

Name: _____ Date: _____

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Vocabulary:

"Escape From Alcatraz"

1. barren (BEHR-uhn) *adjective or noun*; The adjective *barren* means "having very few plants or not good for growing plants." The desert is an example of a barren landscape. *Barren* can also mean "unable to produce seeds or offspring." A barren apple tree is one that cannot produce any apples.

As a noun, *barren* refers to an area of land with sandy soil where few plants are able to grow.

2. cohort (KOH-hawrt) *noun*; A cohort is a companion or supporter with whom you have something in common. *Cohort* is often used to mean "accomplice"—that is, someone who helps someone else carry out a crime or wrongdoing. *Cohort* is also used to describe a group of people who are around the same age or have something else in common, as in "A cohort of middle school students sat near the front of the room."

3. fashion (FASH-uhn) *verb or noun*; As used in "Escape From Alcatraz," *fashion* is a verb that means "to make something from something else." Cavemen fashioned tools from stones. You might fashion a guitar strap out of a scarf. *Fashion* can also be a noun that refers to what's popular and in style.

4. hypothermia (hahy-poh-THUHR-mee-uh) *noun*; If a person has hypothermia, his or her body temperature is dangerously low. If hypothermia is not treated, it can lead to death. Someone may develop hypothermia after falling into ice-cold water or being outside in the cold without warm-enough clothes.

5. incarcerate (in-KAHR-suh-rayt) *verb*; To incarcerate someone is to put him or her in prison. If someone is incarcerated (adjective), that person is in prison. In the sentence "Linda took college classes during her incarceration," *incarceration* (noun) means "the time during which she was in prison."

6. ingenious (in-JEEN-yuhs) *adjective*; Something that is ingenious is very clever; it shows creativity and inventiveness.

7. notorious (noh-TOHR-ee-uhs) *adjective*; To be notorious is to be famous for something bad. A movie star is famous; a well-known criminal is notorious. Tourists might avoid a part of a city that is notorious for crime. A restaurant might be notorious for its poor service.

8. penitentiary (pen-i-TEN-shuh-ree) *noun*; A penitentiary is a prison for people convicted of serious crimes.

9. warden (WAWR-dn) *noun*; A warden is a person who is in charge of or takes care of something. Many workplaces have "fire wardens," people in charge of leading fire drills and getting employees to safety if there's an emergency. *Warden* is most often used to refer to an official in charge of a prison.

Directions: In the space below or on the back of this page, 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 using the word.

Vocabulary Practice

"Escape From Alcatraz"

Directions: Choose the word that is most similar in meaning to each word in bold.

1. warden

- Ⓐ student Ⓑ guardian

2. ingenious

- Ⓐ original Ⓑ empty

3. barren

- Ⓐ lifeless Ⓑ lush

Directions: Fill in the circle next to the best answer choice.

4. Which is a reason that David might be sent to a penitentiary?

- Ⓐ He steals millions of dollars.
Ⓑ He breaks his leg.

5. Someone who is incarcerated is _____.

- Ⓐ in prison
Ⓑ stuck in a traffic jam

6. Which of the following countries is notorious for its air quality?

- Ⓐ a country known for its exceptionally clean air
Ⓑ a country known for its highly polluted air

Directions: Complete each unfinished sentence in a way that makes the meaning of the boldfaced word clear.

7. Maria fashioned _____

8. Eli was treated for hypothermia after _____

9. The robber ratted out his cohorts to the police. He _____