

Vocabulary: Crescendo, Unanimous, Magnitude

Word	Definition	Related Parts of Speech	Situations	Image
<p>crescendo <i>noun or verb</i></p>	<p>1) a slow increase in volume or intensity</p> <p>2) to grow louder or more intense</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The thunder reached a crescendo as the storm passed over my house. _____ _____ _____ 	
<p>unanimous <i>adjective</i></p>	<p>having the full agreement of everyone involved</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The members of the environmental protection club gave a unanimous vote to install recycling bins in their new office. _____ _____ _____ 	
<p>Magnitude <i>Noun</i></p>	<p>the size or extent of something</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The explorers were left speechless when they saw the vast magnitude of the mountain in front of them. _____ _____ _____ 	

Vocabulary Active Practice

As we apply our new word knowledge, be sure to use the vocabulary word in your answer!

1. When in a movie might the soundtrack **crescendo**? Why?
2. What is an opinion that you think might be **unanimous** among students in our classroom?
3. Which would likely cause disaster of greater **magnitude**, a flood or a fire? Why?
4. If someone's excitement reached a **crescendo**, what might we say about the **magnitude** of their feelings?

5. In order to find a defendant guilty in a criminal trial, all twelve jurors must reach a **unanimous** verdict. Why do you think that might be?

Pages 74-75

1. Re-read these lines from p. 74:

*They applauded at the final Assignment; but the applause was piecemeal¹, no longer a **crescendo** of united enthusiasm. There were murmurs of confusion.*

¹**piecemeal**: one at a time; in pieces or fragments

Paraphrase this phrase: “a **crescendo** of united enthusiasm.”

What has happened to the applause now? Why?



2. Consider these lines from p. 74-75:

The community, relieved from its discomfort slightly by her benign¹ statement, seemed to breathe more easily.

¹**benign**: gentle, not harmful

Who or what is “relieved from discomfort” in these lines? _____

Who or what “seemed to breathe more easily”? _____

Imagine that this line began with “the members of the community” instead of “the community.” How might that impact our understanding of this moment?

Pages 75-81



3. We have already analyzed two lines that feature the audience. As we read the rest of the chapter, underline other mentions of the audience and consider the following questions:

- What repeating ideas do you notice?
- How would you describe the audience during this chapter?

<p>Jot your thoughts during reading here.</p>	<p>Jot additional discussion notes here.</p>
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4. How does Lowry characterize the audience? How might that impact our understanding of this chapter?

Leapfrog Read #1



5. Consider the following lines from the chapter:

- “Jonas has not been assigned,” she informed the crowd, and his heart sank. Then she went on. “Jonas has been **selected**.” (p. 75)
- “Such a selection is very, very rare,” the Chief Elder told the audience. “Our community has only one Receiver. It is he who trains his successor¹.” (p. 76)
- “But the Receiver-in-training cannot be observed, cannot be modified. That is stated quite clearly in the rules. He is to be alone, apart, while he is prepared by the current Receiver for the job which is the most honored in our community.” (p. 77)

¹**successor:** someone who follows or replaces someone else

Turn and Talk: What repeating ideas do you notice in these lines? What might this suggest about Jonas?

Jot your thoughts here.

6. Skim the rest of the chapter and note other repetitions of the same ideas about Jonas. There is space below for you to jot quotes and page numbers.

Jot your notes here.



7. Let's think back to our reflections on the audience now that we've thought more deeply about Jonas. How does Lowry **juxtapose** her characterization of the audience with her descriptions of Jonas? How might that impact our understanding of this chapter?

Leapfrog Read #2

8. Re-read this line from p. 76:

The Committee of Elders was sitting together in a group; and the Chief Elder's eyes were now on one who sat in the midst but seemed oddly separate from them. It was a man Jonas had never noticed before, a bearded man with pale eyes. He was watching Jonas intently.

Who is this man? _____

What does this man have in common with Jonas?



9. Consider these lines from p. 79:

*“But you will be faced, now,” she explained gently, “with pain of a **magnitude** that none of us here can comprehend because it is beyond our experience. The Receiver himself was not able to describe it, only to remind us that you would be faced with it, that you would need immense courage. We cannot prepare you for that.”*

Complete the following sentences:

- Jonas’s training will set him apart **because** _____

- Jonas’s training will set him apart, **so** _____

10. Re-read these lines from p. 80:

But when he looked out across the crowd, the sea of faces, the thing happened again. The thing that had happened with the apple.

They changed.

He blinked, and it was gone. His shoulders straightened slightly. Briefly he felt a tiny sliver of sureness for the first time.

Turn and Talk: What might it mean for Jonas to feel a “tiny sliver of sureness”? Why might this moment cause Jonas to feel this way?

Jot your thoughts here.

Re-read the final paragraphs of the chapter (p. 80-81):

“Jonas,” she said, speaking not to him alone but to the entire community of which he was a part, “you will be trained to be our next Receiver of Memory. We thank you for your childhood.”

Then she turned and left the stage, left him there alone, standing and facing the crowd, which began spontaneously the collective murmur of his name.

“Jonas.” It was a whisper at first: hushed, barely audible. “Jonas. Jonas.”

Then louder, faster. “JONAS. JONAS. JONAS.”

With the chant, Jonas knew, the community was accepting him and his new role, giving him life, the way they had given it to the newchild Caleb. His heart swelled with gratitude and pride.

But at the same time he was filled with fear. He did not know what his selection meant. He did not know what he was to become.

Or what would become of him.

 11. Annotate the passage above, looking for echoes of the ideas we have discussed so far. Underline words and phrases that strike you and jot margin notes to help you make connections. You might consider:

- Descriptions of the audience
- Descriptions of Jonas
- Moments of **juxtaposition**

12. **Turn and Talk:** Consider our discussions in prior lessons about the Ceremony of Twelve as a **rite of passage**. How might you describe Jonas’s rite of passage in the paragraphs above?

Jot your thoughts here.

