The Giver Vocab

Word	Definition	Sentence from the Book	Illustration
chastisement	verbal punishment	Lily, he decided, would have to learn that soon, or she would be called in for chastisement because of her insensitive chatter.	
sift	check and sort carefully	He wanted to share them, but he wasn't eager to begin the process of sifting through his own complicated emotions, even with the help that he knew his parents could give.	
sympathetic	expressing compassion or friendly fellow feelings	"Oh, no," Mother murmured sympathetically. "I know how sad that must make you feel." Jonas and Lily both nodded sympathetically as well.	
wheedle	influence or urge by gentle urging, caressing, or flattering	But like all parents—all adults—they didn't fight and wheedle for their turn.	

infringe	go against, as of rules and laws	But each such error reflected negatively on his parents' guidance and infringed on the community's sense of order and success.	
interdependence	a relation between entities that rely on each other	Fours, Fives, and Sixes all wore jackets that fastened down the back so that they would have to help each other dress and would learn interdependence.	
profound	far-reaching and thoroughgoing in effect	The speech was much the same each year: recollection of the time of childhood and the period of preparation, the coming responsibilities of adult life, the profound importance of Assignment, the seriousness of training to come.	
transgression	the violation of a law or a duty or moral principle	His transgressions were small ones, always: shoes on the wrong feet, schoolwork misplaced, failure to study adequately for a quiz.	
assimilate	take up mentally	"They really suffered for a while. Finally it subsided as the memories were assimilated. But it certainly made them aware of how they	

		need a Receiver to contain all that pain.	
		And knowledge."	
perceive	become aware of through the senses	You should be able to perceive the name without being told.	
successor	a person who inherits some title or office	But that does not mean I am perfect, and when I tried before to train a successor, I failed.	
tentative	hesitant or lacking confidence; unsettled in mind or opinion	Tentatively he opened his eyes—not his snow-hill-sled eyes, for they had been open throughout the strange ride.	
anguish	extreme distress of body or mind	"Put your hands on me," he directed, aware that in such anguish The Giver might need reminding.	
burden	a serious or difficult concern	"But then everyone would be burdened and pained. They don't want that. And that's the real reason The Receiver is so vital to them, and so honored. They selected me—and you—to lift that burden from themselves."	

implore	beg or call upon in supplication	Finally, when the container was open, he extended his arm slowly across the blood-soaked earth, inch by inch, and held it to the lips of the boy. Water trickled into the imploring mouth and down the grimy chin.	
solitude	the state or situation of being alone	Although he had through the memories learned about the pain of loss and loneliness, now he gained, too, an understanding of solitude and its joy.	
emphatically	without question and beyond doubt	Jonas shook his head emphatically. "No, Giver," he said. "I want you to keep that, to have with you, when I'm gone."	
feeble	lacking strength or vigor	Gabriel moved feebly against him and whimpered briefly into the silence that surrounded them.	
peril	a source of danger	But now there were new fears; the unfamiliar landscape held hidden, unknown perils .	
wretched	very unhappy; full of misery	Wretched with helplessness.	