

Group 1

# Subterfuge



Find each of the following words on the *Eclipse* page number provided. Based on the way each word is used in the book, guess at its definition.

1. **Subterfuge** (p. 1) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. **In vain** (p. 1) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. **Diverted** (p. 2) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. **Ultimatum** (p. 3) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. **Hemorrhage** (p. 4) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. **Essence** (p. 5) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. **Surly** (p. 6) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. **Hokey** (p. 6) might mean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



2 Let's see how you did. Check your answers, write the exact definitions, and reread the sentence in *Eclipse* where each word appears. Then complete the drills on the next page.

1. **Subterfuge** (p. 1) means *trickery* or *deception*. This is a great word to break apart. The prefix *sub-* can mean *under*, as in the word *subterranean*, meaning *underground*, and *-fuge* means *escape*, as in *refuge* and *fugitive*. So *subterfuge* means *escape under* (as in *undercover*), by *trickery* or *deception*. Synonyms: artifice, chicanery, duplicity, guile.
2. **In vain** (p. 1) means *useless*. Synonym: futile.
3. **Diverted** (p. 2) means *distracted*. Of course you knew that, but I included this word to mention the high-level SAT and ACT word *diversion* that means *recreation* or *entertainment*, as in "The king was diverted by the court jester's diversions." Often reading-comprehension questions ask which meaning of a word is implied in a passage. You can always tell by the context, and in this case the hungry vampire is waiting for Edward to be distracted, not entertained!
4. **Ultimatum** (p. 3) means *final demand, usually given as a threat*. That makes sense since *ultim-* implies *final* or *end*, as in the word *ultimate*.
5. **Hemorrhage** (p. 4) means *burst of blood*, and in fact *hemo-* implies *blood* as in *hemoglobin* (a component of blood) and *hemophiliac* (a person whose blood does not clot properly).
6. **Essence** (p. 5) means *fundamental nature*. Synonyms: crux, quintessence.
7. **Surly** (p. 6) means *rude and unfriendly*. Synonyms: abrupt, brusque, cantankerous, churlish, curt.
8. **Hokey** (p. 6) means *corny, overused, or overly sentimental*. Standardized tests love the related words *banal* (overused and boring); and *cliché*, *hackneyed*, *platitudinous*, and *trite* which all mean *overused*. Don't you love that your SAT, ACT, GED, or SSAT score will go up from reading the *Twilight* saga!

**Synonyms:** Select the word or phrase whose meaning is closest to the word in capital letters.



1. SUBTERFUGE

- A. underground
- B. artifice
- C. blood burst
- D. quintessence
- E. crux

3. SURLY

- A. churlish
- B. banal
- C. cliché
- D. hackneyed
- E. platitudinous

2. ULTIMATUM

- A. diversion
- B. chicanery
- C. duplicity
- D. final demand
- E. guile

4. HOKEY

- A. deceptive
- B. futile
- C. in vain
- D. ultimate
- E. trite

**Analogies:** Select the answer choice that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

5. Spy is to subterfuge as

- A. doctor is to hemorrhage
- B. Voldemort is to essence
- C. magician is to diversion
- D. architect is to artifice
- E. Edward is to Bella's hemoglobin

6. Surly is to pleasant as

- A. abrupt is to brusque
- B. kind is to sweet
- C. cantankerous is to churlish
- D. curt is to friendly
- E. hokey is to trite

**Sentence Completions:** Choose the word that, when inserted in the sentence, *best* fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

7. The columnist was known for his trademark \_\_\_\_\_ and corny phrases.

- A. brusque
- B. ultimate
- C. hackneyed
- D. futile
- E. duplicitous

8. Hoping to capture the \_\_\_\_\_ of the matter in only three lines, Miguel wrote a haiku entitled "Quintessence."

- A. diversion
- B. crux
- C. hemorrhage
- D. churlishness
- E. chicanery



1. **B.** *Subterfuge* and *artifice* mean *deception*. *Crux* means *essence*. That's why the magical items that Voldemort uses to hide parts of his **soul** (his essence) are called horcruxes!
2. **D.** *Ultimatum* means *final demand*. Use the process of elimination—cross out all choices that are **definitely** wrong. *Diversion* means *distraction* or *entertainment*; and *chicanery*, *duplicity*, and *guile* mean *deception*. *Duplicity* is the title of the Julia Roberts and Clive Owen movie about two spies who try to **trick/deceive** corporations.
3. **A.** *Surly* and *churlish* mean *rude and unfriendly*. *Banal*, *cliché*, *hackneyed*, and *platitudinous* mean *overused*.
4. **E.** *Hokey* and *trite* mean *overused*. *Futile* and *in vain* mean *useless*.
5. **C.** Make a sentence with the two words. For example, “A spy might use subterfuge (deception).” Then, try your sentence for each pair of words in the answer choices.
  - A. A doctor might use a hemorrhage . . . no, she or he might stop a hemorrhage.
  - B. Voldemort might use essence . . . no, though he did use a hor**crux**.
  - C.** A magician might use a diversion (distraction) . . . yes!
  - D. An architect might use artifice (tricks) . . . no, not necessarily.
  - E. Edward might use Bella's hemoglobin (blood) . . . No way, come on! Victoria is dying to “use” Bella's hemoglobin, but Edward, no way!
6. **D.** “Surly is the opposite of pleasant.”
  - A. Abrupt is the opposite of brusque . . . no, they both mean *rude and unfriendly*.
  - B. Kind is the opposite of sweet . . . no.
  - C. Cantankerous is the opposite of churlish . . . no, they both mean *rude and unfriendly*.
  - D.** Curt is the opposite of friendly . . . yes!
  - E. Hokey is the opposite of trite . . . no, they both mean *overused*.
7. **C.** Think of a word to fill the blank. Often you can borrow a word right out of the sentence.

“The columnist was known for his trademark corny and corny phrases.”

Use the process of elimination, crossing off answer choices that **definitely** do not work, and then see which answer choice fits best. *Hackneyed* means *corny* and is the best answer.

8. **B.** “Hoping to capture the quintessence of the matter in only three lines, Miguel wrote a haiku entitled ‘Quintessence.’”

When trying to come up with a word to fill the blank, always look for evidence in the sentence—“quintessence” tells you what you need. *Crux* and *quintessence* mean *essence*.