

*Vocabulary From Literature for...*

*Narrative of the Life of  
Frederick Douglass  
by Frederick Douglass*

written by May Dartez

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*Vocabulary From Literature*

**Activity I**  
**Matching Definitions**  
**Chapters 1-4**

**Directions:** Match each of the words below with its definition based on the context in which the word appears in the book. Use the page numbers in parenthesis to locate the word. Then, look up the word in the dictionary, and change any answers that are not correct.

impertinent (9)  
fleshmongers (11)

odiousness (10)  
statesman (11)

mulatto (11)  
prophecy (11)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ disrespectful
2. \_\_\_\_\_ from mixed black and white ancestry
3. \_\_\_\_\_ a politician who is widely respected
4. \_\_\_\_\_ the act of intense displeasure, dislike
5. \_\_\_\_\_ slave traders
6. \_\_\_\_\_ a prediction

cowskin (11)  
spectacle (12)

cudgel (11)  
conjecture (12)

barbarity (12)  
infernal (13)

7. \_\_\_\_\_ an opinion or conclusion based on guesswork
8. \_\_\_\_\_ a course whip of cowhide
9. \_\_\_\_\_ a remarkable sight, public display
10. \_\_\_\_\_ a club, short heavy stick
11. \_\_\_\_\_ fiendish, relating to hell
12. \_\_\_\_\_ savage cruelty

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**Activity I**  
**Matching Definitions**  
**Chapters 5-7**

**Directions:** Match each of the words below with its definition based on the context in which the word appears in the book. Use the page numbers in parenthesis to locate the word. Then, look up the word in the dictionary, and change any answers that are not correct.

perish (29)  
shingle (30)

gashes (29)  
ecstasy (30)

trough (30)  
intelligence (30)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ a feeling of intense delight or happiness
2. \_\_\_\_\_ a small, flat tile used for roofing
3. \_\_\_\_\_ information about plans or activities
4. \_\_\_\_\_ a long, narrow feed container
5. \_\_\_\_\_ deep cuts
6. \_\_\_\_\_ to suffer and die because of harsh conditions or an accident

scurf (30)  
gratification (31)

mange (30)  
consolation (30)

endured (30)  
inferred (30)

7. \_\_\_\_\_ an infectious skin disease
8. \_\_\_\_\_ a feeling of pleasure or satisfaction
9. \_\_\_\_\_ reasoned or concluded from evidence
10. \_\_\_\_\_ scaly, dried skin or crust
11. \_\_\_\_\_ the act of comforting somebody
12. \_\_\_\_\_ tolerated, withstood

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**Activity I**  
**Matching Definitions**  
**Chapters 8-10**

**Directions:** Match each of the words below with its definition based on the context in which the word appears in the book. Use the page numbers in parentheses to locate the word. Then, look up the word in the dictionary, and change any answers that are not correct.

disposal (43)            degraded (43)            sprightly (44)            valuation (43)  
overborne (43)        indelicate (44)        detestation (43)        ranked (44)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ assessing the value or price
2. \_\_\_\_\_ to overcome
3. \_\_\_\_\_ distribution
4. \_\_\_\_\_ offensive; improper
5. \_\_\_\_\_ grouped with, positioned with
6. \_\_\_\_\_ lowered in value
7. \_\_\_\_\_ lively, full of energy
8. \_\_\_\_\_ intense hatred

profligate (44)        base (45)            entreaties (44)        dissipation (44)  
climax (46)            inevitable (44)        impassable (46)

9. \_\_\_\_\_ extremely wasteful; excessive indulgence in = pleasure
10. \_\_\_\_\_ serious requests; pleas
11. \_\_\_\_\_ immoral; mean
12. \_\_\_\_\_ impossible to avoid
13. \_\_\_\_\_ impossible to solve or overcome
14. \_\_\_\_\_ the highest or most extreme point
15. \_\_\_\_\_ recklessly wasteful

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**Activity I**  
**Matching Definitions**  
**Chapters 10-11**

**Directions:** Match each of the words below with its definition based on the context in which the word appears in the book. Use the page numbers in parentheses to locate the word. Then, look up the word in the dictionary and change any answers that are not correct.

habitable (59)  
shrouded (59)  
lofty (59)

compel (59)  
utterance (59)  
apostrophe (59)

multitude (59)  
gallant (59)  
turbid (59)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ covered, concealed
2. \_\_\_\_\_ numerous; a horde, swarm
3. \_\_\_\_\_ directly addressing a personified object
4. \_\_\_\_\_ considered fit to live in
5. \_\_\_\_\_ to force, command
6. \_\_\_\_\_ something cried out or spoken
7. \_\_\_\_\_ muddy, murky
8. \_\_\_\_\_ elevated

ague (59)  
goaded (59)  
intimated (60)

epoch (60)  
overhauled (61)  
unaccountable (62)

render (62)  
singular (62)  
assurance (63)

9. \_\_\_\_\_ caught up with; overtaken
10. \_\_\_\_\_ flu-like condition consisting of chills and/or sweating
11. \_\_\_\_\_ provoked, moved
12. \_\_\_\_\_ a significant period in history or in someone's life
13. \_\_\_\_\_ unusual, odd, strange
14. \_\_\_\_\_ unexplainable
15. \_\_\_\_\_ confidence; certainty
16. \_\_\_\_\_ to make, become
17. \_\_\_\_\_ suggested; implied

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*Vocabulary From Literature*

Activity II  
Synonyms and Definitions  
Chapters 10-11

**Directions:** For each excerpt from these chapters, select the correct definition or synonym from the choices provided for each vocabulary word. As a last resort, you may use the dictionary but the definition or synonym you select for each word must make sense in the context it is being used in the passage.

1. This battle with Mr. Covey was the turning-point in my career as a slave. It **rekindled** the few expiring embers of freedom, and **revived** within me a sense of my own manhood. It recalled the departed self-confidence, and inspired me again with a determination to be free. The gratification afforded by the triumph was a full compensation for whatever else might follow, even death itself. He only can understand the deep satisfaction which I experienced, who was himself **repelled** by force the bloody arm of slavery. (Pg. 64)

Definition for **rekindled**:

- A. separated, split
- B. ignited; renewed
- C. upset; disappointed
- D. stalled or halted
- E. intimidated

Synonym for **revived**:

- A. bought
- B. hesitated
- C. restored
- D. reorganized
- E. inferred

Definition for **repelled**:

- A. analyzed
- B. read
- C. tortured
- D. endured
- E. rejected