

A CHRISTMAS CAROL - Vocabulit

Staves 4 & 5

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

Read the following sentences to get the general meaning. Read it a second time, paying special attention to the underlined words. Notice how they are used in sentences. These are Master Words. These are words you will be working with in this lesson.

It was shrouded in a deep black garment, which concealed its head, its face, its form, and left nothing of it visible save one outstretched hand. (p.89, M)

“Ghost of the Future!” he exclaimed, “I fear you more than any specter I have seen...” (p. 90, B)

But there they were, on ‘Change, among the merchants who hurried up and down, and chinked the money in their pockets, and conversed in groups, and looked at their watches, and trifled thoughtfully with their great gold seals, and so forth, as Scrooge had seen them often. (p. 91, M)

Scrooge was at first inclined to be surprised that the Spirit should attach importance to conversations apparently so trivial, but feeling assured that they must have some hidden purpose, he set himself to consider what it was likely to be. (p. 93, M)

They left the busy scene and went into an obscure part of town, where Scrooge had never penetrated before, although he recognized its situation and its bad repute. (p. 94, B)

Far in this den of infamous resort, there was a low-browed, beetling shop, below a penthouse roof, where iron, old rags, bottles, bones and greasy offal were bought. (p 94, B)

At last she said, and in a steady, cheerful voice, that only faltered once:“I have known him walk with--I have known him walk with Tiny Tim upon his shoulder very fast indeed.” (p.105, T)

“Men’s courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead,” said Scrooge. (p. 109, B)

Some people laughed to see the alteration in him, but he thought it quite as well that they should wrinkle up their eyes in grins, as have the malady in less attractive forms. (p. 122, T)



EXERCISE 1 - Self-Test: After reading the above sentences, do the following. Look at the Master Words below. Underline the words that you think you know. Circle the words that you are less sure about. Draw a square around the words you don’t recognize.

MASTER WORDS	
alteration	obscure
conversed	persevered
faltered	shrouded
infamous	specter
malady	trivial



EXERCISE 2 - Read the sentences on the preceding page again, this time paying special attention to the ten Master Words. In the (a) spaces provided below, write down what you think is the meaning of the word. After you have attempted a definition, the teacher will give you the dictionary definition to write in the (b) spaces.

1. alteration (n.)

a. _____

b. _____

2. conversed (v.)

a. _____

b. _____

3. faltered (v.)

a. _____

b. _____

4. infamous (adj.)

a. _____

b. _____

5. malady (n.)

a. _____

b. _____

6. obscure (adj.)

a. _____

b. _____

7. persevered (v.)

a. _____

b. _____

8. shrouded (v.)

a. _____

b. _____

9. specter (n.)

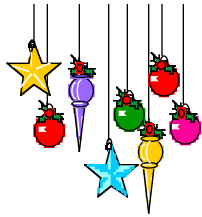
a. _____

b. _____

10. trivial (adj.)

a. _____

b. _____



EXERCISE 3 - Use the following list of synonyms and antonyms to fill in the blanks. Three words have no antonyms. In those cases, the antonym blanks have been marked with an X.

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| change | continued | gave-up | ghost |
| health | hesitated | illness | important |
| insignificant | permanence | persisted | remote |
| odious | famous | talked | uncovered |
| wrapped | nearby | | |

Synonyms

Antonyms

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-------|
| 1. obscure | _____ | _____ |
| 2. infamous | _____ | _____ |
| 3. trivial | _____ | _____ |
| 4. alteration | _____ | _____ |
| 5. persevered | _____ | _____ |
| 6. specter | _____ | X |
| 7. faltered | _____ | _____ |
| 8. conversed | _____ | X |
| 9. malady | _____ | _____ |
| 10. shrouded | _____ | _____ |



EXERCISE 4 - Decide whether the first pair in the items below are synonyms or antonyms. Then choose the **Master Word** that shows a similar relation to the word(s) preceding the blank.

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. genial | : jovial | :: chatted | : | 1. _____ |
| 2. sufficient | : scanty | :: endeavored | : | 2. _____ |
| 3. respectfully | : reverently | :: phantom | : | 3. _____ |
| 4. odious | : wretched | :: isolated | : | 4. _____ |
| 5. inside | : outside | :: surrendered | : | 5. _____ |
| 6. turquoise | : azure | :: sickness | : | 6. _____ |
| 7. begged | : implored | :: transformation | : | 7. _____ |
| 8. quiet | : hushed | :: notorious | : | 8. _____ |
| 9. ignorant | : educated | :: meaningful | : | 9. _____ |
| 10. wet | : dry | :: exposed | : | 10. _____ |



EXERCISE 5 - The Master Words in this lesson are repeated below. From the Master Words, choose the appropriate word for the blank in each of the following sentences. Write the word in the numbered space provided at the right.

alterations conversed faltered malady obscure
 persevered infamous shrouded specter trivial

1. Melanie thinks she has to memorize too many . . . ? . . . details in her history class. 1. _____
2. The old antique shop was in an . . . ? . . . part of town. 2. _____
3. Sean's coat was too big, so he took it to the cleaners for . . . ? . . . 3. _____
4. My grandmother said she once saw a transparent . . . ? . . . inside an old cemetery. 4. _____
5. Plans for the surprise party were . . . ? . . . in secrecy. 5. _____
6. Everyone was proud of the way Steve . . . ? . . . despite his injury. 6. _____
7. The doctors were unable to diagnose the . . . ? . . . 7. _____
8. The . . . ? . . . criminal was put in prison for many years. 8. _____
9. Several students . . . ? . . . about the professor's lecture after class. 9. _____
10. Although Jamie sometimes . . . ? . . . , she never gave up her aspirations. 10. _____



EXERCISE 6 - Use the clues below to find the Master Word.

Syllables	Clue	Master Word
2	the Ghostbusters hunt these down	1. _____
4	a pair of pants might need this	2. _____
3	unimportant facts can be this	3. _____
2	something covered or concealed	4. _____
3	chicken pox, measles, the flu	5. _____
3	well-known for wretched deeds	6. _____
3	endeavored to be resolute	7. _____
2	out-of-the-way, outlying	8. _____
2	had a discussion	9. _____
2	someone who didn't keep going	10. _____