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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Nathan Myhrvold: Archaeology, animal photography, BBQ ... | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

pollack

n. (also "pollock") a variety of freshwater fish related to the cod, or a member of a North Atlantic family of marine fish, typically greenish-gray in color

(1) **pollack** fillet, (2) Alaska **pollack**

The restaurant serves a delicious **pollack** stew.

penguin

n. a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait

(1) Adelie **penguin**, (2) **penguin** habitat

We took a boat tour to witness the magnificent **penguin** colony along the rugged coastline.

synecdoche

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

synonym: metonymy, figure of speech, part for whole

(1) **synecdoche** example, (2) literary **synecdoche**

The character's name became a **synecdoche** for all lawyers in the movie.

skeptical

adj. doubting that something is accurate or useful

synonym: doubtful, distrustful, suspicious

(1) a **skeptical** attitude, (2) **skeptical** scientists
His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly **skeptical**.

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.

defecate

v. to excrete waste material from the body through the anus; to pass feces

synonym : excrete

(1) cause an impulse to **defecate**, (2) **defecate** out in the open

It is important to clean up after your pet when they **defecate** in public areas.

rectum

n. the final segment of the large intestine, responsible for storing and expelling fecal matter from the body

synonym : anal canal, proctum

(1) **rectum** cancer, (2) inflammation of the **rectum**

Hemorrhoids can cause discomfort and bleeding in the **rectum**.

cloaca

n. a common cavity that serves as the only opening for the digestive, reproductive, and urinary tracts in some animals, including birds, reptiles, and amphibians

synonym : sewer, cesspool, drain

(1) **cloaca** anatomy, (2) **cloaca** opening

The **cloaca** in birds is a multi-purpose opening that serves as the entrance and exit for the reproductive, digestive, and urinary systems.

nerd

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

synonym : geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck
He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

soprano

n. the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet

synonym: treble

(1) **soprano** singer, (2) dramatic **soprano**

The **soprano's** voice was so beautiful that it brought the audience to tears.

bulletproof

adj. intended to resist bullet penetration

synonym: unassailable, impregnable

(1) **bulletproof** armor, (2) **bulletproof** vehicle

Because of the **bulletproof** vest he was wearing, the officer could escape injury.

protector

n. a person or thing that provides protection, support, or defense; a guardian or defender

synonym: guardian, defender, custodian

(1) environmental **protector**, (2) wildlife **protector**

The bodyguard acted as a **protector** for the celebrity.

archaeology

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

(1) the institute of **archaeology**, (2) prehistoric **archaeology**

She teaches **archaeology** at the local university.

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.

moai

n. a large stone statue found on Easter Island, typically depicting a human figure with a large head and

prominent facial features

synonym : Easter Island statue, monolithic statue

(1) monolithic **moai**, (2) **moai** culture

Tourists flock to Easter Island to see the mysterious **moai** statues.

brow

n. the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead

synonym : forehead, hilltop, eyebrow

(1) the **brow** of a hill, (2) furrowed **brow**

She wiped the sweat from her **brow** after finishing the marathon.

foreground

n. the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer

(1) **foreground** segmentation, (2) **foreground** galaxy

A happy group of friends occupies the **foreground** of the picture.

excavate

v. to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something

synonym : dig, unearth, extract

(1) **excavate** a deep hole, (2) **excavate** soil

The archaeologists **excavated** the ruins of an ancient city buried under the desert sands.

embark

v. to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something

synonym : enter, undertake, commence

(1) **embark** on a trip, (2) **embark** on a foolish adventure

We **embarked** on a new project.

