

VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT 2 *The Alchemist*

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean on the lines provided.

1. He knew that wind: people called it levanter, because on it the Moors had come from the Levant at the eastern end of the Mediterranean.

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2. "In order to find the treasure, you will have to follow the omens."

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3. "The black signifies 'yes,' and the white 'no.' When you are unable to read the omens, they will help you do so. Always ask an objective question."

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4. He looked to the skies, feeling a bit abashed, and said, "I know it's the vanity of vanities, as you said, my Lord. But an old king sometimes has to take some pride in himself."

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5. The boy felt ill and terribly alone. The infidels had an evil look about them.

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6. The sun began its departure as well. The boy watched it through its trajectory for some time, until it was hidden behind the white houses surrounding the plaza.

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7. He was feeling sorry for himself, and lamenting the fact that his life could have changed so suddenly and so drastically.

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8. He was learning a lot of new things. Some of them were things he had already experienced, and weren't really new, but that he had never perceived them before.

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9. The merchant laughed. "Even if you cleaned my crystal for an entire year ... even if you earned a good commission selling every piece, you would still have to borrow money to get to Egypt."

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*The Alchemist* Vocabulary Worksheet Assignment 2 Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning -- Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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| ___ 1. | LEVANTER   | A. Phenomena supposed to portend good or evil; prophetic signs                     |
| ___ 2. | OMENS      | B. Expressing sorrow or regret   |
| ___ 3. | OBJECTIVE  | C. Unbelievers with respect to a particular religion                               |
| ___ 4. | ABASHED    | D. Became aware of directly through any of the senses                              |
| ___ 5. | INFIDELS   | E. Ashamed or embarrassed; disconcerted  |
| ___ 6. | TRAJECTORY | F. Path of a projectile or other moving body through space                         |
| ___ 7. | LAMENTING  | G. Percentage of a sales price allowed to sales representatives for their services |
| ___ 8. | PERCEIVED  | H. Not influenced by personal feelings; based on facts; unbiased                   |
| ___ 9. | COMMISSION | I. Strong easterly wind in the Mediterranean                                       |