Lesson Introduction/Overview

Vocabulary words, definitions, derivatives, and quotations
An alphabetical listing of the ten words in each section is given at the beginning of each section. The definitions are given in the order that the words appear in the text. The part of speech indicated in the definition corresponds to the way the word is used in the quotation provided from the text. Common derivatives and terms related to the words are listed below each definition.

Complete List of Words
A complete list of words is provided in alphabetical order.

Fill-in-the-Blank Activity
The sentences in this activity correspond to the sequence of events in the chapters. Many of the sentences require students to add an inflectional ending or use another form of the word to correctly complete the sentence, adding a higher level of thinking to the lesson. It would also be helpful to discuss with students the grammatical function of the vocabulary word in each sentence.

Multiple Choice Exam
The students are tested on 25 of the words, encouraging them to study all 50 words to be ready for the test. Teachers might also require students to use words correctly in an original sentence that they create.

Writing Activity
This essay assignment is designed to complement the vocabulary study and is intended to be used after students complete the novel. Since the writing activity is based on a specific passage, it is suitable for a timed writing activity. Students should be encouraged to use the new vocabulary from this lesson in their essays.

Acknowledgment
The words in each section are listed in alphabetical order. The words, definitions, and quotations are presented in the order in which they appear in the Square Fish edition, New York: 2007.

Materials and Resources
copies of student lesson for each student
copies of A Wrinkle in Time
**Alphabetical Listing of Words**

| aberration | malignant |
| antagonist | miasma |
| atrophied | morass |
| belligerent | myopic |
| bilious | omnipotent |
| brusquely | pedantic |
| corona | placidly |
| corporeal | precipitously |
| corrosive | preliminaries |
| deft | propitious |
| despondency | relinquish |
| dilapidated | requisition |
| disillusion | resilience |
| dissolution | reverberated |
| distraught | sagely |
| diverting | serenity |
| dubiously | sullen |
| fallible | supine |
| frigid | tangible |
| gait | temporal |
| gamboled | tenacity |
| inexorable | tractable |
| insolent | trepidation |
| intoned | vestige |
| legible | wheedled |

*Answer keys for the sentence completion and multiple choice quizzes for this lesson are not included in open source materials. As the teacher of record, you may obtain copies of these answer keys by sending a message from your school email address to the NMSI help desk at HelpDesk@nms.org. Include your name, course taught, the name of your school, and your city and state.*
Vocabulary Study
*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L’Engle

Note: The words in each section are listed in alphabetical order. The words, definitions, and quotations are presented in the order in which they appear in the *Square Fish* edition, New York: 2007.

List 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>antagonistic</th>
<th>sagely</th>
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<tr>
<td>belligerent</td>
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<tr>
<td>disillusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>placidly</td>
<td>supine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preliminaries</td>
<td>tractable</td>
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1. **serenity** (suh-ren-i-tee) *n.* the state or quality of being calm or tranquil
   
   derivatives: serene, sereneness
   
   “Nothing ruffled the *serenity* of her expression” (9).

2. **preliminaries** (pri-lim-uh-ner-eez) *n.* something that precedes or leads up to the main part, matter, or business; something introductory or preparatory
   
   derivatives: preliminary
   
   “How right he had been about that, though he himself had left before Charles Wallace began to speak, suddenly, with none of the usual baby *preliminaries*, using entire sentences” (14-15).

3. **sullen** (suhl-uhn) *adj.* showing irritation or ill humor by a gloomy silence or reserve
   
   derivatives: sullenly, sullenness
   
   “Meg looked up at her mother, half in loving admiration, half in *sullen* resentment” (16).

4. **supine** (soo-pahyn) *adj.* lying on the back, face or front upward; prone
   
   derivatives: mingled, mingling, mingle

   “‘If you have some liniment I’ll put it on my dignity,’ Mrs Whatsit said, still *supine*” (25).
5. **belligerent** (buh-lij-er-uhnt) *adj.* of warlike character; aggressively hostile; bellicose
derivatives: belligerence, belligerently

“Mr. Jenkins sighed. ‘Do you enjoy being that most **belligerent**, uncooperative child in
school?’” (32).

