

Vocabulary *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander U of D Jesuit Summer Reading Grade 8

dubious adj. doubtful

sentence: Filthy McNasty is a mythical manchild of rather dubious distinction. p. 10

podiatry n. the medical care and treatment of the human foot

sentence: Deron Williams's crossover is nice, but Allen Iverson's crossover was so deadly, he could've set up his own podiatry practice. p. 29

bellissimo adj. Italian word for beautiful

sentence: Finally handing me the ring and an Italian article about Dad's bellissimo crossover p. 46

pulchritudinous n. attractive

sentence: She's pulchritudinous. p. 54

hypertension n. abnormally high blood pressure

sentence: Get a checkup. Hypertension is genetic. p. 74

camaraderie n. spirit of good fellowship

sentence: Somewhere between camaraderie and imbecile I tap her beige bare shoulder with the note. p. 80

opulent adj. exhibiting wealth

sentence: It's not like we're opulent. p. 107

churlish adj. difficult to work with or deal with

sentence: Did your father and I raise you to be churlish? p. 138

atone v. to serve as compensation for something bad or unwelcome

sentence: Try to atone day and night. p. 144

heirloom n. something of special value handed down from one generation to another

sentence: Dad treats his championship ring like some kind of family heirloom. p. 183

Vocabulary for *Ground Zero* by Alan Gratz U of D Jesuit Summer Reading Grade 8

arid adj. very dry

sentence: The mountains were arid and brown, with snowcapped peaks. (p. 9)

obscured v. to hide by or to make dark, dim, or indistinct

sentence: Its windows, like the North Towers, were partially obscured by thin aluminum supports. (p. 17)

province n. an administrative district or division of a country

Sentence: Like most other villages in the province, Reshmina's was built into the side of a mountain. (p. 23)

insurgents n. people who revolt

sentence: The very people they were swearing to protect Taz from were the village's sons and nephews and brothers who had left to join the insurgents in the mountains. (p. 69)

nomad n. a member of a people that have no fixed residence but wander from place to place

sentence: The Kochi were nomads. (p. 114)

tentatively adv. with hesitancy or uncertainty

sentence: Brandon and Richard came out of the stairwell cautiously, tentatively, scanning the 91st floor. (p. 120)

burqa n. a loose enveloping garment that covers the face and body and is worn in public by certain Muslim women

sentence: She came into the room with an old blue burqa, the kind of garment women had been forced to wear outside during the rule of the Taliban. (p. 206)

palpable adj. that can be touched or felt

sentence: There was a palpable sense of excitement from the people around Brandon as they all filed into a short, dark passageway. (p. 211)

garish adj. offensively bright

sentence: For the first time in Brandon's life, the mall felt incredibly garish. (p. 223)

splayed v. to cause to spread outward

sentence: He was lying on his side in three inches of water, arms and legs splayed and pieces of metal and wood on top of him. (p. 232)