

English 9

Frankenstein: Vocabulary 1

Book 1

1. disposition

“This man, whose name was Beaufort, was of a proud and unbending disposition” (27).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of “disposition” based on the rest of the sentence?

“I have often heard my mother say, that she was the most beautiful child she had ever seen, and shewed signs even then of a gentle and affectionate disposition” (30).

“Although she was lively and animated, her feelings were strong and deep, and her disposition uncommonly affectionate” (30).

Based on the word ending (-tion) and the use in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *dis*= _____ + *posit*= _____

2. caprice

“No one could better enjoy liberty, yet no one could submit with more grace than she did to constraint and caprice” (30).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of “caprice” based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *capo* _____ + *riccio* "curl, frizzled," literally, hedgehog.

3. predilection

“I desire therefore, in this narration, to state those facts which led to my predilection for that science” (33).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of “predilection” based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the word ending and the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *pre*=_____ + *diligere*=“ to choose, love”

4. charnel

“Now I was led to examine the cause and progress of this decay, and forced to spend days and nights in vaults and charnel houses” (48).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of “charnel” based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the word ending and the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *carnis*=_____.

5. arduous

“The materials at present within my command hardly appeared adequate to so arduous an undertaking” (50).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of “arduous” based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the word ending (-ous) and the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *arduus* "high, steep."

6. ardour, or ardor (American spelling)

"My ardour was indeed the astonishment of the students; and my proficiency, that of the masters" (47).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of "ardor" based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *arduus* "high, steep."

7. pedantry

"His instructions were given with an air of frankness and good nature, that banished every idea of pedantry" (46).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of "pedantry" based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the word ending (-try) and the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is "teacher, schoolmaster."

8. proficiency

"My ardour was indeed the astonishment of the students; and my proficiency, that of the masters" (47).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of "proficiency" based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the word ending (-cy) and the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *pro*= _____ + combining form of *facere*= _____.

9. amiable

"I who had ever been surrounded by amiable companions, continually engaged in endeavoring to bestow mutual pleasure, I was now alone" (41).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of "amiable" based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the word ending (-able) and the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *amare* "to love."

10. cursory

“But the cursory glance my father had taken of my volume by no means assured me that he was acquainted with the contents...” (34).

What ideas do you have about the meaning of “cursory” based on the rest of the sentence?

Based on the word ending (-ory) and the use of the word in the sentence, what part of speech is the word?

Take note of the definition, discussed in class (and be able to come up with synonyms and antonyms on your own).

The etymology is *currere*="to run."