6. **antagonistic** (an-tag-uh-nis-tik) *adj.* hostile; unfriendly; acting in opposition
derivatives: antagonize, antagonistically

“Try to be a little less **antagonistic**” (33).

7. **tractable** (trak-tuh-buhl) *adj.* easily managed or controlled; docile; yielding
derivatives: tractability, tractableness, tractably

“Maybe your work would improve if your general attitude were more **tractable**” (33).

8. **sagely** (seyj-lee) *adv.* wisely, judiciously, or prudently
derivatives: sage, sageness, sagacious

“Charles Wallace nodded **sagely**. ‘I know’” (35).

9. **placidly** (plas-id-lee) *adv.* pleasantly calm or peaceful; unruffled; tranquil; serenely quiet
or undisturbed
derivatives: placid, placidity, placidness

“Meg flushed with rage, but Charles Wallace answered **placidly**, ‘That’s right. If you
want me to call my dog off, you’d better give’” (38).

10. **disillusion** (dis-i-loo-zhuhn) *v.* to free from or deprive of illusion, belief, idealism, etc.; to
disenchant
derivatives: disillusioned, disillusioning, disillusionment, disillusive

“‘Thinking I’m a moron gives people something to feel smug about,’ Charles Wallace
said. ‘Why should I **disillusion** them?’” (38).
### List 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>corona</td>
<td>adj. Timid, fearful, or weak; timidly, fearfully, or weakly.</td>
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<tr>
<td>corporeal</td>
<td>adj. Concerning the body or the corporeal, as opposed to spiritual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deft</td>
<td>adj. Characterized by skill and dexterity; expertly, skillfully, dexterously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dilapidated</td>
<td>adj. In ruins, dilapidated, or decayed, as from age, wear, or neglect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dissolution</td>
<td>n. The act of dissolving or the state of being dissolved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dubiously</td>
<td>adv. Doubtfully, hesitatingly, uncertainly, waveringly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gamboled</td>
<td>v. To skip about, as in dancing or playing; to frolic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legible</td>
<td>adj. Capable of being read or deciphered with ease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>morass</td>
<td>n. 1. A wet, soft ground, such as a marsh or bog; swampy ground</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **dilapidated** (dih-lap-i-dey-tid) adj. reduced to or fallen into partial ruin or decay, as from age, wear, or neglect
   - derivatives: none
   - “In a dilapidated Boston rocker sat a plump little woman” (42).

2. **gamboled** (gam-buhld) v. to skip about, as in dancing or playing; to frolic
   - derivatives: gambol (also a noun), gamboling
   - “Charles and Fortinbras gamboled on ahead” (45).

3. **legible** (lej-uh-buhl) adj. capable of being read or deciphered, especially with ease, as writing or printing; easily readable
   - derivatives: legibly, legibility
   - “It might also help if Meg’s handwriting were legible” (50).

4. **dubiously** (doo-bee-uh-lee, dyoo-) adv. Doubtfully, waveringly, hesitatingly in opinion
   - derivatives: dubious, dubiousness
   - “‘Yah,’ Meg said dubiously.
   Her mother smiled again. ‘Maybe that’s why our visitor last night didn’t surprise me. Maybe that’s why I’m able to have a—a willing suspension of disbelief. Because of Charles Wallace’” (55).

5. **morass** (muh-ras) n. 1. A wet, soft ground, such as a marsh, bog, or swamp; swampy ground
   - derivatives: none
   - “‘I guess so,’ Meg said, but her happiness had fled and she was back in a morass of anger and resentment” (57).
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Vocabulary Study: A Wrinkle in Time</th>
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| 6. **deft** (deft) *adj.* dexterous; nimble; skillful; clever |
|---|---|
| derivatives: defter, deftest, deftly, deftness |
| “With a clawlike hand she pushed the hat up on Mrs Whatsit’s forehead, untangled the stole from the tree, and with a **deft** gesture took the sheet and folded it” (62). |

