

Vocabulary Words and Their Definitions for
The Treasure With a Face

Chapter 1

Relief - a sculpture made from a flat surface in which the forms are raised above the surface

Sheer - extremely steep; almost vertical

Breach (the verb form) - to make an opening in a wall or fence (especially in order to attack someone or something behind it)

Emanate - to come from or out of

Garner - to get or earn something

Molten - the state of metal or rock when it has been melted or made liquid by being heated to very high temperatures

Slapdash - done or made in a hurried and careless way

Chapter 2

Scavenge - to search for and collect unwanted food or objects

Crucible - 1) a container in which metals or other substances can be heated to very high temperatures 2) a severe test or trial

Irrefutably - in a way that is impossible to prove wrong

Chapter 3

Captive - 1) a person or animal whose ability to move or act freely is limited by being kept in a space 2) a prisoner (especially held by the enemy during a war)

Unkempt - untidy

Chapter 4

Hilt - the handle of a sharp-pointed weapon such as a sword

Soot - a black powder produced when coal, wood, etc., is burned

Dart (the verb form) - to move quickly or suddenly

Desecrate - to damage or show no respect towards something holy or very much respected

Providence - 1) the care and control of God 2) a title for God

Chapter 5

Clamp - to fasten two things together

Devout - believing strongly in a religion and obeying all its rules or principles

Chapter 6

Impulsiveness - behavior in which you do things suddenly without any planning and without considering the effects they may have

Idle - not operating or not being used

Shard - a piece of a broken glass, cup, container, or similar object

Wares - small products for selling (especially in a market or on the street)

Vintner - a person whose job it is to make or sell wine

Preempt - to prevent something from happening by taking action first

Chapter 7

Synagogue - a building in which people of the Jewish religion worship and study

Rabbi - a religious leader and teacher in the Jewish religion

Chapter 8

Reinforce - provide more proof or support for an idea or opinion and make it seem true

Ornery - ugly and unpleasant in disposition or temper

Waterskin - a container usually made of sheep or goat skin and used to hold water

Flank - to place something on each side of

Conviction - a strong belief that is not likely to change, or the strong feeling that your beliefs are right

Chapter 9

Coax - to try to persuade someone to do something by gently asking or patiently encouraging the person

Billow - to become filled with air and appear to be larger (especially in the case of items made of cloth)

Lanky - tall and thin and often tending to move awkwardly as a result

Chapter 10

Flint - a piece of gray or black quartz used to produce a spark to start a fire

Corpse - a dead body (usually of a person)

Brandish - to wave something in the air in a threatening or excited way

Granular - composed or appearing to be composed of granules or grains

Chapter 11

Sinew - a tendon especially used as a cord or thread

Agitated - worried or angry

Cavern - a large cave

Chapter 12

Outcast - a person who has no place in his or her society or in a particular group because the society or group refuses to accept him or her

Solitary - remote from civilization; secluded

Claustrophobic - fear of being in small or confined spaces

Chapter 13

Spectacle - a public event or show that is exciting to watch

Flutter - to make a series of quick, delicate movements up and down or from side to side

Plausible - possibly true; believable

Overzealous - too enthusiastic and eager

Chapter 14

Elevation - an area that is higher than the surrounding land

Crevice - a small, narrow crack or space (especially in the surface of a rock)

Rush (the noun form) - a plant that grows in or near water and has long, thin, hollow stems

Chapter 15

Wince - to tighten the muscles of the face briefly and suddenly in a show of pain, worry, or embarrassment

Imposing (the adjective form) - impressive in size, appearance, power, or accomplishment

Lavish (the adjective form) - large and expensive or impressive

Notorious - being famous for something immoral or bad

Swindle - to cheat a person or an organization out of money or property

Chapter 16

Wily - tricky, cunning

Gloat - to feel or express great pleasure or satisfaction because of your own success or good luck, or someone else's failure or bad luck

Fitfully - in a way that often stops and starts and is not regular or continuous

Chapter 17

Saunter - to walk in a slow and relaxed way

Wits - the ability to think and act (especially quickly)

Sheath - a case or covering for the blade of a sword, dagger, or the like

Spook - to frighten or to startle into violent activity

Plunder - to steal goods forcefully from a place (especially during a war)

Plod - to walk taking slow steps, as if your feet are heavy

Impale - to push a sharp object through something (especially the body of an animal or person)

Chapter 18

Tack (noun form as it relates to horses) - all the objects that the rider of a horse needs, including saddles and bridles

Maneuver - an act or instance of changing the direction of a moving ship, vehicle, etc., as required

Chapter 19

Shifty - intelligent and skilled in deceiving others

Hypocrite - someone who says he or she has particular moral beliefs but behaves in a way that shows these are not sincere

Chapter 20

Balsam - Any of various trees, especially the balsam fir, yielding an aromatic resinous substance. Often Christmas trees are balsam firs.

Desolate - having no living things; barren

Deter - to prevent or discourage someone from doing something

Exclusivity - the right to have or do something that is limited to only one person or organization

Fortress - a large, strong building or group of buildings that can be defended from attack

Wan - showing or suggesting ill health, fatigue, unhappiness, etc.

