

# Words from Suzanne Collins' *The Hunger Games*

Avocabo Wordlist 79

ADVERSARY, ARDUOUS, BLUDGEON, CORRAL, Demeanor, Despondency, Emaciated, Evasive, Forage, Glowering, Impotence, Incoherent, Mace, Mentor, Reprieve, Teeming, Terse, Tribute, Unrequited, Warble

In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol is harsh and cruel and keeps the districts in line by forcing them all to send one boy and one girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV.

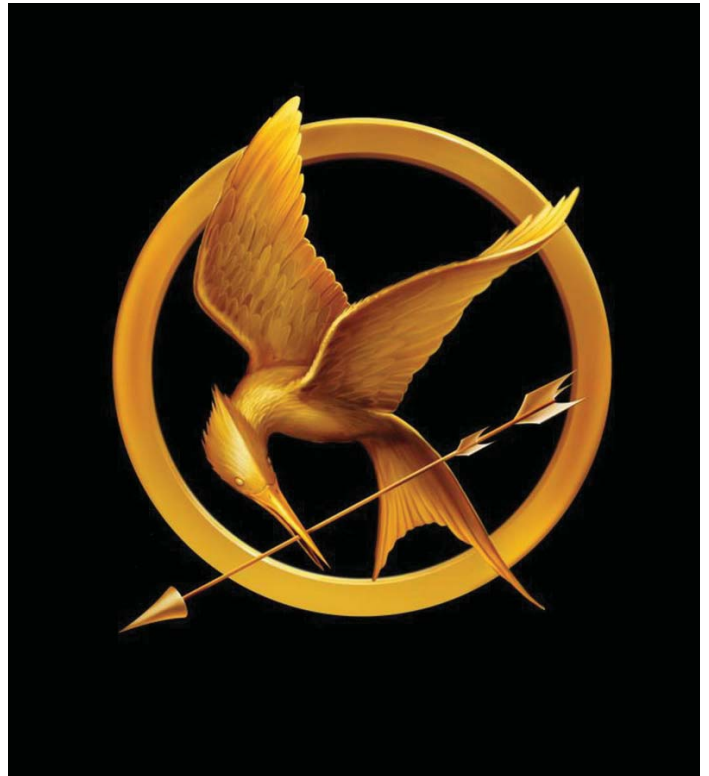
Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen, who lives alone with her mother and younger sister, regards it as a death sentence when she steps forward to take her sister's place in the Games. But Katniss has been close to dead before – and survival, for her, is second nature. Without really meaning to, she becomes a contender. But if she is to win, she will have to start making choices that weigh survival against humanity, and life against love.

- Suzanne Collins

**Exercise 79-1: Fill in the Blanks** Complete each of the sentences with the most appropriate word from the wordlist above. Definitions of the missing words are provided. (20 marks)

1. From this place, we are invisible but have a clear view of the valley, which is \_\_\_\_\_ with summer life, greens to gather, roots to dig, fish iridescent in the sunlight. *v. to abound or swarm; be prolific or fertile.*

2. We all exchange \_\_\_\_\_ nods then focus our attention on the temporary stage that is set up before the Justice Building. *adj. brief, concise, to the point*



3. In punishment for the uprising, each of the twelve districts must provide one girl and one boy, called \_\_\_\_\_, to participate. *n. (hist.) a payment made periodically by one nation or ruler to another as a sign of dependence or submission to ensure peace and protection.*

4. Effie Trinket is trying to get the ball rolling again. "What an exciting day!" she \_\_\_\_\_ as she attempts to straighten her wig, which has listed severely to the right. *v. speak or utter in a trilling or quavering manner*

5. Madge walks straight to me. She is not weepy or \_\_\_\_\_, instead there's an urgency about her tone that surprises me. *adj. indirect in one's answers*

6. & 7. "They don't always have bows," I say, thinking of the year there were only horrible spiked \_\_\_\_\_ that the tributes had to \_\_\_\_\_ one another to death with. *n. a heavy club usually having a metal head and spikes, v. to beat with a heavy club*

8. He's knocking back a glass of red juice that he keeps thinning with a clear liquid. Judging from the fumes, it's some kind of spirit. I don't know Haymitch, but I've seen him often enough in the Hob, tossing handfuls of money on the counter of the woman who sells white liquor. He'll be \_\_\_\_\_ by the time we reach the Capitol. *adj. unable to speak intelligibly*

