

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

George Ayittey: Africa's cheetahs versus hippos |  
TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/george\\_ayittey\\_africa\\_s\\_cheetahs\\_versus\\_hippos](https://www.ted.com/talks/george_ayittey_africa_s_cheetahs_versus_hippos)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### confer

*v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

*synonym* : consult, meet, discuss

(1) **confer** degree, (2) **confer** honor

The leaders of the two countries met to **confer** on the issue.

### homage

*n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute

*synonym* : respect, deference, reverence

(1) paying **homage** to tradition, (2) vassal **homage**

The crowd gave a standing ovation as a sign of **homage** to the retiring athlete.

### cheetah

*n.* a large, slender, and fast-running African cat with a yellowish-brown coat and black spots

*synonym* : leopard, jaguar, panther

(1) **cheetah** sprint, (2) **cheetah** habitat

The mother **cheetahs** fiercely protect their cubs, teaching them valuable hunting and survival skills before they venture out independently.

### brook

*n.* a small stream

*synonym* : stream, creek, rivulet

(1) music of the **brook**, (2) **brook** trout  
A **brook** babbled through the woods.

## hippopotamus

*n.* (also "hippo") a large, mostly herbivorous mammal native to sub-Saharan Africa, with a bulky, rounded body, short legs, and large head and mouth, which inhabits rivers and lakes and is known for its aggressive behavior and territorial nature

*synonym*: river horse, water horse, hippo

(1) **hippopotamus** habitat, (2) giant **hippopotamus**  
The zoo has a new **hippopotamus** exhibit that popularly attracts families.

## intellect

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

*synonym*: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**  
Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

## imp

*n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore

*synonym*: demon, sprite, mischievous child

(1) a little **imp**, (2) behave like an **imp**  
The mischievous **imp** caused trouble wherever it went.

## rot

*v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

*synonym*: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age  
Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

## quo

*n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

*synonym*: status, condition, state

(1) status **quo** politician, (2) **quo** warranto  
The company has been successful in maintaining the status

**quo.**

**clueless**

*adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

*synonym* : uninformed, unaware, ignorant

(1) **clueless** in many ways, (2) **clueless** about the situation  
She was completely **clueless** as to how to solve the problem.

**abysmal**

*adj.* extremely bad or unsuccessful, to the degree of being bottomless or unfathomable

*synonym* : dreadful, terrible, appalling

(1) **abysmal** performance, (2) **abysmal** living conditions  
The company's **abysmal** sales performance led to layoffs and budget cuts.

**crocodile**

*n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

*synonym* : alligator, gator, croc

(1) **crocodile** hide, (2) saltwater **crocodile**

The **crocodile** attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear

**liberate**

*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

*synonym* : emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential

The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

**quack**

*n.* a person who pretends to have medical or other skills or credentials that they do not possess; a charlatan or fraud; (verb) to make the sound of a duck

*synonym* : charlatan, impostor, fraud

(1) **quack** doctor, (2) **quack** product

The healthcare industry is cracking down on **quack** remedies and treatments that lack scientific evidence.

## vitality

*n.* the state of being strong and active; energy

*synonym* : energy, life, vigor

(1) **vitality** of youth, (2) the **vitality** of the company

The new gym membership has improved his **vitality** and overall health.

## hijack

*v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence

*synonym* : commandeer, seize, pirate

(1) **hijack** a helicopter, (2) **hijack** a phone number

He made a desperate effort to **hijack** an airliner.

## phalanx

*n.* a close and tightly-packed formation of troops, typically in ancient warfare; a united or closely-knit group of individuals working together towards a common purpose or goal

*synonym* : formation, array, army

(1) finger **phalanx**, (2) finger **phalanx**

The soldiers marched in a **phalanx** formation, ready for battle.

## bandit

*n.* a person who robs or steals, often while using violence or threats; a criminal who operates outside the law and steals from others

*synonym* : robber, thief, outlaw

(1) wilderness **bandit**, (2) notorious **bandit**

A group of armed **bandits** attacked the villagers during the night.

