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Literature

Student Activity Workbook

Companion to

GOLD



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L MOSDOS PRESS *Literature*

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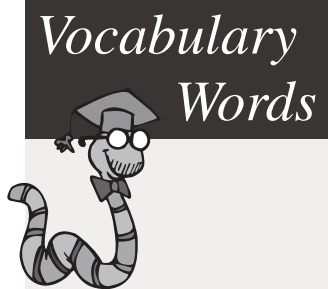
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LESSON 1



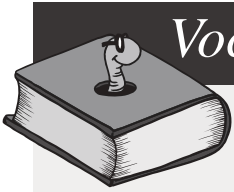
barnacle	imminent	perimeter	simultaneously
droning	impeding	placid	teeming
equilibrium	lagoon	preeminence	tenaciously
furrow	mottled	respite	torrent
futile			

Exercise One Fill in the blanks with the appropriate vocabulary word. Its position in the sentence may require a different part of speech.

1. The island of Tobago, off the coast of Venezuela, is visited by ornithologists (*scientists who study birds*), because the nearby cliffs are _____ (*swarming*) with tropical seabirds.
2. These tropical seabirds are black- or brown-and-white and dive from high over the ocean, hunting fish for hours without _____ (*stopping to rest*).
3. My grandmother knew a famous ornithologist, who said that the study of birds made her feel more _____ (*calm, peaceful*).
4. Since they couldn't really see what was happening on the ball field, both sets of fans cheered _____ (*at the same time*).
5. I knew that my daughter wasn't feeling well; her breathing was irregular, her face was very pale, and her skin was _____ (*had blotches and spots*).
6. My mother noticed the _____ (*narrow, groove-like depression*) in my brow. She comforted me, saying, "Don't fret so; we'll find your cat."
7. His behavior prevented our departure for several days. Puzzled, my Aunt Melissa asked him, "Why are you _____ (*delaying*) our progress?"
8. Our teacher encouraged the slower students, reminding them that hard work is never _____ (*without result*).
9. The _____ (*sea-dwelling, hard-shelled creatures*) is known for the powerful glue its body secretes.
10. Monday night he had a dream that his father was to visit on Thursday. The next morning he couldn't help but feel that his father's arrival was _____ (*likely to occur at any moment*).



11. My Uncle Irv always tells us that playing the piano restores his delicate sense of _____ (*balance*) after a crazy day on Wall Street.
12. The sailors clung _____ (*with a firm hold*) to the mast, as the angry storm tossed the sailboat up and down in the heaving ocean.
13. Spoken in desperation, his _____ (*a rushing, violent stream or flood*) of words was lost in the shouts of the mob.
14. How can I describe to you the beauty of the _____ (*an area of shallow water open to the sea, but separated from it by low dunes*)?
15. The selfless, brave physicians of Doctors Without Borders are _____ (*superiority*) in their global humanitarian efforts.
16. The _____ (*continued, low, monotonous sound*) of the ceiling fans nearly put her to sleep in the hot and humid afternoons.
17. Sarah, an experienced astronaut, was astounded to see androids working as guards on the _____ (*outermost limit*) of the new Mars colony.



Vocabulary

Exercise Two Practice with Vocabulary. Three of each group of the four words or phrases, and the vocabulary word, share common traits. Circle the unlike term. For example, if the vocabulary word were **meow**, and the choices **purr**, **hiss**, **mew**, and **bow-wow**, the unlike word would be **bow-wow**, since the other four are cat sounds. However, if the word **meow** were followed by **bow-wow**, **wow**, **baaaa**, and **how**, the unlike term would be **baaaa**, because the others end with the “ow” sound.

1. **barnacle**

crab
goldfish
clam
lobster

2. **droning**

buzzing
humming
zzzing
coughing

3. **equilibrium**

balance
equality
imbalance
sameness

4. **furrow**

borough
groove
burrow
sorrow

5. **futile**

successful
useless
ineffectual
worthless

6. **imminent**

impending
distant
upcoming
overhanging

7. **impeding**

blocking
delaying
assisting
stopping

8. **lagoon**

attune
balloon
inlet
buffoon

9. **mottled**

spotted
smooth and white
blotchy
dotted

10. **perimeter**

radius
limits
fringes
circumference

11. **placid**

peaceful
upset
calm
tranquil

12. **preeminence**

inferiority
superior
foremost
supreme

13. **respite**

rest
delay
interim
persistence

14. **simultaneously**

separately
together
synchronized
at the same time

15. **teeming**

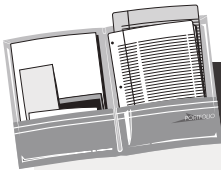
crowded
jammed
empty
packed

16. **tenaciously**

persistently
doubtfully
doggedly
through thick and thin

17. **torrent**

outburst
eruption
spewing
trickle



Theme & Supporting Details

DISCOVER it!

Introduction In *The Sea Devil*, the reader sits at the dock's edge, hanging on to every detail. In fact, it is the details which create the sense of realism in the story. The primary theme is man's struggle with nature—a life-and-death one, here. Another theme is the physical idleness of modern times. A third idea is the distancing from—yet the pull towards—survival behaviors, such as hunting and fishing. The supporting details for each of these ideas draw the reader in.

YOU TRY it!

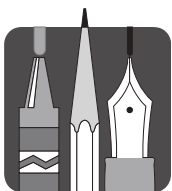
Directions Choose two themes from *The Sea Devil*. Identify one theme in each of the boxes on the left. In the oblongs on the right, list three supporting details for each of the main ideas. For example, for **man's struggle with nature**, your details could include the mullet's not taking the hook, or the protagonist's making certain no stingray is hidden in the mesh. For **physical idleness**, examples are: the man not having to fish for food and his working with his head, not his hands.

MAIN IDEA OR THEME

DETAIL

1.
2.
3.

1.
2.
3.



Going One Step Further Tell your class a story about a powerful experience of your own. Prepare by writing down and developing your tale, including the details you see in your mind's eye when you recall the event. Practice telling your story, without notes, and then present it to your classmates.