



## Summer Reading 2023

### *Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Graders*

It is said that reading is the key to learning, which is why most schools have summer reading programs. In fact, Reader's Digest states, "Studies have shown that a regular reading habit not only sharpens vocabulary and improves IQ but also reduces the brain's rate of decline in old age and expands 'EQ'—emotional intelligence and well-being."

Rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders will read the 1963 Newbery Medal winner *A Wrinkle in Time*. This is a fun and enjoyable book to read. While not considered an overtly Christian work, Madeline L'Engle incorporated many Christian themes and values into her story.

As you read, complete the question worksheets. These will help you comprehend and better understand what is taking place in a chapter. I *will* be giving a grade on the packet at the beginning of school. In addition, during the first two weeks our class will discuss the book and our first assignments will be linked to what you've learn from the book.

A word of caution: the book was made into a movie in 2018 by Disney, but be warned that the movie has taken many liberties and has altered the story significantly from the book. If you only watch the movie, it will be difficult to do well on the assignment.

Also, every student will take an Accelerated Reader (AR) on the story test to determine their comprehension level. This too will be a grade.

I am looking forward to the 2023-24 school year and helping your child learn to love reading and exploring new worlds.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Barrow*

*Pleasant words are a honeycomb, Sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 16:24*

# A Wrinkle in Time

By Madeleine L'Engle

## Chapter 1



### Before you read the chapter:

Meg, the novel's protagonist, says about herself, "A delinquent, that's what I am." What do you think a person might do to improve one's negative impression of him/herself? You may wish to brainstorm possible ideas with a colleague.




### Vocabulary:

Choose a word from the list to complete each sentence. [Be careful, some words may be appropriate for more than one sentence - try to pick the best fit.]

serenity	crevices	subside	diction
moderation	prodigious	exclusive	relinquish

1. No one would have guessed what \_\_\_\_\_ talents she would develop.
2. After spending the day curled up in bed, her headache began to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. After working for forty years, Anne finally decided to \_\_\_\_\_ her responsibilities.
4. When the warm weather arrived, great \_\_\_\_\_ in the ice began to appear.
5. Everyone respected the Emperor because of the sense of \_\_\_\_\_ he showed.
6. The children found his manner of speaking to be quite amusing, for his \_\_\_\_\_ was much more precise than they were used to hearing.
7. The golf club across the street is very expensive and quite \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Whenever the children entered their grandmother's house, it seemed that an air of \_\_\_\_\_ was always present, no matter what the circumstances.

# Questions



1. Describe the **atmosphere** presented in the opening few paragraphs of the novel. How is the author able to create such an atmosphere?


2. The **setting** of a story includes not only where but when the story takes place. What is the setting of the story in Chapter One?


3. *Every good story involves a crisis.* Describe a specific **crisis** faced by Meg in this chapter.


4. How did Meg's father know that she wasn't dumb?


5. Describe your impression of Meg's brother, Charles Wallace, when you first meet him in the Murry kitchen.


6. What special "gift" did Charles Wallace have when it came to his mother and Meg?


# Wrinkle in Time

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## Chapter 2



### Before you read the chapter:

Albert Einstein once said, "I have no particular talent. I am merely inquisitive." How do you think Einstein's idea of being inquisitive and the inquisitiveness of a busybody are different?




### Vocabulary:

Many of the following words are from Chapter 2. Use the words in the box to complete the following crossword puzzle.

			1		2			3	4		5		6			7
	3						9									
								10		11						
12													13			
					14			15				16				
			17	18						19	20					
	21					22					23	24				25
										26						
27		28						29				30			31	
						32					33		34			
35										36			37			
				38	39		40		41							
42									43							
			44													

