

Night Vocabulary Part 1

1. **surname** (n): the name a person has in common with his/ her family members; a last name (as opposed to a “given” name, or “Christian” name)
2. **encumber** (v): to impede or hinder; to hamper; to slow down; to cause delay or difficulty in completing
He was encumbered by his heavy load.
3. **waif** (n): a person, especially a child, who has no home or friends; a stray animal
The waif was wandering the alley, looking for food.
4. **initiation** (n): formal admission or acceptance into an organization or club; the ceremonies or rites of admission
He was initiated into the religion through baptism.
5. **billet** (n): lodging for a soldier, student, etc., as in a private home or nonmilitary public building
The soldiers were billeted in a civilian’s home.
6. **betrothal** (n): the act or state of being betrothed; engaged
After their betrothal, they started to plan the wedding.
7. **Zionism** (n): a Jewish movement that resulted in the establishment of a Jewish state (Israel)
They believed in Zionism and that Jews should have a safe haven, in the form of their own country.
8. **liquidate** (v): to get rid of, especially by killing
The camps were liquidated when the liberating army was approaching.
9. **anguish** (n): excruciating or severe distress, suffering, pain, anxiety, or sorrow
She felt anguish when she learned of her father’s death.
10. **illusion** (n): something that deceives by producing a false or misleading impression of reality
He gave me the illusion that he was on my side, but he quickly turned on me.