

JENNIFER CHAN IS NOT ALONE VOCABULARY GUIDE

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Ch. 1-4	Student-friendly definition
muffles (p. 1)	to make a sound less loud and clear, especially by covering something
incident (p.3)	an event, especially one that is unusual, important, or violent
woozy (p.5)	feeling weak and unsteady
murmur (p. 6)	to say something in a soft quiet voice that is difficult to hear clearly
dreary (p. 13)	dull and making you feel sad or bored
wafting (p. 14)	if a smell, smoke, or a light wind wafts somewhere, or if something wafts it somewhere, it moves gently through the air
cringed (p. 18)	to feel embarrassed by something you have said or done because you think it makes you seem silly
grimaced (p. 19)	to twist your face in an ugly way because you do not like something, because you are feeling pain, or because you are trying to be funny
investigation (p. 21)	an official attempt to find out the truth about or the cause of something such as a crime, accident, or scientific problem
skepticism (p. 27)	an attitude of doubting that particular claims or statements are true or that something will happen

Ch. 5-8	Student-friendly definition
exhausted (p. 31)	extremely tired
altruistic (p. 35)	altruistic behavior shows that you care about and will help other people, even though this brings no advantage for yourself
bizarre (p. 39)	very unusual or strange
aerial (p. 41)	in or moving through the air
phenomena (p. 41)	something that happens or exists in society, science, or nature, especially something that is studied because it is difficult to understand
extraterrestrial (p. 46)	a creature that people think may exist on another planet
genuine (p. 51)	a genuine feeling, desire etc. is one that you really feel, not one you pretend to feel
coincidence p. 54	when two things happen at the same time, in the same place, or to the same people in a way that seems surprising or unusual

Reading Is Fundamental.

Ch. 9-11	Student-friendly definition	
peering (p. 57)	to look very carefully at something, especially because you are having difficulty seeing it	
audibly (p. 58)	a sound that is audible is loud enough for you to hear it	
solemnly (p. 59)	performed in a very serious way	
reputation (p. 60)	the opinion that people have about someone or something because of what has happened in the past	
reluctantly (p. 69)	slow and unwilling	
hesitating (p. 70)	to pause before saying or doing something because you are nervous or not sure	
accelerate (p. 71)	if a process accelerates or if something accelerates it, it happens faster than usual or sooner than you expect	
mock (p. 77)	to laugh at someone or something and try to make them look stupid by saying unkind things about them or by copying them	



Ch. 9-11 (continued)	Student-friendly definition
instinctively (p. 77)	based on instinct and not involving thought
morbid (p. 79)	with a strong and unhealthy interest in unpleasant subjects, especially death
bonded (p. 80)	something that unites two or more people or groups, such as love, or a shared interest or idea
beamed (p. 81)	a wide happy smile
cataclysmic (p. 81)	a violent or sudden event or change, such as a serious flood or earthquake
stammered (p. 84)	to speak with a lot of pauses and repeated sounds, either because you have a speech problem, or because you are nervous, excited etc.

Ch. 12-16	Student-friendly definition
irrelevant (p. 87)	not useful or not relating to a particular situation, and therefore not important
intrigued (p. 92)	very interested in something because it seems strange or mysterious
disoriented (p. 94)	confused and not understanding what is happening around you
malaise (p. 98)	a general feeling that you are slightly ill or not happy in your life
truce (p. 105)	an agreement between enemies to stop fighting or arguing for a short time, or the period for which this is arranged
infamous (p. 106)	well known for being bad or evil
anticipation (p. 107)	when you are expecting something to happen
falter (p. 109)	to become weaker and unable to continue in an effective way
capoeira (p. 110)	an Afro-Brazilian mixture of dance, song, and fighting that is similar to the martial arts



Ch. 12-16 (continued)	Student-friendly definition	
jittery (p. 119)	anxious or nervous	
heist (p. 120)	an act of stealing something very valuable from a shop, bank etc.	
betray (p. 121)	to be disloyal to someone who trusts you, so that they are harmed or upset	

Ch. 17-20	Student-friendly definition
rummaging (p. 131)	to search for something by moving things around in a careless or hurried way
endanger (p. 132)	an event, especially one that is unusual, important, or violent
criticize (p. 133)	to express your disapproval of someone or something, or to talk about their faults
hoist (p. 134)	to raise, lift, or pull something up, especially using ropes
pleading (p. 136)	to ask for something that you want very much, in a sincere and emotional way
fumbled (p. 137)	to try to hold, move, or find something with your hands in an awkward way
naïve (p. 139)	not having much experience of how complicated life is, so that you trust people too much and believe that good things will always happen
accusations (p. 142)	a statement saying that someone is guilty of a crime or of doing something wrong
frequency (p. 148)	the number of radio waves, sound waves etc that pass any point per second
solidarity (p. 151)	loyalty and general agreement between all the people in a group, or between different groups, because they all have a shared aim

Reading
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Ch. 21-26	Student-friendly definition
bristles (p. 159)	a short stiff hair that feels rough
infinite (p. 163)	without limits in space or time
redemption (p. 170)	the act of paying off a loan or debt
confront (p. 171)	to face someone in a threatening way, as though you are going to attack them
disloyal (p. 174)	doing or saying things that do not support your friends, your country, or the group you belong to
interfering (p. 182)	to deliberately get involved in a situation where you are not wanted or needed
static (p. 183)	not moving, changing, or developing
interjects (p. 188)	to interrupt what someone else is saying with a sudden remark
betrayed (p. 198)	to be disloyal to someone who trusts you, so that they are harmed or upset
abandoned (p. 201)	an abandoned person or animal has been left completely alone by the person that was looking after them

Ch. 27-31	Student-friendly definition	
hijinks (p. 204)	noisy or excited behavior when people are having fun	
prank (p. 205)	a trick, especially one which is played on someone to make them look silly	
pity (p. 206)	feeling sorry for a person or animal who is suffering or unhappy	
stunned (p. 208)	too surprised or shocked to speak	
overthrow (p. 212)	to remove a leader from power, especially by force	

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Ch. 27-31 (continued)	Student-friendly definition	
improvise (p. 216)	to invent music, words, a statement etc. from your imagination, rather than planning or preparing it first	
devastating (p. 225)	badly damaging or destroying something	
consequences (p. 225)	something that happens as a result of a particular action or set of conditions	

Ch. 32-38	Student-friendly definition
bailed (p. 239)	to be released
genuine (p. 241)	someone who is genuine is honest and friendly and you feel you can trust them
mangled (p. 242)	to damage or injure something badly by crushing or twisting it
plummets (p. 244)	to fall suddenly and quickly from a very high place
winces (p. 247)	to suddenly change the expression on your face as a reaction to something painful or upsetting
dart (p. 249)	to move suddenly and quickly in a particular direction
clenching (p. 255)	to hold something tightly in your hand or between your teeth