

*NOTE: Students who are serious about boosting their vocabulary are also encouraged to search for the words we're studying in class using **IXL's Vocab Zone** and then make of the word lists and resources there so they can work on learning the words they'll be seeing in context as we read.*

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (Angelou) ([flashcards](#) and [model sentences](#))

1. pretense (n.): the act of giving a false appearance
2. proffer (v.): present for acceptance or rejection
3. filial (adj.): relating to or characteristic of or befitting an offspring
4. ungainly (adj.): lacking grace in movement or posture
5. magnanimous (adj.): noble and generous in spirit
6. tedium (n.): dullness owing to length or slowness
7. blase (adj.): nonchalantly unconcerned
8. indignation (n.): a feeling of righteous anger
9. terse (adj.): brief and to the point
10. supercilious (adj.): having or showing arrogant disdain or haughtiness
11. aphorism (n.): a short pithy instructive saying
12. ostensibly (adv.): from appearances alone
13. formidable (adj.): extremely impressive in strength or excellence
14. malaise (n.): a general feeling of discomfort, uneasiness, or depression
15. hapless (adj.): unfortunate and deserving pity
16. ply (v.): keep offering or supplying something desirable to someone
17. affluent (adj.): having an abundant supply of money or possessions of value
18. renege (v.): fail to fulfill a promise or obligation
19. filch (v.): make off with belongings of others
20. aversion (n.): a feeling of intense dislike

*NOTE: Students who are serious about boosting their vocabulary are also encouraged to search for the works we're studying in class using **IXL's Vocab Zone** and then make of the word lists and resources there so they can work on learning the words they'll be seeing in context as we read.*

Slaughterhouse Five (Vonnegut) ([flashcards](#) and [model sentences](#))

1. soliloquize (v.): talk to oneself
2. irony (n.): incongruity between what might be expected and what occurs
3. covetous (adj.): immoderately desirous of acquiring something
4. sordid (adj.): morally degraded
5. unmitigated (adj.): not diminished or moderated in intensity or severity
6. piety (n.): righteousness by virtue of being religiously devout
7. putrid (adj.): morally corrupt or evil
8. addle (v.): mix up or confuse
9. pretext (n.): a fictitious reason that conceals the real reason
10. ghastly (adj.): gruesomely indicative of death or the dead
11. decrepit (adj.): lacking bodily or muscular strength or vitality
12. resolute (adj.): characterized by quickness and firmness
13. clemency (n.): leniency and compassion shown toward offenders
14. vertigo (n.): a reeling sensation; a feeling that you are about to fall
15. balderdash (n.): trivial nonsense
16. mosaic (n.): design made of small pieces of colored stone or glass
17. extrapolate (v.): draw from specific cases for more general cases
18. acrimonious (adj.): marked by strong resentment or cynicism
19. rarefied (adj.): of high moral or intellectual value
20. feign (v.): give a false appearance of

*NOTE: Students who are serious about boosting their vocabulary are also encouraged to search for the words we're studying in class using **IXL's Vocab Zone** and then make of the word lists and resources there so they can work on learning the words they'll be seeing in context as we read.*

Interpreter of Maladies (Lahiri) ([flashcards](#) and [model sentences](#))

1. elusive (adj.): difficult to detect or grasp by the mind or analyze
2. superfluous (adj.): more than is needed, desired, or required
3. reciprocate (v.): act, feel, or give mutually or in return
4. compatriot (n.): a person from your own country
5. covet (v.): wish, long, or crave for
6. solemnly (adv.): in a serious and dignified manner
7. barter (v.): exchange goods without involving money
8. itinerant (adj.): traveling from place to place to work
9. litany (n.): any long and tedious address or recital
10. mischievous (adj.): naughtily or annoyingly playful
11. complexion (n.): texture and appearance of the skin of the face
12. flourish (n.): an ornamental embellishment in writing
13. sari (n.): a draped dress worn primarily by Hindu women
14. nettle (v.): disturb, especially by minor irritations
15. sacrilegious (adj.): grossly irreverent toward what is considered holy
16. antidote (n.): a remedy that stops or controls the effects of a poison
17. privation (n.): the act of stripping someone of food, money, or rights
18. vindicate (v.): clear of accusation, blame, or doubt with supporting proof
19. oblivious (adj.): lacking conscious awareness of
20. decipher (v.): make out the meaning of