Down	Across
1. Journeys.	3. The word which upset Mrs. Murry.
2. Omens.	8. Meg's dog.
3. A bill (i.e. for a meal at a restaurant).	10. ___ burner (object in Mrs. Murry's lab).
4. <i>East Stroudsburg University</i> .	12. Meg's friend.
5. Opposite of "bro".	13. Standard.
6. More runny.	14. Unhappiness.
7. A figure seen in the Murry's neighborhood.	16. <i>Fee, ___, fo, fum</i> .
8. Having a pleasant scent.	17. Long Play (abbrev.).
9. A ___ gown (worn at a wedding).	19. _____ and fro.
11. A bird's home.	21. Absorb.
15. Consuming.	23. Opposite of <i>wide</i> .
18. Pathetic.	27. Public thoroughfares.
20. _____ and off.	29. To have in mind.
22. Rhymes with <i>tissues</i> .	31. Sick.
24. An assistant.	32. You and me.
25. A name of Meg's brother.	33. Plural of <i>go</i> .
26. The novel's protagonist.	35. Harass; bother.
27. A twin.	37. A round, flat bread.
28. Meg was occasionally afflicted by these.	38. "Court is now in ___."
30. A direction.	42. Opposite of <i>no</i> .
34. A malicious desire to harm someone.	43. A time when it is dark.
36. Anger; miff.	44. Mrs. Murry's given name.
39. To make a mistake.	
40. A body of salt water.	
41. Less than two.	

NORM	SADNESS	TO	CALVIN	BUNSEN	PITEOUS
NARROW	NAG	ESU	RAGES	SANDY	ON
STREETS	ERR	MEG	SIGNS	EATING	AIDE
TRAVELS	NORTH	ASSIMILATE	LP	WALLACE	SNIT
MARGARET	TRAMP	YES	INTEND	TESSERACT	NEST
NIGHTTIME	PITA	FORTINBRAS	FRAGRANT	ONE	SESSION
SPITE	BRIDAL	ISSUES	FI	GOES	US
TAB	SEA	RUNNIER	ILL	SIS	

# Questions



1. Why do you think Meg hoped the previous night's activity was a dream?


2. When Meg met with Mr. Jenkins, what did the principal say/do which made Meg angry?


3. How did Charles Wallace know that the *tesseract thing* was something big to their mother?


4. What 2 things had Mrs. Whatsit done that concerned Meg and Charles Wallace?


5. Describe what unusual ability Charles Wallace had when it came to his sister.


6. Describe Charles Wallace's strategy for entering school next year. Do you think this was wise? Defend your answer.


7. Describe Calvin's appearance and personality.


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## Chapter 3



### Before you read the chapter:

Most people find it very difficult to be seen as "different" from those around them. Why do you think this is so?




### Vocabulary:

In each of the following sets of words, underline the one word that does not belong. Then write a sentence explaining why it does not fit.

1	retort	comeback	repartee	calloused
2	gamboled	frivolous	caper	frolic
3	somber	dismal	deep	doleful
4	enchanted	indignant	incensed	disgruntled
5	judiciously	fittingly	inappropriately	suitably
6	destructive	productive	catastrophic	injurious
7	abstract	tangible	real	concrete
8	instinctive	impulsive	intuitive	deliberate

# Questions



## Cloze Call

Complete the following exercise filling in the correct words from the **Word Box**.

numbers	dolls'	dumb	legible	dame	shortcuts
Wallace	handsome	physicist	Classified	mother	know
locked	Whatsit	stew	house	sheet	Who
Which	father	different	math	typewriter	loved

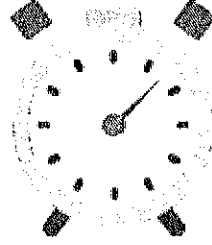
After Calvin was invited to stay for a supper of \_\_\_\_\_, he called home to tell his \_\_\_\_\_ he would be late getting home. He didn't want to be \_\_\_\_\_ out again. Even though Calvin's family didn't seem to care about him, he still \_\_\_\_\_ them. When shown a picture of Meg's dad, Calvin said that he wasn't very \_\_\_\_\_. Calvin then informed Meg that he had a hard time keeping up in \_\_\_\_\_. He was surprised that Meg was able to help him because he had always heard she was \_\_\_\_\_ at schoolwork. Mrs. Murry told Calvin that Meg and her \_\_\_\_\_ would often play with \_\_\_\_\_ and as a result Meg learned too many \_\_\_\_\_. She also mentioned that it might help if Meg's handwriting was more \_\_\_\_\_. Because of this she was planning on getting her daughter a \_\_\_\_\_ for Christmas. Meg was very embarrassed when her mother mentioned to Calvin that Meg still enjoyed playing with her \_\_\_\_\_. Meg's mother stated that Charles Wallace understood more than the rest of the family because he was \_\_\_\_\_. When Meg and Calvin went for a walk Meg told Calvin that her father was a \_\_\_\_\_. Calvin informed her that a rumor said her father had gone off with some \_\_\_\_\_. Meg admitted that before he disappeared her father had been working on something they call \_\_\_\_\_. Calvin suggested that perhaps the authorities didn't \_\_\_\_\_ where her father had gone to. In the middle of their walk Charles \_\_\_\_\_ appeared to inform them that they were to find Father. At that point Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ appeared on the scene with a \_\_\_\_\_ draped over her. Then Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ arrived - then finally Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Bonus:** Meg states that the capital of New York is New York City. She was wrong. What is the capital of New York? \_\_\_\_\_



