

Vocabulary From Literature for...

The Call of the Wild

by Jack London

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Vocabulary From Literature

Activity I Matching Definitions Chapters I-III

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.

groping (11)
nocturnal (32)
retaliated (14)
eloquently (13)

conveyance (13)
plaint (33)
culprit (17)
dreary (32)

din (28)
draught (20)
trifle (12)
inexorable (36)

1. _____ relentless, unyielding
2. _____ a complaint or call of grief and sorrow
3. _____ searching blindly or uncertainly
4. _____ a loud confused mixture of noises
5. _____ a vehicle
6. _____ clearly speaking or expressing
7. _____ an animal used for pulling loads
8. _____ a suspect
9. _____ avenged; reciprocated
10. _____ of, relating to, or occurring at night
11. _____ a little bit; an insignificant amount
12. _____ dismal, gloomy

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Activity I Matching Definitions Chapters IV-VI

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.

gaping (37)
exertion (42)
slovenly (49)
manifested (57)

deluged (39)
salient (46)
copious (51)
pompous (58)

potent (40)
repugnance (47)
evinced (54)
transient (59)

1. _____ extreme dislike
2. _____ opened widely
3. _____ flooded; overwhelmed
4. _____ effort
5. _____ striking, noticeable
6. _____ abundant, extensive
7. _____ powerful
8. _____ lazily, carelessly
9. _____ showed, indicated
10. _____ arrogant, conceited
11. _____ temporary, short-term
12. _____ expressed, showed

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Activity I
Matching Definitions
Chapter VII

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.

looted (67)
recurrent (70)
slake (74)
discomfited (77)

placer (68)
contagion (71)
rending (75)

akin (69)
ambuscade (73)
incarnate (76)

1. _____ a contagious disease; virus
2. _____ robbed
3. _____ a deposit of sand and gravel containing particles of a valuable mineral
4. _____ similar in kind
5. _____ to relieve or satisfy with
6. _____ an ambush
7. _____ forcibly tearing apart
8. _____ personified
9. _____ repeated, regular, continual
10. _____ upset; frustrated

Vocabulary From Literature

Activity II Writing Definitions, Synonyms, and Sentences from Context Clues Chapter VII

Directions: Carefully read each excerpt from this chapter, and try to determine a definition or synonym for the indicated vocabulary word based on the context clues. Then, write a sentence using each word. As a last resort, you may use a dictionary.

1. When Buck earned sixteen hundred dollars in five minutes for John Thornton, he made it possible for his master to pay off certain debts and to journey with his partners into the East after a **fabled** lost mine, the history of which was as old as the history of the country. Many men had sought it; few had found it; and more than a few there were who had never returned from the **quest**. This lost mine was **steeped** in tragedy and **shrouded** in mystery. No one knew of the first man. The oldest tradition stopped before it got back to him. From the beginning there had been an ancient and **ramshackle** cabin. Dying men had sworn to it, and to the mine the site of which it marked, **clinching** their testimony with nuggets that were unlike any known grade of gold in the Northland. (Pg. 67)

Definition for **fabled**: _____

Synonym for **quest**: _____

Definition for **steeped**: _____

Synonym for **shrouded**: _____

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Activity III Synonyms Chapter VII

Directions: Replace each highlighted word in the following passages from the text with an appropriate synonym. As a last resort, you may use a dictionary, but be careful that the word you select does not greatly alter the meaning of the passage.

1. He began to sleep out at night, staying away from camp for days at a time; and once he crossed the divide at the head of the creek and went down into the land of timber and streams. There he wandered for a week, seeking **vainly** for fresh sign of the wild brother, killing his meat as he travelled and travelling with the long, easy **lope** that seems never to tire. He fished for salmon in a broad stream that emptied somewhere into the sea, and by this stream he killed a large black bear, blinded by the mosquitoes while likewise fishing, and raging through the forest helpless and terrible. Even so, it was a hard fight, and it **aroused** the last **latent remnants** of Buck's **ferocity**. And two days later, when he returned to his kill and found a dozen wolverenes quarrelling over the spoil, he scattered them like **chaff**; and those that fled left two behind who would quarrel no more. (Pg. 71)

Synonym for **vainly**:

Synonym for **lope**:

Synonym for **aroused**:

Synonym for **latent**:

Synonym for **remnants**:

Synonym for **ferocity**:

Synonym for **chaff**: