

Freshman Honors English

An honors student needs to develop the habit of reading. Reading specific titles is not as important as reading quality work that will do two things: introduce you to new ways of seeing the world and introduce you to new vocabulary. If you understand the world and have a large vocabulary, reading will become easier. A wide range of students show that the one factor that slows student reading and impairs comprehension is a lack of vocabulary. You will need to develop good vocabulary and reading habits as you prepare for college. So this summer assignment is designed to get you to start developing good habits.

Assignment Checklist

- Find a copy of the novel of your choice from the list and read it
(*Pride and Prejudice*, *The Secret Piano*, *Dune*, *The Book Thief*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, or *Things Fall Apart*)

- Complete a vocabulary journal with twenty words of your choice (I recommend you use this as an opportunity to study the 20 hardest words from your assigned vocabulary list)

- Call the teacher to let her know what book you're studying by July 15th

- Make sure you know the words on the teacher's vocabulary list

- Research one issue in your book using a credible source

- Write up your findings in a single paragraph

- Study for the book test when school starts. Review the sample vocabulary test included here and consider finding friends who are reading the same novel and studying together.

Due Dates

- You must make a call to the teacher before July 15th with the title of your novel
- The research and vocabulary is due the first week of school
- The second week of school, students will have a content/reading comprehension test and a vocabulary test. A sample vocabulary test is included in this packet. The comprehension test will focus on characters, significant plot points, and the author's message.

Extra Credit

- If you're nervous about your grade, you can read a second book (no journals or research, just read). If you can score an 80% or better on a tough reading comprehension test, I will give you extra credit for doing extra work. If you don't score at least a B, unfortunately you cannot receive any credit.

Vocabulary Journal

You have to complete 20 vocabulary journals, but it's your choice about which style of journal you use or if you want to study different words using different methods. I encourage you to choose the twenty HARDEST words from your book's vocabulary list and use these journals to study. All these must be written by hand. No computer work on this part. I also suggest you study the vocab before you read the book so you will be familiar with the terms you encounter.

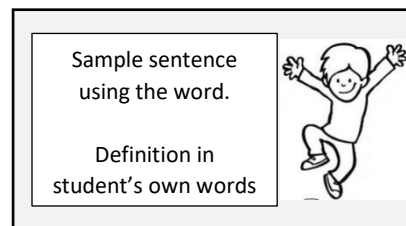
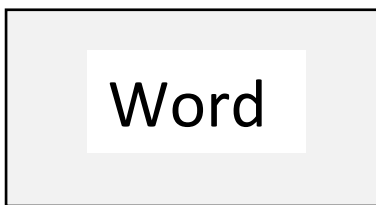
An interesting note:

Earl Nightingale wrote of a 20-year study of college graduates. "Without a single exception, those who had scored highest on the vocabulary test given in college were in the top income group, while those who had scored the lowest were in the bottom income group."

Option One:

The brain-tickling flashcard

Regular flashcards do very little to help students remember because there is no struggle to remember the word. If you don't know it, you just flip the card over and look at the answer. That is a poor study habit. The brain-tickle flashcard works because it forces you to think and struggle to remember. That struggle is evidence of learning. On one side you have the word. On the other you have a sample sentence, a picture that reminds you of the word, and a definition.

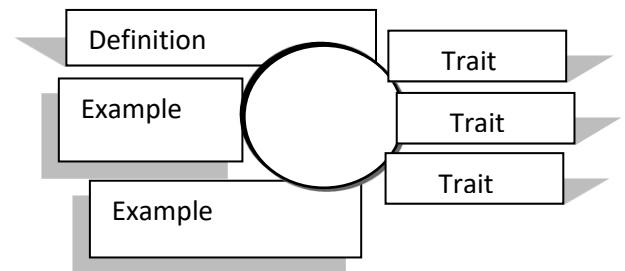


To study, have someone hold your cards. They will show you the word. Hopefully you will know the definition. If not, they will describe the picture. If that doesn't trigger the memory, they will read the sample sentence. Study this way and you'll learn the words faster.

