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NAME

DATE



Word Study

toil (p. 6) to work hard

meandered (p. 11) wandered aimlessly

raspier (p. 13) rougher, hoarser, or scratchier

interrogate (p. 14) to question forcefully

restive (p. 52) bored or impatiently waiting

frock (p. 87) a dress

formidable (p. 93) strong and difficult to deal with

quaint (p. 94) pleasingly old-fashioned

feigned (p. 96) faked, pretended

confiscating (p. 96) taking something away from someone as a punishment or as a way to enforce rules

harbinger (p. 117) a person or thing that signals what is coming

boisterous (p. 117) rowdy, noisy

melancholy (p. 120) thoughtfully sad, depressed

usury (p. 143) lending or borrowing money that must be paid back with a big extra charge

periphery (p. 151) the outward limits of something

unkempt (pp. 161, 190) rough or messy

To explore more terms used in *The Haunted Cathedral*, read pages 237–238 in the book.

An adjective is a word used to describe a person, place, thing, or idea. Complete the chart below about some adjectives used in *The Haunted Cathedral*.

Adjective	Whom or what does each adjective describe in <i>The Haunted Cathedral</i> ?	Write a new sentence that uses the adjective to describe a person, place, thing, or idea.
raspier		
formidable		
melancholy		

Comprehension

1. Who is Wulf?

2. How old is Xan?

3. In what year does *The Haunted Cathedral* take place?

4. Why did Xan travel to Lincoln?

5. What is the real name of the haunted cathedral?

6. Why do Christina and her brother believe that Little Nelly is haunting the cathedral?

7. How did driving the Northman families back to their ships contribute to the “haunting” of the cathedral?

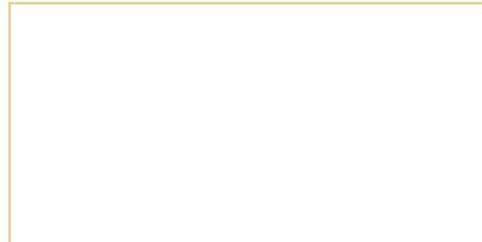
Figures of Speech and Personification

A figure of speech is a word or phrase that communicates something other than its ordinary meaning. For each figure of speech from *The Haunted Cathedral*, write what the phrase is intended to communicate. Then draw a picture in the space provided that shows its ordinary meaning.

1. come to blows (p. 3)



2. lips pursed (p. 5)



3. tongue of the Roman Empire (p. 26)



Personification is a type of figurative language that authors use to make their writing more vivid. Personification describes animals or objects as having human qualities. The author uses personification when he describes the cathedral built by Bishop Remigius and destroyed in the earthquake as “arrogant” (p. 109). *Arrogant* means to have an insulting attitude of being better than someone else.

4. What about the history of the cathedral gives it an arrogant quality?

Character Descriptions

Identify the character described in each of the following passages.

- 1.** Her black hair and tan face seemed perfectly matched, and the speck of a mole on her cheek was her only defect.

- 2.** Across from the monks sat a man wearing a blue shirt, deep-black pants that shimmered in the candlelight, and leather shoes with designs on them. His clean-shaven face was youthful and fair, and his cheeks were as shiny and red as the flowers in the convent garden.

- 3.** Before winter, the monk had started to grow a beard on his youthful face, similar to the one worn by the old prior, but it wasn't quite meshing with his different-colored eyes. Though the dark beard matched his brown eye well, it contrasted too starkly with his blue one.

- 4.** A flowering bouquet of hair—auburn and sparkling and full of life—fell loosely over both shoulders and hid her left eye like a veil. She had dimples on her fair, pale cheeks, and her eyes were greener than the glass in Carlo's dragon pendant, with a mischievous gleam all their own.

- 5.** At their greeting, [he] had been youthful and boisterous and full of smiles. After his return, the bags under his brown eyes, now puffed and bloodshot, gave the sickly appearance of one who had spent days in a dungeon.

Choose two of the characters you identified above and write three words for each to describe their personalities.

- 6.** Character: _____

Description: _____

- 7.** Character: _____

Description: _____

Character Analysis

In *The Haunted Cathedral*, two characters purposefully won't call Xan by the name he prefers. Complete the frame below with information about those two characters.

UNCLE WILLIAM	CHRISTINA
<p>Name he calls Xan:</p> <hr/>	<p>Name she calls Xan:</p> <hr/>
<p>What does this tell us about this character?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>What does this tell us about this character?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>What passage from the novel supports this idea?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>What passage from the novel supports this idea?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Text-to-Self Connection

Unexpected Decisions

If you were in Xan's position, what would you have done with Carlo's gift? Explain your answer.

Avoid Assumptions

When Brother Andrew says, "Don't judge a monk by his robes" (p. 109), he is pointing out in a light-hearted way that people are more complicated than the clothes they wear and the jobs they do. In the space below, write about a time when you misjudged or underestimated someone because of his or her appearance or job.

Continue Thinking and Learning

SENSORY DESCRIPTION The novel says that the cathedral “stimulated all senses.”

Sunlight through dazzling windows cast light upon the thick stone walls. Statues of Jesus and the saints dotted the corners and aisles, with candlelight flickering on their faces. Xan’s footsteps echoed off the walls and pillars and the massive stone altar in the sanctuary. And the sweet aroma of burning beeswax filled his lungs. (p. 104)

Write a description of a place that you know well or that you can imagine using all five senses—hearing, touch, sight, smell, and taste.

HISTORICAL SETTING Research the life of William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings. How did life change for people in England after that time?

CHARACTER APPEARANCES Draw a picture of one of the characters from *The Haunted Cathedral*. Vibrant descriptions of the characters’ appearance can be found on pages 5, 18, 26, 87, and 117, as well as elsewhere in the text.

WELCOMING AND CARING FOR NEWCOMERS In the novel, the Northman families are treated inhumanely. Research how newcomers today are sometimes treated with suspicion and hostility and how other people and organizations work to make newcomers’ lives better.

SYMBOLISM In literature, authors often use colors to symbolize emotions or feelings. Consider how *The Haunted Cathedral* uses the color green:

stretching arms of green ivy (p. 5)

green-eyed dragon dangling around his neck (p. 64)

All around them, green with life and teeming with birds, the hills gradually flattened (p. 69)

people in colorful cloaks and puffy dresses and green pants and silky shirts and feathered caps and every other kind of clothing imaginable (p. 86)

Christina’s green eyes (p. 87)

Her green frock fluttered in the wind (p. 98)

What qualities or emotions do you think the author is highlighting? Read more about the symbolic use of color in literature.