*NOTE: Students who are serious about boosting their vocabulary are also encouraged to search for the works we're studying in class using **IXL's Vocab Zone** and then make of the word lists and resources there so they can work on learning the words they'll be seeing in context as we read.*

The House of Bernarda Alba (García Lorca) ([flashcards](#) and [model sentences](#))

1. tyrant (n.): a cruel and oppressive dictator
2. pulverize (v.): make into a powder by breaking up or cause to become dust
3. corral (n.): a pen for cattle
4. mourning (n.): state of sorrow over the death or departure of a loved one
5. thresh (v.): beat the seeds out of a grain
6. despicable (adj.): morally reprehensible
7. hypocrisy (n.): pretending to have qualities or beliefs that you do not have
8. tact (n.): consideration in dealing with others
9. nostalgic (adj.): longing for familiar things
10. interminable (adj.): tiresomely long; seemingly without end
11. perplexed (adj.): full of confusion or bewilderment
12. desolation (n.): sadness resulting from being forsaken or abandoned
13. busybody (n.): a person who meddles in the affairs of others
14. refuge (n.): something or someone turned to for assistance or security
15. apparition (n.): a ghostly appearing figure
16. peevish (adj.): easily irritated or annoyed
17. vigilance (n.): the process of paying close and continuous attention
18. malicious (adj.): having the nature of threatening evil
19. bodice (n.): part of a dress above the waist
20. ewe (n.): female sheep

*NOTE: Students who are serious about boosting their vocabulary are also encouraged to search for the works we're studying in class using **IXL's Vocab Zone** and then make of the word lists and resources there so they can work on learning the words they'll be seeing in context as we read.*

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress (Dai) ([flashcards](#) and [model sentences](#))

1. masochistic (adj.): deriving pleasure from being abused or dominated
2. somnambulate (v.): walk in one's sleep
3. plaintive (adj.): expressing sorrow
4. audacity (n.): aggressive or outright boldness
5. statutory (adj.): relating to or created by regulations
6. tryst (n.): a secret rendezvous, especially a romantic one
7. insidious (adj.): working or spreading in a hidden and usually injurious way
8. macabre (adj.): shockingly repellent; inspiring horror
9. superannuated (adj.): too old to be useful
10. vertiginous (adj.): having or causing a whirling sensation; liable to falling
11. undulate (v.): move in a wavy pattern or with a rising and falling motion
12. sate (v.): fill to contentment
13. limpid (adj.): clear and bright
14. surreptitious (adj.): marked by quiet and caution and secrecy
15. bourgeois (adj.): being of the property-owning class
16. risible (adj.): arousing or provoking laughter
17. foist (v.): force onto another
18. redolent (adj.): having a strong pleasant odor
19. incognito (adj.): without revealing one's identity
20. trepidation (n.): a feeling of alarm or dread

*NOTE: Students who are serious about boosting their vocabulary are also encouraged to search for the words we're studying in class using **IXL's Vocab Zone** and then make of the word lists and resources there so they can work on learning the words they'll be seeing in context as we read.*

Persepolis (Satrapi) ([flashcards](#) and [model sentences](#))

1. obligatory (adj.): required by compulsion or convention
2. decadence (n.): the state of being degenerate in mental or moral qualities
3. avant-garde (adj.): radically new or original
4. tyranny (n.): government in which the ruler is an absolute dictator
5. imperialism (n.): a policy of extending your rule over foreign countries
6. dialectic (adj.): of reasoning that arrives at truth by exchanging arguments
7. perpetrate (v.): perform an act, usually with a negative connotation
8. degenerate (v.): grow worse
9. secular (adj.): not concerned with or devoted to religion
10. bleak (adj.): offering little or no hope
11. frivolity (n.): something of little value or significance
12. martyr (n.): one who voluntarily suffers death
13. porter (n.): a person employed to carry luggage and supplies
14. effigy (n.): a representation of a person
15. subversive (adj.): in opposition to an established system or government
16. diabolical (adj.): showing cunning or ingenuity or wickedness
17. exile (v.): the act of expelling a person from their native land
18. belligerent (adj.): characteristic of an enemy or one eager to fight
19. skeptical (adj.): marked by or given to doubt
20. fatalism (n.): a doctrine that all events are predetermined in advance