

Lord of the Flies Vocabulary

Chapter 1

1. **proffer**: offer "The fat boy waited to be asked his name in turn but his **proffer** of acquaintance was not made."
2. **motif**: single or repeated design "Here the beach was interrupted abruptly by the square **motif** of the landscape..."
3. **specious**: deceptive "Ralph had been deceived before now by the **specious** appearance of depth in a beach pool and he approached this one preparing to be disappointed."
4. **loll**: lounged "Ralph **loll**ed in the water."
5. **enmity**: ill-will "He [Ralph] trotted through the sand, enduring the sun's **enmity**, crossed the platform and found his scattered clothes."
6. **interposed**: intruded: got between "The shell was interesting and pretty and worthy plaything; but the vivid phantoms of his day-dream still **interposed** between him and Piggy..."
7. **embossed**: raised "...eighteen inches of shell with a slight spiral twist and covered with a delicate, **embossed** pattern."
8. **pursed**: puckered "Ralph **pursed** his lips and squirted air into the shell which emitted a low, farting noise."
9. **intricacies**: details "A deep, harsh note boomed under the palms, spread through the **intricacies** of the forest and echoed back..."
10. **strident**: harsh and loud "The note boomed again; and then at his firmer pressure, the note, fluking up an octave, became a **strident** blare more penetrating than before."
11. **stupendous**: amazing "[Ralph's] He's face was dark with violent pleasure of making this **stupendous** noise..."
12. **incredulous**: unbelieving: skeptical "They [Sam and Eric] were twins, and the eye was shocked and **incredulous** at such cheery duplication."
13. **sniggers**: snickers; laughs "This last piece of shop [information] brought **sniggers** from the choir..."
14. **furtive**: sly, devious "There was a slight, **furtive** boy whom no one knew, who kept to himself with an inner intensity of avoidance and secrecy."
15. **pliant**: pliable; flexible "Here the roots and stems of creepers were in such tangles that the boys had to thread through them like **pliant** needles."

16. **immured** walled in "*Immured* in these tangles, at perhaps their most difficult

Vocabulary Chapter 2

Fire on the Mountain

1. **gesticulated**: gestured with one's hands "He *gesticulated* widely."
2. **induced**: persuaded "At last Ralph *induced* him to hold the shell but by then the blow of laughter had taken away the child's voice."
3. **clambering**: climbing, scrambling "Ralph was already *clambering* over the first smashed swathes of the scar."
4. **swathes**: areas similar to rows left by a mower "Ralph was already clambering over the first smashed *swathes* of the scar."
5. **grotesque**: "Then they inched the *grotesque* dead trunk [the log] up the rock and toppled it over on top."
6. **officious**: too eager to serve or advise "There was pushing and pulling and *officious* cries."
7. **recrimination**: an accusation made in retaliation "His [Piggy's] voice lifted into the whine of virtuous *recrimination*."

Vocabulary Chapter 3

Huts on the Beach

1. **avidly**: eagerly "Then the trail, the frustration, claimed him again and he searched the ground *avidly*."
2. **inscrutable**: not easily understood "Jack lifted his head and stared at the *inscrutable* masses of creeper that lay across the trail."
3. **seductive**: tempting "From the pig-run came the quick, hard patter of hoofs, a castanet sound, *seductive*, maddening--the promise of meat."
4. **vicissitudes**: difficulties or hardships "Jack stood there, streaming with sweat, streaked with brown earth, stained by all the *vicissitudes* of a day's hunting. "
5. **contrite**: sincerely sorry for shortcomings "Simon's *contrite* face appeared in the hole. "Sorry."
6. **rapt**: completely absorbed "Ralph gazed bewildered at his [Jack's] *rapt* face."

Vocabulary Chapter 4

Painted Faces and Long Hair

1. **impending**: as though hanging suspended "Toward noon, as the floods of light fell more nearly to the perpendicular, the stark colors of the morning were smoothed in pearl and opalescence; and the heat--as

- though the *impeding* sun's height gave it momentum-- became a blow that they ducked..."
2. **blatant**: noisy; clamorous "Strange things happened at midday. The glittering sea rose up, moved apart in planes of ***blatant*** impossibility..."
 3. **generic**: without distinction; in general "The smaller boys were know no by the ***generic*** title of 'littlun.'"
 4. **belligerence**: an aggressive, stubborn attitude "...Johnny was well built, with fair hair and a natural ***belligerence***."
 5. **chastisement**: punishment "In his other life Maurice had received ***chastisement*** for filling a younger eye with sand."
 6. **myriad** innumerable "Like a ***myriad*** of tiny teeth in a saw, the transparencies (baby crabs) came scavenging over the beach."
 7. **swarthy**: darkness (of skin) "When Roger opened his eyes and saw him [Jack], a darker shadow crept beneath the ***swarthy*** of his skin..."
 8. **malevolently**: with hostility "Piggy grabbed and put on the glasses. He looked ***malevolently*** at Jack."

