

# Lord of the Flies

by William Golding

## Definitions



# Lord of the Flies

## Definitions



1.	<b>abyss</b>	uh BISS	bottomless hole, a vast expanse or depth
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The man had fallen into the abyss of depravity.		
	Derivatives >>	abysm, abysmal, abysmally, abyssal	
2.	<b>articulate</b>	are TIK yuh late	to speak distinctly; expressing oneself clearly
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to speak indistinctly; to mumble
	An announcer must be articulate. A good politician must be able to articulate his views.		
	Derivatives >>	articulated, articulating, articulation, articulateness, articulative, articulately, articulator	
3.	<b>bastion</b>	BASS chun	a fortification, a stronghold
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The enemy could not get past the bastion of the fort and therefore lost the battle.		
	Derivatives >>	bastioned	
4.	<b>blunder</b>	BLUN der	to make a mistake as a result of stupidity or carelessness
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> act wisely
	His election campaign was wrecked by one blunder after another		
	Derivatives >>	blunderer, blunderingly, blundering	
5.	<b>cascade</b>	kas KADE	a steep waterfall or series of waterfalls, a continuous series
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> trickle of water
	The canoe disappeared under the cascade of water into the hidden passageway in the cliff.		
	Derivatives >>	cascaded, cascading	
6.	<b>compress</b>	kum PRESS	to contract, to reduce in size or volume
	Synonyms >>	condense, constrict, contract, deflate	Antonym >> to expand
	Farmers now have machines to compress hay into bales.		
	Derivatives >>	compressible, compressibility, compressed, compression, compressive, compressor, compressively,	
7.	<b>contempt</b>	kun TEMPT	scorn, extreme dislike or disdain
	Synonyms >>	despicableness, pitiableness, scurviness	Antonym >> respect
	The man treated the gossiping woman with contempt; talking about other people was beneath his dignity.		
	Derivatives >>	contemptible, contemptuous	
8.	<b>contrite</b>	kun TRITE	extremely apologetic, remorseful, repentant
	Synonyms >>	penitent	Antonym >> unrepentant
	Her contrite tears were not enough to convince her father not to spank her for her disobedience.		
	Derivatives >>	contritely, contriteness, contrition	
9.	<b>corpulence</b>	KOR pyuh luns	state of being very fat
	Synonyms >>	obesity	Antonym >> emaciation
	Overeating will lead to corpulence.		
	Derivatives >>	corpulent, corpulently	
10.	<b>covert</b>	KUV urt, KO vurt	secret, concealed
	Synonyms >>	clandestine, furtive, stealthy, surreptitious, underhanded	Antonym >> open, conspicuous
	The spy was engaged in many covert activities; it was his job to keep them secret.		
	Derivatives >>	covertly, covertness	
11.	<b>credulous</b>	KREJ uh lus	believing on slight evidence, gullible
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> suspicious
	Because the lady's horoscope said that she should stay inside, the credulous woman did not go to work.		
	Derivatives >>	credulously, credulousness, credulity	