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## Chapter 4



**Before you read the chapters:**

What might there would be about space travel which would be really exciting? What might you not enjoy if you were a space traveler?




**Vocabulary:**

Beside each word in **Column A** write the correct synonym or definition from **Column B**.

	COLUMN A	CORRECT MEANING		COLUMN B
1.	abrupt		a.	bolster
2.	tangible		b.	disgruntled
3.	reassure		c.	praise
4.	elliptic		d.	integrity
5.	indignant		e.	brusque
6.	ephemeral		f.	monument
7.	exaltation		g.	reverberate
8.	virtue		h.	corporeal
9.	monolith		i.	passing
10.	resonate		j.	bent

# Questions



1. Describe why the world in which Meg found herself at the beginning of this chapter was so horrifying to her.


2. Mrs. Whatsit loves to quote famous people. Put the following two quotes into your own words:

to action little, less to words inclined
to stake one's life for truth

3. What is the setting of this chapter?


4. How did Mrs. Whatsit explain being able to arrive at the far-away planet so quickly?


5. Why had they stopped where they did?


6. Describe the startling new form that Mrs. Whatsit changed into.


# A Wrinkle in Time

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## Chapter 5



### Before you read the chapters:

Chapter Five mentions the names of a number of courageous men and women from history who fought the Power of Darkness. Before reading this chapter predict four of five of the people you feel might qualify for this distinguished list. After you have read the chapter, come back and compare your list to the ones mentioned by Meg and her friends.

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	



### Vocabulary:

Choose a word from the list that means the same as the underlined word(s).

portion	perturbed	turban	corporeal
nondescript	transition	sonorous	rapt

1	The reason the spy was so successful was because her appearance was very <u>undistinguished</u> .	
2	Every member of the championship lacrosse team received a <u>share</u> of the prize purse.	
3	The bell rang with a <u>resounding</u> clang.	
4	Alicia was very <u>indignant</u> when her brother entered the room unannounced.	
5	When the caterpillar made the <u>change</u> to butterfly, all of the kindergarten students were most impressed.	
6	She wore a <u>headdress</u> of beautiful pale mauve silk.	
7	Every child in the class sat <u>fascinated</u> at the stories told to them by the village elder.	
8	It's very difficult for Mrs. Which to think in a <u>material</u> way.	

# Questions



1. Describe the ingenious way that Mrs. Who described how they managed to travel through space so quickly.


2. Describe each of the following:

First dimension	
Second Dimension	
Third Dimension	
Fourth Dimension	
Fifth Dimension	

3. What would be the result of adding the fifth dimension to the other four in terms of space travel?


4. Why was their visit to the two-dimensional planet so hard on Meg and the others?


5. According to Mrs. Whatsit, why was it unnecessary for Meg to be concerned about her mother worrying about them?


6. Mrs. Whatsit was \_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ months and \_\_\_\_\_ days old.

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## Chapter 6



Before you read the chapters:

In Chapter Six Mrs. Whatsit says, "Only a fool is not afraid." Do you agree with this statement? Explain why.




Vocabulary:

Solve the following word search puzzle using the words from the **Word Box**. Remember – the words can be horizontal, vertical or diagonal. They may be forward or even backward!

