

I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS

Chapters 1-6 Vocabulary

**TAKE OUT A PIECE OF NOTEBOOK
PAPER AND WRITE:**

- Your name
- Today's date
- The title *Caged Bird* Vocabulary Chapters 1-6

READ THIS FIRST SENTENCE :

1. The dress I wore was lavender *taffeta*, and each time I breathed it rustled.

COPY THE UNDERLINED WORD ONTO YOUR PAPER. THEN USE YOUR PRIOR KNOWLEDGE AND ANY CONTEXT CLUES TO WRITE WHAT YOU THINK THE UNDERLINED WORD MEANS.

NEXT, RANK YOUR FAMILIARITY OF THE WORD

1 = BRAND NEW WORD. I HAVE NEVER HEARD OR SEEN THE WORD BEFORE.

2 = I THINK I HAVE SEEN OR HEARD THE WORD BEFORE BUT I DO NOT USE THE WORD

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4 = I USE THE WORD. I CAN DEFINE IT WITH CONFIDENCE

2. ...and troubadours... leaned across its benches and sang their sad songs of The Brazos while they played juice harps and cigar-box guitars.

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3. If he prophesied that the cotton in today's field was going to be sparse and stick to the bolls like glue, every listener would grunt a hearty agreement.

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4. I was told even by my fellow Blacks that my paranoia was embarrassing.

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5. She seems to hold no rancor against the baby sitter.

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6. His nonchalance was meant to convey his authority and power over even dumb animals.

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7. A near anachronism in Stamps.

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8. All adults had to be addressed as Mister, Missus, Miss, Auntie, Cousin, ... and a thousand other appellations indicating familial relationship and the lowliness of the addressor.

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9. In Christian Methodist Episcopal Church the children's section was on the right, cater-corner from the pew that held those ominous women called the Mothers of the Church.

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10. I'll never know what might have happened, because magically the pandemonium spread.

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Part II: Determining the Meaning

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

- _____ 1. taffeta
- _____ 2. troubadours
- _____ 3. sparse
- _____ 4. paranoia
- _____ 5. rancor
- _____ 6. nonchalance
- _____ 7. anachronism
- _____ 8. appellations
- _____ 9. ominous
- _____ 10. pandemonium

- A. extreme, irrational distrust of others
- B. wild uproar or noise
- C. names, titles, or designations
- D. a crisp fabric with a slight sheen
- E. menacing; threatening
- F. cool indifference
- G. strolling minstrels
- H. out of proper or chronological order
- I. occurring at widely spaced intervals
- J. bitter, long-lasting resentment