## crook

*n.* a bend or curve, especially in a rod or stick; someone who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime

*synonym* : bend, curve, arc

(1) hi-tech **crook**, (2) a **crook** in a stream

The police caught the **crook** after a string of burglaries.

## enrich

*v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

*synonym* : enhance, improve, augment

(1) **enrich** a gas with a balloon, (2) **enrich** public services

Reading not only increases knowledge but also **enriches** life.

## crony

*n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities

*synonym* : buddy, pal, friend

(1) a **crony** of the governor, (2) business **crony**

The politician's close **crony** was given a high-ranking job in the administration.

## tribesman

*n.* a member of a tribe (= a group of people who have a common culture and history and who live in the same area)

*synonym* : member, clan member

(1) **tribesman** culture, (2) **tribesman** tradition

Anyone in the village unmatched the **tribesman's** hunting skills.

## 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.

## abode

*n.* a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters

*synonym* : dwelling, residence, home

(1) a temporary **abode**, (2) humble **abode**

The small cabin in the woods was his **abode** for many years.

## meretricious

*adj.* attractive in a flashy, showy, or superficial way, but lacking real value or sincerity; gaudy or tastelessly embellished

*synonym* : gaudy, flashy, artificial

(1) **meretricious** ornamentation, (2) **meretricious** advertising

The **meretricious** charm of the salesman convinced many customers to buy unnecessary products.

## fandango

*n.* a lively Spanish dance for two people, usually accompanied by guitar music and castanets; a lively or spirited behavior or activity

*synonym* : dance, ball, gala

(1) attend a **fandango** festival, (2) energetic **fandango** dance

The dancers twirled and spun during the lively **fandango** performance.

## emanate

*v.* to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling

*synonym* : radiate, exude, give off

(1) **emanate** light, (2) **emanate** happiness

The fragrance of flowers **emanated** from the garden.

## ivory

*n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items

*synonym* : elephant tusk, bone, tooth

(1) tower of **ivory**, (2) **ivory** carving

The intricate carvings on the **ivory** tusk were a work of art.

## tyranny

*n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

*synonym* : despotism, oppression, dictatorship

(1) brutal **tyranny**, (2) **tyranny** of the majority  
The country was ruled by a **tyranny** that oppressed its citizens.

## tyrant

*n.* a ruler who uses their power cruelly and oppressively; a cruel and oppressive person

*synonym*: despot, dictator, autocrat

(1) a domestic **tyrant**, (2) **tyrant** regime

The **tyrant's** rule was marked by oppression and fear.

## concurrence

*n.* the agreement, cooperation, or simultaneous occurrence of multiple factors, events, or opinions; a coincidence or alignment of interests or viewpoints

*synonym*: agreement, accord, harmony

(1) in **concurrence** with the law, (2) mutual **concurrence**

The **concurrence** of opinions among the team members led to a successful project.

## confederacy

*n.* a union of states or organizations formed for a particular purpose

*synonym*: alliance, union, league

(1) urban **confederacy**, (2) the rebelling **confederacy**

The **confederacy** of states was formed to stand against the federal government's power.

## devolve

*v.* to transfer or delegate responsibility, power, or authority to someone else, often as a result of a process or procedure; to degrade, deteriorate, or regress to a less advanced or more primitive state or form

*synonym*: degenerate, drop, decline

(1) **devolve** into chaos, (2) **devolve** his rights

As time has passed, the responsibility has **devolved** to the younger generation.

## decentralize

*v.* to move the power, control, or authority of an organization, government, or system from a single place to several smaller ones

*synonym*: deconcentrate, disperse, distribute

(1) **decentralize** authority, (2) **decentralize** organizational structure

We need to **decentralize** our data to recover quickly from a disaster.

## 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.

## 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.

## nutshell

n. the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something

*synonym*: summary, essence, covering

(1) move into a **nutshell**, (2) **nutshell** version

Can you explain your argument in a **nutshell**?