SEETHE	WRITHE	AMBROSIA	MEDIUM	DISSOLVE
UNKEMPT	CAMAZOTZ	DISTRESSED	SUMAC	PRECIPITOUS
PERIL	ABHORRED	RESILLIENCE	POISED	VULNERABLE

W	R	I	T	H	E	Q	W	E	R	V	T	Y	U	D
A	D	S	D	F	G	C	A	M	U	S	G	H	J	I
P	O	I	I	U	Y	T	R	L	E	W	A	A	B	S
M	N	B	S	V	C	X	N	Z	S	D	F	M	G	S
T	Y	U	I	T	P	E	R	I	L	W	S	B	D	O
M	N	B	V	C	R	X	Z	S	D	F	M	R	P	L
Z	G	H	J	A	D	E	F	C	R	G	U	O	D	V
T	S	L	B	K	J	H	S	G	F	D	I	S	E	E
O	E	L	P	O	I	T	U	S	Y	S	D	I	R	T
Z	E	L	K	J	P	H	G	F	E	D	E	A	R	R
A	T	G	H	M	J	K	L	D	D	D	M	F	O	F
M	H	R	E	S	I	L	L	I	E	N	C	E	H	G
A	P	K	O	I	U	Y	T	R	E	W	S	D	B	B
C	N	J	H	G	F	D	C	V	F	R	T	F	A	F
U	H	J	S	U	O	T	I	P	I	C	E	R	P	S

# Questions



1. What sacrifice had Mrs. Whatsit made many years before?

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2. Meg tells the Medium, "... when I'm mad I don't have room to be scared." Why do you think this was the case?


3. Why do you think Mrs. Whatsit tells Meg to *stay angry*?


4. Mrs. Whatsit gives each of the children a gift. What were these gifts?

To Calvin	
To Meg	
To Charles Wallace	

5. Mrs. Whatsit also warns Charles Wallace to beware of pride and arrogance. Why might this be a particular danger to Charles Wallace?


6. What did Meg and the others find odd about the children in the village?


7. Describe the reception they received when they knocked on the door of a house in the village.


# A Wrinkle in Time

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## Chapter 7



### Before you read the chapters:

In the next chapter Meg and the other travelers meet one of the novel's main **antagonists**. Who, in your opinion, was the most frightening antagonist you have ever experienced in a book, movie or television program? What was there about this character that made him/her so frightening?




### Vocabulary:

Write a **sentence** using the following words from Chapter 7. Make sure that the meaning of the word is clear in your sentence.

nondescript	
bilious	
detain	
perspective	
proposition	
requisition	
arrogance	
unsubstantial	

# Questions



1. What was odd about the one door leading into the CENTRAL Central Intelligence Building?


2. Odd Expression. When the man in the CENTRAL Central Intelligence Building mentions *jammed minds*, Charles Wallace responds, "Strawberry jam or raspberry". Meg assumes that her brother wasn't trying to be rude, but was merely "whistling in the dark". What is meant by this unusual expression?


3. Investigate: Using sources in your school library or on the Internet, find the source of the quote cited by Calvin: "There is nothing to fear except fear itself".


4. Charles Wallace states at one point, "I have to go on. We have to make decisions, and we can't make them if they're based on fear." Defend this viewpoint.


5. What was so unusual about the way the man with the red eyes communicated with Meg and the others?




6. Give one example of how the man with the red eyes appealed to their sense of logic.


- b. Give an example of how he used threats to make them cooperate.


7. Why did Charles Wallace strike the man with the red eyes?


8. Mrs. Whatsit had warned Charles Wallace about **pride**. Do you think that pride was a factor in his decision near the end of this chapter to come in and find out what kind of a person the man with red eyes was? Defend your response.


# A Wrinkle in Time

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## Chapter 8



### Before you read the chapters:

An author can use **chapter titles** to create suspense and foreshadow events to come. Go back over the titles of the first seven chapters and choose the one you feel is the most effective and explain why you think so.




### Vocabulary:

Choose a word from the list to complete each definition.

hysterical	pinioned	connotations	defiant
swivet	misconception	annihilate	deviate

1. I have been in such a \_\_\_\_\_ lately, I'm not sure whether I'm coming or going.
2. Brian had been so \_\_\_\_\_ his parents were thinking of sending him to boarding school.
3. Meg's arms were \_\_\_\_\_ behind her back.
4. If you want to be successful in this organization it is important not to \_\_\_\_\_ from company policy.
5. When Hester was stung by the bee she became \_\_\_\_\_.
6. I hope that can of disinfectant will \_\_\_\_\_ all of the germs in our sink.
7. "You seem to have some kind of \_\_\_\_\_ about how powerful our hockey team is," the coach said.
8. The queen really questioned the negative \_\_\_\_\_ associated with that particular member of her family.