12.	<b>cynical</b>	SIN uh kul	given to faultfinding, sneering, and sarcasm; exhibiting mocking disbelief
	Synonyms >>	misanthropic, pessimistic, misogynic	
	Some people are so cynical they sneer at everything that would make life worthwhile.		
	Derivatives >>	cynic, cynically, cynicism	
13.	<b>declivity</b>	deh KLIV uh tee	downward slope
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> ascending slope
	The declivity of the mountain made climbing it quite hazardous.		
	Derivatives >>	declivous, declivitous	
14.	<b>decorum</b>	deh KOR um	appropriate conduct, correct and proper behavior
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> impropriety
	The students' decorum at the dance was excellent.		
	Derivatives >>	decorous, decorously, decorousness	
15.	<b>demur</b>	deh MUR	to hesitate, to delay, to object
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to proceed, to agree, to accede
	To demur at this time might cause the whole operation to be destroyed.		
	Derivatives >>	demurred, demurring	
16.	<b>derision</b>	deh REH zhun	scoffing at, mockery, ridicule
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> applause
	The boy received much derision for his plaid gym shorts.		
	Derivatives >>	derisive, derisiveness, derisively, derisory	
17.	<b>diffidence</b>	DIF eh duns	shyness, reserve, unassertiveness
	Synonyms >>	bashfulness, modesty	Antonym >> confidence
	Because of his diffidence, he would not ask any girl to the prom.		
	Derivatives >>	diffidency, diffident, diffidently, diffidentness	
18.	<b>discursive</b>	deh SKUR siv	rambling, moving from one topic to another randomly
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> concise
	His discursive speech was hard to follow.		
	Derivatives >>	discursion, discursively, discursiveness	
19.	<b>disentangle</b>	dis en TANG gul	to unravel, extricate
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to enmesh; to tie up
	The referee tried to disentangle the players to see who had the ball.		
	Derivatives >>	disentanglement, disentangler	
20.	<b>disinclination</b>	dis in kluh NAY shun	a desire to avoid, aversion
	Synonyms >>	hesitance, loathing, reluctance	Antonym >> eagerness
	I have a disinclination to go to Europe this summer since the dollar is worth less.		
	Derivatives >>	disinclined, disincline	
21.	<b>dubious</b>	DOO be us	doubtful; not clear
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> distinct, doubtless, assured
	Since he had not read the document, he was a little dubious about signing his name to it.		
	Derivatives >>	dubiously, dubiousness, dubitable, dubitancy, dubitate, dubitation, dubitative, dubiety	
22.	<b>ebullient</b>	eh BUL yunt	overflowing with excitement, showing enthusiasm
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> staid, stoic
	She was ebullient about going to the prom.		
	Derivatives >>	ebullience, ebullieny, ebulliently	
23.	<b>ferocity</b>	fuh ROS eh tee	savagery
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> mildness
	A tiger is an animal that has ferocity.		
	Derivatives >>	ferocious, ferociously, ferociousness	
24.	<b>flourish</b>	FLUR ish	to thrive, to grow well
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to wither
	The company flourished after a new board of directors took control.		
	Derivatives >>	flourisher, flourishing, flourishingly, flourishy	
25.	<b>foliage</b>	FOE lee ij	leaves of a plant, leafage
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The trees will soon come alive with green foliage.		
	Derivatives >>	foliages, foliar, foliaceous	

26.	<b>furtive</b>	FUR tiv	secret in an underhanded way, stealthy
	Synonyms >>	clandestine, covert, stealthy, surreptitious, underhanded	Antonym >> bold
	During the test, he made some furtive glances at other classmates' papers.		
	Derivatives >>	furtively, furtiveness	
27.	<b>gravity</b>	GRAV eh tee	seriousness, importance
	Synonyms >>	earnestness, sedateness, sobriety, solemnity, staidness	Antonym >> unimportance
	The gravity of the situation was heightened by the death of the president .		
	Derivatives >>	grave, graver, gravely	
28.	<b>impervious</b>	im PUR vee us	incapable of being entered or penetrated, not capable of being damaged
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> penetrable
	Because this watch is impervious to water , I can go swimming while wearing it.		
	Derivatives >>	imperviously, imperviousness	
29.	<b>incantation</b>	in kan TAY shun	a spell, written or recited formula of words designed for a particular effect
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The purpose of the witch doctor's incantations was to scare evil spirits.		
	Derivatives >>	incant, incantational, incantatory	
30.	<b>inscrutable</b>	in SKROO tuh bul	difficult to understand; mysterious
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> clear; readable; understandable
	He had us all confused with his inscrutable smile.		
	Derivatives >>	inscrutableness, inscrutably, inscrutability	
31.	<b>interminable</b>	in TUR mun uh bul	having or seeming to have no end, wearisomely protracted
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> short and limited
	Although the reading assignment was only ten pages, it seemed interminable to the bored student.		
	Derivatives >>	interminability, interminableness, interminably, interminate	
32.	<b>iridescence</b>	ear eh DES uns	the quality of exhibiting rainbow-like colors, brilliant appearance
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> dullness; darkness
	The iridescence of the room with all the mirrors and chandeliers was magnificent.		
	Derivatives >>	iridescent, iridescence, iridescently	
33.	<b>lament</b>	luh MENT	to mourn or to express sorrow in a demonstrative manner
	Synonyms >>	bemoan, bewail, deplore	Antonym >> to rejoice
	She lamented the death of her father in a very lachrymose manner.		
	Derivatives >>	lamented, lamenting, lamentation, lamentable	
34.	<b>malevolence</b>	muh LEV uh lens	ill will or evil intentions
	Synonyms >>	malice, malignity, spite, spleen	Antonym >> benevolence
	The old man's malevolence was obvious when he removed the girl from his will.		
	Derivatives >>	malevolent, malevolently	
35.	<b>muted</b>	MYOO tid	toned down or silenced
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> amplified
	The conductor wanted the music to be muted at one spot in the performance.		
	Derivatives >>	mute, mutedly, mutely, muteness	
36.	<b>obscure</b>	ub SKYOOR	difficult to see, vague
	Synonyms >>	abstruse, ambiguous, cryptic, enigmatic, equivocal, recondite	Antonym >> clear; apparent
	Because the meaning of the play was obscure, I was unable to enjoy it.		
	Derivatives >>	obscurate, obscurative, obscurately, obscurely, obscurement, obscureness, obscurity	
37.	<b>obtuse</b>	ub TUSE	dull of mind, insensitive, stupid
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> intelligent
	His obtuse response to the question showed that he did not understand the nature of the discussion.		
	Derivatives >>	obtusely, obtuseness, obtusion, obtusity	
38.	<b>officious</b>	uh FISH us	overly dutiful or obliging, insisting on providing a service not requested
	Synonyms >>	impertinent, intrusive, meddling, obtrusive	Antonym >> disinterested
	The boss is not pleased with that employee's officious conduct.		
	Derivatives >>	officiously, officiousness	
39.	<b>opalescent</b>	oh puh LES unt	showing or reflecting an iridescent light
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> dull
	She was even more beautiful against the opalescent sky.		
	Derivatives >>	opalescence, opalescently, opalesque	

