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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Robert Wright: Progress is not a zero-sum game |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

upbeat

adj. positive, optimistic, or enthusiastic in attitude or outlook; having a lively or energetic rhythm or tempo, especially in music

synonym: optimistic, positive, hopeful

(1) **upbeat** attitude, (2) remain **upbeat** about the future

The **upbeat** music helped to lift her spirits and put her in a good mood.

riot

n. a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

synonym: disturbance, unrest, upheaval

(1) **riot** police, (2) **riot** control gas

The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

avian

adj. relating to or characteristic of birds

synonym: bird-like, feathered, winged

(1) **avian** influenza, (2) **avian** habitat

The expert on **avian** species studied the behavior of different types of birds.

elicit

v. to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty

synonym: bring out, obtain, evoke

(1) **elicit** a confession, (2) **elicit** a solution

Have you **elicited** a response from them yet?

countermeasure

n. an action taken to counter or offset another action

synonym: response, remedy, antidote

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

The government implemented several **countermeasures** to combat the spread of the virus.

apocalyptic

adj. describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world

synonym: fateful, prophetic, ominous

(1) **apocalyptic** event, (2) have **apocalyptic** overtones

The **apocalyptic** landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

worldview

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

synonym: perspective, position, viewpoint

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

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

elusive

adj. difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember

synonym: mysterious, ambiguous, inapproachable

(1) an **elusive** criminal, (2) track down an **elusive** fact
The physicist who found the **elusive** particle won the Nobel Prize.

uplift

n. the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits
synonym: upthrust, upheaval, (verb) raise

(1) **uplift** mountains, (2) **uplift** my spirit
The **uplift** in the stock market has been a relief to investors.

predate

v. to have existed or happened earlier than something
synonym: foredate, antedate, precede

(1) **predate** A.D. 200., (2) **predate** the modern age
The idea of virtual worlds **predates** computers.

encase

v. to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer
synonym: encircle, enclose, enclasp

(1) **encase** in glass, (2) **encase** his feet
They **encased** the fragile vase in bubble wrap to protect it during shipping.

multicellular

adj. characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)
synonym: multicelled, many-celled, complex

(1) **multicellular** tissues, (2) **multicellular** life
Multicellular organisms are composed of many specialized cells working together.

trajectory

n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space
synonym: course, curve, orbit

(1) career **trajectory**, (2) a **trajectory** missile
The company has shown an excellent growth **trajectory** over the years.

meme

n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

synonym: buzzword, trend

(1) pronounce **meme**, (2) religious **meme**

This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet **meme**.

ax

n. a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials

synonym: hatchet, chopper, tomahawk

(1) chop wood with an **ax**, (2) an **ax** in the toolbox

He used an **ax** to chop the firewood for the campfire.

armament

n. weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense

synonym: weaponry, munitions, arms

(1) **armament** race, (2) naval **armament**

The government is poised to increase its **armament** budget for the coming fiscal year.

brink

n. the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

synonym: edge, verge, threshold

(1) **brink** of war, (2) on the **brink**

We were on the **brink** of a financial crisis.

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.

polity

n. a form or system of government or administration; a political organization or entity

synonym: government, regime, state

(1) national **polity**, (2) civic **polity**

A local council governs the **polity** of the small town.

writ

n. a written legal order or command

synonym: legal document, order, legal process

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

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

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym: smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

transcend

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

synonym: surpass, exceed, overcome

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

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

correlate

v. to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another

synonym: associate, liken, connect

(1) **correlate** closely with the quality, (2) **correlate** to the size

We may frequently **correlate** age with the frequency of disease.

testament

n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

synonym: proof, testimony, testimonial

(1) give properties by **testament**, (2) **testament** to the superior quality

His wealth is a **testament** to his success.

amaze

v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

synonym: astound, surprise, stagger

(1) **amaze** and entertain visitors, (2) **amaze** everyone

The magician's tricks **amazed** the audience.

subhuman

adj. less than human in nature, quality, or dignity; regarded as inferior to or unworthy of being fully human

synonym: inferior, substandard, primitive

(1) **subhuman** conditions, (2) **subhuman** species

The **subhuman** treatment of prisoners at the detention center was shocking and inhumane.