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.

comet

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

synonym: meteor, asteroid, meteoroid

(1) the surface of the **comet**, (2) **comet** Halley

The **comet's** bright tail could be seen in the night sky.

gratuitous

adj. given or done without charge or payment

synonym: unwarranted, unjustified, unmerited

(1) render **gratuitous** service, (2) **gratuitous** insult

The **gratuitous** violence in the movie was unnecessary and disturbing.

cloak

n. a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise

synonym: cape, mantle, shroud

(1) **cloak** room, (2) hooded **cloak**

The magician seemed to disappear when he threw his **cloak** over himself.

squish

v. to crush or press something so that it becomes flat or distorted

synonym: crush, smash, squeeze

(1) **squish** the ellipse, (2) **squish** a tomato

He **squished** the insect between his fingers to get rid of it.

biomedical

adj. relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare

synonym: medical, clinical, health-related

(1) **biomedical** assay, (2) cutting-edge **biomedical**

Biomedical engineering focuses on developing new medical technologies and innovations to improve patient health outcomes.

barbecue

n. a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food

synonym: grill, cookout, outdoor cooking

(1) **barbecue** sauce, (2) **barbecue** grill

The **barbecue** at the park was a hit with all the families who attended.

chili

n. a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers

synonym: capsicum, pepper

(1) **chili** sauce, (2) red **chili** powder

I love making a big pot of **chili** on a cold winter day.

bouillabaisse

n. a traditional French fish stew originating from the coastal region of Marseille, typically includes various types of fish, shellfish, vegetables, herbs, and spices

synonym: fish stew, seafood soup, fisherman's stew

(1) homemade **bouillabaisse**, (2) seafood **bouillabaisse**

The restaurant is known for its mouthwatering **bouillabaisse** soup.

secrecy

n. the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others

synonym: confidentiality, clandestineness, closeness

(1) government **secrecy**, (2) maintain **secrecy**

The company's **secrecy** surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.

knob

n. a round handle, especially one used for opening or closing a door, drawer, or cabinet

synonym: handle, lever

(1) handy **knob**, (2) **knob** closure

The **knob** on the drawer was loose and needed to be tightened.

rib

n. each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

synonym : costa

(1) brake a **rib**, (2) **rib** cage

The accident caused a cracked **rib**.

centrifuge

n. a machine that uses centrifugal force (= a type of inertial force that appears to act on an object moving in a circular path and is directed away from the center) to separate substances of different densities, especially to separate liquids from solids

synonym : separator, extractor, spinner

(1) **centrifuge** tube, (2) ultra-high-speed **centrifuges**

The laboratory technician placed the blood samples in the **centrifuge** to separate the different components.

ghoulish

adj. gruesome or lacking in sympathy or decency; related to or characteristic of a ghost or a monster, especially in being frightening, cruel, or having a creepy appearance

synonym : creepy, eerie, sinister

(1) **ghoulish** behavior, (2) **ghoulish** sense of humor

The horror movie was criticized for its **ghoulish** and graphic depictions of violence.

calibrate

v. to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

synonym : adjust, fine-tune

(1) **calibrate** machinery, (2) **calibrate** measurements

It's important to **calibrate** the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.

extraterrestrial

adj. relating to or existing outside of the Earth's atmosphere or planetary boundaries; pertaining to beings or phenomena that originate from beyond the Earth

synonym : alien, outer, otherworldly

(1) **extraterrestrial** planet, (2) **extraterrestrial** intelligence
Scientists are constantly searching for signs of **extraterrestrial** life in the universe.

popularize

v. to make something more widely known, accepted, or adopted by the general public; to present or promote something in a way that increases its popularity or appeal

synonym : generalize, promote, spread

(1) **popularize** a new fashion trend, (2) **popularize** a scientific concept

The celebrity's endorsement helped **popularize** the new clothing line.

dedicate

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

synonym : consecrate, devote, commit

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

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

heroism

n. great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause

synonym : bravery, valor, courage

(1) acts of **heroism**, (2) military **heroism**

The firefighter showed true **heroism** when he rescued the family from the burning building.

aft

adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned

synonym: later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

creepy

adj. causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease

synonym: eerie, unsettling, spooky

(1) feel **creepy**, (2) **creepy** atmosphere

The old, abandoned house was **creepy** and gave me the chills.

