

Vocabulary Bingo

The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

Purpose:

Vocabulary Bingo is a fun way for students to practice vocabulary words found in the text *The Alchemist*. Looking up definitions and matching the oral definition to their written word will help students gain graphophonic knowledge of the vocabulary words. Becoming familiar with the vocabulary words from the text would be useful both before and during reading.

Directions:

Assign each student in the class to record the vocabulary word and the definition on a 3 X 5 card. Students should use the context clues from the text and a dictionary to research the definitions. After the students have had time to make their card and study it, collect the cards. Give the students time to make their Bingo cards. Offer a sample for them to follow. When each student has completed his or her card, begin reading the definitions from the 3 X 5 cards, and have the students cover the word that coincides. The object is to call Bingo when an entire row, diagonal, or column is covered.

Variations to the game may include having all the students write the definitions on their card while the teacher reads the word. That way, students have the actual definitions in front of them during the whole game.

The following words are given in order of page number (then alphabetical). The definitions come from www.dictionary.com. The asterisk notes definitions that were taken directly from the text.

Vocabulary and Definitions

proprietor (p. 4)

A person who has the exclusive right or title to something; an owner, as of real property.

zenith (p. 8)

a highest point or state; culmination

levanter (p. 27)

a strong easterly wind in the Mediterranean

omen (p. 28)

anything perceived or happening that is believed to portend a good or evil event or circumstance in the future; portent

parable (p. 32)

a short allegorical story designed to illustrate or teach some truth, religious principle, or moral lesson

trajectory (p. 38)

A chosen or taken course

teeming (p. 42)

abounding or swarming with something, as with people

rueful (p. 53)

feeling, showing, or expressing sorrow or pity; mournful; doleful
obligation (p. 54)
feeling, showing, or expressing sorrow or pity; mournful; doleful
realize (p. 55)
To obtain or achieve, as gain or profit
hookah (p. 57)
An Eastern smoking pipe designed with a long tube passing through an urn of water that cools the smoke as it is drawn through
maktub (p. 59)
*It is written.
incessant (p. 62)
continuing without interruption; ceaseless; unending
alchemy (p.66)
any magical power or process of transmuting a common substance, usually of little value, into a substance of great value
capricious (p. 71)
Characterized by or subject to whim; impulsive and unpredictable
intuitive (p. 73)
direct perception of truth, fact, etc., independent of any reasoning process; immediate apprehension
nostalgia (p. 74)
a wistful desire to return in thought or in fact to a former time in one's life, to one's home or homeland, or to one's family and friends; a sentimental yearning for the happiness of a former place or time
balk (p. 75)
to stop, as at an obstacle, and refuse to proceed or to do something specified
mania (p. 81)
excessive excitement or enthusiasm; craze
incredulous (p. 82)
disinclined or indisposed to believe; skeptical
primitive (p. 83)
being in its earliest period; early; simple; unsophisticated
sentinel (p. 88)
a person or thing that watches or stands as if watching
exultant (p. 92)
Marked by great joy or jubilation; triumphant
suffuse (p. 105)
cause to spread or flush or flood through, over, or across
habituate (p. 105)
To accustom by frequent repetition or prolonged exposure
scabbard (p. 109)
a sheath for a sword or the like
prognostication (p. 111)
To predict according to present indications or signs; foretell; to foreshadow, portend
traitorous (p. 116)
of the nature of treason; treasonable; disloyal, treacherous, perfidious

luminous (p. 130)

radiating or reflecting light; shining; bright

garbed (p. 135)

To cover with or as if with clothing; dress

avid (p. 159)

enthusiastic; ardent; dedicated; keen

abrade (p. 161)

to wear off or down by scraping or rubbing

sacristy (p. 163)

an apartment in or a building connected with a church or a religious house, in which the sacred vessels, vestments, etc., are kept

abrade p. 161

alchemy p. 66

avid p. 159

balk p. 75

capricious p. 71

exultant p. 92

garbed p. 135

habituate p. 105

hookah p. 57

incessant p. 62

incredulous p. 82

intuitive p. 73

levanter p. 27

luminous p. 130

maktub p. 59

mania p. 81

nostalgia p. 74

obligation p. 54

omen p. 28

parable (p. 32)

primitive p. 83

prognostication p. 111

realize p. 55

rueful p. 53

sacristy p. 163

scabbard p. 109

sentinel p. 88

suffuse p. 105

teem p. 42

traitorous p. 116

trajectory p. 38

proprietor p. 4

zenith p. 8

Sample Bingo Card:

sacristy	levanter	capricious	mania	zenith
teem	intuition	maktub	luminous	omen
primitive	trajectory	abrade	suffuse	garbed
hookah	levanter	balk	alchemy	rueful
intuitive	incredulous	prognostication	parable	proprietor