Option Two:

Concept Definition Mapping

Some complex words require more than a simple definition can change meanings depending on how they are used. So, sometimes the best way to learn a word is to go beyond the simple definition and try and create a more complete understanding of the word. For "Concept Definition Mapping," you need to include 1) the standard definition, 2) key words that describe the word, and 3) at least two examples of the word. This information is arranged around the word in the circle.

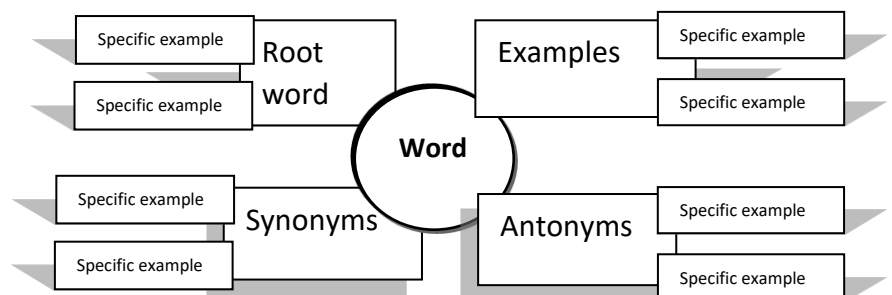


Option Three:

Word Webs

In a word web, you connect the new word to words you already know by listing words that share the same root word, antonyms (words that mean the opposite), synonyms (words that mean the same thing), and examples. To research root words, search the internet for "etymology" or the study of word

origins. If you search "benediction etymology," you will find sites that tell you what root words are in benediction and help you find other words that have the same root.



Option Four:

Keyword Method

The keyword method is like a word game; the sillier you get, the more likely you are to remember the word. In this method, you link the new word you want to learn to words you already know. You try to connect the word with a name or concrete object that will help you remember the word. Your first step is to decide what the word sounds like. Then, you try to create a story or explanation that connects the new vocabulary to the word you think it sounds like. Finish by drawing your own picture of the story.

Word: Futile

Definition: hopeless, useless, utterly ineffective

Sounds like: Few Tile

Story: Two roofers are standing on a blank roof, and they only have a few tiles to cover the entire roof. The one turns to the other and says, "Well, this is futile—we have too few tiles."



1. Upbraid
Definition - finding fault with someone - yelling at - scolding
Sounds-like Up braid
Story - When the teacher yelled at Maria, Maria was so shocked that her braids stood straight up and her eyes got big

A simple line drawing of a girl's face with two braids that are standing straight up, representing the 'upbraid' concept.

2. Gregarious
Congregate
Congregation
Root: Greg
Means: Group
Examples: Cary is gregarious and friendly. Geese are gregarious animals.
Gregarious
Unsocial, Unfriendly
Antonyms: lonely, independent, Cold
Social - Synonyms: Outgoing, Grouping, Friendly, herding

A hand-drawn mind map for the word 'Gregarious'. The central node is 'Gregarious'. It branches into 'Congregate' and 'Congregation'. Below it is a box containing 'Root: Greg' and 'Means: Group'. To the right is a box for 'Examples' with two examples: 'Cary is gregarious and friendly' and 'Geese are gregarious animals'. Below 'Gregarious' are 'Unsocial' and 'Unfriendly'. To the right is a box for 'Antonyms' with 'lonely', 'independent', and 'Cold'. To the left is a box for 'Social - Synonyms' with 'Outgoing', 'Grouping', and 'Friendly'. The word 'herding' is also written near the synonyms.

Feel free to mix and match vocab journal types. If you do flashcards, paperclip the cards to any other journals you have, and make sure your name is on EVERYTHING.

Make sure your work is neat. And again, you cannot type your vocabulary journals.

Call the Teacher!

