

# Lord of the Flies Vocabulary

## Chapter 1: The Sound of the Shell

p. 7

- **lagoon** - n - a shallow sound, channel, or pond near or communicating with a larger body of water
- **clambering** - v - to climb awkwardly (as by scrambling)
- **Home Counties** - n - the **counties** of England that surround London (although not all of them border it). The **counties** generally included are Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Surrey, and Sussex.

8

- **reef** - n - a chain of rocks or coral or a ridge of sand at or near the surface of water
- **offhand** - adj - without considering beforehand or preparation
- **solemnly** - adv - dark and gloomy
- **ambition** - n - desire to achieve a particular end

9

- **proffer** - v - to present for acceptance; offer
- **vaguely** - adv - not clearly expressed; stated in indefinite terms
- **specs** - n - short for spectacles (glasses)
- **altered** - v - to make different without changing into something else
- **contours** - n - an outline especially of a curving or irregular figure
- **fledged** - v - to cover with or as if with feathers or down

10

- **flinked** - v - *The word flinked appears to have been invented by the author and in this passage seems to be suggesting the distant flickering glint of white caused by the waves breaking on the coral reef. It has been suggested that the word was formed from a combination of the words flashed and winked.*
- **terrace** - n - a level ordinarily narrow plain usually with steep front bordering a river, lake, or sea
- **prominent** - adj - standing out or projecting beyond a surface or line
- **proclaimed** - v - to declare publicly, typically insistently, proudly

11

- **sidelong** - adj - sideways; indirect rather than straightforward
- **apprehension** - n - suspicion or fear, especially of future evil

12

- **motif** - n - a single or repeated design or color
- **jetty** - n - a structure extended into a sea, lake, or river to influence the current or tide or to protect a harbor
- **efflorescence** - n - the action or process of developing and unfolding as if coming into flower
- **hither and thither** - idiom - in various and usually random directions : here and there
- **specious** - adj - having a false look of truth or genuineness; having deceptive attraction

13

- **bore** - v - to support the weight of

- **immersed** - v - to plunge into something that surrounds or covers; *especially* : to plunge or dip into a fluid
- **vainly** - adv - completely ineffectively

14

- **enveloped** - v - to enclose or enfold completely with or as if with a covering
- **swathing** - v - to bind or wrap as with a bandage
- **persisted** - v - to go on stubbornly in spite of opposition, trouble, or warning
- **effulgence** - n - radiant brightness or luster (shine); brilliance
- **enmity** - n - positive, active, and typically mutual hatred or ill will

15

- **ill-omened** - adj - referring to negative future events
- **decorous** - adj - marked by good taste; correct

16

- **interposed** - v - to come between
- **irrelevance** - n - something that is not significant at all
- **fulcrum** - n - the support about which a lever turns
- **embossed** - adj - ornamented with raised work
- **beam** - v - to smile with joy

17

- **bouts** - n - a spell or period of activity
- **diaphragm** - n - the partition separating the chest and abdominal cavities in mammals
- **intricacies** - n - many complex, interrelated parts
- **fluking** - v - invented word...likely means "shifted up", possibly in a warbling way
- **strident** - adj - characterized by harsh, insistent, and discordant sound
- **scutter** - v - scurry; scamper
- **wubber** - v - blubber; cry

18

- **stupendous** - adj - awesome; marvelous
- **dumb** - adj - senseless; unfeeling
- **gorge** - v - to eat greedily, stuff to capacity
- **speculate** - v - to meditate on or ponder; reflect

19

- **tow** - adj - pale; straw-colored
- **incredulous** - adj - unbelieving; skeptical
- **vital** - adj - full of life; animated
- **muddled** - adj - confused
- **eccentric** - adj - different from what is usual or typical
- **hambone frill** - n - a frilly collar

20

- **choir** - n - an organized group of persons or things
- **Gib.; and Addis; and at matins over the precentor** - Merridew says that that boy is always fainting, like when they stopped in Gibraltar and Addis Ababa (refueling stops for their plane) and while at prayer when they were at school.
- **snigger** - n - snickers; laughs

22

- **furtive** - adj - done in a quiet and secretive way to avoid being noticed
- **clamor** - n - noisy shouting
- **acclaim** - n - an affirmative vote by cheers, applause, or shouts
- **obscurely** - adv - mysteriously

23

- **grudgingly** - adv - unwillingly; reluctantly
- **mortification** - n - shame; humiliation
- **suffusion** - n - flush, blush, color
- **togs** - n - set of clothing used for a specific purpose

24

- **expedition** - n - a journey for a specific purpose
- **pallor** - n - paleness
- **clout** - v - to hit forcefully
- **dispersal** - v - to break up

25

- **indignation** - n - anger aroused by something unjust, unworthy, or mean
- **glamour** - n - an exciting and romantic attractiveness

26

- **crag** - n - a steep, rugged rock or cliff
- **askew** - adj - out of line; at an angle
- **diminishingly** - adv - decreasingly
- **surmounted** - v - to stand at the top of
- **minutely** - adv - slightly
- **pliant** - adj - flexible
- **foliage** - n - a cluster of leaves, flowers, and branches

27

- **immured** - v - walled in
- **wacco/wizard** - British slang - excellent
- **smashing** - British slang - outstandingly good; extraordinary
- **communion** - n - an act or instance of sharing
- **defiles** - n - gorges; ravines

28

- **loiter** - v - to delay an activity with idle stops and pauses
- **droning** - v - to proceed or act in a dull, drowsy manner
- **lavishly** - adv - appearing in abundance

29

- **astern** - adj - with the back of a ship heading forward; backward

30

- **aromatic** - adj - having a noticeable and pleasant smell
- **contemptuously** - adv - expressing deep hatred or disapproval

31

- **plonking** - onomatopoeia - plunking
- **traces** - n - straps of an animal's harness
- **flourish** - n - a decorative or finishing detail