

Hatchet Chapter 4 Word Selection

1. Abated

- **Why:** *Abated* is an important word for understanding the change in the environment. Brian notices how the storm (or other intense sensations) calms down, so this word is central to the plot.
- **Root/Origin:** From Latin *abatere*, meaning "to beat down."
- **Meaning:** To lessen or decrease in intensity, such as wind or pain.

2. Keening

- **Why:** This word is a vivid description of Brian's emotional state or the sound of something in distress, particularly the sound of mourning or pain.
- **Root/Origin:** From Old Irish *cian*, meaning "to wail or cry aloud."
- **Meaning:** A high-pitched wailing sound, typically in mourning or sorrow.

3. Battered

- **Why:** *Battered* helps to describe the physical and emotional state Brian finds himself in, with implications of being damaged or worn down by the wilderness.
- **Root/Origin:** From Old French *battre* (to strike or beat), from Latin *battuere* (to beat).
- **Meaning:** Worn down, damaged, or struck repeatedly, especially in a rough manner.

4. Cramped

- **Why:** *Cramped* is key to understanding the physical discomfort Brian feels as he survives in the wilderness.
- **Root/Origin:** From Middle English *cramp* (a pain or spasm), related to Old French *crampe* (a sudden painful contraction).
- **Meaning:** Painfully tight or restricted, often referring to muscles or space.

5. Hordes

- **Why:** This word is important to understanding the overwhelming presence of something, like swarms of insects, which contribute to Brian's misery in the wilderness.
- **Root/Origin:** From Old French *horde*, from Old French *horde* meaning "a crowd or throng," derived from the Germanic *hord* (a crowd).
- **Meaning:** A large group or crowd, often with a negative or overwhelming connotation.

6. Exposed

- **Why:** *Exposed* is a crucial word that relates to Brian's vulnerability and survival in the wilderness, where he is open to the elements and dangers.
- **Root/Origin:** From Latin *exponere*, meaning "to put forth, expose."
- **Meaning:** Made open to the elements or dangers, unprotected.

7. Agony

- **Why:** *Agony* expresses extreme emotional or physical pain, which helps to capture Brian's suffering during the survival experience.
- **Root/Origin:** From Greek *agonia* (a struggle or contest, especially in the sense of intense struggle).
- **Meaning:** Extreme physical or emotional pain or suffering.

8. Naturalist

- **Why:** *Naturalist* connects to Brian's growing understanding and interaction with the natural world around him, a key part of his emotional and intellectual development in the story.
- **Root/Origin:** From Latin *natura* (nature) and *-ist* (one who practices or is concerned with something).
- **Meaning:** A person who studies the natural world, especially plants and animals.

Why These Words Were Chosen:

- **Frequency and relevance:** These words are likely to appear in multiple contexts, not only within this text but also in broader reading or academic contexts. Words like *agony* and *exposed* are useful in various narrative or analytical contexts.
- **Less commonly known:** Many of these words, like *keening*, *hordes*, and *naturalist*, may not be part of students' everyday vocabulary. These words will expand their understanding and deepen their engagement with the text.
- **Latin/Greek roots:** Words like *abated*, *agony*, and *naturalist* have roots that connect them to other vocabulary students may encounter in science, history, and other subjects, making them even more valuable to teach.

Teacher Explanation Page: Vocabulary Word Analysis

1. Abated (Page 33)

- **Syllables:** 2 syllables — A-bat-ed
- **Phonemes:** uh-BAY-tid
How it sounds: "uh" (like the "a" in "about") + "BAY" (like "bay") + "tid" (like "tid" in "tidy")
- **Morphemes:**
 - **Root:** From Latin *abate*, meaning "to beat down."
 - **Prefix:** *ab-* (Latin: "away, off") — suggests something being reduced or lessened.
 - **Suffix:** *-ed* (past tense suffix indicating a completed action).
 - **Meaning:** To lessen or reduce in intensity. For example, a storm or pain might *abate* as it becomes less intense.
 - **Part of speech change:** The verb *abate* becomes an adjective or past-tense verb when the *-ed* suffix is added.

2. Cramped (Page 34)

- **Syllables:** 1 syllable — **Cramped**
- **Phonemes:** *KRAMPT*
How it sounds: "cramp" (like "cramp" in "cramping") + "d" (like the "d" in "bed")
- **Morphemes:**
 - **Root:** From Middle English *cramp* (a painful muscle spasm).
 - **Suffix:** *-ed* (past tense suffix; also turns the adjective "cramp" into a description of a condition or state).
 - **Meaning:** Tight, confined, uncomfortable, often referring to space or physical feeling (like a cramped room or cramping muscles).
 - **Part of speech change:** The verb *cramp* becomes an adjective when *-ed* is added, describing a state of discomfort.