40.	<b>opaque</b>	oh PAKE	not allowing the passage of light, not transparent; hard to understand
	Synonyms >>	dark	Antonym >> transparent
	I am going to place something opaque in the window so that no one will be able to see into this room.		
	Derivatives >>	opaquely, opaqueness, opaquer	
41.	<b>parody</b>	PAIR uh dee	humorous or ridiculous imitation
	Synonyms >>	burlesque, caricature, travesty	Antonym >> reverent imitation
	Many skits on "Saturday Night Live" are parodies of current events.		
	Derivatives >>	parodies	
42.	<b>parry</b>	PAIR ee	to deflect or to ward off a blow
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The champion boxer won the match because he was able to parry his opponent's blows so successfully.		
	Derivatives >>	parried, parrying	
43.	<b>pinnacle</b>	PIN uh kul	the peak or highest point
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> low point
	His career reached its pinnacle during the season when he hit sixty home runs.		
	Derivatives >>	pinnacled, pinnacling, pinnacles	
44.	<b>rue</b>	ROO	to be sorry for, to regret
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to consider happily
	He will rue the day that he tangles with me.		
	Derivatives >>	rueful, ruefully, ruefulness, rues	
45.	<b>tacit</b>	TAS it	understood, silent, not spoken, implicit
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> spoken; verbalized
	We have a tacit agreement that the goods are delivered only after payment is made.		
	Derivatives >>	tacitly, tacitness, taciturn	
46.	<b>vexation</b>	vek SAY shun	discomfort or distress
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> pleasantry
	The young children were a source of vexation to their nervous, neurotic mother.		
	Derivatives >>	vex, vexatious, vexedly, vexedness, vexingly	
47.	<b>vicissitude</b>	veh SIS eh tood	a passing from one thing to another, change of luck
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	One can never get used to life's vicissitudes.		
	Derivatives >>	vicissitudinous	
48.	<b>vivid</b>	VIV id	bright, distinct, and clear
	Synonyms >>	graphic	Antonym >> lackluster
	I have vivid memories of my trip to Europe.		
	Derivatives >>	vividly, vividness, vividity, vivific, vivificate, vivification, vivifier, vivify	
49.	<b>vulnerable</b>	VUL nur uh bul	susceptible to injury or attack
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> protected
	A fighter is vulnerable if he does not keep up his guard.		
	Derivatives >>	vulnerability, vulnerableness, vulnerably	

# **Lord of the Flies**

**by William Golding**



# Lord of the Flies

## by William Golding



These words which appear in **Lord of the Flies** have been identified as words or derivatives of words that have appeared on past SAT tests. They appear here in alphabetical order.