| 7. **corporeal** (kawr-pawr-ee-uhl, -pohr-) *adj.* of the nature of the physical body; bodily; material; tangible |
|---|---|
| derivatives: corporeality, corporealness, corporeally |
| “The **corporeal** Meg simply was not” (65). |

| 8. **inexorable** (in-ek-ser-uh-buhl) *adj.* unyielding; unalterable |
|---|---|
| derivatives: inexorability, inexorableness, inexorably |
| “And this feeling of moving with the earth was somewhat like the feeling of being in the ocean, out in the ocean beyond this rising and falling of the breakers, lying on the moving water, pulsing gently with the swells, and feeling the gentle, **inexorable** tug of the moon” (65-66). |

| 9. **corona** (kuh-roh-nuh) *n.* a white or colored circle or set of concentric circles of light seen around a luminous body, especially around the sun or moon; something resembling a crown or halo |
|---|---|
| derivatives: coronas, coronae |
| “When they reached the **corona** of clouds Mrs Whatsit said, ‘You can breathe with the flowers now, my children’” (83). |

| 10. **dissolution** (dis-uh-loo-shuhn) *n.* the act or process of resolving or dissolving into parts or elements |
|---|---|
| derivatives: dissolutive |
| “But this time she was prepared for the sudden and complete **dissolution** of her body” (89). |
List 3

aberration  propitious
bilious  requisition
intoned  resilience
malignant  reverberated
precipitously  wheeled

1. **reverberated** (ri-vur-buh-rey-tid) v. to re-echo or resound
   derivatives: reverberate, reverberating, reverberator
   “Again Mrs Which’s voice **reverberated** through the cave” (97).

2. **intoned** (in-tohnd) v. to utter in a singing voice; to recite or chant in monotone
   derivatives: intone, intoning
   “‘How small is the earth to him who looks from heaven,’ Mrs Who **intoned** musically” (97).

3. **wheedled** (hweed-lid, weed-) v. to endeavor to influence a person by smooth, flattering, or beguiling words or acts
   derivatives: wheedle, wheedling, wheedler, wheedlingly
   “‘But she *could* see her mother, couldn’t she?’ the Medium **wheedled**” (106).

4. **malignant** (muh-lig-nuhnt) adj. disposed to cause harm, suffering, or distress deliberately; feeling or showing ill will or hatred
   derivatives: malignantly, malignance
   “The coldness deepened and swirled all about her and through her, and was filled with a new and strange kind of darkness that was a completely tangible thing, a thing that wanted to eat and digest her like some enormous **malignant** beast of prey” (110).

5. **precipitously** (pri-sip-i-tuhs-lee) adv. done or made without sufficient deliberation; overhasty; rash; exceedingly sudden or abrupt; hastily
   derivatives: precipitate, precipitous, precipitoseness
   “And though it was warmer than it had been when they so **precipitously** left the apple orchard, there was a faintly autumnal touch to the air” (111).
6. **propitious** (pruh-pish-uhhs) *adj.* presenting favorable conditions; auspicious
   
   derivatives: propitiously, propitiousness
   
   “That I cannot tell you. You will just have to wait until the **propitious** moment” (112).

7. **resilience** (ri-sil-yuhs, -zil-ee-uhns) *n.* the ability to recover readily from illness, depression, adversity, or the like
   
   derivatives: none
   
   “Charles Wallace, to you I can give only the **resilience** of your childhood” (112).

8. **aberration** (ab-uh-rey-shuhn) *n.* the act of deviating from the ordinary, usual, or normal type; deviation from truth or moral rectitude
   
   derivatives: abberations
   
   “We haven’t had an **Aberration** for three years” (118).

9. **bilious** (bil-yuhs) *adj.* 1. suffering from, caused by, or attended by trouble with the bile or liver; 2. peevish, irritable, or cranky; extremely unpleasant or distasteful
   
   derivatives: biliousness
   
   “The green of the marble reflecting on their faces made them look **bilious**” (128).

