

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

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# Paired Texts Vocabulary

## "Hunting a Monster" and "Monster of the Deep"

1. **deduce (dih-DOOS)** *verb*; To deduce is to figure something out by thinking carefully about what you already know is true and then putting all the pieces together. Based on your brother's strange behavior and the small brown stain on his shirt, you might deduce that he is the one who ate your candy bar.
2. **elude (ih-LOOD)** *verb*; To elude is to escape or avoid something, usually by being quick, skillful, or tricky. A squirrel might manage to elude your cat by running up a tree. *Elude* can also mean "to fail to be understood or remembered by." If the name of an actor is eluding you, you can't think of that actor's name.
3. **enthusiast (en-THOO-zee-ist)** *noun*; Enthusiasm (en-THOO-zee-az-uhm) is a feeling of intense excitement, interest, or enjoyment. A friend's enthusiasm as he describes his favorite graphic novel might make you want to read it.  
  
An enthusiast is a person who is brimming with enthusiasm for a particular activity or subject. A sports enthusiast is really passionate about sports. A dinosaur enthusiast has a strong interest in dinosaurs and spends a lot of time learning about them.
4. **fantastical (fan-TAS-tik-uhl)** *adjective*; Something that is fantastical is so odd and remarkable that it seems impossible, like something that could exist only in your imagination. Star Wars movies have fantastical characters and scenery.
5. **figment (FIG-muhnt)** *noun*; A figment is something imagined or made up. *Figment* is usually followed by *of the imagination* as in, "I could have sworn I heard someone say my name, but it must have been a figment of my imagination."
6. **lair (lair)** *noun*; A lair is the den or resting place of a wild animal.
7. **outlandish (out-LAN-dish)** *adjective*; Something that is outlandish is so out of the ordinary or strange that it's difficult to accept. Effie Trinket from *The Hunger Games* wears outlandish outfits. An outlandish story is very odd, and hard to believe.

**8. scat (skat)** *noun*; Scat is a name for the droppings (poop) of a wild animal.

**9. sinewy (SIN-yoo-ee)** *adjective*; Muscles are connected to bones with bands of strong tissue called tendons. *Sinew* (SIN-yoo) is another name for a tendon. Something that is sinewy is full of sinew, or looks like it is. A sinewy piece of steak is stringy and tough. A sinewy person or animal looks lean and strong.

**10. specimen (SPES-uh-muhn)** *noun*; As used in the article, *specimen* refers to an individual plant or animal that is collected and studied by scientists as an example of its species.

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**Directions:** Below and on the back of this page, list any other words from the articles 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.

# Paired Texts Vocabulary Practice

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

1. My grandfather's arms were **sinewy** from years of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The cougars returned to their **lair** to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ was just a **figment** of Ann's imagination.

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

4. **outlandish**

- Ⓐ common      Ⓑ unusual

6. **fantastical**

- Ⓐ ordinary      Ⓑ imaginative

5. **elude**

- Ⓐ attract      Ⓑ avoid

7. **specimen**

- Ⓐ sample      Ⓑ group

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**Directions:** In each pair of boldfaced words, underline the word that best completes the sentence.

8. From the small white hairs on my teacher's clothes, I **deduced/eluded** that she must have a cat or dog.
9. **Enthusiasts/specimens** lined up outside the bookstore, eager for the release of their favorite author's new book.
10. The scientist was studying bear **scat/figment** to learn more about bears' diets.