## steppe

n. a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

*synonym*: prairie, savannah, grassland

(1) **steppe** climate, (2) barren **steppe**

The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast **steppe**.



## sect

*n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

*synonym* : group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

## socialism

*n.* a political and economic theory or system that advocates for the collective ownership and control of the means of production and distribution of goods, aiming for a more equitable and just society; a system that aims to reduce economic inequalities and prioritize the welfare of the community as a whole

*synonym* : communism, collectivism, equality

(1) non-Marxist **socialism**, (2) the rise of **socialism**

The professor held a seminar on the principles of democratic **socialism** and its impact on modern European countries.

## plunder

*v.* to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property

*synonym* : pillage, loot, despoil

(1) **plunder** the enemy's stronghold, (2) **plunder** his reputation

The pirates could **plunder** the ship and steal all of the valuable cargo.

## 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**.

## mobilize

*v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

*synonym* : activate, rally, marshal

(1) **mobilize** cooperation, (2) **mobilize** a stiff joint  
The military **mobilized** troops to the border.

## diaspora

*n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland

*synonym*: scattering, dispersion, migration

(1) **diaspora** migration, (2) **diaspora** community

The **diaspora** of the Jewish people has led to a worldwide community.

## enclose

*v.* to surround, as with a fence, wall, or barrier; to put within boundaries; to include

*synonym*: surround, encase, contain

(1) **enclose** a check with a letter, (2) **enclose** area

The walls were **enclosed** to create a private outdoor space.

## medicinal

*adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

*synonym*: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

## trove

*n.* a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth

*synonym*: hoard, collection, assemblage

(1) **trove** of information, (2) stumble on a **trove**

The treasure **trove** of ancient artifacts was a museum's dream come true.

## instigate

*v.* to initiate, start or incite something, often to cause trouble, conflict, or violence; to urge or stir someone to take a particular action or behavior

*synonym*: provoke, incite, raise

(1) **instigate** a conflict, (2) **instigate** a discussion

The protesters tried to **instigate** change and promote equality in their community.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |   |      |   |
|---|------|---|
| 1. se_____er ten percent of the annual carbon emissions | v.   | to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.  |
| 2. li_____te potential                                  | v.   | to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression  |
| 3. co_____r degree                                      | v.   | to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something   |
| 4. vi_____ty of youth                                   | n.   | the state of being strong and active; energy  |
| 5. me_____al chemistry                                  | adj. | of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease  |
| 6. humble ab__e   | n.   | a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters   |
| 7. r_t with age   | v.   | to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually  |
| 8. iv__y carving  | n.   | a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items  |
| 9. st___e climate                                       | n.   | a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America |

ANSWERS: 1. sequester, 2. liberate, 3. confer, 4. vitality, 5. medicinal, 6. abode, 7. rot, 8. ivory, 9. steppe

10. tr\_\_\_\_\_an tradition *n.* a member of a tribe (= a group of people who have a common culture and history and who live in the same area)
11. ty\_\_\_\_\_y of the majority *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
12. a domestic ty\_\_\_\_t *n.* a ruler who uses their power cruelly and oppressively; a cruel and oppressive person
13. hi\_\_\_\_k a helicopter *v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence
14. notorious ba\_\_\_\_t *n.* a person who robs or steals, often while using violence or threats; a criminal who operates outside the law and steals from others
15. wilderness ba\_\_\_\_t *n.* a person who robs or steals, often while using violence or threats; a criminal who operates outside the law and steals from others
16. nu\_\_\_\_\_ll version *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
17. a little i\_p *n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore

ANSWERS: 10. tribesman, 11. tyranny, 12. tyrant, 13. hijack, 14. bandit, 15. bandit, 16. nutshell, 17. imp

