

Name _____

LA Period _____

Date _____

Vocabulary Activity

“The Cremation of Sam McGee”

DIRECTIONS: The following vocabulary words can be found in the poem. Write each term next to its closest definition. After the definition, you will find a quote from the poem to show the word in context, which will help with decoding its meaning (hint: rhyming clues can help you, too).

brawn	heed	mushing	raved	seldom	whimper
cremate	loathed	parka	roam	trice	
grisly	moil	queer	scowled	ventured	

- _____ inspiring horror and disgust; *“I do not know how long in the snow I wrestled with ___ fear”*
- _____ to talk wildly as if crazy; *“He crouched on the sleigh, and he ___ all day of his home in Tennessee”*
- _____ not done often, rarely; *“The flames just soared, and the furnace roared -- such a blaze you ___ see”*
- _____ low, weak sound expressing fear, pain, or sadness; *“It wasn't much fun, but the only one to ___ was Sam McGee”*
- _____ strongly disliked; *“In the days to come, though my lips were dumb, in my heart how I cursed that load...how I ___ that thing.”*
- _____ to work hard, especially during times of great difficulty; *“There are strange things done in the midnight sun, by the men who ___ for gold.”*
- _____ to move around from place to place without a plan; *“Why he left his home in the South to ___ 'round the Pole, God only knows”*
- _____ oddly unlike the usual or normal, strange and unnatural; *“The Northern Lights have seen ___ sights”*
- _____ to burn a dead body until it is reduced to ashes; *“So I want you to swear that, foul or fair, you'll ___ my last remains.”*
- _____ the act of traveling across snow on a sled pulled by dogs; *“On a Christmas Day we were ___ our way over the Dawson trail.”*
- _____ to have faced the risks and dangers of something; *“But the stars came out and they danced about ere again I ___ near;”*
- _____ great strength; *“You may tax your ___ and brains, but you promised true, and it's up to you to cremate these last remains.”*
- _____ a brief space of time; *“It was jammed in the ice, but I saw in a ___ it was called the Alice May.”*
- _____ a coat worn in cold, snowy conditions; *“Talk of your cold! through the ___ 's fold it stabbed like a driven nail.”*
- _____ to listen to and take seriously; *“A pal's last need is a thing to ___, so I swore I would not fail.”*
- _____ to have made a frowning face of displeasure or unhappiness; *“And the heavens ___, and the huskies howled, and the wind began to blow.”*