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.

horrendous

adj. causing horror, shock, or a feeling of extreme disgust; extremely unpleasant or terrifying

synonym: dreadful, terrible, horrifying

(1) **horrendous** traffic, (2) a **horrendous** crime

The **horrendous** storm caused massive flooding in the town and destroyed many houses.

posit

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

synonym: assert, declare, assume

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

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

bigotry

n. intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself

synonym: intolerance, prejudice, bias

(1) ethnic **bigotry**, (2) self-righteous **bigotry**

Bigotry and discrimination have no place in our society.

verge

n. the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border

synonym: brink, edge, margin

(1) **verge** of bankruptcy, (2) on the **verge** of tears

He stood on the **verge** of a major discovery.

resentful

adj. feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly

synonym: bitter, indignant, angry

(1) **resentful** attitude, (2) grow bitter and **resentful**

She was **resentful** of her ex-partner's new relationship, feeling that he had unfairly replaced her.

downside

n. the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure

synonym: drawback, negative, disadvantage

(1) major **downside**, (2) **downside** of globalization

The **downside** of the new policy was that it would be more expensive for customers.

munition

n. weapons and ammunition used by soldiers or military forces; the tools, materials, or equipment used in the preparation or use of weapons and ammunition

synonym: armament, weaponry, ordnance

(1) **munitions** factory, (2) military **munitions**

The soldiers had stored their **munitions** in a secure bunker.

nanoscale

adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

(1) **nanoscale** device, (2) things at the **nanoscale**

This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the **nanoscale** lattice structure of the metal.

slippery

adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted

synonym : smooth, glistening, furtive

(1) a **slippery** customer, (2) **slippery** ice

How extraordinarily **slippery** a liar the camera is.

overreact

v. to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate

synonym : overplay, exaggerate, overstate

(1) **overreact** with anger, (2) **overreact** to the criticism

She **overreacted** to the situation and caused unnecessary stress.

retaliation

n. the act of seeking vengeance or revenge in response to a perceived wrong or harm suffered, usually to cause harm to the person or group responsible for the initial act

synonym : retribution, revenge, vengeance

(1) **retaliation** tactics, (2) **retaliation** against discrimination

The company faced heavy **retaliation** from its competitors after releasing a controversial product.

retaliate

v. to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person

synonym : get back, strike back, revenge

(1) **retaliate** for the blow, (2) **retaliate** in a like fashion

After the other team scored, we **retaliated** by playing even harder and scoring two quick goals.

vibe

n. an atmosphere or feeling that is conveyed through a place, situation, or group of people; characteristic

energy or mood

synonym: atmosphere, aura, feeling

(1) party **vibe**, (2) chill **vibe**

The music festival had a great **vibe**, with everyone enjoying the performances and having a good time.

spook

v. to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost

synonym: frighten, scare, discomfort

(1) **spook** the fish, (2) **spook** the children

The bankruptcy of that company **spooked** markets.

sermon

n. a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service

synonym: homily, discourse, lecture

(1) lengthy **sermon**, (2) a lay **sermon**

The preacher delivered a powerful **sermon** on the importance of forgiveness.

cynicism

n. a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest

synonym: distrust, skepticism, pessimism

(1) **cynicism** towards politics, (2) intellectual **cynicism**

His constant **cynicism** made it difficult for him to connect with others.

conduce

v. to contribute or lead to a particular outcome or result; to have a positive effect in bringing about a desired result

synonym: contribute, lead, result in

(1) **conduce** to success, (2) **conduce** to a positive outcome

Regular exercise and a balanced diet **conduce** to a healthy lifestyle.

