

Name: _____ Date: _____

Wonder By R.J. Palacio
Part One - August
Vocabulary

Words to Know:

- Contagious**
- Exception**
- Precepts**
- Elective**
- Avoiding**
- Anomalies**

Directions: For each vocabulary word, either write a definition for the word, or write the word in a sentence. Use a dictionary or thesaurus as you need.

From Wonder:

“They told Mom and Dad I had a cleft palate and some other stuff going on. They called it ‘small **anomalies**.’” (page 6)

Definition:

Anomalies are differences from what is typical.

Word in a sentence:

From Wonder:

“‘We can’t keep protecting him,’ Mom whispered to Dad, who was driving. ‘We can’t just pretend he’s going to wake up tomorrow and this isn’t going to be reality, because it *is*, Nate, and we have to help him learn to deal with it. We can’t just keep **avoiding** situations that...’” (page 10)

Definition:

Word in a sentence:

I am **avoiding** eating vegetables at the dinner table.

From Wonder:

“We have a couple of great science **electives** at Beecher,’he said. ‘Maybe you’ll take one of them?’

‘Uh-huh,’ I said, though I had no idea what an **elective** was.’” (page 16)

Definition:

An **elective** is a class you sign-up for at school. It is a *chosen* class rather than a *required* class.

Word in a sentence:

From Wonder:

“**PRECEPTS** = RULES ABOUT REALLY IMPORTANT THINGS!” (page 46)

Definition:

Word in a sentence:

My grandmother taught me **precepts** that help me solve problems in my life.

From Wonder:

“‘There’s a Maya’, I said. ‘Technically, May is spring,’ Summer answered, but if she wanted to sit here, we could make an **exception**.’” (page 52)

Definition:

An **exception** is a special difference from the standard rule or norm.

Word in a sentence:

From Wonder:

“They would take the longest way around me to avoid bumping into me in any way, like I had some germ they could catch, like my face was **contagious**.” (page 61)

Definition:

Word in a sentence:

I had to stay home from school because the doctor said my flu was **contagious**, and I could get other kids sick.