18. finger ph\_\_\_\_x *n.* a close and tightly-packed formation of troops, typically in ancient warfare; a united or closely-knit group of individuals working together towards a common purpose or goal
19. mo\_\_\_\_ze a stiff joint *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
20. en\_\_\_\_h public services *v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
21. co\_\_\_\_r honor *v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
22. mo\_\_\_\_ze cooperation *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
23. a cr\_\_y of the governor *n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities
24. tr\_\_e of information *n.* a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
25. barren st\_\_\_\_e *n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America
26. tower of iv\_\_y *n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items

ANSWERS: 18. phalanx, 19. mobilize, 20. enrich, 21. confer, 22. mobilize, 23. crony, 24. trove, 25. steppe, 26. ivory

27. de\_\_\_\_e his rights      *v.* to transfer or delegate responsibility, power, or authority to someone else, often as a result of a process or procedure; to degrade, deteriorate, or regress to a less advanced or more primitive state or form
28. human in\_\_\_\_\_ct      *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
29. cr\_\_\_\_\_le hide      *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
30. s\_\_t beliefs      *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
31. music of the br\_\_k      *n.* a small stream
32. move into a nu\_\_\_\_\_ll      *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
33. mutual con\_\_\_\_\_ce      *n.* the agreement, cooperation, or simultaneous occurrence of multiple factors, events, or opinions; a coincidence or alignment of interests or viewpoints
34. qu\_\_k doctor      *n.* a person who pretends to have medical or other skills or credentials that they do not possess; a charlatan or fraud; (verb) to make the sound of a duck

ANSWERS: 27. devolve, 28. intellect, 29. crocodile, 30. sect, 31. brook, 32. nutshell, 33. concurrence, 34. quack

35. urban con\_\_\_\_\_cy                    *n.* a union of states or organizations formed for a particular purpose
36. status q\_o politician                    *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
37. di\_\_\_\_\_ra migration                    *n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland
38. hi-tech cr\_\_k                    *n.* a bend or curve, especially in a rod or stick; someone who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime
39. in\_\_\_\_\_te a discussion                    *v.* to initiate, start or incite something, often to cause trouble, conflict, or violence; to urge or stir someone to take a particular action or behavior
40. enrich my in\_\_\_\_\_ct                    *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
41. the rebelling con\_\_\_\_\_cy                    *n.* a union of states or organizations formed for a particular purpose
42. hip\_\_\_\_\_mus habitat                    *n.* (also "hippo") a large, mostly herbivorous mammal native to sub-Saharan Africa, with a bulky, rounded body, short legs, and large head and mouth, which inhabits rivers and lakes and is known for its aggressive behavior and territorial nature
43. cl\_\_\_\_\_ss in many ways                    *adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

ANSWERS: 35. confederacy, 36. quo, 37. diaspora, 38. crook, 39. instigate, 40. intellect, 41. confederacy, 42. hippopotamus, 43. clueless

44. ab\_\_\_\_l performance *adj.* extremely bad or unsuccessful, to the degree of being bottomless or unfathomable
45. a cr\_\_k in a stream *n.* a bend or curve, especially in a rod or stick; someone who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime
46. attend a fa\_\_\_\_go festival *n.* a lively Spanish dance for two people, usually accompanied by guitar music and castanets; a lively or spirited behavior or activity
47. a temporary ab\_\_e *n.* a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters
48. traditional me\_\_\_\_al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
49. ab\_\_\_\_l living conditions *adj.* extremely bad or unsuccessful, to the degree of being bottomless or unfathomable
50. ch\_\_\_\_h sprint *n.* a large, slender, and fast-running African cat with a yellowish-brown coat and black spots
51. the rise of so\_\_\_\_sm *n.* a political and economic theory or system that advocates for the collective ownership and control of the means of production and distribution of goods, aiming for a more equitable and just society; a system that aims to reduce economic inequalities and prioritize the welfare of the community as a whole
52. pl\_\_\_\_r his reputation *v.* to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property

ANSWERS: 44. abysmal, 45. crook, 46. fandango, 47. abode, 48. medicinal, 49. abysmal, 50. cheetah, 51. socialism, 52. plunder



