

VOCABULARY Real Spring-Final Cut *Speak*

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. The sun appears butter-yellow and so warm it coaxes tulips out of the crusty mud.

2. You hunt down every person who looks vaguely familiar and get them to write in your yearbook.

3. He has such a reputation. He's only after one thing.

4. My mother can't believe it: a living, breathing friend on the front porch for her maladjusted daughter.

5. She dumped me, banished me from even the shadows of Martha glory.

6. She is talking to the village leper.

7. He sets to work pruning the deadwood like a sculptor.

8. Some part of me has planned this, a devious internal compass pointed to the past.

9. One stomach pumped, three breakups of long term relationships, one lost diamond earring, four outrageous hotel-room parties, and five matching tattoos allegedly decorating the behinds of the senior class officers.

Speak Vocabulary Worksheet Real Spring-Final Cut Continued

10. Sometimes I think high school is one long hazing activity.

Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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| ___ 1. Coaxes | A. poorly adjusted in one's social circumstances |
| ___ 2. Vaguely | B. something that has been described but not proven |
| ___ 3. Reputation | C. to persuade by pleading or flattery |
| ___ 4. Maladjusted | D. a person who is rejected; an outcast |
| ___ 5. Banished | E. not straightforward; shifty or crooked |
| ___ 6. Leper | F. not clear or definite; hazy |
| ___ 7. Pruning | G. how the public views or regards an individual |
| ___ 8. Devious | H. to abuse newcomers with humiliating tricks and ridicule |
| ___ 9. Allegedly | I. forced to leave; drive away; expelled |
| ___ 10. Hazing | J. to cut off, clear, or remove |

Notes: In the old days, a person with a disease called leprosy was called a **leper**. This disease could cause open sores, inflamed tissue bumps, mutilation, gangrene, and paralysis. It could be highly contagious. There was no cure. When a person got leprosy, they were sent out of the village or town to live alone or sometimes in a colony of lepers. Thus, someone who is outcast from a group is sometimes called a leper.

Pruning is the trimming of a tree or bush to remove dead limbs or make it more compact. Sometimes if a tree or bush is not doing well—has bad parts or has grown out of control with some good parts and some bad—pruning it (cutting it back) to a more compact shape will enable it to become rejuvenated.