pager

n. a small electronic device used for sending and receiving short text messages, often used in hospitals or other professional settings

synonym: beeper, pager device

(1) **pager** beep, (2) wireless **pager** service

The company provides all employees with a digital **pager** for emergency purposes.

dinosaur

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

synonym: reptile, beast, monster

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

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

paleontology

n. the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth

synonym: fossilology, prehistoric biology

(1) vertebrate **paleontology**, (2) **paleontology** museum

My interest in **paleontology** research began when I visited a natural history museum and saw a display of fossils from the Jurassic period.

bentonite

n. a clay-rich mineral consisting mostly of montmorillonite, formed from volcanic ash and used in various industries for its absorbent and swelling properties, commonly used in drilling fluids, wastewater treatment, and as a binder in foundry molds

synonym: binder, clay, absorbent

(1) **bentonite** clay, (2) **bentonite** binder

The **bentonite** layer in the landfill helps prevent toxic leakage into the groundwater.

swell

v. to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important

synonym: expand, increase, inflate

(1) **swell** at room temperature, (2) **swell** a population

His arm was **swelling** from the insect bite.

poke

v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

synonym: prod, jab, push

(1) **poke** around the desk, (2) **poke** a fire

They **poked** fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

serrated

adj. having a saw-toothed or notched edge; of or relating to leaves, knives, or other objects with jagged edges

synonym: jagged, toothed, notched

(1) **serrated** leaves, (2) **serrated** knife

The saw had a **serrated** edge that allowed it to cut through the thick branches with ease.

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.

reconstruct

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

synonym : rebuild, revamp, reorganize

(1) **reconstruct** an image, (2) **reconstruct** the original text
They've decided to **reconstruct** a ruined castle.

asteroid

n. (also "planetoid") a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

synonym : minor planet, planetoid, rocky planetesimal

(1) **asteroid** mining, (2) **asteroid** explorer

Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the **asteroid** belt to understand the early solar system better.

scientifically

adv. in a way that relates to science or is connected with science

(1) investigate **scientifically**, (2) **scientifically** explainable

The hypothesis is not yet **scientifically** proven.

theropod

n. a type of carnivorous dinosaur that existed during the Mesozoic Era and is characterized by having three-toed limbs, a stiff tail, and sharp teeth, such as the Tyrannosaurus and Velociraptor

synonym : dinosaur, predator, carnivore

(1) **theropod** fossils, (2) **theropod** teeth

The **theropod** dinosaur was one of the fiercest predators of the prehistoric era.

orca

n. a species of large marine mammal, also known as the killer whale, found in Arctic and temperate waters worldwide, known for their intelligence, social behavior, and hunting prowess

synonym : killer whale, sea wolf

(1) **orca** habitat, (2) a huge pod of **orcas**

The **orca** whale is also known as the killer whale.

penthouse

n. a luxurious apartment or living space situated on the highest floor or roof of a building, often with additional amenities or features such as a balcony, terrace, or panoramic view; the top floor or floors of a building

synonym :

apartment, suite, flat

(1) **penthouse** apartment, (2) **penthouse** terrace

The **penthouse** in the city center offers stunning views of the skyline.

mammal

n. any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body

(1) a primitive **mammal**, (2) a sort of **mammal**

Marine **mammal** populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.

disparate

adj. very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way

synonym: different, distinct, separate

(1) **disparate** impact, (2) physically **disparate** location

The organization worked to bring together **disparate** groups in the community.

buckle

v. to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat;
(noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap

synonym: bend, crumple, contort

(1) **buckle** down to study, (2) **buckle** shoe

The severe heat wave **buckled** railway tracks.

engross

v. to entirely occupy or absorb one's attention or interest; to involve or entangle deeply

synonym: absorb, captivate, immerse

(1) **engross** in phone conversations, (2) **engross** the market

The captivating novel **engrossed** me for hours on end.

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.

denominator

n. the number below the line in a fraction

(1) common **denominator**, (2) different **denominators**

The first step is to rationalize the **denominator** of a fraction.