9. It crosses my mind that Cinna's calm and normal \_\_\_\_\_ masks a complete madman. *n. outward behaviour or bearing*

10. Apparently, Effie Trinket's duties did not conclude at the station. She and Haymitch will be overseeing us right into the arena. In a way, that's a plus because at least she can be counted on to \_\_\_\_\_ us around to places on time whereas we haven't seen Haymitch since he agreed to help us on the train. *v. drive or keep in or in as a pen for animals*

11. It's such a joke! Peeta and I going along pretending to be friends! Talking up each other's strengths, insisting the other take credit for their abilities. Because, in fact, at some point, we're going to have to knock it off and accept we're bitter \_\_\_\_\_. *n. opponents in a sport or game*

12. Sounds of sympathy from the crowd. \_\_\_\_\_ love they can relate to. *adj. not reciprocated*

13. Darkness has given me a brief \_\_\_\_\_, but by the time the sun rises, the Careers will have formulated a plan to kill me. *n. a relieve or rescue from impending punishment*

14. And I come to know Rue, the oldest of six kids, fiercely protective of her siblings, who gives her rations to the younger ones, who \_\_\_\_\_ in the meadows in a district where the Peacekeepers are far less obliging than ours. *v. searches; rummages (especially for food)*

15. Rue's death has forced me to confront my own fury against the cruelty, the injustice they inflict upon us. But here, even more strongly than at home, I feel my \_\_\_\_\_. There's no way to take revenge on the Capitol. Is there? *n. the condition or quality of being powerless*

16. A gift from a sponsor. But why now? I've been in fairly good shape with my supplies. Maybe Haymitch noticed my \_\_\_\_\_ and is trying to cheer me up a bit. *n. depression of spirits from loss of courage or hope; dejection.*

17. In the remaining hours before nightfall, I gather rocks and do my best to camouflage the opening of the cave. It's a slow and \_\_\_\_\_ process, but after a lot of sweating and shifting things around, I'm pretty pleased with my work. *adj. hard to achieve, overcome, or endure; laborious, strenuous.*

18. The hovercraft appears a hundred yards or so away. What's left of Foxface's \_\_\_\_\_ body is lifted into the air. I can see the red glint of her hair in the sunlight. *adj. abnormally thin or feeble.*

19. For a moment it hangs there, and in that moment I realize what else unsettled me about the mutts. The green eyes \_\_\_\_\_ at me are unlike any dog or wolf, any canine I've ever seen. *v. to stare or scowl angrily*

20. Maybe he wasn't always drunk. Maybe, in the beginning, he tried to help the tributes. But then it got unbearable. It must be hell to \_\_\_\_\_ two kids and then watch them die. *v. to act as an experienced and trusted adviser*

**Exercise 79-2: Synonyms** *From the three choices provided, circle the one that is closest in meaning to the bold list word in the context displayed. (15 marks)*

1. Her father's death made her fall into **despondency**  
a) Depression b) Delirium c) Happiness

2. He became **incoherent** with rage  
a) mute b) furious c) unintelligible

3. An **unrequited** love  
a) hopeless b) unreturned c) unattainable

4. The two **adversaries** shook hands before the game  
a) athletes b) opponents c) elves

5. The meadow was **teeming** with wild flowers  
a) abundant b) barren c) famished

6. He went **foraging** in the attic for old mementos  
a) hopping b) hiding c) rummaging

7. Rue was very much like Prim in size and **demeanor**  
a) behaviour b) profile c) odour

8. We exchanged **terse** comments  
a) continuous b) brief c) detailed

9. She gave me an **evasive** answer  
a) sincere b) defective c) ambiguous
10. The coach **mentored** his team through to the finals  
a) cheered b) harassed c) guided
11. An **arduous** task  
a) burdensome b) menacing c) effortless
12. The canary **warbled** all day  
a) whispered b) trilled c) hollered
13. She looked at me with **glowering** eyes  
a) welcoming b) glowing c) glaring
14. He **corralled** everyone into the living room  
a) assembled b) shoved c) forced
15. She felt a sense of **impotence**  
a) hopelessness b) powerfulness c) peacefulness