- |                   |                    |                  |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. abyss          | 17. diffidently    | 33. lamentation  |
| 2. articulate     | 18. discursive     | 34. malevolently |
| 3. bastion        | 19. disentangled   | 35. muted        |
| 4. blundered      | 20. disinclination | 36. obscurely    |
| 5. cascades       | 21. dubious        | 37. obtuseness   |
| 6. compressed     | 22. ebullience     | 38. officious    |
| 7. contemptuously | 23. ferocity       | 39. opalescence  |
| 8. contrite       | 24. flourished     | 40. opaque       |
| 9. corpulent      | 25. foliage        | 41. parody       |
| 10. covert        | 26. furtive        | 42. parried      |
| 11. credulously   | 27. grave          | 43. pinnacles    |
| 12. cynically     | 28. impervious     | 44. ruefully     |
| 13. declivities   | 29. incantation    | 45. tacitly      |
| 14. decorous      | 30. inscrutable    | 46. vexed        |
| 15. demur         | 31. interminable   | 47. vicissitudes |
| 16. derisive      | 32. iridescent     | 48. vivid        |
|                   |                    | 49. vulnerable   |

These words which appear in **Lord of the Flies** have been identified as words or derivatives of words that have appeared on past SAT tests. They appear here in the order in which they appear in the novel.

- |                  |                    |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. foliage       | 17. opalescence    | 33. bastion        |
| 2. disentangled  | 18. dubious        | 34. compressed     |
| 3. decorous      | 19. blundered      | 35. covert         |
| 4. vivid         | 20. disinclination | 36. cascades       |
| 5. furtive       | 21. credulously    | 37. obtuseness     |
| 6. obscurely     | 22. malevolently   | 38. vulnerable     |
| 7. muted         | 23. parody         | 39. ruefully       |
| 8. grave         | 24. flourished     | 40. impervious     |
| 9. ebullience    | 25. derisive       | 41. contemptuously |
| 10. officious    | 26. tacitly        | 42. demur          |
| 11. abyss        | 27. lamentation    | 43. iridescent     |
| 12. inscrutable  | 28. inarticulate   | 44. vexed          |
| 13. vicissitudes | 29. discursive     | 45. corpulent      |
| 14. contrite     | 30. incantation    | 46. pinnacles      |
| 15. opaque       | 31. interminable   | 47. parried        |
| 16. declivities  | 32. diffidently    | 48. ferocity       |
|                  |                    | 49. cynically      |

# Lord of the Flies

## by William Golding



### Vocabulary Test 1

**Directions:** Match the word in the left column with the correct definition in the right column.

#### Exercise A

- |           |            |    |   |
|-----------|------------|----|---|
| _____ 1.  | abyss      | a. | scorn, extreme dislike or disdain               |
| _____ 2.  | articulate | b. | bottomless hole, a vast expanse or depth        |
| _____ 3.  | bastion    | c. | extremely apologetic, remorseful, repentant     |
| _____ 4.  | blunder    | d. | to contract, reduce in size or volume           |
| _____ 5.  | cascade    | e. | to speak distinctly, expressing oneself clearly |
| _____ 6.  | compress   | f. | state of being very fat                         |
| _____ 7.  | contempt   | g. | a steep waterfall, continuous series            |
| _____ 8.  | contrite   | h. | secret, concealed                               |
| _____ 9.  | corpulence | i. | fortification, stronghold                       |
| _____ 10. | covert     | j. | to make a mistake as a result of stupidity      |

