

Silas Marner

Vocabulary (Part I: Chapters 5-8)

*Read this list and be familiar with these words before you read chapters 5-8. They will help you to understand the story **the way the author meant to tell it**, allowing you to enjoy the book and read it more smoothly and quickly. These words will appear on vocabulary quizzes and tests, so do not skip this step.*

Word	Example and definition	Chapter
presentiment	His legs were weary, but his mind was at ease, free from the <u>presentiment</u> of change. presentiment = a premonition (a supernatural feeling about what is to come)	1.5
injurious	In his truthful simple soul, not even the growing greed and worship of gold could beget any vice directly <u>injurious</u> to others. injurious = harmful — especially to human health	1.5
inroads	During Silas's absence in the daytime the door had been locked, and there had been no marks of any <u>inroad</u> on his return by daylight. inroad = progress toward achieving a goal	1.5
disreputable	There was Jem Rodney, a known poacher, and otherwise <u>disreputable</u> : he had often met Marner in his journeys across the fields.... disreputable = with a bad reputation	1.5
superfluous	The Rainbow, in Marner's view, was a place of luxurious resort for rich and stout husbands, whose wives had <u>superfluous</u> stores of linen.... superfluous = more than is needed, desired, or required	1.5
convivial	...Squire Cass frequently enjoyed the double pleasure of <u>conviviality</u> and condescension. conviviality = friendly cheerfulness	1.5
piquant	This kind of unflinching frankness was the most <u>piquant</u> form of joke to the company at the Rainbow.... piquant = engagingly stimulating or provocative	1.6
epigram	... Ben Winthrop's insult was felt by everybody to have capped Mr. Macey's <u>epigram</u> . epigram = a witty saying	1.6
complimentary	There was a fair proportion of kindness in Raveloe; but it was often of a beery and bungling sort, and took the shape least allied to the <u>complimentary</u> and hypocritical. complimentary = expressing praise or admiration — as from a compliment	1.6
impotent	"Lor bless you!" said Mr. Macey, pausing, and smiling in pity at the <u>impotence</u> of his hearer's imagination... impotence = lacking power, ability, or effectiveness	1.6

crass	"As if ghos'es 'ud want to be believed in by anybody so ignirant!" said Mr. Macey, in deep disgust at the farrier's <u>crass</u> incompetence to apprehend the conditions of ghostly phenomena. crass = (of persons) so unrefined as to be lacking in discrimination and sensibility	1.6
adjure	The landlord, under the habitual sense that he was bound to keep his house open to all company, and confident in the protection of his unbroken neutrality, at last took on himself the task of <u>adjuring</u> the ghost. adjuring = to appeal earnestly or command solemnly	1.7
torpid	Memory was not so utterly <u>torpid</u> in Silas that it could not be awakened by these words. torpid = slow or inactive — usually resulting from a lack of energy and interest, or a condition of biological rest or suspended animation	1.7
ecclesiastical	...after taking the sense of the company, and duly rehearsing a small ceremony known in high <u>ecclesiastical</u> life as the <i>nolo episcopari</i> ecclesiastical = associated with a church	1.7
repudiate	... <u>repudiated</u> it as a rather impious suggestion.... repudiated = strongly rejected	1.8
impious	... <u>repudiated</u> it as a rather <u>impious</u> suggestion.... impious = not pious; lacking reverence for God	1.8
glazier	...the <u>glazier</u> 's wife, a well-intentioned woman, not given to lying, and whose house was among the cleanest in the village... glazier = someone who cuts glass and installs windows	1.8
sacrament	At the same time, it was understood to be requisite for all who were not household servants, or young men, to take the <u>sacrament</u> at one of the great festivals sacrament = the wine/juice or bread in a Christian Communion ceremony	1.8
implacable	The old Squire was an <u>implacable</u> man: he made resolutions in violent anger, and he was not to be moved from them after his anger had subsided—as fiery volcanic matters cool and harden into rock. implacable = not capable of being placated (appeased)	