Vocabulary Chapter 5

Beast from Water

1. **jeeringly**: mockingly "...remembering that first enthusiastic exploration as though it were part of a brighter childhood, he smiled ***jeeringly***."
2. **ludicrous**: ridiculous, absurd "But Piggy, for all his ***ludicrous*** body, had brains."
3. **effigy**: representation "At first he was a silent ***effigy*** of sorrow; but then the lamentation rose out of him."
4. **lamentation**: weeping, crying "At first he was a silent effigy of sorrow; but then the ***lamentation*** rose out of him."
5. **reverence**: respect; honor

Vocabulary Chapter 6

Beast from Air

1. **interminable**: seemingly without end "An ***interminable*** dawn faded the stars out, and at last light, sad and gray, filtered into the shelter."
2. **embroiled**: involved in conflict "Piggy, finding himself uncomfortably ***embroiled***, slid the conch to Ralph's knees and sat down."
3. **diffidently**: with hesitation and respect "***Diffidently***, Simon allowed his pace to slacken until he was walking side by side with

- Ralph and looking up at him through the coarse black hair..."
4. **leviathan**: a great sea monster defeated by God in the Old Testament Book of Job "Then the sleeping **leviathan** breathed out, the waters rose, the weed streamed, and the water boiled over the table rock with a roar." (This is figurative: the leviathan referred to here is a large table rock.)

Vocabulary Chapter 7

Shadows and Tall Trees

1. **brandishing**: waving about in a threatening manner "Jack had him by the hair and was **brandishing** his knife."
2. **glowered**: look angrily "Jack **glowered**."
3. **sagely**: wisely "Everybody agreed [with Ralph] **sagely**."
4. **daunting**: dismaying "The word was too good, too bitter, too successfully **daunting** to be repeated."
5. **bravado**: foolhardiness "Ralph surprised himself, not so much by the quality of his voice, which was even, but by the **bravado** of its intention."

Vocabulary Chapter 8

Gift for the Darkness

1. **sanctity**: holiness; inviolability "The wood he fetched was close at hand, a fallen tree on the platform that they did not need for the assembly, yet to the others the **sanctity** of the platform had protected even what was useless there."
2. **demure**: modest "Each of them [Jack & Roger] wore the remains of a black cap and ages ago they had stood in two **demure** rows and their voices had been the song of angels."
3. **fervor**: intensity "If Jack was astonished by their **fervor** he did not show it."

Vocabulary Chapter 9

A View to a Death

interspersed: interwoven; with something at intervals in between "Here there were wide spaces **interspersed** with thickets and huge trees and the rend of the ground led him up as the forest opened."

1. **corpulent**: with a large, bulky body "Then as the blue material of the parachute collapsed the **corpulent** figure would bow forward, sighing, and the flies settle once more."
2. **derision**: ridicule "Piggy once more was the center of social **derision** so that everyone felt cheerful and normal."

3. **succulent**: juicy "The boys with the spit gave Ralph and Piggy each a **succulent** chunk [of meat]."
4. **sauntered**: strolled "Jack rose from the log that was his throne and **sauntered** to the edge of the grass."
5. **demented**: insane "Piggy and Ralph under the threat of the sky, found themselves eager to take a place in this **demented** but partly secure society."

Vocabulary Chapter 10

The Shell and the Glasses

1. **theological**: relating to the study of God "I expect the beast disguised itself." "Perhaps," said the chief. A **theological** speculation presented itself."
2. **purged**: cleaned; freed "The night was cool and **purged** of immediate terror."

Vocabulary Chapter 11

Castle Rock

1. **luminous**: glowing "The twins watched anxiously and Piggy sat expressionless behind the **luminous** wall of his myopia."
2. **myopia**: near-sightedness "The twins watched anxiously and Piggy sat expressionless behind

the luminous wall of his **myopia**."

3. **multitudinous**: consisting of innumerable parts "There was a silence, except for the **multitudinous** murmur of the bees."
4. **propitiating**: appealingly; in order to regain favor "Piggy nodded **propitiating**."
5. **unquenchable**: unstoppable; can't be satisfied "Behind him came the twins, worried now of a while but full of **unquenchable** vitality."

Vocabulary Chapter 12

Cry of the Hunters

1. **inimical**: hostile "There was no reply. To carry he must speak louder; and this would rouse those striped and **inimical** creatures from their feasting by the fire."
2. **ensconce**: conceal "At first the twisted stems, **ensconce** himself so deep that only a crawler like himself could come through, and that crawler would be jabbed."
3. **distended**: swollen from internal pressure "Other boys were appearing now, tiny tots some of them, brown, with **distended** bellies of small savages."