53. mer\_\_\_\_\_ous ornamentation      *adj.* attractive in a flashy, showy, or superficial way, but lacking real value or sincerity; gaudy or tastelessly embellished
54. em\_\_\_\_\_e happiness      *v.* to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling
55. 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
56. dec\_\_\_\_\_ize authority      *v.* to move the power, control, or authority of an organization, government, or system from a single place to several smaller ones
57. ty\_\_\_\_t regime      *n.* a ruler who uses their power cruelly and oppressively; a cruel and oppressive person
58. paying ho\_\_\_\_e to tradition      *n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
59. in\_\_\_\_\_te a conflict      *v.* to initiate, start or incite something, often to cause trouble, conflict, or violence; to urge or stir someone to take a particular action or behavior
60. in con\_\_\_\_\_ce with the law      *n.* the agreement, cooperation, or simultaneous occurrence of multiple factors, events, or opinions; a coincidence or alignment of interests or viewpoints
61. business cr\_\_\_\_y      *n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities

ANSWERS: 53. meretricious, 54. emanate, 55. connote, 56. decentralize, 57. tyrant, 58. homage, 59. instigate, 60. concurrence, 61. crony

62. dec\_\_\_\_\_ize organizational structure      *v.* to move the power, control, or authority of an organization, government, or system from a single place to several smaller ones
63. hi\_\_\_k a phone number      *v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence
64. stumble on a tr\_\_e      *n.* a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
65. en\_\_\_\_\_e a check with a letter      *v.* to surround, as with a fence, wall, or barrier; to put within boundaries; to include
66. tr\_\_\_\_\_an culture      *n.* a member of a tribe (= a group of people who have a common culture and history and who live in the same area)
67. q\_o warranto      *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
68. the vi\_\_\_\_\_ty of the company      *n.* the state of being strong and active; energy
69. behave like an i\_p      *n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
70. tr\_\_\_\_\_ry bonds      *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
71. energetic fa\_\_\_\_\_go dance      *n.* a lively Spanish dance for two people, usually accompanied by guitar music and castanets; a lively or spirited behavior or activity

ANSWERS: 62. decentralize, 63. hijack, 64. trove, 65. enclose, 66. tribesman, 67. quo, 68. vitality, 69. imp, 70. treasury, 71. fandango

72. em\_\_\_\_\_e light *v.* to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling
73. mer\_\_\_\_\_ous advertising *adj.* attractive in a flashy, showy, or superficial way, but lacking real value or sincerity; gaudy or tastelessly embellished
74. ch\_\_\_\_\_h habitat *n.* a large, slender, and fast-running African cat with a yellowish-brown coat and black spots
75. giant hip\_\_\_\_\_mus *n.* (also "hippo") a large, mostly herbivorous mammal native to sub-Saharan Africa, with a bulky, rounded body, short legs, and large head and mouth, which inhabits rivers and lakes and is known for its aggressive behavior and territorial nature
76. brutal ty\_\_\_\_\_y *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
77. pl\_\_\_\_\_r the enemy's stronghold *v.* to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property
78. tr\_\_\_\_\_ry money *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
79. di\_\_\_\_\_ra community *n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland

ANSWERS: 72. emanate, 73. meretricious, 74. cheetah, 75. hippopotamus, 76. tyranny, 77. plunder, 78. treasury, 79. diaspora

80. saltwater cr\_\_\_\_\_le *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
81. 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
82. 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
83. en\_\_\_\_\_e area *v.* to surround, as with a fence, wall, or barrier; to put within boundaries; to include
84. vassal ho\_\_\_e *n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
85. li\_\_\_\_\_te people from oppression *v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
86. se\_\_\_\_\_er myself from the world *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
87. secret s\_\_t *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

ANSWERS: 80. crocodile, 81. rake, 82. rake, 83. enclose, 84. homage, 85. liberate, 86. sequester, 87. sect

