Vocabulary List 6



Mission in Mount Rainier National Park
by Aaron Johnson
https://nationalparkmysteryseries.com

Many of these words have multiple meanings, so the definitions below explain how the words are used in the context of this book and the specific chapter (paperback version).

Telegram (noun; Chapter 1)
A message sent over a long distance using an electrical signaling system.

Artifact (noun; Chapter 1)
An object made or used by people in the past that can reveal clues about history.

Beckoned (verb; Chapter 1)
Motioned or signaled for someone to come closer.

Sequence (noun; Chapter 2)
A particular order in which things follow one another.

Terrain (noun; Chapter 3)
The features of land, such as rocky slopes, valleys, and ridges.

Glacial (adjective; Chapter 3)
Related to glaciers or shaped by moving ice.

Meticulous (adjective; Chapter 4)
Extremely careful and attentive to small details.

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Telegraph (noun; Chapter 4)
A system that sent messages over long distances using electrical signals.

Skepticism (noun; Chapter 6)
Doubt about whether something is true or believable.

Vault (noun; Chapter 7)
A secure room or compartment used to protect valuable things.

Apparatus (noun; Chapter 8)
A device or set of equipment made for a particular task.

Riddle (noun; Chapter 8)
A puzzling question or statement that requires careful thinking to solve.

Topographic (adjective; Chapter 8)
Showing the shapes and elevations of land, often on a map.

Contour (noun; Chapter 8)
A map line connecting places that are the same height above sea level.

Rockfall (noun; Chapter 10)
Rocks that suddenly break loose and fall down a steep slope.

Debris (noun; Chapter 10)
Scattered broken pieces left behind after damage or destruction.

Lichen (noun; Chapter 10)
A living partnership of fungus and algae or similar organisms, often seen on rocks or bark.

Coordinates (noun; Chapter 12)
Numbers or measurements used to identify an exact location.

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Mechanism (noun; Chapter 12)
Moving parts that work together to make a device function.

Contraption (noun; Chapter 12)
An unusual or complicated-looking device.

Peculiar (adjective; Chapter 12)
Unusual or strange in a way that attracts attention.

Elusive (adjective; Chapter 13)
Difficult to find, catch, or understand.

Expedition (noun; Chapter 14)
A carefully planned journey made for exploration or a special mission.

Treacherous (adjective; Chapter 14)
Dangerous in ways that may be difficult to notice.

Ascent (noun; Chapter 14)
The act of climbing toward a higher place, such as a mountain summit.

Alpine (adjective; Chapter 14)
Related to high mountains, especially areas near or above the tree line.

Incredulous (adjective; Chapter 15)
Unable or unwilling to believe something surprising.

Elevation (noun; Chapter 16)
The height of a place above sea level.

Overland (adverb; Chapter 18)
Across land rather than by water or air.

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Ravine (noun; Chapter 18)
A deep, narrow valley with steep sides.

Frantic (adjective; Chapter 18)
Extremely worried or hurried, sometimes unable to think calmly.

Geometric (adjective; Chapter 21)
Related to shapes, lines, angles, and their patterns.

Concealed (verb; Chapter 23)
Kept hidden from sight or from other people.

Intricate (adjective; Chapter 24)
Containing many small, carefully connected details.

Ordeal (noun; Chapter 25)
A difficult or frightening experience that tests a person.

Scrutinize (verb; Chapter 26)
To examine something very closely for important details.

Understory (noun; Chapter 26)
The smaller trees and plants growing beneath a forest's tallest trees.

Evidence (noun; Chapter 30)
Facts or objects that help show whether an idea or suspicion is true.

Chasm (noun; Chapter 31)
A deep opening or gap in the ground or between cliffs.

Perilous (adjective; Chapter 31)
Full of danger or serious risk.

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Crevasse (noun; Chapter 31)
A deep crack in glacier ice that may be hidden by snow.

Cipher (noun; Chapter 32)
A method of changing letters or symbols to hide a message's meaning.

Raptor (noun; Chapter 32)
A bird of prey, such as an eagle, hawk, or owl.

Decipher (verb; Chapter 34)
To work out the meaning of a coded or difficult-to-read message.

Improvised (verb; Chapter 34)
Made or worked out using what was available rather than a prepared plan.

Shrouded (verb; Chapter 34)
Covered or hidden from view, as a mountain might be by clouds.

Obscured (verb; Chapter 34)
Made difficult or impossible to see clearly.

Engraving (noun; Chapter 36)
Words or designs cut into a hard surface such as metal or stone.

Archive (noun; Chapter 37)
A collection of records or documents kept for future reference.

Altitude (noun; Chapter 38)
The height of a place or object above sea level.

Patriarchs (noun; Chapter 41)
Very old or respected leaders; also used to describe ancient, towering trees.

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Grueling (adjective; Chapter 42)
So difficult or tiring that it demands great effort.

Sulfur (noun; Chapter 43)
A yellow chemical element sometimes found near volcanic areas.

Canopy (noun; Chapter 45)
The overhead layer formed by the branches and leaves of trees.

Linchpin (noun; Chapter 49)
The essential person or thing that holds a plan or system together.

Note: In the spirit of my wonderful English teacher, Mrs. Barber, I've tried my best to keep the definitions in this list as succinct as possible.

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