#### Exercise B

- |           |                |    |   |
|-----------|----------------|----|---|
| _____ 11. | credulous      | a. | to unravel, extricate                               |
| _____ 12. | cynical        | b. | shyness, reserve, unassertiveness                   |
| _____ 13. | declivity      | c. | believing on slight evidence, gullible              |
| _____ 14. | decorum        | d. | rambling, moving from one topic to another randomly |
| _____ 15. | demur          | e. | scoffing at, mockery, ridicule                      |
| _____ 16. | derision       | f. | given to faultfinding, sneering, and sarcasm        |
| _____ 17. | diffidence     | g. | to hesitate, delay, object                          |
| _____ 18. | discursive     | h. | desire to avoid, aversion                           |
| _____ 19. | disentangle    | i. | downward slope                                      |
| _____ 20. | disinclination | j. | appropriate conduct, correct and proper behavior    |

#### Exercise C

- |           |             |    |   |
|-----------|-------------|----|---|
| _____ 21. | dubious     | a. | to thrive, to grow well                         |
| _____ 22. | ebullient   | b. | cluster of leaves                               |
| _____ 23. | ferocity    | c. | savagery  |
| _____ 24. | flourish    | d. | difficult to understand, mysterious             |
| _____ 25. | foliage     | e. | secret in an underhanded way, stealthy          |
| _____ 26. | furtive     | f. | seriousness, importance                         |
| _____ 27. | gravity     | g. | overflowing with excitement, showing enthusiasm |
| _____ 28. | impervious  | h. | a spell, written or recited formula of words    |
| _____ 29. | incantation | i. | not capable of being entered or penetrated      |
| _____ 30. | inscrutable | j. | doubtful  |



# Lord of the Flies

by William Golding



## Vocabulary Test 2

**Directions:** Choose the letter of the definition that **best** fits the meaning of the word in **bold** type.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. an **interminable** project  
a. disgusting      b. educational      c. endless      d. very difficult
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. an **iridescence** in the sky  
a. brilliance      b. group of stars      c. fluffy cloud      d. rare bird
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. to **lament** a death  
a. cause      b. announce      c. mourn      d. regret
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. to act with **malevolence**  
a. humor      b. strength      c. ill will      d. kindness
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. a **muted** sound  
a. toned down      b. loud      c. dissonant      d. pleasant
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. an **obscure** passage in a book  
a. ridiculous      b. mysterious      c. quoted      d. vague
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. an **obtuse** statement  
a. unwarranted      b. intelligent      c. stupid      d. unclear
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. an **officious** action  
a. awful      b. overly dutiful      c. hostile      d. secret
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. an **opalescent** sky  
a. dark and cloudy      b. clear      c. hazy      d. reflecting an iridescent light
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. an **opaque** window  
a. dark      b. clear      c. broken      d. open
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. to create a **parody**  
a. poem      b. humorous imitation      c. dummy      d. argument
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. to **parry** a blow  
a. encourage      b. imitate      c. deflect      d. disregard
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. to reach a **pinnacle**  
a. point of exhaustion      b. peak      c. audition      d. point of no return
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. to be laden with **rue**  
a. financial difficulties      b. a heavy burden      c. disease      d. regret
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. a **tacit** agreement  
a. business      b. silent      c. verbal      d. hostile
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. a source of **vexation**  
a. happiness      b. sorrow      c. discomfort      d. intelligence
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. an unexpected **vicissitude**  
a. change of luck      b. visit      c. sickness      d. business promotion
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. a **vivid** description  
a. wordy      b. unclear      c. distinct      d. unsolicited
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. to be **vulnerable** to someone  
a. engaged      b. related      c. susceptible to injury      d. antagonistic

# Lord of the Flies

by William Golding



## Vocabulary Test 1

- |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. b  | 2. e  | 3. i  | 4. j  | 5. g  | 6. d  | 7. a  |
| 8. c  | 9. f  | 10. h | 11. c | 12. f | 13. i | 14. j |
| 15. g | 16. e | 17. b | 18. d | 19. a | 20. h | 21. j |
| 22. g | 23. c | 24. a | 25. b | 26. e | 27. f | 28. i |
| 29. h | 30. d |       |       |       |       |       |

## Vocabulary Test 2

- |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. c  | 2. a  | 3. c  | 4. c  | 5. a  | 6. d  | 7. d  |
| 8. b  | 9. d  | 10. a | 11. b | 12. c | 13. b | 14. d |
| 15. b | 16. c | 17. a | 18. c | 19. c |       |       |