

Name: _____ Date: _____

Go to Scope
Online to listen
to the words
and definitions
read aloud!

Vocabulary:

"The Roach"

1. **dinky (DING-kee)** *adjective*; Something dinky is very small and not appealing. A dinky hotel room is unpleasantly small and not very nice. A dinky town has just a few buildings and probably doesn't get many tourists.
2. **exoskeleton (ek-soh-SKEL-uh-tuhn)** *noun*; An exoskeleton is the hard outer covering of an animal, such as a beetle or a crab, that supports and protects the creature's body. *Exoskeleton* means "outside skeleton."
3. **frenzy (FREHN-zee)** *noun*; A frenzy is a feeling of great excitement or a lack of control. A family might be in a frenzy when packing for a move or a big trip. Fans of a movie series might be in a frenzy when the latest installment comes out.
4. **inevitable (in-EV-ih-tuh-buhl)** *adjective*; Something inevitable is sure to happen and can't be avoided. For example, it is inevitable that people get older as time passes. Feeling tired is inevitable if you stay up really late but still get up at your usual time.
5. **infest (in-FEST)** *verb*; To infest is to invade or spread over something in large numbers and in a way that causes harm. One ant cannot infest a kitchen cupboard, but dozens of ants could. One rat cannot infest a city, but hundreds of rats could.
6. **protrude (proh-TROOD)** *verb*; Something that protrudes sticks out. Spines protrude from a porcupine's back. When you pout, your lower lip protrudes.
7. **skitter (SKIT-uhr)** *verb*; To skitter is to move in a way that is light and quick. Beetles might skitter around on the floor. Dead leaves might skitter across the street, blown by the wind.
8. **stowaway (STOH-uh-way)** *noun*; A stowaway is someone or something that hides in an effort to take a trip without others knowing. Stowaways are often unwelcome. They travel in secret to avoid paying or getting into trouble.

Directions: Below, list any other words from the story 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 peers. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence.

Vocabulary Practice

"The Roach"

Directions: Rewrite each sentence using a form of one of the words in the box. There are two words you will not use.

infest	skitter	inevitable	dinky	stowaway	protrude
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1. "I need more than this one tiny piece of pizza for lunch!" said Tina.

2. Mason had a bad fall off his bike that left him with a bone sticking out of his arm.

3. Lydia's little brother tried to sneak into her luggage as a hitchhiker before she left for her trip.

4. It seemed certain that Sydney and Alexa would become friends—they had so much in common!

Directions: Choose the best answer to each question.

5. Which would more likely skitter?

- Ⓐ a mouse
- Ⓑ a bear

6. Which would more likely create a frenzy?

- Ⓐ a celebrity sighted walking through a store
- Ⓑ a discount on bananas at the grocery store

7. Which has an exoskeleton?

- Ⓐ a rhinoceros
- Ⓑ a ladybug

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

8. **inevitable**

- Ⓐ unavoidable
- Ⓑ unlikely

9. **infest**

- Ⓐ escape
- Ⓑ overrun

10. **frenzy**

- Ⓐ peace
- Ⓑ craziness

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Figurative Language

Authors use figurative language to bring their writing to life. This activity focuses on three types of figurative language: onomatopoeia, metaphor, and simile. **Directions:** Read "The Roach." Then fill in the charts below.

An **ONOMATOPOEIA** is a word that when spoken aloud imitates the sound it is describing.

Example:

Aaron dropped the pot with a clang.

The onomatopoeia *clang* imitates the sound of a metal pot hitting the floor.

A **METAPHOR** is a comparison of two unlike things to illuminate a particular quality or aspect of one of those things.

Example:

Karen is a ray of sunshine.

This metaphor compares Karen to a ray of sunshine. It suggests that Karen is cheerful, happy, warm, hopeful—qualities we associate with the sun.

Metaphors state that one thing *is* something else; they do not use the words *like* or *as*.

A **SIMILE** is a comparison of two unlike things to illuminate a particular quality or aspect of one of those things; similes use *like* or *as*.

Example:

Randy's singing voice is like melted chocolate.

This simile compares Randy's voice to melted chocolate. It suggests that Randy's voice is rich, smooth, sweet, warm—qualities we associate with melted chocolate.

Onomatopoeia

1A. Find three lines in "The Roach" that contain onomatopoeia. Write them down and circle the onomatopoeia in each.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

B. How does the use of onomatopoeia add to the story?

2. Write a sentence of your own that contains onomatopoeia.

Metaphor	
<p>3A. Find a metaphor in "The Roach" and write it here.</p>	<p>B. What two things does the metaphor you found compare? What quality or aspect of one of the things does the comparison illuminate?</p>
<p>4A. Complete the sentence below to write your own metaphor.</p> <p>The snow _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>B. What two things does your metaphor compare? What quality or aspect of snow does the comparison illuminate?</p>

Simile	
<p>5A. Find a simile in "The Roach" and write it here.</p>	<p>B. What two things does the simile you found compare? What quality or aspect of one of the things does the comparison illuminate?</p>
<p>6A. Complete the sentence below to write your own simile.</p> <p>Lee moved across the room</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>B. What two things does your simile compare? What quality or aspect of how Lee moved does the comparison illuminate?</p>

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Scene Planner

Fill in the boxes below to help you plan a scene that takes place after the events of the story "The Roach."

Characters

Who appears in your scene? Will you introduce any new characters?

Setting

Describe the time and place in which your scene takes place.

Plot

Make an outline of the events that will occur your scene.

On your own sheet of paper or on a computer, write the first draft of your scene, using the ideas you have written in the boxes above. Your scene must include at least one example of each of the following types of figurative language:

- onomatopoeia
- simile
- metaphor

Tip: If it's easier, you can add the figurative language after you've written your first draft. Look for places where you could add a sound effect, make a comparison, add emphasis, or say something in a fresh and creative way.

Story Planner

Title: _____ **Author:** _____

Genre: _____ **Point of View:** _____

Setting: Describe the time, place, and social conditions in which your characters exist.

Characters: Who is your main character? Secondary characters? What are their traits?

Conflict: What challenge or problem does your main character face?

Plot: Jot down ideas about what happens to create an outline or mini-summary of the events in your story.

Beginning:

Middle:

End:

Theme: What broader topic is your story about (e.g., trust, courage, nature)? What will your story say about that topic?

Note: *Scope* does not accept Google Docs. If you are e-mailing your entry, please send a .pdf or .doc file.

Roach Contest

Write a scene that takes place after the events of this story, in 650 words or less. Use each type of figurative language in the spotlight box on page 24 at least once. Five winners will get *Eventown* by Corey Ann Haydu.

Entries will be judged on:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ⇒ creativity | ⇒ clarity |
| ⇒ use of figurative language | ⇒ grammar, spelling, and punctuation |

My name: _____

My home phone number: _____ My grade: _____

My teacher's name: _____ My teacher's e-mail: _____

School name: _____

School address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

School phone number: _____

My parent or legal guardian consents
to my participation in this contest.

Parent's or legal guardian's signature: _____

Include this form with your entry and send both to: scopemag@scholastic.com
or mail them to: Roach Contest, c/o *Scope*, P.O. Box 712, New York, NY 10013-0712

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY April 20, 2020!