

## Words used by MARK TWAIN

### Vocabulary Group 13

**VERNACULAR** (*noun*) common, everyday speech used by ordinary people

**ARISTOCRACY** (*noun*) a class of privileged persons

**PENSIVE** (*adjective*) thoughtful and sad

**HISTRIONIC** (*adjective*) overly dramatic and theatrical; excessively emotional

**CONTRITE** (*adjective*) feeling or showing pain and regret over sins or offenses; remorseful

**TEMPERANCE** (*adjective*) moderation or self-restraint; abstinence from alcohol

**PREVARICATE** (*verb*) to mislead; to speak falsely

**EFFUSION** (*noun*) a pouring forth, such as an overflowing of liquid or emotion

**BEQUEST** (*noun*) something left to someone in a will

**CAVORT** (*verb*) to play boisterously; to prance about in a festive manner

## Words used by STEPHEN CRANE

### Vocabulary Group 14

**ACUTE** (*adjective*) intense; extremely serious; intellectually sharp; perceptive

**DESPONDENT** (*adjective*) full of despair; extremely depressed

**EFFECTUAL** (*adjective*) successful in producing the desired results

**FACULTY** (*noun*) ability; special skill; power of the mind

**FUTILE** (*adjective*) hopeless; useless

**IMPEL** (*verb*) to drive or cause to move onward; propel

**IMPERIOUS** (*adjective*) bossy; arrogant; like a dictator

**INTERMINABLE** (*adjective*) endless; lasting, or seeming to last, forever

**MONOTONOUS** (*adjective*) lacking in variety; dull; continuing on one note

**PERPETUAL** (*adjective*) continuing or enduring forever

### Vocabulary Group 15

**PLACID** (*adjective*) peaceful; pleasantly calm

**POIGNANT** (*adjective*) extremely moving; painfully emotional

**PORTAL** (*noun*) an entry point; a door, gate, or entrance

**PROSPECTIVE** (*adjective*) likely or expected

**PROSTRATE** (*verb*) to lay flat, as on the ground (*adjective*) lying face downward; exhausted

**RETRIBUTION** (*noun*) a justly deserved penalty; revenge

**SERENE** (*adjective*) calm; peaceful; clear

**TUMULT** (*noun*) uproar; noisy commotion; disturbance

**UNDAUNTED** (*adjective*) fearless; not discouraged

**VIVACIOUS** (*adjective*) lively and bright; animated; full of spirit