

Vocabulary in Context: The Pit & The Pendulum (REV.)

Using context clues, explain what the bolded word most likely means and explain how you came up with that conclusion – i.e. which word(s) in the sentence led you to that conclusion. This information is to come from your brain, NOT FROM YOUR PHONE OR THE TEXTBOOK!!! Pay attention to the part of speech. Check your answer by reading the sentence with your answer in place of the vocabulary word.

1. The tall candles sank into nothingness; their flames went out utterly; the blackness of darkness **supervened**; all sensations appeared swallowed up in a mad rushing descent as of the soul into Hades.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
2. It was not that I feared to look upon things horrible, but that I grew **aghast** lest there should be nothing to see.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
3. My worst thoughts, then were confirmed. The blackness of eternal night **encompassed** me. I struggled for breath.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
4. Had I been **remanded** to my dungeon, to await the next sacrifice which would not take place for many months?
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
5. I thrust my arms wildly above and around me in all directions. I felt nothing; yet dreaded to move a step, lest I should be **impeded** by the walls of the *tomb*.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
6. That the result would be death, and a death of more than customary bitterness, I knew too well the character of my judges to doubt. The **mode** and hour were all that occupied or distracted me.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
7. Upon awakening and stretching forth an arm, I found beside me a loaf and a pitcher with water. I was too much exhausted to reflect upon this circumstance, but ate and drank with **avidity**.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
8. Amid the thought of the fiery destruction that impended, the idea of the coolness of the well came over my soul like **balm**.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____
9. The heat rapidly increased, and once again I looked up, shuddering as with a fit of the **ague**.
 - What does the word mean? _____
 - How do you know? _____