

Vocabulary and Comprehension

You may use your book to help you answer the questions below.

Holt Literature and Language Arts

pages 586–600

“A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings”

A. A synonym is a word that has the same, or almost the same, meaning as another word. For example, *whole* is a synonym for *entire*. Match each word below with its synonym. Write the letter of the correct synonym on the line.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| ___ 1. prudence | a. suffering |
| ___ 2. affliction | b. disaster |
| ___ 3. impeded | c. cautiousness |
| ___ 4. cataclysm | d. generous |
| ___ 5. magnanimous | e. blocked |

B. Write **T** or **F** next to each statement to tell whether it is true or false.

- ___ 1. Almost everyone feels reverence for the old man with wings.
- ___ 2. Elisenda and Pelayo do not lament the departure of the old man with wings.
- ___ 3. The old man’s wings appear to be frivolous.
- ___ 4. The old man performs providential acts every day.
- ___ 5. A terrible stench comes from the coop where the old man is kept.

C. Use a complete sentence to answer each question about “A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings.”

1. How does the old man arrive?

2. How do Pelayo and Elisenda treat the old man?

3. What does the old man do while he is with Pelayo and Elisenda?

VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT**A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings**

Gabriel García Márquez

Student Edition page 586

Antonyms

For each item below, choose the word whose meaning is opposite that of the italicized Vocabulary word. Write the letter of the antonym in the blank provided. You may need a dictionary or a thesaurus to find the correct antonym.

- _____ 1. The *stench* from the dead crabs was overpowering.
 a. stink b. odor c. perfume
- _____ 2. *Impeded* by the fence, the angel had to stay in the chicken coop.
 a. restrained b. freed c. bothered
- _____ 3. Even though they felt *magnanimous*, they still did not clean out the chicken coop.
 a. selfish b. generous c. noble
- _____ 4. The angel did not seem to be deserving of *reverence*.
 a. respect b. dishonor c. awe
- _____ 5. Elisenda spent her money on a pair of *frivolous* satin shoes.
 a. useful b. trivial c. ridiculous
- _____ 6. The angel suffered many *impertinences* committed by the child.
 a. indignities b. tributes c. reprimands
- _____ 7. Despite Father Gonzaga's cautions, the *ingenuous* people continued to listen to all opinions.
 a. wise b. innocent c. naive
- _____ 8. The angel showed *prudence* and did not eat the mothballs.
 a. caution b. ingenuity c. carelessness
- _____ 9. The people thought that the angel would cause a great *cataclysm*.
 a. calm b. upheaval c. disaster
- _____ 10. The angel's arrival was *providential* for Pelayo and Elisenda.
 a. divine b. unfortunate c. lucky
- _____ 11. The woman who had been changed into a spider told her story with sincere *affliction*.
 a. distress b. suffering c. joy
- _____ 12. The owners of the house did not *lament* when the woman who had changed into a spider crushed the angel.
 a. rejoice b. mourn c. grieve