88. begin to r\_t      *v.*    to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
89. br\_\_k trout      *n.*    a small stream
90. qu\_\_k product      *n.*    a person who pretends to have medical or other skills or credentials that they do not possess; a charlatan or fraud; (verb) to make the sound of a duck
91. cl\_\_\_\_\_ss about the situation      *adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation
92. en\_\_\_h a gas with a balloon      *v.*    to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
93. non-Marxist so\_\_\_\_\_sm      *n.*    a political and economic theory or system that advocates for the collective ownership and control of the means of production and distribution of goods, aiming for a more equitable and just society; a system that aims to reduce economic inequalities and prioritize the welfare of the community as a whole
94. 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
95. de\_\_\_\_\_e into chaos      *v.*    to transfer or delegate responsibility, power, or authority to someone else, often as a result of a process or procedure; to degrade, deteriorate, or regress to a less advanced or more primitive state or form

ANSWERS: 88. rot, 89. brook, 90. quack, 91. clueless, 92. enrich, 93. socialism, 94. connote, 95. devolve

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will \_\_\_\_.  
*v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
  
2. The mischievous \_\_\_\_ caused trouble wherever it went.  
*n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
  
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of states was formed to stand against the federal government's power.  
*n.* a union of states or organizations formed for a particular purpose
  
4. The mother \_\_\_\_\_ fiercely protect their cubs, teaching them valuable hunting and survival skills before they venture out independently.  
*n.* a large, slender, and fast-running African cat with a yellowish-brown coat and black spots
  
5. A group of armed \_\_\_\_\_ attacked the villagers during the night.  
*n.* a person who robs or steals, often while using violence or threats; a criminal who operates outside the law and steals from others
  
6. The zoo has a new \_\_\_\_\_ exhibit that popularly attracts families.  
*n.* (also "hippo") a large, mostly herbivorous mammal native to sub-Saharan Africa, with a bulky, rounded body, short legs, and large head and mouth, which inhabits rivers and lakes and is known for its aggressive behavior and territorial nature
  
7. The walls were \_\_\_\_\_ to create a private outdoor space.  
*v.* to surround, as with a fence, wall, or barrier; to put within boundaries; to include

ANSWERS: 1. rot, 2. imp, 3. confederacy, 4. cheetahs, 5. bandits, 6. hippopotamus, 7. enclosed

8. The pirates could \_\_\_\_\_ the ship and steal all of the valuable cargo.
- v.* to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property
9. As time has passed, the responsibility has \_\_\_\_\_ to the younger generation.
- v.* to transfer or delegate responsibility, power, or authority to someone else, often as a result of a process or procedure; to degrade, deteriorate, or regress to a less advanced or more primitive state or form
10. The small cabin in the woods was his \_\_\_\_\_ for many years.
- n.* a place where one lives; a dwelling; a house, or other shelters
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ of opinions among the team members led to a successful project.
- n.* the agreement, cooperation, or simultaneous occurrence of multiple factors, events, or opinions; a coincidence or alignment of interests or viewpoints
12. The company's \_\_\_\_\_ sales performance led to layoffs and budget cuts.
- adj.* extremely bad or unsuccessful, to the degree of being bottomless or unfathomable
13. 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
14. A \_\_\_\_\_ babbled through the woods.
- n.* a small stream
15. Anyone in the village unmatched the \_\_\_\_\_ hunting skills.
- n.* a member of a tribe (= a group of people who have a common culture and history and who live in the same area)

ANSWERS: 8. plunder, 9. devolved, 10. abode, 11. concurrence, 12. abysmal, 13. connotes, 14. brook, 15. tribesman's



16. The protesters tried to \_\_\_\_\_ change and promote equality in their community.
- v. to initiate, start or incite something, often to cause trouble, conflict, or violence; to urge or stir someone to take a particular action or behavior
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
- adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
18. He approved their requests to \_\_\_\_\_ the jury.
- v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
19. The fragrance of flowers \_\_\_\_\_ from the garden.
- v. to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling
20. The prisoners were \_\_\_\_\_ after the war ended.
- v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
21. Reading not only increases knowledge but also \_\_\_\_\_ life.
- v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
22. The military \_\_\_\_\_ troops to the border.
- v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
23. The \_\_\_\_\_ attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear
- n. a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