10. **requisition** (rek-wuh-zish-uhn) *n.* a written request or order for something, as supplies, or the form on which such an order is drawn up
   
   derivatives: requisitions
   
   “I shall have to ask for a **requisition** for more cards” (131).
# List 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>atrophied</td>
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<td>brusquely</td>
<td>myopic</td>
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<tr>
<td>diverting</td>
<td>pedantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gait</td>
<td>tangible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>insolent</td>
<td>tenacity</td>
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1. **diverting** (dih-vur-ting, dahy-) *adj.* entertaining or amusing
   
   derivatives: divertingly
   
   “The boys I find not nearly so **diverting**” (141).

2. **tenacity** (tuh-nas-i-tee) *n.* the quality or property of being pertinacious, persistent, stubborn, or obstinate
   
   derivatives: tenacious
   
   “But Meg, with the dogged **tenacity** that had so often caused her trouble, continued” (142).

3. **pedantic** (puh-dan-tik) *adj.* ostentatious in one’s learning; overly concerned with minute details or formalisms, especially in teaching
   
   derivatives: pedantically, pedant
   
   “His voice took on the dry, **pedantic** tones of Mr. Jenkins” (153).

4. **brusquely** (brushk-lee) *adv.* abruptly; bluntly; roughly
   
   derivatives: brusque, brusqueness
   
   “She moved her hand **brusquely** across his line of vision, but he did not blink” (166).

5. **tangible** (tan-juh-buhl) *adj.* capable of being touched; discernible by the touch; material or substantial
   
   derivatives: eddy, eddied, eddying
   
   “It was almost a **tangible** feeling as the atoms of the strange material seemed to part to let him through to her” (167).
6. **myopic** (mahy-op-ik, -oh-pik) *adj.* short-sighted
   
   derivatives: myopically, myopia

   “Then she grabbed her own glasses out of her pocket and put them on, and her **myopic** eyes were able to focus” (169).

7. **insolent** (in-suh-luht) *adj.* boldly rude or disrespectful; contemptuously impertinent; insulting
   
   derivatives: insolently, insolence

   “‘Hi, Pop,’ came an **insolent** voice” (169).

8. **gait** (geyt) *n.* a manner of walking, stepping, or running
   
   derivatives: none

   “He walked down the corridor, his **gait** seeming to get more jerky with each step” (171).

9. **miasma** (mahy-az-muh, mee-) *n.* noxious exhalations from putrescent organic matter; poisonous effluvia or germs polluting the atmosphere
   
   derivatives: miasmas, miasmata, miasmal, miasmatic, miasmic

   “For everywhere she looked, everywhere she turned, was the rhythm, and as it continued to control the systole and diastole of her heart, the intake and outlet of her breath, the red **miasma** began to creep before her eyes again” (175).

10. **atrophied** (a-truh-feed) *adj.* wasted; withered; shriveled; to have degenerated, declined, or decreased from disuse
   
   derivatives: atrophy, atrophying

   “No mind has tried to hold out against IT for so many thousands of centuries that certain centers have become soft and **atrophied** through lack of use” (181).
### List 5

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<td>adj. harmful or destructive; having the quality of eating away (at something); erosive; caustic</td>
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<td>despondency</td>
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<tr>
<td>distraught</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>fallible</td>
<td>adj. liable to err, especially in being deceived or mistaken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frigid</td>
<td>adj. without warmth of feeling; without ardor or enthusiasm; cold; lacking passion, sympathy, or sensitivity</td>
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<tr>
<td>omnipotent</td>
<td>adj. having very great or unlimited authority or power</td>
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<tr>
<td>relinquish</td>
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<tr>
<td>temporal</td>
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<tr>
<td>trepidation</td>
<td>n. tremulous fear, alarm, or agitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>vestige</td>
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</table>

1. **frigid (frij-id) adj.** without warmth of feeling; without ardor or enthusiasm; cold; lacking passion, sympathy, or sensitivity  
   derivatives: frigidity, frigidness, frigidly  
   “Her father, with a frigid laugh: ‘Going to Camazotz was a complete accident’” (182).

2. **corrosive (kuh-roh-siv) adj.** harmful or destructive; having the quality of eating away (at something); erosive; caustic  
   derivatives: corrode, corroding, corroded, corrosively, corrosiveness, corrosivity  
   “Disappointment was as dark and corrosive in her as the Black Thing” (189).

