

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

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