

VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT 3 *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. "I don't know anyone around here who would want to cross the desert just to see the Pyramids," said the merchant. "They are just a pile of stones."

---

2. "If he makes a buying mistake, it doesn't affect him much. But we two have to live with our mistakes." That's true enough, the boy thought, ruefully.

---

3. "The Prophet gave us the Koran, and left us just five obligations to satisfy during our lives."

---

4. Anyway, the boy had become happy in his work, and thought all the time about the day when he would disembark at Tarifa as a winner.

---

5. It's good I refrained from saying anything to the baker in Tarifa, thought the boy to himself.

---

6. For nearly a year, he had been working incessantly, thinking only of putting aside enough money so that he could return to Spain with pride.

---

7. But as he held Urim and Thummim in his hand, they had transmitted to him the strength and will of the old king.

---

8. He had remembered that one of the crystal merchant's suppliers transported his crystal by means of caravans that crossed the desert.

---

9. First he had studied Esperanto, then the world's religions, and now it was alchemy.

---

10. The Englishman had been profoundly impressed by the story. But he would never have thought it more than just a myth, had not a friend of his--returning from an archaeological expedition in the desert--told him about an Arab that was possessed of exceptional powers.

---

*The Alchemist* Vocabulary Worksheet Assignment 3 Continued

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

- |         |             |   |
|---------|-------------|---|
| ___ 1.  | PYRAMIDS    | A. In a manner showing or expressing sorrow or pity; mournfully                             |
| ___ 2.  | RUEFULLY    | B. Continually; without a break   |
| ___ 3.  | OBLIGATIONS | C. Restrained or held back  |
| ___ 4.  | DISEMBARK   | D. To exit a vehicle of transportation  |
| ___ 5.  | REFRAINED   | E. Duties   |
| ___ 6.  | INCESSANTLY | F. Passed; transferred  |
| ___ 7.  | TRANSMITTED | G. Medieval philosophy concerned with transmuting common substances into something of value |
| ___ 8.  | CARAVANS    | H. Groups that travel together across the desert or through hostile territory for safety    |
| ___ 9.  | ALCHEMY     | I. Excursion, journey, or voyage made for some specific purpose                             |
| ___ 10. | EXPEDITION  | J. Pyramid-shaped stone structures in Egypt housing the tombs of great Egyptian leaders     |