3. **omnipotent (om-nip-uh-tuhnt) adj.** having very great or unlimited authority or power  
   derivatives: omnipotently, omnipotence  
   “She was frozen, and Charles Wallace was being devoured by IT, and her omnipotent father was doing nothing” (190).

4. **fallible (fal-uh-buhl) adj.** liable to err, especially in being deceived or mistaken  
   derivatives: fallibility, fallibleness, fallibility  
   “I am a human being, and a very fallible one” (190).

5. **trepidation (trep-i-dey-shuhn) n.** tremulous fear, alarm, or agitation  
   derivatives: trepidatious, trepidatiously  
   “The middle beast, a tremor of trepidation in his words, said, ‘You aren’t from a dark planet, are you?’” (195).
6. **relinquish** (ri-ling-kwish) *v.* to give up; to release; to put aside
   
   derivatives: relinquishing, relinquished, relinquisher, relinquishment
   
   “The Black Thing does not **relinquish** its victims willingly” (199).

7. **temporal** (tem-per-uhl, tem-pruhl) *adj.* of or pertaining to time; pertaining to or concerned with the present life or this world; enduring for a time only, temporary or transitory
   
   derivatives: temporally
   
   “For the things which are seen are **temporal**. But the things which are not seen are eternal” (205).

8. **despondency** (dih-spon-duhn-see) *n.* depression of spirits from loss of courage or hope; dejection
   
   derivatives: despondent, despondence, despondently
   
   “Such a wave of **despondency** came over Meg that she was no longer able to eat” (208).

9. **distraught** (dih-strawt) *adj.* distracted; deeply agitated; mentally deranged
   
   derivatives: distraughtly
   
   “The child is **distraught**” (209).

10. **vestige** (ves-tij) *n.* a surviving evidence or remainder of some condition, practice, etc.
    
    derivatives: vestigial
    
    “With the last **vestige** of consciousness she jerked her mind and body” (228).
Fill-in-the-Blank Activity

A Wrinkle in Time

Using the words below, fill in the blanks with suitable vocabulary choices. Each word or its derivative is used once.

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1. Meg is not required to take the ________________________ math classes taught at her grade level; her knowledge is already beyond the beginning stages.

2. Meg often argues with her teachers, but sometimes she just seethes with quiet, ________________________ resentment.

3. Mrs. Murry exudes an aura of ________________________ despite the stressful circumstances in which she finds herself.

4. Mrs. Murry follows her own ________________________ advice about how to educate Charles Wallace. No one is as wise or as prudent as she is where he is concerned.

5. Meg is known for her ________________________, combative attitude towards her teachers.

6. Mrs Whatsit lay ________________________ on the floor after taking a tumble while trying to remove her boot.

7. Calvin is quickly ________________________ regarding his belief in Charles Wallace’s lack of mental abilities. He soon learns the truth.

8. She is ________________________ towards her classmates as well. She treats them as enemies.

9. Mr. Jenkins encourages Meg to be more ________________________ and to listen to her teachers.

10. Charles Wallace responds ________________________ to Calvin’s inadvertent insults. Charles remains unruffled and calm.
1. Meg ____________________________ accepts her mother’s explanation of Charles Wallace’s differences. She has doubts about agreeing with her mother.

2. Mrs Whatsit and her friends stay in a(n) ____________________________ neglected old farmhouse in the woods.

3. Meg’s handwriting is not very ____________________________ if many of her teachers have trouble reading her writing.

4. Mrs Who’s ____________________________ fingers skillfully and quickly untangle Mrs Which and her accessories from the surrounding trees.

5. ____________________________ along the path back to their house, Fortinbras and Charles Wallace skip along happily.

6. The ____________________________ of clouds surrounds the mountain peak like a crown on a monarch’s head.

7. Meg is shocked by the sudden displacement of her ____________________________, bodily self during the tesseract.

8. Not allowing her desire to waver, alter, or yield regardless of the dangers she faces, Meg feels an ____________________________ longing to have her father back home again.