Session 2: Spelling

1. en____s in phone conversations *v.* to entirely occupy or absorb one's attention or interest; to involve or entangle deeply
2. sq____h the ellipse *v.* to crush or press something so that it becomes flat or distorted
3. sci_____lly explainable *adv.* in a way that relates to science or is connected with science
4. feel cr____y *adj.* causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease
5. ch__i sauce *n.* a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers
6. ba____ue grill *n.* a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food
7. as____id explorer *n.* (also "planetoid") a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
8. pe____n habitat *n.* a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait
9. hulking di____ur *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin

ANSWERS: 1. engross, 2. squish, 3. scientifically, 4. creepy, 5. chili, 6. barbecue, 7. asteroid, 8. penguin, 9. dinosaur

10. p__e around the desk *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
11. bu___e down to study *v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap
12. homemade bou_____sse *n.* a traditional French fish stew originating from the coastal region of Marseille, typically includes various types of fish, shellfish, vegetables, herbs, and spices
13. pal_____ogy museum *n.* the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
14. sk_____al scientists *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful
15. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
16. gh_____sh sense of humor *adj.* gruesome or lacking in sympathy or decency; related to or characteristic of a ghost or a monster, especially in being frightening, cruel, or having a creepy appearance
17. for_____nd segmentation *n.* the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer
18. Adelie pe_____n *n.* a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait
19. k__b closure *n.* a round handle, especially one used for opening or closing a door, drawer, or cabinet

ANSWERS: 10. poke, 11. buckle, 12. bouillabaisse, 13. paleontology, 14. skeptical, 15. industrious, 16. ghoulish, 17. foreground, 18. penguin, 19. knob

20. be_____te clay *n.* a clay-rich mineral consisting mostly of montmorillonite, formed from volcanic ash and used in various industries for its absorbent and swelling properties, commonly used in drilling fluids, wastewater treatment, and as a binder in foundry molds
21. rec_____ct the original text *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
22. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
23. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
24. bio_____al assay *adj.* relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare
25. a sort of ma____l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
26. cl__k room *n.* a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise
27. a huge pod of o__as *n.* a species of large marine mammal, also known as the killer whale, found in Arctic and temperate waters worldwide, known for their intelligence, social behavior, and hunting prowess

ANSWERS: 20. bentonite, 21. reconstruct, 22. opportune, 23. dedicate, 24. biomedical, 25. mammal, 26. cloak, 27. orca

28. a sk_____al attitude *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful
29. a_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
30. the institute of arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
31. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
32. handy k__b *n.* a round handle, especially one used for opening or closing a door, drawer, or cabinet
33. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
34. physically di_____te location *adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
35. military he_____m *n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause
36. gh_____sh behavior *adj.* gruesome or lacking in sympathy or decency; related to or characteristic of a ghost or a monster, especially in being frightening, cruel, or having a creepy appearance

ANSWERS: 28. skeptical, 29. aft, 30. archaeology, 31. nerd, 32. knob, 33. nerd, 34. disparate, 35. heroism, 36. ghoulish

37. ex____te soil *v.* to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something
38. monolithic m__i *n.* a large stone statue found on Easter Island, typically depicting a human figure with a large head and prominent facial features
39. pa__r beep *n.* a small electronic device used for sending and receiving short text messages, often used in hospitals or other professional settings
40. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
41. th_____od teeth *n.* a type of carnivorous dinosaur that existed during the Mesozoic Era and is characterized by having three-toed limbs, a stiff tail, and sharp teeth, such as the Tyrannosaurus and Velociraptor
42. ext_____ial planet *adj.* relating to or existing outside of the Earth's atmosphere or planetary boundaries; pertaining to beings or phenomena that originate from beyond the Earth
43. ext_____ial intelligence *adj.* relating to or existing outside of the Earth's atmosphere or planetary boundaries; pertaining to beings or phenomena that originate from beyond the Earth
44. pe_____se apartment *n.* a luxurious apartment or living space situated on the highest floor or roof of a building, often with additional amenities or features such as a balcony, terrace, or panoramic view; the top floor or floors of a building