3. Keening (Page 34)

- **Syllables:** 2 syllables — **Keen-ing**
- **Phonemes:** *KEE-ning*
How it sounds: "KEE" (like "key") + "ning" (like the "ing" in "singing")
- **Morphemes:**
 - **Root:** From Old Irish *cian* (meaning "to wail, cry out").
 - **Suffix:** *-ing* (present participle suffix, turns the verb into a noun or describes ongoing action).
 - **Meaning:** A high-pitched, mournful wail, often associated with grief or mourning.
 - **Part of speech change:** The verb *keen* (to mourn loudly) becomes a noun or adjective indicating the action or sound of mourning.

4. Battered (Page 35)

- **Syllables:** 2 syllables — **Bat-tered**
- **Phonemes:** *BAT-urd*
How it sounds: "BAT" (like "bat") + "urd" (like "bird" without the "b")
- **Morphemes:**
 - **Root:** From Old French *battre* (meaning "to beat or strike") and Latin *battuere* (to strike).
 - **Suffix:** *-ed* (past tense suffix; turns the verb "to batter" into an adjective or past-tense verb).
 - **Meaning:** To be damaged, worn down, or physically harmed from being struck repeatedly or roughly.
 - **Part of speech change:** The verb *batter* (to strike repeatedly) becomes the past-tense adjective *battered*, describing something that has been damaged or harmed.

5. Hordes (Page 36)

- **Syllables:** 1 syllable — **Hord-es**
- **Phonemes:** *HOHRDZ*
How it sounds: "hoard" (rhymes with "board") + "z" (like "z" in "buzz")
- **Morphemes:**

- **Root:** From Old French *horde* (meaning "a crowd or throng"), from Germanic *hord* (a large group, typically of people or animals).
- **Suffix:** -s (plural suffix indicating more than one horde).
- **Meaning:** A large group or crowd, typically of people or animals, often overwhelming or chaotic.
- **Part of speech change:** *Horde* is a noun, and the suffix -s makes it plural.

6. Exposed (Page 37)

- **Syllables:** 2 syllables — **Ex-posed**
- **Phonemes:** *ik-SPOHZD*
How it sounds: "ik" (like the "ex" in "examine") + "SPOHZD" (like "posed")
- **Morphemes:**
 - **Prefix:** *ex-* (from Latin *ex*, meaning "out of, away from").
 - **Root:** From Latin *ponere* (to place or position), combined with *ex-* to mean "to place out, make known."
 - **Suffix:** *-ed* (past tense suffix; also turns the verb into an adjective).
 - **Meaning:** To be left open or unprotected, subject to the elements or dangers. For example, Brian might feel *exposed* to the dangers of the wilderness.
 - **Part of speech change:** The verb *expose* becomes an adjective when *-ed* is added, describing the state of being vulnerable or unprotected.

7. Agony (Page 37)

- **Syllables:** 3 syllables — **Ag-o-ny**
- **Phonemes:** *AG-uh-nee*
How it sounds: "AG" (like the "ag" in "agony") + "uh" (a soft "uh" sound) + "nee" (like "knee")
- **Morphemes:**
 - **Root:** From Greek *agonia* (meaning "struggle, contest" — originally referring to a contest or struggle, but later focused on extreme pain).
 - **Suffix:** *-y* (turns a noun into an adjective, indicating the state or quality of the root word).
 - **Meaning:** Intense physical or emotional pain or suffering. It can describe a deep, overwhelming sense of distress.
 - **Part of speech change:** The noun *agony* describes a state of suffering, and the suffix *-y* indicates the quality of being in that state.

8. Naturalist (Page 38)

- **Syllables:** 4 syllables — **Nat-u-ral-ist**
- **Phonemes:** *NAT-yer-uh-list*
How it sounds: "NAT" (like "nat" in "nature") + "yer" (like "your") + "uh" (like "a") + "list" (like "list")
- **Morphemes:**
 - **Root:** From Latin *natura* (meaning "nature") + *-ist* (a suffix that indicates a person who practices or specializes in a particular subject).
 - **Meaning:** A person who studies the natural world, especially animals, plants, and ecosystems.

- **Part of speech change:** The noun *naturalist* refers to a person who studies nature, and the suffix *-ist* makes it specifically about a profession or field of expertise.

Summary:

This teacher explanation page breaks down the vocabulary words by analyzing:

1. **Syllables** – Helps students understand how to pronounce each word correctly.
2. **Phonemes** – Provides a breakdown of how the word sounds, reinforcing correct pronunciation.
3. **Morphemes** – Analyzing the root, prefix, and suffix of each word helps students better understand the meaning of each word and its connection to other words they may encounter. This also gives insight into how a word can change forms (verb to adjective, singular to plural, etc.).