rubric

n. a set of established guidelines or instructions, particularly for academic or assessment purposes; a title or heading that indicates the nature or purpose of a particular section of a text

synonym : heading, title, category

(1) **rubric** template, (2) assessment **rubric**

My teacher provided a detailed **rubric** for our group project.

cheerful

adj. happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism

synonym : happy, joyful, lively

(1) **cheerful** smile, (2) a **cheerful** disposition

Her **cheerful** personality brightened up the room.

doe

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

synonym : rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

redeem

v. to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation

synonym : rescue, save, recover

(1) **redeem** a coupon, (2) **redeem** a government bond

He tried to **redeem** himself by volunteering at the local charity after his mistakes.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym : coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

denounce

v. to speak out against; to strongly criticize something or someone

synonym: condemn, disapprove, criticize

(1) **denounce** a statement, (2) **denounce** a heresy

He **denounced** the actions of the corrupt official.

allegation

n. an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law

synonym: claim, assertion, declaration

(1) baseless **allegations**, (2) **allegation** of corruption

The **allegation** of fraud against the politician damaged his reputation.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

comprehend

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

synonym: understand, grasp, apprehend

(1) **comprehend** English, (2) **comprehend** instructions

She struggled to **comprehend** complex math problems.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym: Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

savior

n. a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth

synonym: hero, rescuer, redeemer

(1) political **savior**, (2) pray to the **savior**

The guru of that religion thought of himself as a **savior**.

Session 2: Spelling

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|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. co____e to a positive outcome | v. to contribute or lead to a particular outcome or result; to have a positive effect in bringing about a desired result |
| 2. av__n habitat | <i>adj.</i> relating to or characteristic of birds |
| 3. re___m a government bond | v. to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation |
| 4. am__e and entertain visitors | v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration |
| 5. co_____e to success | v. to contribute or lead to a particular outcome or result; to have a positive effect in bringing about a desired result |
| 6. a sl_____ry customer | <i>adj.</i> difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted |
| 7. political sa____r | <i>n.</i> a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth |
| 8. assessment ru____c | <i>n.</i> a set of established guidelines or instructions, particularly for academic or assessment purposes; a title or heading that indicates the nature or purpose of a particular section of a text |

ANSWERS: 1. conduce, 2. avian, 3. redeem, 4. amaze, 5. conduce, 6. slippery, 7. savior, 8. rubric

9. su____an conditions *adj.* less than human in nature, quality, or dignity; regarded as inferior to or unworthy of being fully human
10. the wo_____ew of the ancient civilization *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
11. teaching of Ch____t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
12. have apo_____ic overtones *adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
13. things at the na_____le *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
14. b__r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
15. naval ar_____nt *n.* weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense
16. cou_____ure plan *n.* an action taken to counter or offset another action
17. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

ANSWERS: 9. subhuman, 10. worldview, 11. Christ, 12. apocalyptic, 13. nanoscale, 14. blur, 15. armament, 16. countermeasure, 17. doe

18. before Ch___t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
19. intellectual cy_____sm *n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
20. am___e everyone *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
21. chill v___e *n.* an atmosphere or feeling that is conveyed through a place, situation, or group of people; characteristic energy or mood
22. civic po___y *n.* a form or system of government or administration; a political organization or entity
23. en___e in glass *v.* to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer
24. r___t control gas *n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
25. career tra_____ry *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
26. co_____te to the size *v.* to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another

ANSWERS: 18. Christ, 19. cynicism, 20. amaze, 21. vibe, 22. polity, 23. encase, 24. riot, 25. trajectory, 26. correlate

27. el___t a solution *v.* to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty
28. chop wood with an ax *n.* a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
29. 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
30. un___d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
31. re_____ul attitude *adj.* feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly
32. on the ve__e of tears *n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
33. el___t a confession *v.* to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty
34. up___t my spirit *n.* the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits
35. self-righteous bi_____y *n.* intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself

ANSWERS: 27. elicit, 28. ax, 29. remnant, 30. unfold, 31. resentful, 32. verge, 33. elicit, 34. uplift, 35. bigotry

