

# 7TH GRADE LITERATURE DICTIONARY

## THE TROJAN WAR, THE HOBBIT, ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

### A

abasement- n. humiliation; degradation

abashed- adj. embarrassed, disconcerted

abominable- adj. detestable, loathsome, morally reprehensible

abstracted- adj. preoccupied; lost in thought

actuated- v. caused to move

acutely- adv. severely; intensely

admonished- v. reprimanded, warned

aesthetic- adj. having to do with beauty

agitatedly- adv. in a disturbed or excited manner

albeit- prep. although

allayed- v. relieved; alleviated

alliances- n. unions, pacts

allotted- v. given or distributed officially

Amazons- n. A mythical race of female warriors from Scythia

amended- v. rectified, improved

amid- prep. among; in the midst of

amuck- adv. in an uncontrollable rage or frenzy

antiquated- adj. obsolete, old-fashioned

apparition- n. a sudden or dramatic appearance, esp. of a ghost

appease- v. to soothe, calm

arduous- adj. hard to achieve; difficult

array- n. well ordered arrangement, esp. of troops, guard, company

askance- adv. with a sideways glance of disgust or disapproval

aspiration- n. a strong desire to achieve an end; ambition

assured- v. secured, guaranteed

audacious- adj. fearlessly bold, fearless

avenged- v. vindicated, justified

## B

bannocks- n. round, flat griddle cakes

barren- adj. unable to produce or lacking vegetation

beatification- n. making or being blessed

beaux- n. (pl. of beau) admirers, boyfriends

bedizened- v. adorned gaudily

beguiled- v. distracted; charmed; entranced

behooved- v. required; compelled

benevolent- adj. eager to do good; charitable

bent- v. determined

beseechingly- adv. pleadingly; imploringly

bequeathed- v. left to a person by will; handed down

bevy- n. group

blazoned- v. announced; proclaimed

blight- n. a harmful or destructive force

blithely- adv. lightheartedly; carelessly

brewing- v. stirring, looming

brink- n. threshold, edge

brusquely- adv. abruptly; bluntly

buffeted- v. battered, beaten

bulbous- adj. bulging, spherical

bulwarks- n. defensive walls or embankments (ramparts)

## C

caper- v. to frolic, skip

capricious- adj. unpredictable; fickle

canto- n. a division of a long poem

carrion- adj. feeding on dead flesh

chaplet- n. a garland for the head

chastened- v. subdued; restrained

citadel- n. fortress, usually on high ground

cloistered- adj. sheltered; secluded

cogitation- n. consideration; serious thought

colonnade- n. a series of columns placed at regular intervals

comely- adj. attractive, handsome

commence- v. to begin, start

commencement- n. graduation

complacent- adj. self-satisfied; smug

compunction- n. guilty conscience

confounded- v. confused

congenial- adj. pleasant because of having similar interests

consequent- adj. logically consistent

consolation- n. comfort in time of grief

consternation- n. anxiety or dismay causing confusion

consummate- adj. complete, perfect, fully skilled

contending- v. competing, striving

contingents- n. representative groups  
contortions- n. twistings; things in a twisted state  
contrivance- n. an elaborate or deceitful scheme in order to deceive or evade  
convolutions- n. windings; curves  
corroborated- v. confirmed, supported  
coruscations- n. flashes; sparkles  
countenance- (special use as verb) to support; to approve  
cowered- v. shrank, recoiled  
crafty- adj. cunning, deceptive  
creditable- adj. commendable, admirable  
cultivated- v. intentionally improved or developed  
cunning- adj. clever or deceitful, ingenious  
curtly- adv. in a noticeably or rudely brief manner

## D

dale- valley  
debarred- v. excluded; shut out  
decorum- n. polite behavior  
decrepit- adj. feeble, frail  
deferring- v. postponing  
defrayed- v. paid, provided payment  
deftly- adv. skillfully  
dejected- adj. downcast; discouraged  
delves- digs; searches  
demure- adj. quiet; shy; reserved  
deportment- n. manners; behavior

deposed- v. removed from office  
deprecatingly- adv. with disapproval  
depredations- n. plunderings  
desolation- n. devastation, ruin  
despairing, agonized- adj. hopeless, painful  
dictum- n. a formal saying; maxim  
diligently- adv. showing care and effort  
dirge- n. funeral song  
discerning- adj. showing good judgement or insight  
discomfiture- n. disappointment; frustration  
disconsolately- adv. in an unhappy or disappointed manner  
Discord- Eris, the goddess of disagreement and conflict  
discourse- v. to converse; to talk  
disquieting- adj. disturbing, troubling  
dissipation- n. frivolous living  
distaff- n. staff used when spinning by hand that holds unspun wool  
dolefully- adv. with mourning or sadness  
draughts- n. drafts, gusts  
drollery- n. comedy; clowning  
drudgery- n. tiresome, unpleasant work  
dubious- adj. uncertain, unreliable  
dubiously- adv. with doubt, with uncertainty  
dudgeon- n. a feeling of great resentment; rage  
dyspeptic- adj. subject to indigestion

