UNIT 8

(p.117)

To adopt=to take by choice into a relationship

To foster=to promote the growth or development

To pique=to hurt the pride or self-respect of sb

Gravedigger=undertaker

To taunt=try to provoke sb with scorn

Dunce=unable to learn

To harass=trouble and annoy sb continually

Bonfire=large fire made outdoors for celebration

Laundress=woman doing the laundry

(p.118)

Hence=for this reason

Journal=newspaper or periodical /daily record,diary

To plunge=to fall into sth suddenly and with force

To relent=to decide to be less strict or harsh

Blast=explosion

Stretcher=framework for carrying a sick or injured person

Rubble=bits of broken stone,brick etc

(p.119)

To linger=to stay for a long time,unwilling to leave

Distraught=very troubled with grief

Withdrawn=unsociable,uncommunicative

To harbor(harbour)=give shelter to

On the verge of sth=close to the point where sth begins

(p.120)

Abrasive=rough,that rubs sth away

Tightly-cinched=tightly fastened

A penchant for=a liking or taste for sth

Recruitment=formation of an army /police etc

Swamp=marsh

(p.125)

Mortality=state of being mortal(able to die)

Identity=who or what sb/sth is

Framework=structure giving shape and support

Tutelage=protection/guardianship over sb

Literacy=ability to read and write

Literate=able to read or write≠

Illiterate=not able to read or write

Midst=middle

Backdrop=backcloth (printed cloth in the theatre as part of the scenery)

To reflect=to show the nature/express

Trauma=wound/emotional shock

(p.126)

To swell=to become larger/bulge outwards

Discrepancy=difference/failure to agree

(p.127)

To disperse=to scatter

To dowse=to look for underground water

To tumble down=to fall violently

To be snuffed out=to put out a candle/put an end, finish

To escalate=to develop or increase by stages

To prod=to push or poke with a finger

Forlorn=lonely and unhappy/uncared for

To crouch=to lower the body in fear or to hide

To consummate=to make sth complete or perfect

(p.128)

Vigilant=looking out for possible danger

Machination=evil plot or scheme

Deplorable=that is (or should be) condemned

Offender=person found guilty of a crime

To pivot=to turn as on a pivot(pin/central point)

Accomplice=person helping sb to do sth illegal

Culpability=deserving blame

Jocular=humorous/meant as a joke

Onslaught=fierce attack

(p.129)

Ominous=suggesting that sth bad is about to happen

Melee=confused crowd of people

To trample=to tread heavily on sth/crush

To stagger=to walk or move unsteadily

Slab=thick flat piece of stone, wood or other solid material

Embers=small pieces of burning wood or coal in a dying fire

Dilapidated=falling to pieces

(p.130)

Recess=vacation/ period of time when work is stopped

Vestments=ceremonial garments of priests

To lug=to drag or carry with effort

To shove=to push roughly

(p.131)

To wriggle=to make quick twisting and turning movements

To shriek=to utter a shrill scream

Flyleaf=blank page at the beginning or end of a book

Hat brim=top edge of a hat

(p.132)

To char=to become black by burning

Hunched=bent forward part of the body

(p.133)

Stroll=slow leisurely walk

To ostracize=to exclude from a group

(p.134)

At sb’s behest=on sb’s orders

(p.135)

To purge=to make pure or clean by removing evil, sin etc.

Subversive=trying to weaken or destroy a political system

To denounce=to inform against sb

Pilloried=attacked or ridiculed in public

To recite=to say (a poem) by memory