Now that you're sure you want to do this book, CALL THE TEACHER! I need to know which title you are reading, so I can make enough tests. We will have a test the Monday of the second week of school. More importantly, you need to get used to asking for help when you need it. That means coming in after school or picking up the phone and calling if you need help.

My mother lives with me, so bad phone manners aren't an option. Here are a few hints on good phone manners.

- Don't call adults before 8am or after 9pm unless you know them well enough to know they'll be available.
- Avoid calling people at dinner, so 5:30 -7 is usually off limits
- If an answering machine picks up, leave your name and phone number for a call back. Also say why you are calling.
- When you leave a number, SLOW DOWN. The person on the other end is writing it down, so leave pauses to make copying the number down easier. I will call you back, but not if I can't understand the message.
- If you don't get a callback within 24 hours, call again, but don't call before that.
- If someone answers the phone, first ask for "Ms. Cannaday." Please don't just start talking. As much as it amuses my mother when students burst into a long explanation or plea for assistance, she can't actually help you.
- Keep my phone number handy. You can always call if you're stuck, just use good phone manners and don't call me if you've forgotten your homework. That's your responsibility. However, if you're stuck, I can clarify a direction or help you understand something. I would rather have you call than find out the next day when you don't have your homework done on time. 623-334-6934.

Vocabulary list from *Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*

abhor	countenance -- as in: giving	indulgent
abominable	countenance	inevitable
accompany	deduce	infer
accord -- as in: according to, or in accord with	deference	infinite
acknowledge	deliberate -- as in: need to deliberate	inquire
acquaint	denotes	inquiry
acquire	derive	insolent
affectation	despise	intrusion
affront -- as in: an affront to society	diffident	invaluable
agitate	discourse	matrimony
allusion	discreet	militia
alternative -- as in: an alternative plan	disdain	minute -- as in: a minute amount
amiable	dispose -- as in: disposed the troops	mortified -- as in: felt mortified
animate	dispose -- as in: Is she disposed to help?	obligation
anxiety	disposition -- as in: a kind disposition	oblige
apparent	duration	obstinate
approbation	earnest	parish
attain	emerge	penitent
attribute -- as in: I attribute it to...	enable	persist
banish	endeavor	perverse
bestow	endure -- as in: endured the pain	precede
cease	engrossed -- as in: engrossed in the book	predominant
censure	enhance	prejudice
coherent	entails	pretense
coincide	entreat	principal
commendation	enumerate	principle
compassion	equivalent	procure
compliance	estimate	profess
composure	explicit	propriety
comprehend	extortion	provoke
comprised	felicity	prudent
conceit -- as in: confident, but not conceited	forbearance	rapture
concurrent	gratification	rational -- as in: rational behavior
condescending	grave -- as in: A grave manner.	recollect
conjecture	impertinent -- as in: she was impertinent	reproach
consequence	implicit	reprove
console -- as in: to console	imply	requisite
constant	impropriety	resolve
contempt -- as in: feels contempt towards him	impute -- as in: impute her behavior	ridicule
contented	inclined -- as in: I'm inclined to	scruples
contrary	indebted	solicitous
contrived	indecision	subsequent
cordial -- as in: a cordial reception	indifferent	sufficient
corresponding -- as in: corresponding time period	indignant	summon
corroborate	indolent -- as in: naturally indolent	tranquil
countenance -- as in: a pleasant countenance	indulge	trifle with -- as in: trifle with her love
		utmost
		venerate
		vex
		vindicate
		wretched

