

VOCABULARY

From the text

1 **SYNONYMOUS EXPRESSIONS** Choose the best definition for the following phrases from the text.

1. in frantic pursuit of (a killer) (lines 3-4)
 - a. desperately chasing
 - b. carefully searching for
2. the present day (line 10)
 - a. the current year
 - b. modern times
3. in a fraction of a second (lines 46-47)
 - a. in an incomplete way
 - b. extremely quickly
4. captures the imagination (line 52)
 - a. is fascinating
 - b. seems unrealistic
5. a crucial stepping stone (line 56)
 - a. a vital stage in a process
 - b. a useful technique
6. restores order (line 59)
 - a. makes demands
 - b. brings things back to normal
7. go so far as (to) (line 74)
 - a. be willing to explain what they understand
 - b. do something regarded as extreme
8. of sorts (line 77)
 - a. in a way
 - b. of a completely different kind
9. tingle of excitement (line 88)
 - a. a strong feeling of
 - b. a stinging sensation of

2 **COLLOCATIONS: adjective + noun** Replace the underlined words in the sentences below with the following collocations.

the digital age	loyal companion
screen version	moral obligation
ordinary mortal	deductive reasoning
public demand	intellectual capacity

1. Tim found school boring because he had the ability to comprehend things of someone twice his age.
2. It is the ethical duty of parents to give their children a good education.
3. Reaching conclusions through logical thinking is an important part of detective work.
4. Nelson Mandela wanted to be remembered as an average person, not as a hero.
5. Labelling on food became a legal requirement in response to pressure from ordinary people.
6. The period of information technology enables us to access information in an instant.
7. Sherlock Holmes found a faithful friend in Dr Watson.
8. I prefer the film adaptation of that novel to the stage play.

3 **A parent's blog** **VERB + PREPOSITION** Read what one mother thinks about a type of young adult fiction. Complete the text with the verb + preposition combinations below.

portray as
focus on

~~cite~~ as
stem from

isolate from
consult with



"SICK LIT" MAY HARM OUR KIDS

Novels about vampires and wizards were bad enough, but it seems they are now being replaced by stories about illness and dying. I'm referring to a new genre of teen literature known as *sick lit*, which, as a parent, I find extremely worrying. I can (1) cite the novel *The Fault in Our Stars*, by John Greene, as a typical example. Tragic stories like this one about teens suffering from cancer (2) young people's attention depressing life events they may be too immature to deal with. These new books (3) teenagers troubled, tragic figures. In fact, increasing rates of teen depression could well (4) such reading experiences. I'm not saying we should completely (5) teens the real world and its problems, but children as young as 11 are reading some of these books! I strongly believe that writers and publishers should (6) child psychologists to establish guidelines regarding how to present such material to young readers. Where are the fun-loving, optimistic heroes of my youth?

Expansion

4 **A WORD BUILDING** Complete the chart.

verb	noun	adjective
collide		—
explode	 / explosive	explosive
imagine		imaginary / imaginative
.....	revelation	revealing
astound	—	 / astounding
assume		assumed
evolve		evolutionary