ANSWERS: 16. instigate, 17. medicinal, 18. sequester, 19. emanated, 20. liberated, 21. enriches, 22. mobilized, 23. crocodile

24. The soldiers marched in a \_\_\_\_\_ formation, ready for battle.
- n.* a close and tightly-packed formation of troops, typically in ancient warfare; a united or closely-knit group of individuals working together towards a common purpose or goal
25. The company has been successful in maintaining the status \_\_\_\_.
- n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
26. The police caught the \_\_\_\_\_ after a string of burglaries.
- n.* a bend or curve, especially in a rod or stick; someone who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime
27. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Jewish people has led to a worldwide community.
- n.* the scattering of a people who have left their traditional homeland
28. The healthcare industry is cracking down on \_\_\_\_\_ remedies and treatments that lack scientific evidence.
- n.* a person who pretends to have medical or other skills or credentials that they do not possess; a charlatan or fraud; (verb) to make the sound of a duck
29. The intricate carvings on the \_\_\_\_\_ tusk were a work of art.
- n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items
30. The \_\_\_\_\_ charm of the salesman convinced many customers to buy unnecessary products.
- adj.* attractive in a flashy, showy, or superficial way, but lacking real value or sincerity; gaudy or tastelessly embellished

ANSWERS: 24. phalanx, 25. quo, 26. crook, 27. diaspora, 28. quack, 29. ivory, 30. meretricious

31. The leaders of the two countries met to \_\_\_\_\_ on the issue.
- v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
32. Can you explain your argument in a \_\_\_\_\_
- n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
33. The treasure \_\_\_\_\_ of ancient artifacts was a museum's dream come true.
- n.* a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
34. The country was ruled by a \_\_\_\_\_ that oppressed its citizens.
- n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
35. The minority \_\_\_\_\_ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.
- n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
36. The crowd gave a standing ovation as a sign of \_\_\_\_\_ to the retiring athlete.
- n.* a show of respect or honor, often by performing an act of reverence or by paying tribute
37. The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

ANSWERS: 31. confer, 32. nutshell?, 33. trove, 34. tyranny, 35. sect, 36. homage, 37. steppe

38. The politician's close \_\_\_\_\_ was given a high-ranking job in the administration.
- n.* a close friend or companion; a longtime associate who is often involved in one's questionable or shady dealings or activities
39. She was completely \_\_\_\_\_ as to how to solve the problem.
- adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation
40. 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
41. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ our data to recover quickly from a disaster.
- v.* to move the power, control, or authority of an organization, government, or system from a single place to several smaller ones
42. The \_\_\_\_\_ rule was marked by oppression and fear.
- n.* a ruler who uses their power cruelly and oppressively; a cruel and oppressive person
43. He made a desperate effort to \_\_\_\_\_ an airliner.
- v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence
44. The professor held a seminar on the principles of democratic \_\_\_\_\_ and its impact on modern European countries.
- n.* a political and economic theory or system that advocates for the collective ownership and control of the means of production and distribution of goods, aiming for a more equitable and just society; a system that aims to reduce economic inequalities and prioritize the welfare of the community as a whole

ANSWERS: 38. crony, 39. clueless, 40. rakes, 41. decentralize, 42. tyrant's, 43. hijack, 44. socialism

45. The new gym membership has improved his \_\_\_\_\_ and overall health.

*n.* the state of being strong and active; energy

46. The dancers twirled and spun during the lively \_\_\_\_\_ performance.

*n.* a lively Spanish dance for two people, usually accompanied by guitar music and castanets; a lively or spirited behavior or activity

47. 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

48. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

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

ANSWERS: 45. vitality, 46. fandango, 47. treasury, 48. intellect