

# Hatchet Chapter 7 Word Selection

## 1. Vicious

- **Why:** *Vicious* is an important word in describing a threatening or dangerous aspect of the wilderness, such as the behavior of animals or the harsh conditions Brian faces. It's a good word to teach for its use in everyday language (describing harmful actions or intense emotions).
- **Root/Origin:** From Latin *vitiosus* (meaning "full of faults, corrupt"), from *vitium* (meaning "vice, fault").
- **Meaning:** Deliberately cruel or violent, with the connotation of malice or ferocity.

## 2. Self-pity

- **Why:** *Self-pity* is a psychological term that describes Brian's emotional state at several points in the book. It's a critical word for understanding his mental struggles and growth throughout the novel.
- **Root/Origin:** *Self* comes from Old English *self*, and *pity* comes from Old French *pitie*, from Latin *pietas* (meaning "pity, compassion").
- **Meaning:** The feeling of excessive sorrow for oneself, often hindering the ability to cope with problems or hardships.

## 3. Receded

- **Why:** *Receded* is an important verb that helps describe the changing landscape around Brian, such as the withdrawal of a storm or the retreat of something dangerous. It's also a more formal word that would benefit from exploration in context.
- **Root/Origin:** From Latin *recedere*, from *re-* (back) + *cedere* (to go).
- **Meaning:** To move back or away from a previous position, typically referring to something like water, hairlines, or dangerous forces.

## 4. Maroon

- **Why:** *Maroon* is a central term in *Hatchet*, as Brian is stranded and alone in the wilderness. The word also carries a sense of abandonment or isolation, which is key to understanding his struggle.
- **Root/Origin:** From the French word *marron* (meaning "wild," referring to runaway slaves who fled into the wilderness).
- **Meaning:** To leave someone in a place where they are isolated and unable to escape, often in a wilderness or remote area.

## 5. Tart

- **Why:** *Tart* is important because it describes the taste of food that Brian might experience as he struggles to find nourishment. It also helps in conveying emotional reactions, like bitterness or sharpness.
- **Root/Origin:** From Middle French *tartre* (meaning "sour, sharp"), derived from Latin *tartarus* (meaning "sour").

- **Meaning:** Sharp or sour in taste. Can also be used to describe a sharp or biting tone in speech or attitude.

## 6. Snags

- **Why:** *Snags* is a useful word to understand obstacles or hazards in the wilderness, which Brian frequently encounters. It also can be used in a broader sense in other contexts.
- **Root/Origin:** From the verb *snag* (meaning "to catch or tear on something sharp or pointed").
- **Meaning:** Obstacles or things that catch or tear, typically sharp objects like branches or other natural hazards in the wilderness.

## 7. Indicated

- **Why:** *Indicated* is a versatile word used to describe signs, hints, or signals, which Brian interprets in his environment to guide his survival. It's an important term for understanding how Brian begins to read his surroundings.
- **Root/Origin:** From Latin *indicatus*, from *indicare* (meaning "to point out, show").
- **Meaning:** To show or suggest something indirectly, often through signs or signals.

## 8. Rivulets

- **Why:** *Rivulets* is a natural term describing small streams of water, which are critical to Brian's survival as he searches for water sources. It's an evocative word that deepens understanding of nature and the setting.
- **Root/Origin:** From Latin *rivuletus*, meaning "a small stream," from *rivus* (meaning "stream" or "brook").
- **Meaning:** Small streams or brooks, often feeding into larger bodies of water, essential in describing the environment Brian navigates.

## Summary:

These 8 words were chosen based on their **frequency** in both the novel and everyday language, and their **importance** to understanding key aspects of Brian's survival and emotional journey. Additionally, several of these words come from **Latin** or **Greek** roots, making them useful for helping students make connections to other academic subjects, especially in science or literature.

1. **Vicious** (describes danger and hostility)
2. **Self-pity** (important for character development)
3. **Receded** (describes change in environment)
4. **Maroon** (central theme of isolation)
5. **Tart** (describes taste and emotional reactions)
6. **Snags** (refers to physical obstacles)
7. **Indicated** (critical for interpreting survival clues)
8. **Rivulets** (important environmental term)

Certainly! Below is a **Teacher Explanation Page** that provides a detailed analysis of each word, focusing on **syllables**, **phonemes**, and **morphemes** (Latin/Greek roots, prefixes, suffixes, and parts of speech). This breakdown will help students understand both the structure and meaning of each word, enhancing their comprehension of *Hatchet* and improving their vocabulary.

## Teacher Explanation Page: Vocabulary Word Analysis

### 1. Vicious (Page 69)

- **Syllables:** 2 syllables — **Vi-cious**
- **Phonemes:** *VISH-us*  
*How it sounds:* "VISH" (rhymes with "fish") + "us" (like "bus")
- **Morphemes:**
  - **Root:** From Latin *vitiosus*, meaning "full of faults, corrupt," derived from *vitium* (meaning "vice, fault").
  - **Suffix:** *-ous* (forms an adjective, indicating having the qualities of something).
  - **Meaning:** Deliberately cruel or violent, dangerous in nature, full of malice or hostility.
  - **Part of Speech Change:** The root *vitium* refers to a fault or flaw, and the suffix *-ous* turns the word into an adjective, describing something harmful or wicked.