ANSWERS: 37. excavate, 38. moai, 39. pager, 40. intellect, 41. theropod, 42. extraterrestrial, 43. extraterrestrial, 44. penthouse

45. de____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
46. bu____e shoe *v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap
47. the surface of the co__t *n.* a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun
48. wireless pa__r service *n.* a small electronic device used for sending and receiving short text messages, often used in hospitals or other professional settings
49. hooded cl__k *n.* a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise
50. investigate sci_____lly *adv.* in a way that relates to science or is connected with science
51. prehistoric arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
52. Alaska po____k *n.* (also "pollock") a variety of freshwater fish related to the cod, or a member of a North Atlantic family of marine fish, typically greenish-gray in color
53. pe____se terrace *n.* a luxurious apartment or living space situated on the highest floor or roof of a building, often with additional amenities or features such as a balcony, terrace, or panoramic view; the top floor or floors of a building

ANSWERS: 45. dedicate, 46. buckle, 47. comet, 48. pager, 49. cloak, 50. scientifically, 51. archaeology, 52. pollack, 53. penthouse

54. brake a r_b *n.* each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule
55. av__n influenza *adj.* relating to or characteristic of birds
56. furrowed b__w *n.* the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead
57. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
58. ultra-high-speed cen_____ges *n.* a machine that uses centrifugal force (= a type of inertial force that appears to act on an object moving in a circular path and is directed away from the center) to separate substances of different densities, especially to separate liquids from solids
59. syn_____he example *n.* a figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole or vice versa; using a specific word or phrase to refer to a larger concept or group
60. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
61. r_b cage *n.* each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule
62. so_____o singer *n.* the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet

ANSWERS: 54. rib, 55. avian, 56. brow, 57. afterward, 58. centrifuge, 59. synecdoche, 60. aft, 61. rib, 62. soprano

63. as____id mining *n.* (also "planetoid") a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
64. sw__l at room temperature *v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important
65. ca_____te machinery *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
66. ex_____te a deep hole *v.* to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something
67. vertebrate pal_____ogy *n.* the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
68. a primitive ma____l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
69. di_____ur fossil *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
70. sq____h a tomato *v.* to crush or press something so that it becomes flat or distorted
71. acts of he_____m *n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause
72. ba_____ue sauce *n.* a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food

ANSWERS: 63. asteroid, 64. swell, 65. calibrate, 66. excavate, 67. paleontology, 68. mammal, 69. dinosaur, 70. squish, 71. heroism, 72. barbecue

73. for_____nd galaxy *n.* the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer
74. em___k on a foolish adventure *v.* to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
75. co__t Halley *n.* a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun
76. different den_____ors *n.* the number below the line in a fraction
77. maintain se_____y *n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others
78. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
79. se_____ed leaves *adj.* having a saw-toothed or notched edge; of or relating to leaves, knives, or other objects with jagged edges
80. en_____s the market *v.* to entirely occupy or absorb one's attention or interest; to involve or entangle deeply
81. literary syn_____he *n.* a figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole or vice versa; using a specific word or phrase to refer to a larger concept or group
82. p__e a fire *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
83. cl___a anatomy *n.* a common cavity that serves as the only opening for the digestive, reproductive, and urinary tracts in some animals, including birds, reptiles, and amphibians

ANSWERS: 73. foreground, 74. embark, 75. comet, 76. denominator, 77. secrecy, 78. opportune, 79. serrated, 80. engross, 81. synecdoche, 82. poke, 83. cloaca

84. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
85. bul_____of vehicle *adj.* intended to resist bullet penetration
86. po__t the existence of life after death *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
87. dramatic so_____o *n.* the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet
88. cause an impulse to de_____te *v.* to excrete waste material from the body through the anus; to pass feces
89. th_____od fossils *n.* a type of carnivorous dinosaur that existed during the Mesozoic Era and is characterized by having three-toed limbs, a stiff tail, and sharp teeth, such as the Tyrannosaurus and Velociraptor
90. m__i culture *n.* a large stone statue found on Easter Island, typically depicting a human figure with a large head and prominent facial features
91. red ch__i powder *n.* a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers
92. render gra_____us service *adj.* given or done without charge or payment