## E

eclipsed- v. deprived of prominence; surpassed

effusion- n. an outpouring, unrestrained flow  
elocutionist- n. a clear and expressive speaker  
eminent- adj. distinguished, prominent  
enmity- n. hostility, hate  
enterprising- adj. showing initiative; inventive  
entreated- v. pleaded; begged  
envoys- n. messengers, representatives  
epoch- n. a noteworthy and memorable event  
ere- before  
escort- n. guide, attendant  
esteemed- adj. highly regarded, respected  
estimable- adj. worthy of esteem  
estranged- v. alienated; separated  
ethereal- adj. airy, delicate, heavenly  
evinced- v. made evident, displayed  
extensive- adj. broad, vast  
exulting- v. rejoicing triumphantly  
eyrie- n. a high perched nest

## F

factions- n. quarrelsome minorities within a larger group  
faltered- v. stammered, stumbled  
famished- v. starved, exhausted  
feigned- v. pretended  
feint- n. a fake move, ploy, ruse  
fells- mountains or hills

fender- n. fireplace screen

ferreted- v. uncovered; hunted out

fervently- adv. with intense passion; ardently

figured- v. shaped, crafted

flank- n. right or left side of a person or military formation; side, wing

flummoxed- adj. bewildered, confused

forays- n. sudden attacks

forbear- v. to refrain, abstain

foreboding- n. strong feeling of future misfortune

fortifying- v. securing, strengthening

fray- n. a noisy fight or brawl, conflict, skirmish

fugitives- n. refugees, ones who flee

furberows- n. ruffles or frills on a skirt or petticoat

furrows- n. long, narrow trenches

furtive- adj. stealthy, secretive

furze- n. spiny shrub

## G

garret- n. attic

gaunt- v. or adj. thin and bony

gauntlet- n. attack from all sides

gird- v. to prepare for action; to secure one's clothes with a belt

glades- n. hollows, clearings

glanced- v. glided or bounced off

gledes- n. burning coals

glens- n. narrow, secluded valleys

glibly- adv. in a smooth but insincere manner, superficially

gloaming- n. twilight, evening

glowered- v. stared at angrily, scowled

goaded- v. prodded, urged

goblets- cups

Gorgons- 3 sister monsters and Medusa

gravitated- v. moved or attracted to some source

greaves- n. armor for the shin

grievous- adj. grave, severe

grit- n. endurance, strength of character

## H

halted- v. handled, hilted

hampered- v. prevented or hindered

harrowing- adj. extremely distressing

hauberk- n. a long defensive shirt extending to the knees

haughtily- adv. in an arrogant, self-admiring manner; pridefully

haughty- adj. arrogantly self-admiring, proud

havoc- n. widespread destruction, confusion

heathen- n. unbeliever; infidel

heed- n. careful attention, regard

heedless- adj. thoughtless; unmindful

highhanded- adj. arrogant; overbearing

hilt- handle

hoard- hidden funds

horde(s)- n. a large group, crowds

hues- n. shades; colors

# I

impassioned- adj. deeply felt; passionate

impetus- n. driving force, impulse, stimulus

implicitly- adv. unquestioningly; without doubt

implored- v. begged, entreated

imploring-adj. begging earnestly, entreating

imploringly- adv. in an earnestly begging manner, entreatingly

imposing- adj. impressive in appearance; formidable

incantations- n. spells, chants

incessantly- adv. continuously, without interruption

inclination- n. a leaning; partiality

inculcate- v. to persistently urge a particular idea or fact

indignation- n. anger at unfair treatment

induce- v. to influence, persuade

inert- adj. unable to move or act; sluggish

inexorable- adj. unable to be persuaded, relentless

infatuated- adj. bewitched; captivated

inflection- n. a change in the pitch of the voice

ingenious- adj. clever, resourceful

ingratiatingly- adv. in a pleasing or flattering manner

innovation- n. new idea or method

inscrutable- adj. mysterious; incomprehensible

insolent- adj. rude, disrespectful

instinctively- adv. in a manner known or felt without having to learn; intuitively

