

Name: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary:

"Thirst"

- 1. aquifer (AHK-wuh-fer)** *noun*; An aquifer is a layer of rock, sand, or gravel under the ground that holds water like sponge. Many communities get their drinking water from aquifers because aquifers not only absorb water, but also help purify it.
- 2. arduous (AHR-joo-uhs)** *adjective*; An arduous activity is one that is difficult and takes a lot of work and time. Making 500 cookies for a bake sale would be an arduous task. Climbing 15 flights of stairs would be arduous too.
- 3. developing country (dih-VEL-up-ping KUHN-tree)** *noun*; A developing country is one in which most citizens are poor and where there is little industrial development. Poor sanitation, hunger, and a lack of education are among the challenges people in developing countries often face.
- 4. hygiene (HIY-jeen)** *noun*; Hygiene is what you do to keep yourself and your surroundings clean and healthy. Washing your hands after going to the bathroom, brushing your teeth, and washing your clothes regularly are examples of good hygiene.
- 5. sanitation (san-ih-TEY-shuhn)** *noun*; To sanitize (SAN-ih-tahyz) something is to make it sanitary (SAN-ih-tehr-ee), meaning free from dirt and germs. (Perhaps you've used a hand sanitizer: a lotion you rub on your hands to kill bacteria.) Sanitation is the practice of keeping places sanitary—in other words, clean. Cities and towns usually have a department of sanitation that is in charge of things like collecting the garbage and cleaning the streets.
- 6. sediment (SED-uh-muhnt)** *noun*; Sediment is a buildup of sand, dirt, or other matter that settles at the bottom of a body of water or a container of liquid. Dirt at the bottom of a lake is sediment. The bits of orange that you find at the bottom of your glass of OJ are sediment too.
- 7. spectacle (SPEK-tuh-kuhl)** *noun*; A spectacle is an incredible sight or display—something that catches your attention either because it is very impressive or because it is unusual or shocking. A massive fireworks display is an example of a spectacle. A house painted in rainbow stripes would also be considered a spectacle. If Robbie is at a fancy restaurant and starts laughing so hysterically that everyone in the restaurant looks at him, you could say that Robbie is making a spectacle of himself.

Directions: In the space below, list any other words from the article whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence.

Vocabulary Practice

"Thirst"

Directions: Underline the boldfaced word in each pair that best completes the sentence.

1. Crystal's company is working to bring low-cost energy to **developing countries/aquifers**.
2. When Chris went to Kenya, he saw a lion catch a zebra in the wild. It was a **sanitation/spectacle** he would never forget.
3. Washing your hands before you eat and flossing once a day are examples of good **sanitation/hygiene**.
4. The muddy **sediment/aquifer** at the bottom of the pond squished between Taylor's toes.
5. Texas gets about 60 percent of its water from **sediment/aquifers**.

Directions: Fill in the circle next to the best answer to each question.

6. Which is an example of an arduous activity?
☐ Ⓐ painting your entire house
☐ Ⓑ eating a bowl of chocolate ice cream
7. Which might make it more difficult than usual to practice good hygiene?
☐ Ⓐ going on a long camping trip where there is no running water
☐ Ⓑ staying in a fancy hotel for a week
8. Which would you be more likely to find in a developing country?
☐ Ⓐ shiny new skyscrapers
☐ Ⓑ small farms
9. Who could be described as a sanitation worker?
☐ Ⓐ Kevin, who repairs streets in the city of Portland, Oregon
☐ Ⓑ Valerie, who collects garbage for the city of Portland, Maine
10. Which would more likely be described as a spectacle?
☐ Ⓐ a man walking around with a parrot on his head
☐ Ⓑ a man walking a Labrador retriever in the park