

Vocabulary Analysis!
Unlock the text by defining
words you don't know!



Step 1: Choose roles—Write the name of the group member assigned to each role.

- _____ **El Capitan/The Brain:** Group Leader-Keeps group on task and makes sure all parts of the assignment are being addressed and completed. The scholar of the group—makes sure that all answers are correct and all parts of everybody's handout is complete and accurate.
- _____ **Father Time:** Time Management Guru—Makes sure group knows how much time they have left and that they get assignment done by end of class today.
- _____ **Vocab Secret Agent:** A true Word Ninja--Works to unlock the meaning of any word the group can't define. May have to be sent out on "missions" to see if other groups have unlocked any words that your group has not.

Step 1: Vocabulary

1. In the space below, write down the words you underlined/highlighted/circled as words in the story you did NOT know.
2. Share these words with your group. As a group discuss your lists, and look for words you have in common. Clarify definitions for each other. If some of you know the meanings of some of the words listed, share with the group.

3. Now, write down any vocabulary words that no one in the group can define. (But leave space to define them. See Step 4)

Group Vocabulary List:

4. Now define them! Try to define your vocab list as a group. Look at how the word is used in the sentence in the story. As group, use context clues to try to come up with a definition for the word. If you still have no idea, send out your **Vocab Secret Agent** to other groups to see if anyone in those groups knows what your words mean. After you have discussed as a group and checked with other groups, if you STILL don't know the definition of the word, send your Vocab Secret Agent to the dictionary to slay those definitions.
5. Finally, pick the word or words from your group's list that you think are ESSENTIAL to understanding the story. What I mean is...what word or words MUST you know to gain a better understanding of the story's point? Write them below, and send your Vocab Secret Agent to write them on the board in the front of the room.