

Name _____

Using Context Clues with Literature



DIRECTIONS: The passage below is from the novel *Dracula* by Bram Stoker. In it, the Count is speaking to the narrator about his house. Read the passage, paying special attention to the underlined words. If needed, use a dictionary for help.

“I am glad that it is old and big. I myself am of an old family, and to live in a new house would kill me. A house cannot be made habitable in a day; and, after all, how few days go to make up a century. I rejoice also that there is a chapel of old times. We Transylvanian nobles love not to think that our bones may lie amongst the common dead. I seek not gaiety nor mirth, not the bright voluptuousness of much sunshine and sparkling waters which please the young and gay. I am no longer young; and my heart, through weary years of mourning over the dead, is not attuned to mirth. Moreover, the walls of my castle are broken; the shadows are many, and the wind breathes cold through the broken battlements and casements. I love the shade and the shadow, and would be alone with my thoughts when I may.”

Somehow his words and his look did not seem to accord, or else it was that his cast of face made his smile look malignant and saturnine.

Fill in the chart below.

Word	Part of Speech	What do you think it means?	What were your clues?
gaiety			
mirth			
voluptuousness			
attuned			
battlements			
casement			
malignant			
saturnine			