Vocabulary list for **Zhu Xiao-Mei's *The Secret Piano: From Mao's Labor Camps to Bach's Goldberg Variations***

abashed	erroneous	prodigious
abyss	excrement	proletariat
agape	exemplary	purge
allegation	expedition	quell
amiss	exploit	ransack
anarchy	exude	redeem
anonymity	finite	refrain as in: refrain from
apex	flagged (as a verb)	something
aria	fluent	regime
attain	foreboding	regimen
beneficial	fraternize	reign
bolster	glean	reminiscent
bourgeois	grave as in: a grave manner.	renowned
cacophony	grim	repertoire
capitalist	harbinger	repertoire
captivated	harbinger	requisition
categorical	haughty (or haughtiness)	restorative
chaos	heed	revere
clarity	ignominious	ruthless
cloistered	immense	salvage
collaboration	impeccable	scrupulous
confiscate	imperialist	scrutinize
contemplate	impose	seize
convalesce	incessant	self-effacing
convictions as in: holding	initial	semblance
convictions	insinuated	shabby
coterie	intimate as in: intimate circle of	silhouette
cultivate	friends	solace
daunting	introspective	spartan
defamatory	intuitive	spontaneous
definitively	keen	sterile
denounce	maxim	subjected
denunciation	mediocre	subside
deprivation	melancholy	successive
deprive	mere	superficial
deprived	meticulous	superfluous
devoid	milieu	terminal as in: terminal cancer
dictated	monotonous	unassuming
disconsolate	naïve	unequivocal
discreet	nonplussed	unnerved
distinct	nostalgic	unsurpassed
distraught	ominous	untenable
draconian	paramount	ushered (in)
elation	pathological	utter
elite	premonition	vary
emaciated	prerequisite	venue
embodiment	prestigious	wane
equilibrium	prey	wary
	proctor	zealous

Vocabulary list from **Frank Herbert's *Dune***

abrupt -- as in: an abrupt change	deride	irony -- as in: situational irony
accompany	derive	jihad
accumulate	devious -- as in: a devious plan	latent
acknowledge	devise -- as in: devise a plan	lattice
acquire	discord -- as in: discordant music	levy -- as in: levy a tax
adaptation	discreet	migrate
adept	disdain	monopoly
agitate	dispute	mote
agony	distort	mystic
allegiance	diversity	neutral -- as in: played at a neutral site
alternative -- as in: an alternative plan	diversify	nexus
altitude	dominate	obliterate
ambiguous	ecumenical	obscure
antidote	elated	ordeal
apparent	emerge	passive
appropriate -- as in: appropriated the	enhance	persist
approximate	entourage	persistent
attain	ephemeral	poise
attribute -- as in: I attribute it to...	equivalent	precede
carrion	essence	precipitate -- adj as in: a precipitate decision
cease	essential	prescient
censure	estimate	principle
clarity	explicit	probe
coherent	fanatic	proctor
complement	feint	profound -- as in: profound idea
component	feud	profound -- as in: profound sadness
conflict	finite -- as in: a finite number	protrude
conformist	fissure	quota
confront	formidable	relevant
consecrate	function	renegade
consequence	furtive	resumption
constant	futile	revelation -- (with a lowercase "r")
context	garrison	revere
contrary	guile	scorn
convention -- as in: to convene	hierarchy	scrutiny
convention -- as in: conventional behavior	imply	sequential
convention -- as in: The Geneva Convention	incompatible	simultaneous
corresponding -- as in: corresponding time period	indebted	stagnate
crucial	indicator	subtle -- as in: a subtle poison
cunning	inevitable	subtle -- as in: a subtle thinker
cynical	inherent	sufficient
dais	inhibit -- as in: inhibited the growth of...	summon
defer -- as in: deferred to her wishes	inhibited -- as in: he is shy and inhibited	suppress
deliberate -- as in: need to deliberate	innovate	transitory
	insight	treachery
	intone	virtual -- as in: virtual organization
	intrinsic	wary
	intrusion	waver
	invoke	