## Questions



1. What made Meg think that Charles Wallace was gone at the beginning of this chapter?


2. Who did Charles Wallace claim were now their real enemies?


3. What was the cause of the planet being in perfect order according to Charles Wallace?


4. What was the title of the man with the red eyes?

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5. After failing to subdue Charles Wallace physically, what change in strategy did Meg suggest to Calvin?


6. What fate did the sick endure?


7. Charles Wallace threatened Meg and Calvin that if they didn't cooperate he'd have to take them to someone? Who was it? What did it sometimes call itself?


# A Wrinkle in Time

By Madeleine L'Engle

## Chapter 9



### Before you read the chapters:

Chapter 8 ends on a most dramatic note. In Chapter 9 we meet Meg's father for the first time. Describe what you think Meg's father will look like when she meets him after such a long separation. Remember he has been a prisoner of IT for a long time.




### Vocabulary:

**Synonyms** are words with similar meanings. Using the context of the sentences below, choose the best synonym for the underlined words in each sentence.

- "Why?" Charles asked placidly.  
a) indignantly      b) calmly      c) temperamentally      d) selfishly
- She did confine thee . . . into a cloven pine.  
a) homemade      b) prison-like      c) knotty      d) divided
- She moved her hand brusquely across his line of vision.  
a) abruptly      b) gently      c) obliquely      d) imaginatively
- He slapped his hand against the translucent column.  
a) rock-hard      b) clear      c) marble      d) virtuous
- To Hansel and Gretel the forest seemed impenetrable.  
a) permeable      b) beautiful      c) dense      d) belligerent
- Everyone in the troop was shocked at the scout's insolent tone.  
a) disrespectful      b) pleading      c) whining      d) authoritative
- Her father was bearded and white and not omnipotent after all.  
a) all-knowing      b) ever-present      c) awesome      d) all-powerful
- Citizens of a democracy have been granted certain unalienable rights.  
a) formidable      b) Mars-like      c) basic      d) transferable

# Questions



1. What did Meg find so upsetting when she crashed into the wall injuring herself?


2. What object enabled Meg to reach her father?


3. What did IT turn out to be?


4. What did Meg know would happen if she lost consciousness?


b. To what did she turn when she felt she was about to lose consciousness?

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5. Meg states that *like* and *equal* are not the same thing. Do you agree? Defend your answer.


6. When reciting the periodic table of elements became too rhythmical, Meg's father tried another strategy to divert Meg's concentration from IT. What was it?


# A Wrinkle in Time

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## Chapter 10



### Before you read the chapters:

In Chapter 10 Meg discovers that her seemingly omnipotent father is only human after all. Being disappointed with an adult can be a difficult experience for a young person. Try to remember a time when you were disappointed with an adult that you respected. Why was this such a difficult experience?




### Vocabulary:

**Antonyms** are words with opposite meanings. Draw a line from each word in column A to its antonym in column B. Then use the words in column **A** to fill in the blanks below.

Column A	Column B
brittle	upset
disintegrate	unerring
imperceptible	dissipate
fallible	resilient
assuage	conspicuous
massive	combine
absorb	insignificant

1. When the dam collapsed, a \_\_\_\_\_ amount of water was released into the valley.
2. Soon after being exposed to sunlight, the old newspaper began to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Even though she was a great leader, those who knew her best realized the Prime Minister was indeed \_\_\_\_\_.
4. How many cups of water do you think this new paper towel will \_\_\_\_\_?

5. Who would have thought that the old woman's bones were so \_\_\_\_\_?
6. The sound made by the feet of the tiny mouse was almost \_\_\_\_\_ to the human ear.
7. The application of the ointment began to \_\_\_\_\_ Meg's agony.

## Questions



Indicate whether the following statements are True or False.