9. Meg’s uncontrollable emotions often place her in a(n) ____________________________ of confusion and awkwardness from which she finds it difficult to escape.

10. While Meg is unprepared for the ____________________________ of her body the first time she tessers, she handles disintegrating much better the second time.
List 3

aberration propitious
bilious requisition
intoned resilience
malignant reverberated
precipitously wheeled

1. The second grade teacher needs to ____________________________ more cards by filling out a slip of paper asking for more supplies.

2. The Medium was overly persuasive with Mrs Which, ____________________________ to let the children see their mothers before they go to Camazotz.

3. Chanting from poetry in a sing-song voice, Mrs Who often ____________________________ the words of other people.

4. Intending to harm others and spread evil throughout all Creation, IT is an entirely ____________________________ force.

5. Mrs Which’s voice ____________________________ around the Medium’s cave. The echoing of her voice is a little intimidating.

6. Calvin is something of a(n) ____________________________ in his family because he’s interested in learning and bettering himself. He is very different than what passes for “normal” in his family.

7. The children leave home ____________________________, not even taking time to eat properly before they go.

8. Meg’s father cannot wait for a(n) ____________________________ moment to attempt their escape. In this case, the immediate moment is the most appropriate one.

9. Meg’s ____________________________ helps her recover quickly from the attack of the Dark Thing, but she is still wounded emotionally.

10. The second grade spelling teacher the children meet has a(n) ____________________________ disposition. He is peevish and easily irritated.
List 4

atrophied
brusquely
diverting
gait
insolent
miasma
myopic
pedantic
tangible
tenacity

tanacity

1. Meg is ______________________ about going back to Camazotz to rescue Charles Wallace. She stubbornly refuses to talk about anything else.

2. Mr. Murry is ________________ without his glasses. He is very near-sighted.

3. To IT, Meg is more __________________________ than Calvin because she reacts more passionately. IT finds her vehemence amusing.

4. Mrs Whatsit speaks __________________________ to Meg on the planet of the blind beasts. She is abrupt with Meg because time is short and Meg is misbehaving.

5. Meg is soothed at first just by the __________________________ presence of her father. She is comforted by being able to touch or hug him if she needs to.

6. Charles Wallace is typically very respectful to his elders and family members, but IT makes him behave very __________________________ to his father.

7. Meg especially dislikes the __________________________ tone of ITs voice as Charles Wallace drones on about the benefits of living on Camazotz. IT makes Charles Wallace act like he knows more than everyone else.

8. Portions of IT have become __________________________ from disuse. Parts of IT are weak and nonfunctioning because of this neglect.

9. Charles’ ________________ becomes jerkier the longer IT resides inside him. His walk becomes progressively more mechanistic.

10. Though Meg recovers physically from her encounter with the Black Thing, she remains in a(n) __________________________ of depression and despair for some time afterwards. She is lost in a sad fog.
List 5

corrosive

despondency
distraught
fallible
frigid

omnipotent
relinquish
temporal
trepidation
vestige

1. The Black Thing is unwilling to __________________________ Meg. It fights hard to keep her within its control.

2. Meg’s disappointment in her father is __________________________ to her soul. It eats away at her well-being.

3. Capable of making many mistakes, he is, in fact, quite __________________________.

4. Meg’s father, far from being all-powerful, is not __________________________ like she thought.

5. Because Meg is __________________________ herself, she hears everything around her as frozen and unfeeling.

6. Aunt Beast and her cohorts are more interested in eternal things than they are with __________________________, transitory concerns.

7. Meg volunteers to return to Camazotz with some __________________________, but her love for Charles Wallace is stronger than her fear.

8. The last __________________________ of Charles Wallace surviving deep inside him knows Meg loves him. That little bit of himself that remains is able to respond to her love and conquer IT.

9. Because she is depressed and hurt, Meg’s __________________________ makes her speak cruelly and selfishly to her father and her friends.