36. po__t the existence of life after death
v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
37. military mu_____ons
n. weapons and ammunition used by soldiers or military forces; the tools, materials, or equipment used in the preparation or use of weapons and ammunition
38. up___t attitude
adj. positive, optimistic, or enthusiastic in attitude or outlook; having a lively or energetic rhythm or tempo, especially in music
39. su_____an species
adj. less than human in nature, quality, or dignity; regarded as inferior to or unworthy of being fully human
40. a lay se___n
n. a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service
41. mul_____lar tissues
adj. characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)
42. po__t the premise
v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
43. full of em_____y
n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
44. up___t mountains
n. the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits

ANSWERS: 36. posit, 37. munition, 38. upbeat, 39. subhuman, 40. sermon, 41. multicellular, 42. posit, 43. empathy, 44. uplift

45. r__t police *n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
46. av__n influenza *adj.* relating to or characteristic of birds
47. ret_____on against discrimination *n.* the act of seeking vengeance or revenge in response to a perceived wrong or harm suffered, usually to cause harm to the person or group responsible for the initial act
48. major do_____de *n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
49. party v__e *n.* an atmosphere or feeling that is conveyed through a place, situation, or group of people; characteristic energy or mood
50. apo_____ic event *adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
51. all_____on of corruption *n.* an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law
52. give properties by te_____nt *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
53. na_____le device *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

ANSWERS: 45. riot, 46. avian, 47. retaliation, 48. downside, 49. vibe, 50. apocalyptic, 51. allegation, 52. testament, 53. nanoscale

54. mainstream wo_____ew *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
55. religious m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
56. ethnic bi_____y *n.* intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself
57. tr_____nd boundaries *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
58. serial qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
59. cy_____sm towards politics *n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
60. baseless all_____ons *n.* an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law
61. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

ANSWERS: 54. worldview, 55. meme, 56. bigotry, 57. transcend, 58. quitter, 59. cynicism, 60. allegation, 61. doe

62. em____y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
63. ve__e of bankruptcy *n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
64. re_____te for the blow *v.* to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person
65. a hor_____us crime *adj.* causing horror, shock, or a feeling of extreme disgust; extremely unpleasant or terrifying
66. grow bitter and re_____ul *adj.* feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly
67. mu_____ons factory *n.* weapons and ammunition used by soldiers or military forces; the tools, materials, or equipment used in the preparation or use of weapons and ammunition
68. hor_____us traffic *adj.* causing horror, shock, or a feeling of extreme disgust; extremely unpleasant or terrifying
69. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
70. remain up____t about the future *adj.* positive, optimistic, or enthusiastic in attitude or outlook; having a lively or energetic rhythm or tempo, especially in music

ANSWERS: 62. empathy, 63. verge, 64. retaliate, 65. horrendous, 66. resentful, 67. munition, 68. horrendous, 69. quitter, 70. upbeat

71. mul_____lar life *adj.* characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)
72. an el_____e criminal *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
73. a w__t of summons *n.* a written legal order or command
74. ch_____ul smile *adj.* happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism
75. ar_____nt race *n.* weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense
76. pr_____e A.D. 200. *v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something
77. the cr_____or's claims *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
78. ret_____on tactics *n.* the act of seeking vengeance or revenge in response to a perceived wrong or harm suffered, usually to cause harm to the person or group responsible for the initial act
79. com_____nd instructions *v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
80. ov_____ct to the criticism *v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate
81. re___m a coupon *v.* to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation

ANSWERS: 71. multicellular, 72. elusive, 73. writ, 74. cheerful, 75. armament, 76. predate, 77. creditor, 78. retaliation, 79. comprehend, 80. overreact, 81. redeem