1. Calvin and the others couldn't find Meg's heartbeat at first and they thought she was dead.	True or False
2. When Meg first regained consciousness her father's words sounded like they were being chipped out of ice	True or False
3. Meg and the others were able to hold out as long as they did because of the generosity of IT's spirit.	True or False
4. When Meg's father was brought under the spell of IT nothing seemed as important to him as rest.	True or False
5. Meg's father's original destination had been Saturn - within their very own galaxy.	True or False
6. Calvin thought that Charles's downfall had been because he rushed in too fast.	True or False
7. Meg's father was the fourth person in his project to tesser.	True or False
8. When Meg awoke she found herself lying in soft brown sand in what appeared to be a vast desert.	True or False
9. Meg's father suggested the reason for her being so cold was because they had gone through the Black Thing.	True or False
10. The creatures moving toward Meg and the others each had four arms and more than five fingers to each hand.	True or False

# A Wrinkle in Time

By Madeleine L'Engle

## Chapter 11



### Before you read the chapters:

Once you have read Chapter 10. Predict what you think will happen next in the novel.




### Vocabulary:

**Analogies** are equations in which the first pair of words has the same relationship as the second pair of words. For example, **stop** is to **go** as **fast** is to **slow**. In this example, both pairs of words are opposites. Choose the best word from the word box to complete each of the analogies below.

comparative	vulnerable	fallible	despondent	distinct
void	perplex	relinquish	trepidation	pungent

1. **Apprehension** is to \_\_\_\_\_ as **scintillating** is to **brilliant**.
2. **Vague** is to \_\_\_\_\_ as **brittle** is to **flexible**.
3. **Annul** is to \_\_\_\_\_ as **confidence** is to **assurance**.
4. **Proximate** is to \_\_\_\_\_ as **delicate** is to **dainty**.
5. **Clarify** is to \_\_\_\_\_ as **visible** is to **concealed**.
6. **Short** is to **tall** as **bland** is to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. **Lovely** is to **ghastly** as **keep** is to \_\_\_\_\_.
8. **Different** is to **dissimilar** as **defenseless** is to \_\_\_\_\_.
9. **Tender** is to **fragile** and **imperfect** is to \_\_\_\_\_.
10. **Comprehend** is to **misunderstand** as **elated** is to \_\_\_\_\_.



# Questions



1. What did Calvin admit he would do if the beasts ever appeared on planet Earth?


2. Why did the beasts insist on taking Meg back with them?


3. The beasts compared Meg to *a funny little* \_\_\_\_\_.

4. What was unusual about the way the beasts perceived things?


5. Why did the beasts feel that Meg's father was quite an extraordinary person?


6. Bonus: Aunt Beast states, "We are called according to His purpose, and whom He calls, them He also justifies." What is the source of her quote. Why is *His* and *He* capitalized in the quote?


7. What did Calvin suggest that Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who and Mrs. Which were? Do you agree? Why or why not?


# A Wrinkle in Time

By Madeleine L'Engle



## Chapter 12



### Before you read the chapters:

Predict what you think will happen in the final chapter. After you have read the selection come back and see how close your prediction was.




### Vocabulary:

Beside each word in Column A write the correct synonym or definition from Column B.

	COLUMN A	CORRECT MEANING		COLUMN B
1.	ministration		a.	consume
2.	indignation		b.	slight
3.	courtesy		c.	echo
4.	devour		d.	amiability
5.	prevail		e.	vapor
6.	imperceptible		f.	cruel
7.	reiterate		g.	help
8.	inexorable		h.	indication
9.	miasma		i.	conquer
10.	vestige		j.	exasperation

# Questions



1. The **climax** of a novel or short story is the decisive moment in the story, bringing the events to a head and leading to the conclusion. What do you consider to be the climax of this novel?


2. Write a brief **synopsis** of how Meg managed the rescue of her little brother.


3. What did Meg realize was the key to releasing Charles Wallace from IT's grip?


4. Why did it have to be Meg that went back for Charles Wallace?


5. Mrs. Whatsit compared our lives to a \_\_\_\_\_ which has strict \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_ within it.

6. Two *terms of endearment* for Meg used by her father were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Were you satisfied with the ending of the novel. Give reasons for your response.