Vocabulary list for Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*

accompany	desolate	mockery
accumulate	despair	morose
accustomed	despise	nonchalant
acknowledge	deter	notorious
admonish	deteriorate	obligatory
agitate	devise -- as in: devise a plan	obliterate
allocate	diagonal	oblivious
alternative -- as in: an alternative plan	disheveled	oblivion
amiable	disoriented	onslaught
anarchist	disperse -- as in: the crowd dispersed	optimistic
anxiety	distort	passive
apparent	distraught	pendulum
approximate	diverse	pensive
attain	dominate	perplex
attribute -- as in: It is an attribute of...	dubious	persecution
attribute -- as in: I attribute it to...	duration	persist
berate	earnest	perspective -- as in: Look at it from her perspective
bewilder	elaborate	peruse
bias	elapse	predominant
blatant	emerge	prelude
castigate	estimate	prolific
cease	euphoria	propaganda
chaos	excerpt	proximity
clarity	explicit	prudent
colleague	fluent	quell
collide	forlorn	ration
communism	function	recital
compel	futile	recollect
compliance	grapple	reprimand
comprehensive	grave -- as in: A grave manner.	reproach
comprehend	hobbled -- as in: he hobbled up the hill	resolute
concede -- as in: concede the point	illustrious	resolve
confront	implicit	resumption
consequence	impoverish	sadist
constant	incensed -- as in: incensed by her insult	scythe
contempt -- as in: feels contempt towards him	incessant	serene
contented	indecision	simultaneous
context	inevitable	slander
contort	infamous	sporadic
contrary	infernal	staunch
corrosion	initiative	stealth
culminate	innate	stoic
daunt	innocuous	sufficient
demise	inquire	torment
deplete	intuitive	trepidation
deride	loathe	vigilant
	marginal	vindicate
	migrate	waver
		wrath

Vocabulary list for **Alexandre Dumas's *The Count of Monte Cristo***

accompany	contrived	penitent
accord -- as in: according to, or in accord with	corroborate	perceive -- as in: perceive the system as unfair
accord -- as in: done of her own accord	countenance -- as in: a pleasant countenance	perceive -- as in: though blind, can perceive light
accustomed	culprit	perish
acknowledge	denounce	persist
acquaint	derive	philanthropy
acquire	descend	piazza
agony	despair	precede
alliance	dictate -- as in: Hitler dictated that	principle
allusion	dictate -- as in: dictate a letter	principal
anguish	discreet	procure
animate	disdain	providence -- as in: divine providence
anxiety	domestic -- as in: domestic violence	prudent
apparent	earnest	recollect
ardent	eccentric	recompense
ascend	elapse	refute
ascertain	eloquent	relative -- as in: they are relatives
assume -- as in: I assume it's true	enable	remorse
assume -- as in: She assumed power	endeavor	render -- as in: rendered service
assume -- as in: She assumed a false identity	endure -- as in: endured the pain	render -- as in: rendered her unconscious
attain	enmity	repentance
attire	entreat	repose -- as in: repose on the sofa
attribute -- as in: I attribute it to...	extortion	reproach
avenge	grave -- as in: A grave manner.	requisite
benefactor	illustrious	resolve
beseech	imperceptible	resumption
bestow	impetuous -- as in: an impetuous decision	scrutiny
betrothed	imply	sentinel
brigand	inanimate	solemn
candid	incline -- as in: on an incline or incline his head	spectacle
capricious	indebted	speculate -- as in: I'll speculate
cease	indicator	stifle
colleague	indifferent	stupefy
compel	inquire	submissive
complement	inquiry	sufficient
compliance	interpose	summon
comprehend	interrogate	tranquil
confide	magistrate	traverse
consequence	manifest -- as in: manifest destiny	trifle with -- as in: trifle with her affections
console -- as in: to console	melancholy	trifling -- as in: a trifling matter
conspiracy	meteor	usurp
constant	minute -- as in: a minute amount	utmost
contempt -- as in: feels contempt towards him	mitigate	venerate
contented	notwithstanding	vengeance
contract -- as in: the metal contracted	obliged	wretch
contrary	obscure	wretched
	paralysis	
	peasant	

