Unit 2

Name:	Date:	

Definitions

adverse (adj.) unfavorable, negative; working against, hostile

arid (adj.) extremely dry; uninteresting, dull

assailant (n.) a person who attacks violently (with blows or words)

billow (n.) a large wave; (v.) to rise or swell like a wave

confront (v.) to meet face-to-face, especially as a challenge; come to

grips with

constrain (v.) to force, compel; to restrain, hold back

contemporary (adj.) belonging to the same period of time as oneself; (n.) a

person of the same time

depict (v.) to portray; to represent or show in the form of a picture

disinterested (adj.) fair-minded, free from selfish motives; indifferent

encompass (v.) to encircle, go or reach around; to enclose; to include with

a certain group or class

groundless (adj.) without any good reason or cause, unjustified

hypocrite (n.) a person who pretends to be what he or she is not or better

than he or she really is; a two-faced person

incomprehensible (adj.) impossible to understand

manipulate (v.) to handle or use skillfully; to manage or control for personal

gain or advantage

maximum (n.) the greatest possible amount or degree; (adj.) reaching the

greatest possible amount or degree

mimic (n.) a person who does imitations; (v.) to imitate; to make fun of

ruffle (v.) to wrinkle, make uneven; to annoy, upset; to flip through;

(n.) material used for trimming edges; a ripple; a low drumbeat

(adj.) peaceful, calm; free of emotional upset; clear and free of serene

storm; majestic, grand

sheepish (adj.) embarrassed; resembling a sheep in meekness, timid

stamina (n.) the strength needed to keep going or overcome physical or

mental strain; staying power

Vocabulary Workshop

Level A

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