82. sl_____ry ice *adj.* difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted
83. a ch_____ul disposition *adj.* happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism
84. com_____nd English *v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
85. de_____ce a statement *v.* to speak out against; to strongly criticize something or someone
86. pr_____e the modern age *v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something
87. co_____te closely with the quality *v.* to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another
88. a tra_____ry missile *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
89. pray to the sa____r *n.* a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth
90. en____e his feet *v.* to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer
91. bankrupt cr_____or *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
92. lengthy se____n *n.* a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service

ANSWERS: 82. slippery, 83. cheerful, 84. comprehend, 85. denounce, 86. predate, 87. correlate, 88. trajectory, 89. savior, 90. encase, 91. creditor, 92. sermon

93. te_____nt to the superior quality *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
94. de_____ce a heresy *v.* to speak out against; to strongly criticize something or someone
95. track down an el_____e fact *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
96. do_____de of globalization *n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
97. sp__k the fish *v.* to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost
98. sp__k the children *v.* to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost
99. on the br__k *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
100. un_____d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
101. an ax in the toolbox *n.* a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
102. ov_____ct with anger *v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate
103. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

ANSWERS: 93. testament, 94. denounce, 95. elusive, 96. downside, 97. spook, 98. spook, 99. brink, 100. unfold, 101. ax, 102. overreact, 103. blur

104. ru___c template *n.* a set of established guidelines or instructions, particularly for academic or assessment purposes; a title or heading that indicates the nature or purpose of a particular section of a text
105. tr_____nd limits *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
106. pronounce m___e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
107. cou_____ure strategy *n.* an action taken to counter or offset another action
108. re_____te in a like fashion *v.* to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person
109. national po___y *n.* a form or system of government or administration; a political organization or entity
110. 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
111. br___k of war *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

ANSWERS: 104. rubric, 105. transcend, 106. meme, 107. countermeasure, 108. retaliate, 109. polity, 110. remnant, 111. brink

112. issue a w__t

n. a written legal order or command

ANSWERS: 112. writ

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Hunters use a whistle that makes the ____ sound to lure stags.
n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
2. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
3. The company has shown an excellent growth _____ over the years.
n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space
4. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a ____ of colors and shapes.
n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
5. Have you _____ a response from them yet?
v. to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty
6. We may frequently _____ age with the frequency of disease.
v. to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another
7. His wealth is a _____ to his success.
n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
8. The music _____ cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.
v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

ANSWERS: 1. doe, 2. Empathy, 3. trajectory, 4. blur, 5. elicited, 6. correlate, 7. testament, 8. transcended

9. The _____ in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.
- n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
10. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.
- n.* a written legal order or command
11. My teacher provided a detailed _____ for our group project.
- n.* a set of established guidelines or instructions, particularly for academic or assessment purposes; a title or heading that indicates the nature or purpose of a particular section of a text
12. She was _____ of her ex-partner's new relationship, feeling that he had unfairly replaced her.
- adj.* feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly
13. After the other team scored, we _____ by playing even harder and scoring two quick goals.
- v.* to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person
14. I asked the lawyer to initiate _____ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.
- n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
15. A local council governs the _____ of the small town.
- n.* a form or system of government or administration; a political organization or entity

ANSWERS: 9. riots, 10. writ, 11. rubric, 12. resentful, 13. retaliated, 14. creditor, 15. polity

16. The bankruptcy of that company _____ markets.
- v.* to frighten or scare, and often provoke into violent action; (noun) someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric; ghost
17. The _____ of the new policy was that it would be more expensive for customers.
- n.* the negative aspects or consequences of something; the potential for loss or failure
18. He tried to _____ himself by volunteering at the local charity after his mistakes.
- v.* to compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something; to regain possession or assume ownership of something by paying a sum of money or fulfilling a condition; to rescue or save someone from a difficult or hopeless situation
19. The _____ music helped to lift her spirits and put her in a good mood.
- adj.* positive, optimistic, or enthusiastic in attitude or outlook; having a lively or energetic rhythm or tempo, especially in music
20. The _____ landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.
- adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
21. The _____ in the stock market has been a relief to investors.
- n.* the process of raising land to a higher elevation, or the result of this process; (verb) fill with high spirits
22. His constant _____ made it difficult for him to connect with others.
- n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest

