

VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT 5 *The Alchemist*

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean on the lines provided.

1. The ground was covered with the most beautiful carpets he had ever walked upon, and from the top of the structure hung lamps of handwrought gold, each with a lighted candle.

2. "When the pharaoh dreamed of cows that were thin and cows that were fat, this man I'm speaking of rescued Egypt from famine."

3. "The Tradition saved Egypt from famine in those days, and made Egyptians the wealthiest of peoples."

4. The strange horseman drew an enormous, curved sword from a scabbard mounted on his saddle.

5. "Be careful with your prognostications," said the stranger. "When something is written, there is no way to change it."

6. When they reached the white tent at the center of Al-Fayoum, they withdrew their scimitars and rifles.

7. "Isn't wine prohibited here?" the boy asked. "It's not what enters men's mouths that's evil," said the alchemist.

8. His heart was heavy, and he had been melancholy since the previous night.

9. "The omens will begin insistently to speak of it, and you'll try to ignore them."

The Alchemist Vocabulary Worksheet Assignment 5 Continued

Part II: Determining the Meaning -- Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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| ___ 1. | HANDWROUGHT | A. Forbidden by authority |
| ___ 2. | PHAROAH | B. Made by hand |
| ___ 3. | FAMINE | C. Sheath for a sword |
| ___ 4. | SCABBARD | D. In a manner compelling attention or notice |
| ___ 5. | PROGNOSTICATIONS | E. Gloomy state of mind, esp. when habitual or prolonged |
| ___ 6. | SCIMITARS | F. Title of an ancient Egyptian King |
| ___ 7. | PROHIBITED | G. Extreme and general scarcity of food, as within a country |
| ___ 8. | MELANCHOLY | H. Curved Asian swords with the sharp edge on the convex side |
| ___ 9. | INSISTENTLY | I. Forecasts or predictions |