

Vocabulary Overview

Ten key words from this section are provided below with definitions and sentences about how the words are used in the book. Choose one of the vocabulary activity sheets (pages 55 or 56) for students to complete as they read this section. Monitor students as they work to ensure the definitions they have found are accurate and relate to the text. Finally, discuss these important vocabulary words with students. If you think these words or other words in the section warrant more time devoted to them, there are suggestions in the introduction for other vocabulary activities (page 5).

Word	Definition	Descriptive Sentence
atrophied (ch. 10)	made smaller because of illness	Parts of IT are atrophied from lack of use, so the Murrys and Calvin are able to resist its power.
fallibility (ch. 10)	the likelihood of making an error	Meg realizes that her father has human fallibility and he can't always keep her safe and secure.
assuaged (ch. 10)	to make something go away	Aunt Beast immediately assuages Meg's pain.
acute (ch. 11)	sharp, severe	Meg has acute pain after she tesses through the Black Thing with her father.
despondency (ch. 11)	feeling hopeless and sad	While discussing how to help Charles Wallace, Meg has a wave of despondency come over her.
reproving (ch. 11)	expressing disappointment in a corrective way	Aunt Beast has to speak in a reproving way to get Meg to see that she is hurting her father.
formidably (ch. 12)	inspiring fear and respect	Mrs Which's voice rolls formidably across a group when she speaks to them.
indignation (ch. 12)	anger at something that is unfair	Meg gets angry at Calvin and hopes that her indignation will keep her fear from showing to everyone.
permeating (ch. 12)	spreading throughout	The pulse of IT is permeating throughout the room as Meg tries to save Charles Wallace.
vestige (ch. 12)	description of something that has just disappeared or is about to disappear	Meg uses her last vestige of consciousness to save herself from IT's control.