

## Vocabulary Unit 7: Honors Junior Literature

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- austere (adj.) imposing or suggesting physical hardship; plain and simple, without luxury or self-indulgence; severely plain in design or lines, without distractions or decoration; grimly unsmiling, humorless, or suggesting strict self-denial  
SYNONYMS: forbidding, rigorous, puritanical, ascetic, unadorned, subdued  
ANTONYMS: mild, indulgent, luxurious, flamboyant
- beneficent (adj.) doing good or charitable acts; producing benefits or advantages  
SYNONYMS: humanitarian, magnanimous, charitable  
ANTONYMS: selfish, cruel, harmful, deleterious
- cadaverous (adj.) thin to the point of resembling a skeleton or corpse; deathly pale; suggesting death or corpses  
SYNONYMS: corpse-like, haggard, emaciated, ghastly  
ANTONYMS: robust, portly
- concoct (v.) to create something by mixing or combining various ingredients in a new way, especially in cooking; to think up a story or plan, especially something imaginative, that is intended to be deceitful or misleading  
SYNONYMS: create, fashion, rustle up
- crass (adj.) so thoughtless, vulgar, and insensitive as to lack all refinement or delicacy  
SYNONYMS: crude, vulgar, tasteless, obtuse, oafish  
ANTONYMS: refined, elegant, tasteful, polished, brilliant
- debase (v.) to reduce something in value or quality; to reduce somebody in status, significance, or moral worth  
SYNONYMS: cheapen, corrupt, demean, depreciate  
ANTONYMS: elevate, uplift, improve, enhance
- desecrate (v.) to damage something sacred, or do something that is offensive to the religious nature of something; to damage something that is held dear or revered  
SYNONYMS: profane, defile, violate  
ANTONYMS: revere, honor, venerate, consecrate
- disconcert (v.) to make somebody feel ill at ease, slightly confused, or taken aback; to upset or frustrate plans  
SYNONYMS: upset, rattle, ruffle, faze, perturb  
ANTONYMS: relax, calm, put at ease
- grandiose (adj.) pretentious, pompous, and imposing; excessively complicated and unrealistic; impressive and magnificent  
SYNONYMS: majestic, bombastic, highfalutin  
ANTONYMS: simple, modest, unaffected, humble
- inconsequential (adj.) of little or no importance  
SYNONYMS: trivial, negligible, petty, paltry  
ANTONYMS: important, essential, crucial, vital

infraction	(n.) failure to obey or fulfill a law, contract, or agreement, or an instance of this SYNONYMS: violation, transgression, breach, offense
mitigate	(v.) to make an offense or crime less serious or more excusable; to make something less harsh, severe, or violent SYNONYMS: lessen, relieve, alleviate, diminish ANTONYMS: aggregate, intensify, irritate, exacerbate
pillage	(v.) to rob a place using force, especially during a war; to steal goods using force, especially during a war SYNONYMS: (v.) ravage, plunder, sack, loot (n.) booty
prate	(v.) to talk in a silly way and at length about nothing important SYNONYMS: chatter, prattle, blab, blabber, palaver ANTONYMS: come to the point, not waste words
punctilious	(adj.) very careful about the conventions of correct behavior and etiquette; showing great care in small details SYNONYMS: precise, scrupulous, exacting, fussy, finicky ANTONYMS: careless, negligent, lax, perfunctory
redoubtable	(adj.) with personal qualities worthy of respect or fear; eminent, illustrious SYNONYMS: formidable, fearsome, awesome, august ANTONYMS: laughable, risible, contemptible
reprove	(v.) to speak to somebody in a way that shows disapproval of something he or she has done SYNONYMS: censure, chide, chastise, upbraid, reproach ANTONYMS: praise, commend, laud, pat on the back
restitution	(n.) the return of something to its rightful owner; compensation for a loss, damage, or injury; the return of something to the condition it was in before it was changed SYNONYMS: compensation, reimbursement, redress, restoration
stalwart	(adj.) dependable and loyal; sturdy and strong (n.) a faithful, dependable, and hard-working supporter of somebody or something SYNONYMS: (adj.) sturdy, stout, intrepid, valiant (n.) mainstay ANTONYMS: (adj.) weak, infirm, irresolute, vacillating
vulnerable	(adj.) open to physical or emotional harm; easily persuadable or liable to give in to temptation; (MILITARY) exposed to an attack or possible damage SYNONYMS: defenseless, exposed, unguarded ANTONYMS: invincible, protected, safe, secure