

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

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# Vocabulary:

## *Gods Versus Giants*

1. **begrudgingly (bih-GRUHJ-ing-lee)** *adverb*; If you do something begrudgingly, you do it unwillingly. In other words, you'd really rather not do it at all. For example, if you like to sleep in, you might begrudgingly agree to have band practice at 7 a.m. on a Saturday morning. If your mom says you have to clean your room before you can hang out with your friends, you might begrudgingly head to your room, dragging your feet and grumbling along the way.
  
2. **deception (dih-SEP-shuhn)** *noun*; The verb *deceive* (dih-SEEV) means “to trick or mislead.” If Jake claims to be your friend but says unkind things about you behind your back, you may feel he has deceived you.  
  
 Deception is the act of deceiving someone—in other words, making someone believe something that is not true. Magicians are masters of deception.
  
3. **gnarled (nahrlld)** *adjective*; Something that is gnarled is rough and full of twists and bumps or knots. Tree branches often become gnarled as they get old. People's hands can become gnarled too, either from old age or from hard work.
  
4. **muster (MUHS-ter)** *verb*; *Muster* can refer to gathering a group of soldiers together in one place to do something, such as to prepare for battle. *Muster* is also used to describe gathering up anything—and as much of it as you can—to get something done. Your choir teacher might ask you to muster all the students you can find to help move chairs into the gym for a concert. After standing against the wall at a school dance for an hour, you might muster the courage to get out on the dance floor and show off your moves.
  
5. **preposterous (prih-PAH-ter-uhs)** *adjective*; If something is preposterous, it is utterly ridiculous, foolish, and silly. It would be preposterous to think that you could teach your dog to do your homework.
  
6. **sidle (SAHYD-l)** *verb*; To sidle is to walk or move sideways in a quiet or sneaky way so that no one notices you. You might sidle up to a friend to whisper a secret in his ear, or you might sidle through a movie theater door if you are late to the movie.

- 7. summon (SUHM-uhn)** *verb*; As it is used in the play, *summon* means “to call for” or “to order people or things to a place.” You might punch a button to summon an elevator. In an emergency, you might summon help by dialing 911.

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**Directions:** Below and on the back of this page, 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

## *Gods Versus Giants*

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

summon   muster   preposterous   deception   begrudgingly   sidle   gnarled

1. I worried that my sister might lose my favorite hat, but I reluctantly let her borrow it.

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2. It took all the bravery Mia could find to get onstage and sing the national anthem in front of everyone.

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3. Long ago, people thought Earth was flat, but today that idea seems ridiculous.

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4. Tim quietly scooted over toward Matt to pass him a note.

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5. The police finally caught up with the criminal who had been selling fake celebrity autographs, and his years of trickery came to an end.

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

6. **preposterous**

- Ⓐ believable   Ⓑ unreasonable

8. **gnarled**

- Ⓐ bumpy   Ⓑ smooth

7. **deception**

- Ⓐ honesty   Ⓑ betrayal

9. **summon**

- Ⓐ dismiss   Ⓑ call for