

Vocabulary for "The Monkey's Paw"

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

Directions:

- Read the following sentences.
- Use your *Context Clues Methods* hand-out to help you figure out what the underlined words mean. Circle any signal words in the sentence that might help you use the context clues.
- Write the possible definition in the space provided.
- Write the name of the method used to help you figure out the definition.
- During classroom review, write in the corrected definition if it's different from your conjecture.

1. "It had a spell put on it by an old fakir," said the sergeant-major, "a very holy man. He wanted to show that fate ruled people's lives, and that those who interfered with it did so to their sorrow. He put a spell on it so that three separate men could each have three wishes."

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

2. Her husband drew the talisman from his pocket, and then all three burst into laughter as the sergeant-major, with a look of alarm on his face, caught him by the arm. "If you must wish," he said gruffly, "wish for something sensible."

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

3. Sergeant-Major Morris took the paw, and dangling it between his front finger and thumb, suddenly threw it upon the fire. However, Mr. White, with a slight cry, stooped down and snatched it off. "Better let it burn," said the soldier, solemnly.

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

4. As they ate supper, the talisman was partly forgotten, and afterwards the three sat listening in an enthralled way to a second installment of the soldier's adventures in India.

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

5. Mr. White took the paw from his pocket and looked at it ***dubiously***. “I don’t know what to wish for, and that’s a fact,” he said slowly. “It seems to me I’ve got all I want.”

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

6. His father, smiling shamefacedly at his own ***credulity***, held up the talisman, as his son, with a solemn face somewhat marred by a wink at his mother, sat down at the piano and struck a few impressive chords.

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

7. “Well, don’t break into the money before I come back,” said Herbert, as he rose from the table. “I’m afraid it’ll turn you into a mean, ***avaricious*** man, and we shall have to disown you.”

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

8. She brought the stranger, who seemed ill at ease, into the room. He gazed ***furtively*** at Mrs. White, and listened in a preoccupied fashion as the old lady apologized for the appearance of the room.

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

9. There was no reply; the old woman’s face was white, her eyes staring, and her breath ***inaudible***.

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____

10. It was all over so quickly that at first they could hardly realize it, and remained in a state of expectation. But the days passed, and expectation was replaced with ***resignation***.

Possible definition: _____

Context Clue Method: _____

Corrected definition: _____