

Selected Stories of Ambrose Bierce
Vocabulary Quiz

Instructions: Match the word with its definition.

A. accentuate	B. alacrity	C. augury
D. bravado	E. coup de grâce	F. deprecation
G. desultory	H. enigmatical	I. imperiousness
J. infectious	K. interregnum	L. leonine
M. loquacity	N. maculate	O. mollify
P. pervious	Q. propinquity	R. salient
S. stolidity	T. vicissitude	

1. _____ to spot, blemish, or pollute
2. _____ a pretense of courage; a false show of bravery
3. _____ domineering or overbearing; urgent; pressing
4. _____ cheerful willingness; eagerness; speed or quickness; celerity
5. _____ the interval of time between reigns
6. _____ disconnected; random
7. _____ act of changing; mutability
8. _____ divination; a sign of something coming; an omen
9. _____ a deathblow; a finishing stroke or decisive event
10. _____ open to arguments, ideas, or change; approachable
11. _____ resembling an enigma; puzzling
12. _____ projecting or jutting beyond a line or surface; prominent
13. _____ capable of causing infection; easily or readily communicated
14. _____ proximity; nearness; similarity in nature
15. _____ to stress or emphasize; intensify
16. _____ relating to or characteristic of a lion
17. _____ talkativeness; garrulousness
18. _____ having or revealing little emotion or sensibility; impassive
19. _____ to calm in temper or feeling; soothe; pacify; to lessen in intensity
20. _____ to express disapproval of; deplore; to belittle; depreciate