### 2. Self-pity (Page 70)

- **Syllables:** 2 syllables — **Self-pi-ty**
- **Phonemes:** *SELF-pit-ee*  
*How it sounds:* "SELF" (like "self") + "pit" (rhymes with "hit") + "ee" (like "tree")
- **Morphemes:**
  - **Self:** From Old English *self* (meaning "one's own").
  - **Pity:** From Old French *pitie*, from Latin *pietas* (meaning "pity, compassion").
  - **Meaning:** The feeling of excessive sorrow or sympathy for oneself, often hindering personal growth and the ability to cope with adversity.
  - **Part of Speech Change:** Both *self* and *pity* are nouns, and when combined, they form a compound noun, describing a state or feeling.

### 3. Receded (Page 70)

- **Syllables:** 3 syllables — **Re-ced-ed**
- **Phonemes:** *ree-SEE-did*  
*How it sounds:* "ree" (like "re" in "reset") + "SEE" (like "see") + "did" (like the past tense of "do")
- **Morphemes:**
  - **Prefix:** *re-* (from Latin *re*, meaning "back, again").
  - **Root:** From Latin *cedere*, meaning "to go, yield."
  - **Suffix:** *-ed* (past tense suffix indicating an action that has been completed).
  - **Meaning:** To move back or withdraw from a previous position, such as water receding from shore or emotions receding over time.

- **Part of Speech Change:** The verb *recede* becomes a past-tense verb with the suffix *-ed*, indicating that the action has already occurred.

#### 4. Maroon (Page 70)

- **Syllables:** 2 syllables — **Ma-roon**
- **Phonemes:** *muh-ROON*  
*How it sounds:* "muh" (like "muh" in "mother") + "ROON" (rhymes with "moon")
- **Morphemes:**
  - **Root:** From French *marron*, meaning "wild," referring to runaway slaves who escaped into the wilderness. From Latin *marron* (meaning "chestnut," referencing the reddish-brown color of the landscape).
  - **Meaning:** To leave someone isolated in an uninhabited place, such as a desert island or remote wilderness.
  - **Part of Speech Change:** *Maroon* is both a verb (to isolate or abandon) and a noun (referring to someone who has been abandoned or stranded).

#### 5. Tart (Page 71)

- **Syllables:** 1 syllable — **Tart**
- **Phonemes:** *TAHRT*  
*How it sounds:* "TAHRT" (rhymes with "cart")
- **Morphemes:**
  - **Root:** From Middle French *tartre* (meaning "sour, sharp"), derived from Latin *tartarus* (meaning "sour").
  - **Meaning:** A sharp, sour taste, often referring to food (like a tart fruit), but can also describe a sharp or biting attitude.
  - **Part of Speech Change:** *Tart* can be a noun (a type of dessert) or an adjective (describing a sour taste or a sharp tone).

#### 6. Snags (Page 73)

- **Syllables:** 1 syllable — **Snags**
- **Phonemes:** *SNAGZ*  
*How it sounds:* "SNAG" (rhymes with "bag") + "z" (like the "z" in "buzz")
- **Morphemes:**
  - **Root:** From the verb *snag* (to catch or tear on something sharp), which may be related to the word *snag* in Old Norse, meaning a sharp point.
  - **Suffix:** *-s* (plural suffix indicating more than one snag).
  - **Meaning:** Obstacles, sharp points, or things that catch or tear, often referring to objects like tree branches or issues that disrupt a process.
  - **Part of Speech Change:** *Snag* is a verb (to catch) and a noun (an obstacle). The plural form *snags* indicates multiple obstacles.

## 7. Indicated (Page 76)

- **Syllables:** 3 syllables — **In-di-cat-ed**

- **Phonemes:** *IN-di-KAY-tid*

*How it sounds:* "IN" (like "in") + "di" (like "di" in "dictionary") + "KAY" (like "kay") + "tid" (like "tid" in "tidy")

- **Morphemes:**

- **Prefix:** *in-* (from Latin *in-* meaning "into, on").
- **Root:** From Latin *indicatus*, from *indicare* (meaning "to point out, show").
- **Suffix:** *-ed* (past tense suffix or adjective form, meaning something has been shown or pointed out).
- **Meaning:** To show or point out something, usually through signs or hints.
- **Part of Speech Change:** The verb *indicate* (to show or suggest) becomes an adjective or past-tense verb when the suffix *-ed* is added.

## 8. Rivulets (Page 77)

- **Syllables:** 3 syllables — **Riv-u-lets**

- **Phonemes:** *RIV-yoo-letz*

*How it sounds:* "RIV" (like "river") + "yoo" (like "you") + "lets" (rhymes with "pets")

- **Morphemes:**

- **Root:** From Latin *rivuletus*, meaning "a small stream," from *rivus* (meaning "stream" or "brook").
- **Suffix:** *-let* (a diminutive suffix, meaning "small"), and *-s* (plural suffix indicating more than one rivulet).
- **Meaning:** Small streams or brooks, often contributing to larger bodies of water.
- **Part of Speech Change:** The noun *rivulet* becomes plural with the addition of *-s*, indicating more than one small stream.

## Summary:

This page helps break down key vocabulary words from Chapter 7 of *Hatchet*, including:

1. **Vicious** (describes harmful or violent actions)
2. **Self-pity** (emotional state hindering survival)
3. **Receded** (change in environmental conditions)
4. **Maroon** (the central theme of isolation)
5. **Tart** (a sharp taste or attitude)
6. **Snags** (obstacles in the wilderness)
7. **Indicated** (signs or clues in survival)
8. **Rivulets** (small streams, key to water sources)

