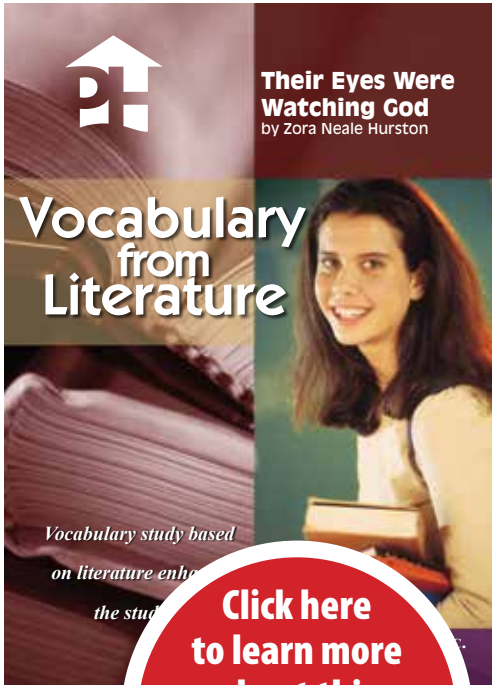




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*Their Eyes Were
Watching God
by Zora Neale Hurston*

written by Elizabeth Scott

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Their Eyes Were Watching God

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Vocabulary From Literature

Activity I
Matching Definitions
Chapters 1-5

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.

resignation (1)	intimate (4)	treacherous (5)	commenced (10)
former (11)	persistent (12)	snagging (13)	desecrating (14)
queer (16)	flounced (18)	compel (21)	malice (22)
mien (24)	ether (25)		

- _____ strange
- _____ an unresisting acceptance
- _____ a manner of behavior or appearance
- _____ previous; past
- _____ to cause through force
- _____ private; personal
- _____ a desire to cause harm
- _____ began
- _____ dishonoring; polluting
- _____ tangling; getting caught
- _____ moved with exaggeration
- _____ the clear sky; the heavens
- _____ untrustworthy; unreliable
- _____ continued; lasting

Vocabulary From Literature

Activity V
Roots and Prefixes
Chapters 1-5

- I. The word *elude* comes from the Latin verb *ludere*, which means “to play,” and the prefix *e/ex*, which means “out” or “away from.” To *elude* is to slip from someone’s grasp; to remember where the word comes from, think of a playful animal escaping from the hands of someone trying to catch it. Other words from *ludere* include:

ludicrous prelude allude delude

- a. Which of these words means

1. an opening piece; an introduction _____
2. ridiculous _____
3. to hint at; to suggest _____
4. to trick, deceive, mislead _____

- b. Now fill in the sentences below with the words from the list above.

1. It was such a(n) _____ idea that Brandon burst into laughter.
2. Don’t _____ yourself into thinking you can win the swim meet without practicing.
3. Li _____ to the crime that had happened, but he did not mention it directly.
4. We enjoyed the clowns at the circus, but they were only a(n) _____ to the really good acts.

Their Eyes Were Watching God

2. Then Joe Starks realized all the meanings and his **vanity** bled like a flood. Janie had robbed him of his **illusion** of **irresistible** maleness that all men **cherish**, which was terrible. The thing that Saul's daughter had done to David. But Janie had done worse, she had **cast** down his empty armor before men and they had laughed, would keep on laughing. When he **paraded** his possessions hereafter, they would not consider the two together. They'd look with envy at the things and pity the man that owned them. When he sat in judgment it would be the same. Good-for-nothing's like Dave and Lum and Jim wouldn't change place with him. For what can excuse a man in the eyes of other men for lack of strength? Raggedy-behind **squirts** of sixteen and seventeen would be giving him their **merciless** pity out of their eyes while their mouths said something **humble**. There was nothing to do in life anymore. **Ambition** was useless. And the cruel **deceit** of Janie! (Pgs. 79-80)

Synonym for **vanity**:

Synonym for **illusion**:

Definition for **irresistible**:

Definition for **cherish**:

Definition for **cast**:

Vocabulary From Literature

Activity IV
Completing Sentences
Chapters 6-10

Directions: Try to determine the meaning of each highlighted word from context clues. Then, complete the sentence that follows in a way that shows you understand the word. If you need help, consult a dictionary.

Example:

But then when Lige or Sam or Walter or some of the other big picture talkers were using a side of the world for a canvas, Joe would **hustle** her off inside the store to sell something. (Pg. 54)

Sentence Starter Containing the Vocabulary Word

Samantha wanted to **hustle** because

Completed Sentence

Samantha wanted to **hustle** because she was scared and wanted to leave as quickly as possible.

1. “You’s Mrs. Mayor Starks, Janie. I god, Ah can’t see what uh woman uh yo’ stability would want tuh be treasurin’ all dat gum-grease from folks dat don’t even own de house dey sleep in. ’Tain’t no earthly use. They’s jus’ some **puny** humans playin’ round de toes uh Time.” (Pg. 54)

The **puny** dog _____

2. The brute jerked up his head, laid back his ears and rushed to the attack. Lum had to run for safety. Five or six more men left the porch and surrounded the **fractious** beast, goosing him in the sides and making him show his temper. (Pg. 56)

Jack was so **fractious** that _____