ANSWERS: 84. industrious, 85. bulletproof, 86. posit, 87. soprano, 88. defecate, 89. theropod, 90. moai, 91. chili, 92. gratuitous

93. gra_____us insult *adj.* given or done without charge or payment
94. cutting-edge bio_____al *adj.* relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare
95. ca_____te measurements *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
96. bul_____of armor *adj.* intended to resist bullet penetration
97. pop_____ze a new fashion trend *v.* to make something more widely known, accepted, or adopted by the general public; to present or promote something in a way that increases its popularity or appeal
98. rec_____ct an image *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
99. sw__l a population *v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important
100. be_____te binder *n.* a clay-rich mineral consisting mostly of montmorillonite, formed from volcanic ash and used in various industries for its absorbent and swelling properties, commonly used in drilling fluids, wastewater treatment, and as a binder in foundry molds
101. po__t the premise *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

ANSWERS: 93. gratuitous, 94. biomedical, 95. calibrate, 96. bulletproof, 97. popularize, 98. reconstruct, 99. swell, 100. bentonite, 101. posit

102. re___m cancer *n.* the final segment of the large intestine, responsible for storing and expelling fecal matter from the body
103. wildlife pr____or *n.* a person or thing that provides protection, support, or defense; a guardian or defender
104. seafood bou____sse *n.* a traditional French fish stew originating from the coastal region of Marseille, typically includes various types of fish, shellfish, vegetables, herbs, and spices
105. o__a habitat *n.* a species of large marine mammal, also known as the killer whale, found in Arctic and temperate waters worldwide, known for their intelligence, social behavior, and hunting prowess
106. the b__w of a hill *n.* the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead
107. common den____or *n.* the number below the line in a fraction
108. po____k fillet *n.* (also "pollock") a variety of freshwater fish related to the cod, or a member of a North Atlantic family of marine fish, typically greenish-gray in color
109. se____ed knife *adj.* having a saw-toothed or notched edge; of or relating to leaves, knives, or other objects with jagged edges
110. environmental pr____or *n.* a person or thing that provides protection, support, or defense; a guardian or defender
111. enrich my in____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

ANSWERS: 102. rectum, 103. protector, 104. bouillabaisse, 105. orca, 106. brow, 107. denominator, 108. pollack, 109. serrated, 110. protector, 111. intellect

112. government se_____y *n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others
113. av__n habitat *adj.* relating to or characteristic of birds
114. em___k on a trip *v.* to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
115. cl___a opening *n.* a common cavity that serves as the only opening for the digestive, reproductive, and urinary tracts in some animals, including birds, reptiles, and amphibians
116. cen_____ge tube *n.* a machine that uses centrifugal force (= a type of inertial force that appears to act on an object moving in a circular path and is directed away from the center) to separate substances of different densities, especially to separate liquids from solids
117. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
118. di_____te impact *adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
119. de_____te out in the open *v.* to excrete waste material from the body through the anus; to pass feces
120. pop_____ze a scientific concept *v.* to make something more widely known, accepted, or adopted by the general public; to present or promote something in a way that increases its popularity or appeal

ANSWERS: 112. secrecy, 113. avian, 114. embark, 115. cloaca, 116. centrifuge, 117. afterward, 118. disparate, 119. defecate, 120. popularize

121. cr___y atmosphere

adj. causing an uneasy feeling of fear or
unease

122. inflammation of the re___m

n. the final segment of the large intestine,
responsible for storing and expelling
fecal matter from the body

ANSWERS: 121. creepy, 122. rectum

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ on the drawer was loose and needed to be tightened.
n. a round handle, especially one used for opening or closing a door, drawer, or cabinet