Vocabulary list for **Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart***

abhor	descend	listless
abominable	desecrate	luxuriant
accommodate	despair	malevolent
accompany	despise	mirth
accord -- as in: in accord with	deter	mutilate
accord -- as in: done of her own accord	devoid	ominous
accord -- as in: accord her the respect deserved	dialect	ordination
acknowledge	diffuse	pacify
adherent	discern	pandemonium
affirm	discord -- as in: discordant music	parched
agitate	dispute	persevere
agony	distill	persistent
allegiance	dominate	perturb -- as in: she was perturbed
anarchy	dominion	plaintive
anxiety	dowry	poignant
apparent	emerge	principle
appease	emissary	profane
arduous	enable	prophecy
ascertain	enormity -- as in: enormity of the crime	prosperous
atone	enthral -- as in: enthralled by the story	prosper
audacious	entrails	proverb
beckon	esoteric	provoke
beget	evangelist	proyess
benevolent	exile	rebuke
bereaved	expedient	refuge
betrothed	external	requisite
brandish	feigned	resignation -- as in: accepted it with resignation
breadth	forsake	resilient
brusque	grave -- as in: A grave manner.	revel
capricious	grievance	revere
captivate	grievous	sinister
cease	haggard	sonorous
communal	harbinger	subside
conflict	heathen	successor
confront	immortal	sufficient
consequence	impending	sullen
console -- as in: to console	imperious	superfluous
constant	impotent	suppress
contempt -- as in: feels contempt towards him	impudent	torment
continuous	inadvertent	tremulous
cunning	incipient	tumult -- as in: couldn't hear over the tumult
deceit	infirm	tumult -- as in: tumult in the market
deft	inflexible	uncanny
degenerate	initiate	valor
deity	inseparable	wily
deliberate -- as in: need to deliberate	instantaneous	wither
deride	intone	wrath
derive	ire	zeal
	kindred	
	leprosy	

Sample vocabulary quiz using *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton

The part of speech may need to be changed (abrupt is the correct choice when the sentence requires abruptly). All sentences will come from the actual book.

Word bank for **set one** sentences:

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| A. Abrupt | F. Apparent |
| B. Acquire | G. Apprehensive |
| C. Acquit | H. Bewilder |
| D. Aghast | I. Conformist |
| E. Aloof | J. Contempt |

1. Socs were always behind a wall of _____, careful not to let their real selves show through.
2. Maybe Paul felt only _____ and pity and hate for greasers
3. Then he said I was _____and the whole case was closed.
4. I had thought about turning ourselves in lots of times, but _____the whole idea was a jolt to Dallas.
5. But he stared at the dashboard with such hurt _____that I could have bawled.
6. Soda fought for fun, Steve for hatred, Darry for pride, and Two-Bit for _____.

Answers

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Aloofness (E) | 3. acquitted (C) |
| 2. contempt (J) | 4. apparently (F) |
| | 5. bewilderment (H) |
| | 6. conformity(I) |

Research

Honors students need to show curiosity about the world. When you encounter an interesting idea in a book, go out and investigate the real world. When you're reading your book, find one topic that interests you to research. Look at the following examples.

- When reading *Dune*, research deep desert ecosystems.
- When reading *Pride and Prejudice*, research 19th century inheritance laws
- When reading *The Book Thief*, research book censorship in Nazi Germany
- When reading *The Secret Piano*, research whether reeducation camps exist today
- When reading *Things Fall Apart*, research the Ibo/Igbo tribe and what later happened
- When reading *The Count of Monte Cristo*, research the psychology of revenge.

These are simply examples. You don't have to do any of them. But you do have to research one topic of your choice. You are then going to write up your research in one paragraph (okay, if you have two that's fine).

1. Where did you get the information?

- a. Who is the author? (some sources don't have one or a group wrote them)
- b. What kind of source is it (website, article, book)
- c. What is the title of the article or website?
- d. When was the piece published?

2. What information did you find? Summarize

what the source said IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

Copying will lead to a score of zero!

3. Why is this interesting?

- a. Does it change the way you see the book? (And why)?
- b. Does it change the way you see the real world? (And why)?