insupportable- adj. intolerable; unjustifiable

intercepted- v. interrupted; stopped

interposed- v. interjected, inserted

inveigled - v. persuaded with cunning , enticed

ire- anger

irradiated- v. shone up, lit up

irreverence- n. lack of reverence or due respect

issued- v. emerged, came out

## J

jubilantly- adv. joyfully

justified- adj. shown to be right; vindicated

## K

kindred- adj. similar in nature

kine- n. cows

## L

lamentation- n. an expression of grief or sorrow

laudable- adj. praiseworthy; commendable

lichen- n. moss, fungus

limpid- adj. clear; transparent

lithe- adj. flexible, supple, slender

lore- n. wisdom, tradition, knowledge

ludicrously- adv. in an absurd or ridiculous manner

lust- n. longing, yearning

lyre- n. harp-like instrument used to accompany song or poetry

## M

mangled- adj. mutilated, disfigured  
manse- n. residence of a minister  
marauding- v. pillaging, raiding  
martyr- n. one who suffers or dies for a belief  
melancholy- adj. sad, depressed, gloomy  
melee- n. a confused fight, skirmish  
modes- n. ways of doing things; methods; techniques  
mouldered- v. disintegrated  
mound- n. a British word for "ground"  
muster- n. a gathering of troops  
mustering- v. assembling, gathering  
mutton- n. flesh of sheep used as food  
myriad- adj. a vast number

## N

nectar- n. sweet liquid secreted by flowers  
nine days' wonder- n. something famous a short time  
nom de plume- n. pen name; pseudonym  
nominal- adj. in name only

## O

obdurate- adj. stubborn; obstinate  
obtrusive- adj. unpleasantly noticeable  
oddments- n. scraps, leftovers  
officious- adj. excessively enthusiastic in offering help, meddlesome

onslaught- n. a violent attack, blitz

opined- v. held or expressed as an opinion

ostentatiously- adv. in a showy, boastful manner

outpost- n. a detachment set far from the army to prevent surprise

## P

painter- n. a rope for docking a ship

palisade- n. a defensive fence; a line of cliffs

Palladium- n. a sacred object and source of protection

pallid- adj. colorless, ashen; pale; sickly

palpitating- v. pounding, throbbing

paraphernalia- n. miscellaneous items, equipment

parley- n. conference, meeting

parsed- v. dissected; broken down

peaked- adj. pale, sickly

penitent- n. a remorseful, repentant person

perilous- adj. dangerous, hazardous

perpetual- adj. eternal, unlimited

perpetually- adv. continually

perquisites- n. extra benefits, customary privileges

persistence- n. perseverance; stubbornness

personified- v. embodied in human form

pervade- v. to spread throughout, to permeate

pessimistically- adv. negatively; hopelessly

petition- n. a request

perturbation- n. a cause of disturbance or agitation

perusal- n. careful reading

philosophically- adv. in a wise and calm manner

pinions- n. wings

pinnacle- n. summit, peak

pithy- adj. short and forceful

placid- adj. calm, peaceful

placidly- adv. in a quiet and peaceful manner

plaited- v. braided, tressed

plausible- adj. likely, reasonable, believable

plight- n. predicament, unfortunate situation

plodding- v. lingering, lumbering

pomp- n. splendor, magnificent display

pondered- v. thought over, considered

potent- adj. strong, powerful

precarious- adj. unstable; insecure

precedence- n. priority in time, order, or importance

precipice- n. cliff, ledge

predilection- n. a preference or special liking

pre-eminence- n. supremacy; that which surpasses all others

premeditated- adj. intentional, premeditated; planned

presentiment- n. a vague expectation; premonition; omen

presumed- v. supposed

presumptuous- adj. overbearingly confident, arrogant

pretence- n. charade, simulation

pretext- n. fictitious reason, excuse

prime donna- n. leading female soloist in an opera

prohibition- n. forbiddance; restriction

promontory- n. high point of land jutting into water

prosaic- adj. unromantic, dull

prostrated- v. overcome

prosy- adj. commonplace, dull

providential- adj. marked by divine intervention

provincial- n. rural; limited

prudent- adj. careful, wise, displaying common sense

purloined- v. stole, robbed

## Q

quaint- adj. unusual, odd

qualms- n. uneasy sense of doubt, concerns

quays- n. docks, landings, wharfs

quench- v. to douse, extinguish

## R

ramparts- n. defensive walls or embankments (bulwarks)

