repeating or replaying a previously aired episode of a television show or a past event or performance; (verb) to broadcast or play again an item, especially a television or radio program; to run a race or other sporting event again
83. pe_____on building *n.* a flat geometric shape with five straight sides and five angles; a building in Washington, D.C., that houses the U.S. Department of Defense and is the headquarters of the U.S. military
84. ine_____nt management *adj.* lacking the ability or skill and not making the best use of time, money, energy, etc.
85. di_____t the economy *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

ANSWERS: 79. numb, 80. aerodynamics, 81. backlog, 82. rerun, 83. pentagon, 84. inefficient, 85. distort

86. fe_____ck supply *n.* the raw material or substances that are used to make a product, particularly in industrial or manufacturing processes
87. large tr_____e *n.* a portion or segment of something, especially a financial investment that is divided or allocated according to a specific criterion or formula
88. in_____te a new method *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
89. g__f stream *n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
90. su____e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
91. but mo_____er, they work well together *adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
92. su____e leather *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

ANSWERS: 86. feedstock, 87. tranche, 88. innovate, 89. gulf, 90. supple, 91. moreover, 92. supple

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Corn is a common _____ for ethanol production.
n. the raw material or substances that are used to make a product, particularly in industrial or manufacturing processes

2. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.
v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

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

4. The lecture was _____ and gave me a new perspective on the topic.
adj. making something clear or easy to understand; providing light

5. The _____ of the car allowed it to glide smoothly through the air.
n. the study of the motion of air, particularly its interaction with solid objects moving through it, such as aircraft or cars

6. The _____ sales have increased by 10% this quarter, thanks to strong consumer demand.
n. a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles

7. The _____ content in fruits and vegetables contributes to their dietary fiber.
n. a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials

ANSWERS: 1. feedstock, 2. weaves, 3. industrious, 4. illuminating, 5. aerodynamics, 6. automaker's, 7. cellulose

8. The company needed help to keep up with the _____ of orders.
- n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet
9. I always try to _____ my boss by achieving the sales target every month.
- v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite
10. The company's new generator has a _____ rating of 1000, making it ideal for large buildings.
- n.* a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time
11. Companies developing self-driving cars consistently _____ the emerging technologies.
- v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
12. The surgeon _____ the patient onto the operation table.
- v.* to elevate or drag anything to a higher position, usually with the help of ropes or specific equipment
13. She plans to _____ in a new field after retiring from her current career.
- v.* to teach or learn a new or different set of skills or knowledge, usually to adapt to a new job, situation, or technology
14. Mushrooms and _____ are fungi.
- n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

ANSWERS: 8. backlog, 9. gratify, 10. horsepower, 11. innovate, 12. hoisted, 13. retrain, 14. mold

15. Burning _____ releases water vapor and carbon dioxide.
n. an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon
16. The only _____ left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.
n. a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
17. The system is still so _____ that it is useless.
adj. lacking the ability or skill and not making the best use of time, money, energy, etc.
18. The company is environmentally conscious, and _____ it uses sustainable materials in its products.
adv. indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
19. The latest _____ of funding will help the company expand its operations.
n. a portion or segment of something, especially a financial investment that is divided or allocated according to a specific criterion or formula
20. He _____ himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.
v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose
21. The protracted war nearly depleted the country's _____.
n. the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
22. Economists contend that taxes _____ consumer behavior in general.
v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

ANSWERS: 15. hydrocarbons, 16. remnant, 17. inefficient, 18. moreover, 19. tranche, 20. devoted, 21. treasury, 22. distort

23. The airplane was powered by a _____ made from plant-based materials.
n. a fuel produced from organic matter, such as crops or waste material, that can be used to replace or supplement traditional fossil fuels
24. I missed the episode of my favorite show, so I hope they will air a _____ soon.
n. the act of repeating or replaying a previously aired episode of a television show or a past event or performance; (verb) to broadcast or play again an item, especially a television or radio program; to run a race or other sporting event again
25. Refined character portrayal makes up for _____ gameplay.
adj. heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement
26. The ____ of the problem was that no one knew how to fix the software glitch.
n. the central and most important point or core; a small, pointed piece or protuberance
27. My left arm became _____.
adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
28. The bank only lends money to _____ individuals with a proven financial responsibility track record.
adj. of or relating to a person or entity that has a strong credit history and is therefore seen as likely to repay any loans or debts they may incur, typically associated with lower interest rates and more favorable loan terms
29. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 23. biofuel, 24. rerun, 25. clunky, 26. nub, 27. numb, 28. creditworthy, 29. opportune

30. The spa treatment promised to _____ her skin and leave her feeling refreshed.
- v.* to make someone or something look or feel younger, fresher, or more lively
31. Foods high in _____ include bread, pasta, and rice.
- n.* (also carb) any of a class of organic compounds that includes sugars, starch, and cellulose and are a principal source of energy in the diet of animals
32. After pulling three all-nighters in a row, she was completely _____ out.
- adj.* exhausted or extremely tired; mentally or physically drained; behaving strangely or eccentrically; crazy or bizarre
33. The _____ of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.
- n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
34. The _____ hunter was hired to capture the notorious criminal and bring him to justice.
- n.* a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task
35. You can live very _____ in Southeast Asia.
- adv.* in a stingy or inexpensive manner
36. The ballerina's _____ movements left the audience mesmerized.
- adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
37. Two months later, my tumor _____ utterly.
- v.* disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely

ANSWERS: 30. rejuvenate, 31. carbohydrates, 32. whacked, 33. Gulf, 34. bounty, 35. cheaply, 36. supple, 37. vanished

38. We need to _____ our manufacturing process and invest in new technology to stay competitive in the market.
- v.* to adapt, modify, or overhaul something, often a system or process, to make it more efficient or effective for its intended purpose or to meet changing needs or demands
39. There is a significant _____ in pay between men and women in the company.
- n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
40. I prefer driving a _____ over a larger SUV because it's easier to park.
- n.* a car with four doors and a closed roof, designed to seat a small number of passengers in comfort; a type of automobile that is larger and more luxurious than a compact or subcompact car
41. The second law of _____ denies the existence of a perpetual motion engine.
- n.* the area of physics that deals with heat, work, and temperature and their relation to energy, entropy, and the physical properties of matter and radiation
42. The athlete's _____ was to win an Olympic gold medal before retiring from the sport
- n.* the final stage or outcome of a long and complex process or sequence of events, especially one that involves a struggle or competition
43. The group faced a _____ when they couldn't decide whether to go hiking or to the beach.
- n.* a confusing and difficult problem or question
44. After a brief _____ of the document, he signed it with confidence.
- n.* the act of reading or examining something, often carefully and thoroughly; a close and detailed examination or scrutiny

ANSWERS: 38. retool, 39. disparity, 40. sedan, 41. thermodynamics, 42. endgame, 43. conundrum, 44. perusal

45. The similarities between the two cultures suggest _____ evolution.

adj. tending to come together or meet at a point; merging or intersecting; characterized by similarities or commonalities, particularly in different fields or areas of knowledge

46. The shape of the building is a distinctive five-sided _____.

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

ANSWERS: 45. convergent, 46. pentagon