

Vocabulary From Literature for...

The Red Badge of Courage
by Stephen Crane

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Vocabulary From Literature

Activity I Matching Definitions Part I

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.

dregs (22)	ardor (11)	pontoon (25)	tumult (35)
secular (11)	brindle (12)	vociferous (21)	

- _____ a temporary bridge made of floating objects
- _____ a disturbance or commotion
- _____ worldly
- _____ a loud expression of feelings; clamorous
- _____ passion, enthusiasm
- _____ having a spotted coat
- _____ residue

carven (35)	viands (30)	perambulating (26)	thoroughfares (9)
herald (9)	acute (18)	lurid (11)	dexterously (15)

- _____ a person who announces important news
- _____ harshly vivid
- _____ highways or public roads
- _____ various foods
- _____ severe; critical
- _____ carved
- _____ skillfully done (by hand or with the body)
- _____ walking through or around

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Activity I Matching Definitions Part II

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.

urchin (38)
foundry (40)

protruding (41)
malediction (70)

paean (47)
hillock (46)

1. a song of triumph or praise
2. a curse
3. a small hill
4. a small boy or youngster (usually mischievous)
5. a place where metal is poured into molds
6. sticking out

edifice (51)
ramrods (39)
pummeling (40)

sagacious (49)
ilk (54)

sardonic (56)
pathos (70)

7. a building
8. having keen perception
9. sarcastic; bitter
10. rods used to push the charge down the muzzle of a gun
11. of the same kind or class
12. beating; bombarding
13. something that arouses feelings of sympathy or pity

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Activity I Matching Definitions Part 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.

adroitly (76)
visages (83)

audacious (79)
gamin (79)

charnel (87)
munitions (76)

fracas (95)

1. _____ facial expressions
2. _____ a street urchin
3. _____ skillfully
4. _____ a cemetery
5. _____ a loud quarrel or brawl
6. _____ weapons and ammunition
7. _____ spirited, bold, unrestrained

brigadier (97)
lugubrious (91)

amateur (84)
musketry (85)

ethereal (83)
laggard (92)

gauntleted (77)

8. _____ not earthly
9. _____ extremely mournful
10. _____ wearing a glove
11. _____ the commander of a brigade
12. _____ a slow person; loiterer
13. _____ the skill of using long-barreled firearms
14. _____ lacking professional skill; a beginner

Vocabulary From Literature

Activity I Matching Definitions Part IV

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.

cavalcade (106)
conflagration (141)

bombast (137)
paroxysm (131)

mêlée (115)
infantrymen (107)

1. _____ a fire
2. _____ foot soldiers
3. _____ pompous talk or writing
4. _____ a loud fight involving many people
5. _____ a procession
6. _____ a sudden attack or outburst

stanchions (142)
stoic (110)

impetus (119)
obdurate (132)

red regions (134)
motley (141)

7. _____ bars used to secure cattle in specific areas
8. _____ incentive or motivation
9. _____ hell
10. _____ varied
11. _____ a person who is guided by reason instead of emotion
12. _____ hardhearted

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Activity II Synonyms Part IV

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. They settled back into **reposeful** attitudes with airs of having accepted the matter. And they mused upon it, with a hundred varieties of expression. It was an **engrossing** thing to think about. Many tightened their belts carefully and hitched at their trousers. (Pg. 108)
2. His eyes were fixed in a lurid glare. And with his soiled and disordered dress, his red and inflamed features **surmounted** by the dingy rag with its spot of blood, his wildly swinging rifle and banging accouterments, he looked to be an insane soldier. (Pg. 109)
3. The friend of the youth aroused. **Lurching** suddenly forward and dropping to his knees, he fired an angry shot at the persistent woods. This action awakened the men. They huddled no more like sheep. They seemed suddenly to bethink them of their weapons, and at once **commenced** firing. (Pg. 111)
4. A scowl of **mortification** and rage was upon his face. He had thought of a fine revenge upon the officer who had referred to him and his fellows as mule drivers. But he saw that it could not come to pass. His dreams had collapsed when the mule drivers, **dwindling** rapidly, had **wavered** and hesitated on the little clearing, and then had **recoiled**. And now the retreat of the mule drivers was a march of shame to him. (Pg. 116)
5. The lieutenant, returning from a tour after a bandage, produced from a hidden receptacle of his mind new and **portentous** oaths suited to the emergency. (Pg. 129)