2. The _____ voice was so beautiful that it brought the audience to tears.
n. the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet

3. The _____ layer in the landfill helps prevent toxic leakage into the groundwater.
n. a clay-rich mineral consisting mostly of montmorillonite, formed from volcanic ash and used in various industries for its absorbent and swelling properties, commonly used in drilling fluids, wastewater treatment, and as a binder in foundry molds

4. He _____ his life to helping others.
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

5. The horror movie was criticized for its _____ and graphic depictions of violence.
adj. gruesome or lacking in sympathy or decency; related to or characteristic of a ghost or a monster, especially in being frightening, cruel, or having a creepy appearance

6. My interest in _____ research began when I visited a natural history museum and saw a display of fossils from the Jurassic period.
n. the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth

ANSWERS: 1. knob, 2. soprano's, 3. bentonite, 4. dedicated, 5. ghoulish, 6. paleontology

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

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

8. Scientists are constantly searching for signs of _____ life in the universe.

adj. relating to or existing outside of the Earth's atmosphere or planetary boundaries; pertaining to beings or phenomena that originate from beyond the Earth

9. They've decided to _____ a ruined castle.

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

10. His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly _____.

adj. doubting that something is accurate or useful

11. He _____ the insect between his fingers to get rid of it.

v. to crush or press something so that it becomes flat or distorted

12. The archaeologists _____ the ruins of an ancient city buried under the desert sands.

v. to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something

13. The company provides all employees with a digital _____ for emergency purposes.

n. a small electronic device used for sending and receiving short text messages, often used in hospitals or other professional settings

14. He was, by nature, a cyber _____.

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

ANSWERS: 7. comet's, 8. extraterrestrial, 9. reconstruct, 10. skeptical, 11. squished, 12. excavated, 13. pager, 14. nerd

15. The discovery of a new _____ species made headlines in the scientific community.
- n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
16. The first step is to rationalize the _____ of a fraction.
- n.* the number below the line in a fraction
17. We took a boat tour to witness the magnificent _____ colony along the rugged coastline.
- n.* a flightless sea bird that is found in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its distinctive black and white coloring and its upright, waddling gait
18. The expert on _____ species studied the behavior of different types of birds.
- adj.* relating to or characteristic of birds
19. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
20. His arm was _____ from the insect bite.
- v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important
21. The organization worked to bring together _____ groups in the community.
- adj.* very different or distinct from something else and is not connected or comparable in any way
22. The company's _____ surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.
- n.* the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others

ANSWERS: 15. dinosaur, 16. denominator, 17. penguin, 18. avian, 19. opportune, 20. swelling, 21. disparate, 22. secrecy

23. The hypothesis is not yet _____ proven.

adv. in a way that relates to science or is connected with science

24. The firefighter showed true _____ when he rescued the family from the burning building.

n. great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause

25. The restaurant serves a delicious _____ stew.

n. (also "pollock") a variety of freshwater fish related to the cod, or a member of a North Atlantic family of marine fish, typically greenish-gray in color

26. The _____ in the city center offers stunning views of the skyline.

n. a luxurious apartment or living space situated on the highest floor or roof of a building, often with additional amenities or features such as a balcony, terrace, or panoramic view; the top floor or floors of a building

27. The severe heat wave _____ railway tracks.

v. to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap

28. The _____ whale is also known as the killer whale.

n. a species of large marine mammal, also known as the killer whale, found in Arctic and temperate waters worldwide, known for their intelligence, social behavior, and hunting prowess

29. The character's name became a _____ for all lawyers in the movie.

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

ANSWERS: 23. scientifically, 24. heroism, 25. pollack, 26. penthouse, 27. buckled, 28. orca, 29. synecdoche

