

CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY

January - April

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

Read the following sentences to get the general meaning. Read it a second time, paying special attention to the underlined words. Notice how they are used in sentences. These are Master Words. These are words you will be working with in this lesson.

No wonder the baron was willing to consider an alliance with a knight's daughter. (p.91, T)

Marched into the hall, I sulked through lamb cooked with raisins and two kinds of fruit tart. I frowned through the dancing. I scowled through the minstrel's songs. (p. 92, M)

First was the lecture on courtesy to one's guest. Then obedience to one's father. Finally, the familiar talk about ladylike behavior--moderate in speech and laughter, discreet in word and deed. Corpus bones! (p. 93, B)

My belly is quivering with excitement and a little still with remorse. (p. 99, M)

I thought it quite an eloquent argument. What it won me was another day in my chamber, *without* my inks. (p. 119, M)

Would they really sell me to that odious old man? I will contrive something. Luckily I am experienced at outwitting suitors. (p 123, M)

I am confounded. What should I be doing these days? Packing up what I will need living in the forest with Geoffrey? Refusing to eat until Shaggy Beard gives me up? (p. 129, T)

2ND DAY OF APRIL, *Feast of Saint Mary of Egypt, a female hermit who lived on berries and dates and was buried by a lion.* Mayhap I could be a hermit. (p. 130, B)

This morning Aelis came to see George on his saint's day but he would not. He drooped and sighed about the yard, heedlessly throwing rotted apples at the pigeons. (p. 141, T)



EXERCISE 1 - Self-Test: After reading the above sentences, do the following. Look at the Master Words below. Underline the words that you think you know. Circle the words that you are less sure about. Draw a square around the words you don't recognize.

MASTER WORDS	
alliance	heedlessly
confound	hermit
contrive	moderate
discreet	remorse
eloquent	scowled



EXERCISE 2 - Read the sentences on the preceding page again, this time paying special attention to the ten Master Words. In the (a) spaces provided below, write down what you think is the meaning of the word. After you have attempted a definition for each word, look up the word in a dictionary. In the (b) spaces, copy the appropriate dictionary definition.

1. alliance (n.)

a. _____
b. _____

2. confound (v.)

a. _____
b. _____

3. contrive (v.)

a. _____
b. _____

4. discreet (adj.)

a. _____
b. _____

5. eloquent (adj.)

a. _____
b. _____

6. heedlessly (adv.)

a. _____
b. _____

7. hermit (n.)

a. _____
b. _____

8. moderate (adj.)

a. _____
b. _____

9. remorse (n.)

a. _____
b. _____

10. scowled (v.)

a. _____
b. _____



EXERCISE 3 - Use the following list of synonyms and antonyms to fill in the blanks. One of the words has no antonym. In that case, the antonym blank has been marked with an X.

break-up
frowned
partnership
secretive

carelessly
garbled
plan
smiled

celebrity
guilt
reasonable
thoughtfully

confused
irrational
certain
well-known

expressive
loner
satisfaction

Synonyms

Antonyms

1. **heedlessly**
2. **moderate**
3. **contrive**
4. **confounded**
5. **remorse**
6. **scowled**
7. **hermit**
8. **alliance**
9. **discreet**
10. **eloquent**

X



EXERCISE 4 - Decide whether the first pair in the items below are synonyms or antonyms. Then choose the Master Word that shows a similar relation to the word(s) preceding the blank.

- | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|---|-------|
| 1. asleep | : dozing | :: repentance | : | _____ |
| 2. jovial | : sulking | :: movie star | : | _____ |
| 3. endeavored | : aspired | :: scheme | : | _____ |
| 4. abominable | : odious | :: private | : | _____ |
| 5. creative | : imaginative | :: puzzled | : | _____ |
| 6. over | : finished | :: sneered | : | _____ |
| 7. tumultuous | : peaceful | :: division | : | _____ |
| 8. infamous | : famous | :: incoherent | : | _____ |
| 9. implored | : pleaded | :: thoughtlessly | : | _____ |
| 10. float | : sink | :: unreasonable | : | _____ |



EXERCISE 5 - The Master Words in this lesson are repeated below. From the Master Words, choose the appropriate word for the blank in each of the following sentences. Write the word in the numbered space provided at the right.

alliance
heedlessly

confounded
hermit

contrives
moderate

discreet
remorse

eloquent
scowled

1. Birdy refused to do her embroidery, . . . ? . . . throwing her stitching into the privy. 1. _____
2. Sometimes Birdy thinks her life would be better is she were a . . . ? . . . 2. _____
3. George often . . . ? . . . and looked unhappy. 3. _____
4. Aelis was not too please with her . . . ? . . . to the duke, but she accepted it. 4. _____
5. Birdy was usually not very . . . ? . . . with her feelings 5. _____
6. Agnes suggested Catherine be . . . ? . . . in her manner. 6. _____
7. Birdy frequently . . . ? . . . ways to avoid marriage. 7. _____
8. Lord Rollo was . . . ? . . . by his daughter's behavior. 8. _____
9. Seeing George so unhappy fills Birdy with . . . ? . . . because she believes she is responsible. 9. _____
10. Catherine feels she has an . . . ? . . . way of expressing herself. 10. _____



EXERCISE 6 - Complete the crossword puzzle using the Master Words.

Exercise 6 not available with PDF file. See Mrs. Hatzi.