

# CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY

May - September

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.

She must not look too proud nor yet too humble, lest people say she is proud of her humility.  
(p. 149, T)

He told my father that this tooth worm was especially stubborn and malignant and that nothing would do but a poultice of raven manure on the sore tooth. (p. 159, M)

Alf is puny and sneezes all summer, but still I would be Meg, about to marry the choice of my heart, rather than the lady Catherine, promised to giddy. I am desolate. (p. 163, M)

While Meg finished coaxing the cows, I went to coax my father. (p. 166, B)

Standing in the doorway, he said, "Your mother has prevailed upon me to let you out. You are to go down to supper. You will be quiet, agreeable, and obedient. And you will wed the pig." (p. 172, M)

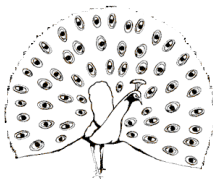
I met Aelis this day in the meadow. She is giddy and relieved to be married no longer.  
(p. 175, M)

The holy relics they found will be installed with great ceremony in the abbey on Sunday.  
(p. 178, T)

Sometimes I feel that she is the child and I the mother, as I bathe her face and sing her songs and cajole her into eating just a bit of this meat or that cheese. (p. 184, T)

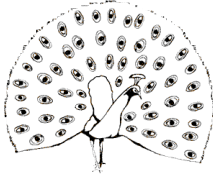
I am dispirited, downcast, dejected. (p. 187, M)

I listened meekly, but my whole self shudders at the thought of belonging to the despicable Shaggy Beard. (p. 188, 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 |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| cajole       | humility  |
| coaxing      | malignant |
| dejected     | meekly    |
| desolate     | prevailed |
| giddy        | relics    |



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. cajole (v.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

2. coaxing (v.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

3. dejected (adj.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

4. desolate (adj.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

5. giddy (adv.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

6. humility (n.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

7. malignant (adj.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

8. meek (adj.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

9. prevailed (v.)

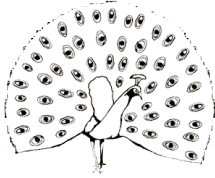
a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

10. relics (n.)

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.

arrogance  
harmful  
modesty  
souvenirs

bold  
harmless  
persuade  
stopping

discourage  
jovial  
serious  
urging

dismal  
joyful  
shy  
won

failed  
melancholy  
silly

**Synonyms**

**Antonyms**

1. prevailed
2. malignant
3. relics
4. desolate
5. coaxing
6. cajole
7. giddy
8. meek
9. humility
10. dejected

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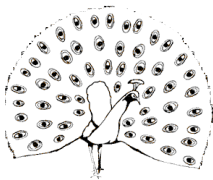
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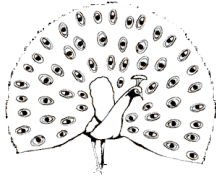
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X



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. hermit     | : monk       | :: docile      | : | _____ |
| 2. illness    | : malady     | :: keepsake    | : | _____ |
| 3. scanty     | : inadequate | :: coax        | : | _____ |
| 4. scowl      | : grin       | :: pride       | : | _____ |
| 5. heedless   | : careful    | :: surrendered | : | _____ |
| 6. inside     | : outside    | :: genial      | : | _____ |
| 7. rainy      | : sunny      | :: safe        | : | _____ |
| 8. discreet   | : public     | :: solemn      | : | _____ |
| 9. alteration | : change     | :: barren      | : | _____ |
| 10. gale      | : storm      | :: encouraging | : | _____ |



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.

cajoling  
humility

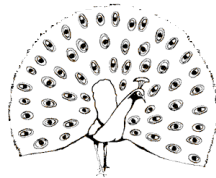
coax  
malignant

dejected  
meekly

desolate  
prevailed

giddy  
relics

1. Catherine's mother . . . ? . . . ; Lord Rollo finally went to the dentist. 1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Luckily, the bad tooth was not . . . ? . . . 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. No one was quite sure where the . . . ? . . . were buried. 3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Catherine had to . . . ? . . . the birds to come out of their cages. 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Lord Rollo was known for his vanity, not his . . . ? . . . 5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Aelis was . . . ? . . . and full of joy. 6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Birdy helped her mother through her illness, . . . ? . . . her to eat and drink. 7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. When Birdy looked into her future, it seemed bleak and . . . ? . . . 8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Catherine was . . . ? . . . when she saw Geoffrey's true self. 9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Birdy rarely behaved . . . ? . . . around her father. 10. \_\_\_\_\_



EXERCISE 6 - Write a clear, *complete sentence* using five of the Master Words. The words must be used correctly and must show that you understand the definition.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