ANSWERS: 16. spooked, 17. downside, 18. redeem, 19. upbeat, 20. apocalyptic, 21. uplift, 22. cynicism

23. The magician's tricks _____ the audience.
v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
24. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
25. 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
26. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
27. They _____ the fragile vase in bubble wrap to protect it during shipping.
v. to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer
28. He used an ___ to chop the firewood for the campfire.
n. a tool with a metal blade that is usually attached to a wooden handle and is used for chopping wood or other materials
29. Regular exercise and a balanced diet _____ to a healthy lifestyle.
v. to contribute or lead to a particular outcome or result; to have a positive effect in bringing about a desired result
30. The expert on _____ species studied the behavior of different types of birds.
adj. relating to or characteristic of birds

ANSWERS: 23. amazed, 24. unfolded, 25. remnant, 26. quitter, 27. encased, 28. ax, 29. conduce, 30. avian

31. The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing _____.
- n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
32. The physicist who found the _____ particle won the Nobel Prize.
- adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
33. The idea of virtual worlds _____ computers.
- v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something
34. This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the _____ lattice structure of the metal.
- adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
35. The preacher delivered a powerful _____ on the importance of forgiveness.
- n.* a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service
36. The _____ of fraud against the politician damaged his reputation.
- n.* an assertion or claim that is made without proof or evidence; a statement that someone has done something wrong or illegal but which has not been proven in a court of law
37. He stood on the _____ of a major discovery.
- n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
38. The soldiers had stored their _____ in a secure bunker.
- n.* weapons and ammunition used by soldiers or military forces; the tools, materials, or equipment used in the preparation or use of weapons and ammunition

ANSWERS: 31. worldviews, 32. elusive, 33. predates, 34. nanoscale, 35. sermon, 36. allegation, 37. verge, 38. munitions

39. The _____ storm caused massive flooding in the town and destroyed many houses.
adj. causing horror, shock, or a feeling of extreme disgust; extremely unpleasant or terrifying
40. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.
v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
41. The guru of that religion thought of himself as a _____.
n. a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth
42. The government is poised to increase its _____ budget for the coming fiscal year.
n. weapons and other military equipment that a country or organization possesses or maintains for defense or offense
43. He _____ the actions of the corrupt official.
v. to speak out against; to strongly criticize something or someone
44. _____ organisms are composed of many specialized cells working together.
adj. characterized by the presence of multiple or many cells, as opposed to unicellular (having only one cell)
45. This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet _____.
n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

ANSWERS: 39. horrendous, 40. posit, 41. savior, 42. armament, 43. denounced, 44. Multicellular, 45. meme

46. We were on the _____ of a financial crisis.

n. the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

47. How extraordinarily _____ a liar the camera is.

adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted

48. She struggled to _____ complex math problems.

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

49. The government implemented several _____ to combat the spread of the virus.

n. an action taken to counter or offset another action

50. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

51. She _____ to the situation and caused unnecessary stress.

v. to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate

52. The company faced heavy _____ from its competitors after releasing a controversial product.

n. the act of seeking vengeance or revenge in response to a perceived wrong or harm suffered, usually to cause harm to the person or group responsible for the initial act

53. _____ and discrimination have no place in our society.

n. intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself

ANSWERS: 46. brink, 47. slippery, 48. comprehend, 49. countermeasures, 50. Christmas, 51. overreacted, 52. retaliation, 53. Bigotry

54. Her _____ personality brightened up the room.

adj. happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism

55. The music festival had a great _____ with everyone enjoying the performances and having a good time.

n. an atmosphere or feeling that is conveyed through a place, situation, or group of people; characteristic energy or mood

56. The _____ treatment of prisoners at the detention center was shocking and inhumane.

adj. less than human in nature, quality, or dignity; regarded as inferior to or unworthy of being fully human

ANSWERS: 54. cheerful, 55. vibe, 56. subhuman