Meander - to follow a route that is not straight or direct

Chapter 21

Breastplate - a piece of armor that protects the chest

Pivot - to turn or twist

Mayhem - a situation in which there is little or no order or control

Subordinate - a person who has a less important position than someone else in an organization

Contort - to cause something to twist or bend violently and unnaturally into a different shape or form

Shackle - one of a pair of metal rings connected by a chain and fastened to a person's wrists or the bottoms of the legs to prevent the person from escaping

Flail - to wave something (especially arms or legs) energetically but with little or no control

Chapter 22

Salvage - the act of saving goods from damage or destruction

Insistent - firmly saying that something must be true or done

Maggot - a small, worm-like creature that is found in decaying meat and other foods and later develops into a fly

Decipherable - able to be understood

Chapter 23

Wedge - 1) verb form - to put something into a very small or narrow space, so that it cannot move easily 2) noun form - a piece of something in the shape of a triangle

Pious - strongly believing in religion and living in a way that shows this belief

Submerge - to go below the surface of an area of water

Distorted - altered from a true, natural, or normal state, shape, or condition

Emboldened - instilled with boldness, courage, or resolution

Lumber - to move slowly and awkwardly

Cast (verb form) - to throw something

Cower - to lower your head or body in fear (often while moving backwards)

Chapter 24

Dignified - serious and graceful in manner or style in a way that deserves respect

Grime - a layer of dirt on skin or on a building

Elevated - raised up (especially above the ground or above the normal level)

Torrent - a large amount of water that is moving quickly

Jostle - to bump, push, shove, brush against, or elbow roughly or rudely

Mosaic - a picture or decoration made of small (usually colored pieces) of inlaid stone, glass, etc.

Scrutinize - to examine someone or something very carefully

Inscription - words that are written or cut in something

Chapter 25

Epiphany - a moment when you suddenly feel that you understand, or suddenly become conscious of, something that is very important to you

Revelation - the act of making known something that was secret, or a fact that has been made known

Demeanor - a way of looking and behaving

Radiate - to strongly express an emotion or quality

Notwithstanding - despite the fact

Frothy - small bubbles on the surface of a liquid

Protrude - to stick out from or through something

Vindication - the fact of proving that what someone said or did was right or true, after other people thought it was wrong

Rite - a set of fixed words and actions, often said and done as part of a religious ceremony. Baptism is called the Christian Rite of Initiation.

Legacy - something handed down from an ancestor or a predecessor, or from the past

Chapter 26

Initiation - a special ceremony or responsibility that signals the acceptance of someone into a group

Vantage point - 1) a place that provides a good view 2) a way of thinking or a set of opinions based on your particular situation

Pristine - original and pure; not spoiled or worn from use

Hurtle - to move very fast, especially in a way that seems dangerous

Chapter 27

Alarmist - a person who communicates anxiety and fear (especially unnecessarily)

Bedrock - 1) the hard area of rock in the ground that holds up the loose soil above it
2) the main principles on which something is based

Chapter 28

Candidly - in a way that is honest and true (especially about something difficult or painful)

Groove - a long, narrow, hollow space cut into a surface

Fixed - firmly in position; stationary

Chapter 29

Inadvertently - in a way that is not intentional

Ironic - interesting, strange, or funny because of being very different from what you would usually expect

Embellish - to make something more beautiful or interesting by additions or details

Chapter 30

Raspy - grating; harsh; rough

Interiorly - internally; inwardly

Vouch - to give personal assurances or a guarantee

Unleavened - made without yeast or any other leavening agent. Without yeast, unleavened bread is flat.

Chapter 31

Harrowing - extremely distressing; agonizing

Novelty - something that is new and unusual

Integrity - the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles that you refuse to change

Flattery - insincere or excessive praise

Planish - to smooth a piece of metal by gently hitting it with a hammer

Chapter 32

Wield - to have or use power, authority, or influence, or to hold and use a weapon

Allude - to mention someone or something in a brief or indirect way

Prudent - exercising good judgment; careful or wise in handling practical matters

Silhouette - a dark shape seen against a light background

Chapter 33

Century - a unit of the Roman army originally consisting of one hundred men

Fronde - a long, thin leaf of a plant

Taut - stretched tightly; tight

Slink - to walk or leave quietly (especially because you do not want to be noticed or are ashamed of something)

Sideboard - a board that forms part of the side of something

Cackle - to laugh or talk in a shrill manner

Sever - to break or separate (especially by cutting)

Consumed - destroyed or completely used up

Smugness - too pleased or self-satisfied

Chapter 34

Careering - to move fast and in a way that is out of control (especially in a vehicle)

Dislodge - to force out of a secure or settled position

Vanquish - to defeat completely

Chapter 35

Frequent - to be in or visit a particular place often

Vat - a large container used for mixing or storing liquid substances

Banish - to send someone away (especially from his or her country) and not allow him or her to come back

Ration - a limited amount of something that one person is allowed to have