10. Meg, deeply agitated, is __________________________ over the loss of Charles Wallace.
Multiple Choice Exam  
*A Wrinkle in Time*

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11. belligerent
   a. cooperative
   b. depressed
   c. resigned
   d. contentious
   e. bored

12. legible
   a. clinical
   b. readable
   c. sibilant
   d. manageable
   e. legal

13. frigid
   a. pellucid
   b. ugly
   c. mournful
   d. simple
   e. frozen

14. malignant
   a. chancy
   b. evil
   c. contagious
   d. comfortable
   e. insipid

15. myopic
   a. prolonged
   b. thoughtful
   c. broken
   d. greedy
   e. near-sighted

16. tractable
   a. biddable
   b. broken
   c. apportioned
   d. calm
   e. clumsy

17. deft
   a. crazy
   b. forgetful
   c. interested
   d. dexterous
   e. easy

18. fallible
   a. imperfect
   b. clumsy
   c. autumnal
   d. surprising
   e. unerring

19. precipitously
   a. steeply
   b. like rain
   c. pointedly
   d. yearningly
   e. hastily

20. brusquely
   a. tactfully
   b. deceitfully
   c. heavenly
   d. abruptly
   e. perfectly
21. sagely  
   a. herbal  
   b. wisely  
   c. luckily  
   d. foolishly  
   e. aloofly

22. inexorable  
   a. stubborn  
   b. ignorant  
   c. scornful  
   d. inquisitive  
   e. sedate

23. propitious  
   a. advantageous  
   b. assured  
   c. confident  
   d. constant  
   e. habitual

24. insolent  
   a. insolvent  
   b. acquiescent  
   c. disrespectful  
   d. modest  
   e. formalized

25. trepidation  
   a. fear  
   b. composition  
   c. excitement  
   d. difference  
   e. raucous
Writing Activity

A Wrinkle in Time

One motif throughout *A Wrinkle in Time* is sight and blindness. Using the examples below as well as additional evidence throughout the text, consider the symbolic nature of sight and blindness in this novel and how it contributes to your overall understanding of the main meaning of this work.

“We do not know what things *look* like, as you say,’ the beast said. ‘We know what things *are* like. It must be a very limiting thing, this seeing.’

‘Oh, no!’ Meg cried. ‘It’s—it’s the most wonderful thing in the world!’

‘What a very strange world yours must be!’ the beast said, ‘that such a peculiar-seeming thing should be of such importance. Try to tell me, what is this thing called *light* that you are able to do so little without?’

‘Well, we can’t see without it,’ Meg said, realizing that she was completely unable to explain vision and light and dark. How can you explain sight on a world where no one has ever seen and where there is no need of eyes? ‘Well, on this planet,’ she fumbled, ‘you have a sun, don’t you?’

‘A most wonderful sun, from which comes our warmth, and the rays which give us our flowers, our food, our music, and all the things which make life and growth.’

‘Well,’ Meg said, ‘when we are turned toward the sun—our earth, our planet, I mean, toward our sun—we receive its light. And when we’re turned away from it, it is night. And if we want to see, we have to use artificial lights.’

‘Artificial lights,’ the beast sighed. ‘How very complicated life on your planet must be. Later on you must try to explain some more to me.’

‘All right,’ Meg promised, and yet she knew that to try to explain anything that could be seen with the eyes would be impossible, because the beasts in some way saw, knew, understood, far more completely than she, or her parents, or Calvin, or even Charles Wallace” (199-201).

“Mrs Who’s spectacles!’ Meg said suddenly. Mrs Who had told her to use them only as a last resort, and surely that was now. She reached into her pocket and the spectacles were there, cool and light and comforting. With trembling fingers, she pulled them out” (164).
“‘Mrs Whatsit hates you,’ Charles Wallace said.
And that is where IT made ITs fatal mistake, for as Meg said, automatically, ‘Mrs Whatsit
loves me; that’s what she told me, that she loves me,’ suddenly she knew.
She knew!
Love.
That was what she had that IT did not have.
She had Mrs Whatsit’s love, and her father’s, and her mother’s, and the real Charles
Wallace’s love, and the twins’, and Aunt Beast’s.
And she had her love for them” (228).