

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Vocabulary:

## *A Walk on the Moon*

1. **capsule (KAP-suhl)** *noun*; A capsule is a small container that closes tightly. Some medicines come in capsules. In the play, *capsule* refers to a small, gumdrop-shaped vehicle that is located on top of a spacecraft's main rocket. After entering outer space, the capsule separates from the rocket and serves as the astronauts' main living and working space. When the astronauts' mission is complete, the capsule transports them back to Earth, falling into the ocean with the help of parachutes.
2. **famished (FAM-isht)** *adjective*; If you say that you are famished, you mean that you are very, very hungry.
3. **fatigues (fuh-TEEGS)** *noun*; Fatigues are the casual uniform—usually a camouflage jacket and pants—that people in the military wear when they are doing work or are in battle. At a ceremony, parade, or other special event, members of the military wear a more formal uniform.
4. **ingenuity (in-juh-NOO-ih-tee)** *noun*; Ingenuity is the quality of being clever, inventive, and resourceful, especially when solving problems or meeting challenges.
5. **module (MOJ-ool)** *noun*; As it is used in the play, module refers to a part of a space vehicle that can separate from the rest of the vehicle and work on its own. A command module is where astronauts live, control the spacecraft, and communicate with people on Earth. A lunar module is a vehicle that comes off the spacecraft and lands on the moon.
6. **nuclear (NOO-klee-er)** *adjective*; An atom is the basic building block for all matter in the universe. The energy at the center of an atom is called a nucleus. (The plural of *nucleus* is *nuclei* [NOO-klee-ahy].) When atoms are broken apart or joined together, energy is released. We call this nuclear energy, because it is energy from nuclei.

Nuclear energy can be used to produce electricity. It can also be used to make powerful weapons. These are called nuclear weapons. They are the most dangerous weapons on Earth.

**7. simulated (SIM-yuh-leyt-id)** *adjective*; When you simulate (SIM-yuh-leyt) something, you imitate it. On Halloween, you might use a gray wig and makeup to simulate old age. If Beth is telling you something boring but you want to be polite, you might simulate interest in what she is saying.

The adjective *simulated* can refer to anything imitating the real thing. *Simulated* can have the particular meaning of “imitating the conditions of something, especially as a training exercise.” A fire drill is a simulated emergency: You act like there is a real fire as a way of practicing what to do if there happens to be a real fire.

**8. Soviet Union (SOH-vee-et Y00N-yuhn)** *noun*; The Soviet Union (officially called the *Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*, or *U.S.S.R.*) was a country that existed from 1922 to 1991 in Eastern Europe and northern Asia. It was a union, or joining together, of what were many countries and territories, including what is now Russia.

**9. turbulent (TUR-byuh-luhnt)** *adjective*; *Turbulent* can mean “moving in an irregular or violent way.” Turbulent air makes for a bumpy airplane ride.

*Turbulent* can also mean “full of confusion, disorder, and conflict.” If Kaylee and Megan have a turbulent relationship, they often argue with each other. A turbulent time in history is one during which there is a lot of conflict and perhaps violence, and people feel uncertain and unhappy.

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**Directions:** In the space below and on the back of this page (if necessary), list any other words from the play or letter 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

## *A Walk on the Moon*

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**Directions:** Answer each prompt below. Briefly explain your answer.

1. Which one is displaying ingenuity: a monkey cracking a nut with a sharp stone or a human taking a nap?

**Answer:**

**Why:**

3. Do you think the former Soviet Union was probably bigger or smaller than the state where you live?

**Answer:**

**Why:**

2. Which is more like a capsule: The medicine Tylenol or a dinner plate?

**Answer:**

**Why:**

4. Who is more likely to wear fatigues every day: a fashion designer or an officer in the Navy?

**Answer:**

**Why:**

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

5. Car companies test the safety of their vehicles in **simulated/nuclear** crashes.

6. I can't wait to get home for dinner. I am **famished/turbulent** after my long hike this afternoon.

7. **Turbulent/simulated** water might cause a boat to capsize.

8. The International Space Station is made up of **modules/fatigues**.

9. Many people are against **nuclear/famished** weapons.