30. The _____ in birds is a multi-purpose opening that serves as the entrance and exit for the reproductive, digestive, and urinary systems.
- n.* a common cavity that serves as the only opening for the digestive, reproductive, and urinary tracts in some animals, including birds, reptiles, and amphibians
31. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.
- v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
32. The magician seemed to disappear when he threw his _____ over himself.
- n.* a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise
33. The _____ violence in the movie was unnecessary and disturbing.
- adj.* given or done without charge or payment
34. Marine _____ populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.
- n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
35. Because of the _____ vest he was wearing, the officer could escape injury.
- adj.* intended to resist bullet penetration
36. The accident caused a cracked _____.
- n.* each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

ANSWERS: 30. cloaca, 31. posit, 32. cloak, 33. gratuitous, 34. mammal, 35. bulletproof, 36. rib

37. The celebrity's endorsement helped _____ the new clothing line.
- v.* to make something more widely known, accepted, or adopted by the general public; to present or promote something in a way that increases its popularity or appeal
38. The bodyguard acted as a _____ for the celebrity.
- n.* a person or thing that provides protection, support, or defense; a guardian or defender
39. The restaurant is known for its mouthwatering _____ soup.
- n.* a traditional French fish stew originating from the coastal region of Marseille, typically includes various types of fish, shellfish, vegetables, herbs, and spices
40. The _____ dinosaur was one of the fiercest predators of the prehistoric era.
- n.* a type of carnivorous dinosaur that existed during the Mesozoic Era and is characterized by having three-toed limbs, a stiff tail, and sharp teeth, such as the Tyrannosaurus and Velociraptor
41. She teaches _____ at the local university.
- n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
42. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.
- adv.* after the time mentioned
43. I love making a big pot of _____ on a cold winter day.
- n.* a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers
44. The _____ at the park was a hit with all the families who attended.
- n.* a cooking method or apparatus that uses open flames or heated coals to grill or smoke meat, fish, or vegetables; a social gathering or meal characterized by outdoor grilling or barbecuing of food

ANSWERS: 37. popularize, 38. protector, 39. bouillabaisse, 40. theropod, 41. archaeology, 42. afterward, 43. chili, 44. barbecue

45. It's important to _____ the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.
- v. to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
46. _____ engineering focuses on developing new medical technologies and innovations to improve patient health outcomes.
- adj. relating to the application of the natural sciences, especially biology, and physiology, to clinical medicine and healthcare
47. They _____ fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.
- v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
48. We _____ on a new project.
- v. to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
49. The laboratory technician placed the blood samples in the _____ to separate the different components.
- n. a machine that uses centrifugal force (= a type of inertial force that appears to act on an object moving in a circular path and is directed away from the center) to separate substances of different densities, especially to separate liquids from solids
50. The ____ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.
- adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
51. The captivating novel _____ me for hours on end.
- v. to entirely occupy or absorb one's attention or interest; to involve or entangle deeply

ANSWERS: 45. calibrate, 46. Biomedical, 47. poked, 48. embarked, 49. centrifuge, 50. aft, 51. engrossed

52. Hemorrhoids can cause discomfort and bleeding in the _____.
- n.* the final segment of the large intestine, responsible for storing and expelling fecal matter from the body
53. The saw had a _____ edge that allowed it to cut through the thick branches with ease.
- adj.* having a saw-toothed or notched edge; of or relating to leaves, knives, or other objects with jagged edges
54. The old, abandoned house was _____ and gave me the chills.
- adj.* causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease
55. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
56. She wiped the sweat from her _____ after finishing the marathon.
- n.* the ridge over the eye sockets; the forehead
57. Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the _____ belt to understand the early solar system better.
- n.* (also "planetoid") a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
58. It is important to clean up after your pet when they _____ in public areas.
- v.* to excrete waste material from the body through the anus; to pass feces
59. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 52. rectum, 53. serrated, 54. creepy, 55. intellect, 56. brow, 57. asteroid, 58. defecate, 59. industrious

60. Tourists flock to Easter Island to see the mysterious _____ statues.

n. a large stone statue found on Easter Island, typically depicting a human figure with a large head and prominent facial features

61. A happy group of friends occupies the _____ of the picture.

n. the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer

ANSWERS: 60. moai, 61. foreground