**Exercise 79-3: Making Connections** *In a few sentences, describe the relationship between each pair of words. Use a dictionary to clarify unclear words. (6 marks)*

1. Mace Bludgeon  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Arduous Laborious  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Emaciate Starvation  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Terse Interminable  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Corral Aggregate  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Warble Solicitous  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 79-4: Discriminating Appropriate/Inappropriate Usage** *Indicate whether the sentences below use the bolded list word correctly (Yes) or incorrectly (No) by circling the appropriate answer. (10 marks)*

1. The table **warbled** on its uneven legs.  
a) Yes b) No
2. He soon became **incoherent** after an extensive consumption of alcohol.  
a) Yes b) No
3. Katniss decided that **teeming** up with Rue during the Games would be a good idea.  
a) Yes b) No
4. The opportunity to learn how to throw a spear and swing a **mace** was available at group training.  
a) Yes b) No
5. Sailing in such a storm was a **mace** of poor judgement.  
a) Yes b) No
6. Katniss' prep team worked on her all afternoon, turning her skin into **glowering** satin and painting flame designs on her perfectly shaped nails.  
a) Yes b) No
7. When her husband died, she was thrown deeper into **despondency** and heartache.  
a) Yes b) No
8. He has an aggressive personality, but he gets even **demeanor** when he doesn't get his way.  
a) Yes b) No

9. Katniss often thought that having Gale as a hunting partner made the **arduous** task of filling her family's table with food more enjoyable.

a) Yes b) No

10. When the world's oceans absorb greenhouse gasses, **corral** and other sea life suffer.

a) Yes b) No

### Words from the Hunger Games Universe

*Panem* – the nation where The Hunger Games takes place. It is said to have risen from the ashes of a post-apocalyptic North America.

*The Capitol* – the seat of Panem's totalitarian government and is located in the northwestern Rocky Mountains of the former United States and Canada.

*District 12* – One of the twelve districts under the hegemony of the Capitol. This district is home to Katniss Everdeen, the main character of The Hunger Games.

*Hunger Games* – an annual event which consists of a gladiatorial combat fought amongst twenty-four tributes.

*The Reaping* – a lottery from which one boy and one girl from each district aged 12-18 are chosen to fight in the Hunger Games.

*Tesserae* – A person's meager supply of oil a grain for a year. When a citizen reaches the age of twelve, they may receive additional tesserae for their family in exchange for additional entries in the reaping.

*Cornucopia* – a giant, supply-filled horn made of solid gold present in the arena of each Hunger Game.

*Career Tributes* – Also known simply as "Careers", they are group of tributes who are often trained in combat for an extensive portion of their childhood that form an alliance to hunt down other individual until they are the only ones left to fight each other.

*Avox* – A person who has committed a crime and is used as a servant in the Capitol. Their tongues are cut out so they cannot speak.

*Jabberjays* – Small birds bred during the Dark Days by the Capitol. They were engineered to remember human conversations and repeat them in human voices, and thus be able to spy on the rebels. However, when the Capitol's plan for espionage was upset, the birds were promptly abandoned in the wilderness.

*Mockingjays* – The result of the jabberjays mating with female mockingbirds and creating a unique species. Mockingjays lost the jabberjay's ability to enunciate words, but can copy perfectly any human tune.

*Tracker Jackers* – Genetically altered wasps created in the Capitol. Disturbing the nest causes them to chase or 'track' the offender, and the stings bring on extreme pain, hallucinations and often death.

*Mutations* – A term for genetically altered animals bred by the Capitol, often shortened to "mutts". For instance, at the end of the 74th Hunger Games, wolf mutts appear that mimic the deceased tributes, particularly in fur and eye colour.

*Nightlock* – a wild and extremely toxic berry that will kill the consumer almost as soon as it is eaten, and becomes a major plot device in *The Hunger Games*.

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Unit by Gabi Myers, June 2012

# Hunger Games Word Hunt by Gabi Myers

Hidden in the Word District are the twenty words from this unit. Find the words. When done, you can anagram the circled letters to determine the now-famous author of the Hunger Games series.

- Adversary
- Arduous
- Bludgeon
- Corral
- Demeanor
- Despondency
- Emaciate
- Evasive
- Forge
- Glowing
- Impotence
- Incoherent
- Mace
- Mentor
- Relieve
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- Tribute
- Unrequited
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