



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

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

## **“The Land of the Dead”**

### **Creating Mood through Diction**

In literature, mood is a literary element that evokes certain feelings or vibes in readers through words and descriptions. Mood is referred to as the atmosphere of a literary piece, as it creates an emotional situation that surrounds the reader. Using diction is one way an author sets the mood for the reader.

**Pre-reading:** Practice creating mood by using diction. Mood words are listed below:

<b>angry</b>	<b>mischievous</b>	<b>scared</b>	<b>lazy</b>	<b>bored</b>	<b>cranky</b>
<b>depressed</b>	<b>exhausted</b>	<b>jealous</b>	<b>mad</b>	<b>energetic</b>	<b>cheerful</b>
<b>crazy</b>	<b>happy</b>	<b>alone</b>	<b>optimistic</b>		

**Directions:** Choose a mood word from the table above. Using your knowledge of denotation, connotation and diction, set the mood for the story below. Fill in the blanks with words that reflect the mood you have chosen.

The mood I want to create is...Mood choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fill in the blanks to set the mood for the reader.**

I \_\_\_\_\_ up the stairs and the wooden boards \_\_\_\_\_ under my feet. When I reached the top I heard a \_\_\_\_\_ coming from my room. I \_\_\_\_\_ to the entry of my door and \_\_\_\_\_ inside. I saw \_\_\_\_\_.

**Now, try writing the same story again, but this time with a different mood. Choose new diction to create a different mood.**

The mood I want to create is...Mood choice: \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_ up the stairs and the wooden boards \_\_\_\_\_ under my feet. When I reached the top I heard a \_\_\_\_\_ coming from my room. I \_\_\_\_\_ to the entry of my door and \_\_\_\_\_ inside. I saw \_\_\_\_\_.

**During Reading: Examining Homer’s use of diction within “The Land of the Dead”.**

As you read Homer’s “The Land of the Dead” examine the diction used to create the mood. Highlight words that enhance the atmosphere and add feeling to the text.

**Post-Reading Activity: Creating Mood Posters**

**Directions:** In pairs, create a mood poster and include the following pieces of information.

	POINTS
1. A mood word to describe the Land of the Dead	2
2. A quote from the text that is evidence of your mood	5
3. Colors that best portray your mood	2
4. Create a picture or symbol you think best represents your mood	10
5. On the backside of your poster, briefly explain why you chose this word, the text, and image	5
6. Make this poster artistically pleasing to the eye!!!	2
Total: _____/ 21	