

Name: _____ Date: _____

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Vocabulary:

Hunting a Snake-Headed Monster

1. **banish (BAN-ish)** *verb*; As it is used in the play, *banish* means “to send someone away from a country or place and order the person not to return.”
2. **demise (dih-MAHYZ)** *noun*; *Demise* means “death.” In the sixth book of the Harry Potter series, Hogwarts students grieve Professor Dumbledore’s demise. *Demise* can also refer to the end of something if that end is like a death. Some say e-readers like Kindles will lead to the demise of bookstores.
3. **immortal (ih-MAWR-tl)** *adjective or noun*; Something that is immortal lives forever; it never dies. *Immortal* is used as a noun to refer to a being that lives forever. The gods and goddesses of Greek mythology were immortals.
4. **intervene (in-ter-VEEN)** *verb*; If you intervene in a situation, you get involved in it to change or stop what is happening. If you see your little brothers shoving one another, you might intervene and help them settle their argument in a more peaceful way.
5. **lavish (LAV-ish)** *adjective*; As it is used in the play, *lavish* means “generous or excessive; in other words, giving or involving a very large amount of something.” A house with seven bedrooms, four bathrooms, and an indoor pool could be described as lavish.
6. **menacing (MEN-uhs-eeng)** *adjective*; The verb *menace* (MEHN-uhs) means “to threaten.” If a cat is swiping at every dog that walks by, the cat is menacing the dogs in the neighborhood.
The adjective *menacing* describes something that is threatening or suggests the presence of danger. The Joker speaks to Batman in a menacing voice. Dark storm clouds make the sky look menacing.
7. **ruse (rooz)** *noun*; A ruse is an action or a plan that is meant to mislead or fool someone. If you are throwing a surprise birthday party for your mom, you’ll need to come up with a clever ruse to keep her out of the house while you set up.
8. **writhe (rahyth)** *verb*; To writhe is to twist, squirm, or bend the body out of shape, often because of pain or discomfort. In the second Hunger Games book, a poisonous fog causes the tributes to writhe in pain on the forest floor.

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

Hunting a Snake-Headed Monster

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

1. Which seems more menacing: a hungry lion or a sleeping kitten?

Answer:

Why:

3. Which of the following is an immortal: a vampire or a butterfly?

Answer:

Why:

2. If two hockey players are fighting, who intervenes: a referee or a fan watching on TV?

Answer:

Why:

4. Which is a lavish display of flowers: a room overflowing with hundreds and hundreds of flowers, or a single daisy in a vase?

Answer:

Why:

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

5. After our dog ate a hamburger off the dinner table, my parents **writhed/banished** him to the backyard for the evening.

6. When the Big Bad Wolf suggests that Red Riding Hood pick flowers for her grandma, it's just a **ruse/demise** to buy him time so he can arrive at Grandma's cottage first.

7. The soccer player **writhed/banished** in pain after twisting his ankle.

8. My older brother got a job on Saturday mornings, which led to the **demise/ruse** of our weekly waffle-eating competitions.