

Name:

Freshman Vocab
Unit 1

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|--------|--------------|-----------|--------|---------|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. |
| memoir | characterize | hyperbole | hubris | analogy |

Context Passage:

If I were to set out to write a **memoir** chronicling an important experience in my own life, I would want to sound as awesome as possible. I would be sure to **characterize** myself in the most flattering way possible, so I sounded cool and sexy. I would certainly use **hyperbole** to make my story more interesting and fantastic. I see it as more of a white lie which exaggerates a bit to enhance my story rather than a real lie which twists the truth. Now, I would stop short of comparing myself to a god as that would show extreme **hubris**, and I'm really not quite that arrogant, but I would throw in an **analogy** or two to show that I am like a lot of real life heroes who make tough decisions and go out of their way to help others. I could even title it, "Southern Hero Saves the Day".

Fill-in-the-Blank:

1. Many politicians get into office and think they can do anything they want and behave in any manner they want, becoming so full of _____ that they eventually end up in a serious scandal and subsequent downfall.
2. Brandon's retelling of his fishing story clearly used _____ as the 20 inch fish he caught remarkably grew to become a 3 foot fish and the 10 minutes to reel it in suddenly became a 30 minute battle of man and beast.
3. Batman fights for the people of Gotham; he is _____ as a crusader of justice who bravely takes on criminals each night in a battle of good versus evil.
4. One can draw a(n) _____ between an atom and the solar system whereby both revolve around a central point.
5. Elie Wiesel wrote the _____ *Night* _____ in which he describes his experience as a fourteen year old Jewish boy trying to survive the Holocaust.

Matching:

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|-----------------------|---|
| _____ 6. memoir | • (n) an obvious exaggeration |
| _____ 7. characterize | • (n) a comparison made to show relationship or similarity |
| _____ 8. hyperbole | • (v) to describe the individual qualities of something or someone |
| _____ 9. hubris | • (n) a record of events written by a person based on personal and intimate experiences |
| _____ 10. analogy | • (n) excessive pride; arrogance |

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6. **literal** 7. **denotation** 8. **idiom** 9. **figurative** 10. **oxymoron**

Context Passage:

Ralph thought he was pretty funny. He could get most people to laugh by simply insisting on always taking the **literal** meaning of things. For example, when he was asked to give the performer a hand, he would pretend to give away his actual hand instead of to applaud. His reliance on the exact meaning or the **denotation** of words really bothered his sister. She could not even use an **idiom** like “the early bird catches the worm” without Ralph flapping his arms like wings. When she made a **figurative** reference like “quick like a rabbit”, he would hop to the car, and when on the rare occasion she used an **oxymoron** like “jumbo shrimp”, he went into complete convulsions acting big and small in alternating gestures. This was certainly an annoying phase that she hoped he would quickly outgrow.

Fill-in-the-Blank:

11. Foreign students study American _____ in order to fully understand our culture and language.
12. The expressions '4 ' and ' 8/2 ' have the same _____ , just like the word _____ has the same _____ as a man or woman who fixes teeth.
13. 'A small crowd gathered outside' is a confusing statement because it is an _____.
14. Poets use _____ language to create pictures in the minds of the readers. These specific word choices have to capture the reader’s imagination and create layers of meaning in order to tell a whole story in just a few lines of a poem.
15. A _____ translation needs to be as accurate to the original text as possible.

Matching:

- _____ 16. literal · (n) the direct or basic meaning of a word; exact meanings
- _____ 17. denotation · (n) a saying made up of contradictory words
- _____ 18. idiom · (adj) true to the exact meaning; actual or factual
- _____ 19. figurative · (adj) using speech to shape or form ideas, like metaphors, similes, or symbolism
- _____ 20. oxymoron · (n) an expression or saying which is unique to a specific group or culture

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| 11. | 12. | 13. | 14. | 15. |
| symbolism | allusion | connotation | satire | rhetorical question |

Context Passage:

Authors strive to create works of literature which take on greater significance in the world. For example, even Dr. Seuss worked in his children's books to make sense of the world around him. In his classic tale _____, Seuss uses the star on the bellies of some of the Sneeches as **symbolism** to represent the stars placed on Jews in the Holocaust. This **allusion** to the horrific events of the Holocaust gives this simple story a much more important message. Readers are able to read the simple lines about separating those with stars from those without and through **connotation** understand that Seuss is referencing racism. The humor with which Seuss is able to tell this allegory is full of **satire**, mocking the Sneeches with the hope that readers can learn from such mistakes. Such a successfully written story leaves readers with the **rhetorical question** of "What does it really matter if one has stars or not?", which is exactly Seuss' point.

Fill-in-the-Blank:

21. The parental _____ of "Are you really going to wear that?" is best answered by a prompt wardrobe change.
22. _____, _____, and _____ are examples of _____.
23. Red represents passion or love, blue represents peace and freedom, and purple represents royalty are all examples of _____.
24. Biblical and mythological _____ are commonly used by Shakespeare in his poems and plays.
25. In today's society, cigarette smoking carries with it a negative _____.

Matching:

- _____ 26. symbolism
- _____ 27. allusion
- _____ 28. connotation
- _____ 29. satire
- _____ 30. rhetorical question

- (n) a question asked to produce an effect or make a statement but not really to be answered
- (n) additional meanings of a word beyond its basic meaning; implied meanings
- (n) making fun of human behavior in an attempt to critique and expose it
- (n) a reference to a historical, literary, or cultural person or event
- (n) the use of things or characters to represent ideas or qualities

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| 16. | 17. | 18. | 19. | 20. |
| generalization | parable | allegory | inference | euphemism |

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Context Passage:

One responsibility of grandparents is to impart wisdom. Of course this is a stereotypical **generalization**, but it does seem that older folks do know things. Take for example the Biblical **parable** of the Good Samaritan. Isn't there always some Granny out there urging us to do right by others? Or take the **allegory** of the lion who seeks courage or the scarecrow who seeks knowledge in _____ . These lessons to do right by others and to believe in one's own self are hallmarks of the grandparent repertoire. These cryptic stories, told by the older people in our lives, take careful attention and **inference** in order for their true, full meaning to be realized. So the next time a grandparent starts in on a story, we should listen up and show a little respect. In fact, we might start by using a **euphemism** to reflect our respect by starting to call them elders rather than geezers.

Fill-in-the-Blanks:

31. The use of _____ in the film was obvious, with each character representing an abstract idea.
32. He told a _____ about the folly of focusing on material wealth.
33. Making sweeping _____ about people who are different from you is a common yet problematic reaction to the fear of the unknown.
34. Sometimes we are too polite, preferring _____ to actually telling it like it is.
35. From _____, "The Pirate Solution" 2009:
I took another look at the board, and I realized you were right.
So you were wrong.
I'm not saying that.
That's the only logical _____.
I'm still not saying it.

Matching:

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|--------------------------|--|
| _____ 36. generalization | • (n) an abstract lesson or idea taught as an extended metaphor through real examples or stories |
| _____ 37. parable | • (n) an inoffensive word or phrase used in place of one considered offensive or hurtful |
| _____ 38. allegory | • (n) a vague statement or idea that is basically true and universal |
| _____ 39. inference | • (n) short story designed to teach a truth or moral lesson |
| _____ 40. euphemism | • (n) the act of reasoning to draw a conclusion |