rapt- adj. delighted; deeply moved

rebukingly- adv. reproachfully; disapprovingly

reckoning- n. retribution for one's actions

reconciliation- n. resolution, compromise

recourse- n. act of turning to for assistance, refuge, or help

redoubled- v. intensified, renewed

refounded- v. rebuilt, reestablished

refractory- adj. stubborn, rebellious

refrain- v. to avoid doing; to abstain

reiterated- v. repeated

relented- v. yielded to compassion, shown mercy

relinquishing- v. giving up, abandoning

remnants- n. small remaining quantity, traces

remotest- adj. secluded, isolated, farthest

rendered- v. made

replenish- v. to restock, refill

reprehensible- adj. objectionable; unacceptable

reproachfully- adv. disapprovingly, rebukingly

requisite- adj. necessary, obligatory

resolute- adj. determined; decided

resolve- n. determination, steadfastness

retaliatory- adj. punishing; vengeful

reveled- v. delighted

reverie- n. daydream

rigmarole- n. a rambling or meaningless story

ruddy- adj. rosy, healthy

rue- v. to regret

## S

sagely- adv. wisely

sallow- adj. a sickly yellow

sanctifying- adj. purifying; holy

sated- v. satisfied; gratified

sceptically- (skeptically) adv. in a questioning manner; doubtfully

scope- n. range, extent of room

scrutinizingly- adv. with close examination; piercingly

sear- adj. scorched and withered

sentinels- n. guards, sentries

seraph- n. angel

shades- n. ghosts, spirits

shambling- v. shuffling or hobbling

sheathed- v. holstered, encased

shingly- adj. rocky, rough

sibilant- adj. characterized by a hissing sound

silvered- v. covered with silver

singed- adj. scorched; surface-burned

sobered- v. made serious; subdued

sojourn- n. visit; stopover

solemnities- n. gravities; serious and dignified feelings

sonorous- adj. having a full, rich sound

soothsayers- n. ones who predict events; seers

sorrel- n. plant of the buckwheat family with edible leaves

spasmodic- adj. convulsive; given to fits

sprite- n. elf or fairy

spur- n. ridge, edge

staunchly- adv. faithfully, loyally

steppes- n. level grassy plains

stipulations- n. requirements; demands

strewed- v. spread, scattered

subjective- adj. personal; nonobjective

sublime- adj. supreme; splendid

succession- n. following in order or sequence, one after another

succored- v. aided, helped, assisted

succumbed- v. yielded; surrendered

sufficed- v. was enough or adequate

superfluous- adj. more than enough, excess

supplicant- n. humble beggar

suppositions- n. assumptions; ideas

surly- adj. bad-tempered, rude

## T

tableau- n. a frozen scene (usually from history or literature)

tacitly- adv. in a manner that is implied without being stated; silently

tartly- adv. sharply, bitterly

taunting- adj. insulting; ridiculing

tawny- adj. orangish or yellowish brown

tedious- adj. tiresome, boring

tempestuous- adj. wild; unruly

tenacity- n. unwillingness to let go, stubbornness

thrice- adv. three times

throes- n. struggles, spasms

throttled- v. strangled, choked

tirade- n. a long, passionate, condemning speech, declamation

toiled- v. labored, slaved

torrent- n. outpouring; flow

toss-pot- n. drunkard, alcoholic

trackless- adj. unmarked

tranquil- adj. serene; peaceful

tremulous- adj. timid; fearful

tribulations- n. trials; sufferings

tumult- n. an uproar, commotion

tuppence- n. two cents

## U

uncanny- adj. eerie, mysterious

undauntedly- adv. without fear; courageously

unheeded- adj. disregarded, unnoticed

unpropitious- adj. unlucky; unfavorable

unregenerate- adj. sinful; obstinately bad

unwarranted- adj. groundless; unjustified

urns- n. vases

## V

vagabond- adj. drifting; wandering; aimless

vagaries- n. strange ideas or acts

vale- n. valley

valor- n. bravery, courage

vanguard- n. front, advancement

vehemently- adv. with strong feeling, passionately

venerable- adj. worthy of honor and respect

ventured- v. risked, dared

veracity- n. truthfulness; honesty

veranda- n. roofed porch

verging- n. bordering

vexed- adj. angered, irritated

vigil- n. watch; observation

vigor- n. strength, energy

vigorously- adv. energetically

vim- n. strength; energy

vista- n. distant view

vivacity- n. liveliness, animation

## W

Wain- n. a wagon; the Big Dipper

wanes- v. diminishes, decreases

waning- n. fading, closing

waxing- v. enlarging, expanding

wheedles- v. persuades by flattery

withering contempt- destroying (devastating) hate

wonted- adj. usual; customary

wrought- put together; worked (Hobbit poem); v. formed, shaped (Hobbit Ch 12)

## XYZ

yammering- v. grumbling, complaining

yore- times long past

Yule-tide- n. Christmas

zenith- n. peak; highest point