Lesson 1

caviar

fish eggs; an expensive and rare food considered a special treat

decent

acceptable or good enough

leer

unpleasant look

dialogue

words or sentences spoken by a character in a poem, play or story

excerpt

small part of a longer work

infer

to reach a reasonable conclusion based on evidence

line

basic unit of a poem

stanza

section of a poem; consists of a line or a group of lines

stanza break

blank space dividing two stanzas from each other

Lesson 2

aardvark

small mammal native to Africa

crave

to want or wish for

lack

to be without

newt

amphibian found in many parts of the world

steed

horse; usually ridden by an important person or warrior

alliteration

the repetition of sounds at the beginning of several words in order or near each other

dedication

note in or after the title that shows the author wrote the poem for a special person

repetition

saying the same letters, sounds, or words over and over again

slant rhyme

words that share only the final consonant sound

Lesson 3

anticipation

excitement about something before it happens

bankers' lights

desk lamps used by bankers; their green shades were believed to help deflect bright light and reduce strain on the eyes—an important thing for people who spent their day poring over complex numbers

card catelogue

the filing system used by librarians before computers; the card catalogue was a collection of cards that told visitors what books the library had and where to locate them

foyer

an entryway, often leading into another room

preside

rule over or be in charge of

quilt rack

used for hanging quilts and blankets once they are folded

content

the message of a poem or other text

form

the structure or appearance of a poem or other text

free verse

a poem with no rhyme scheme or set pattern of beats

Lesson 4 & 5

defer

to put off or delay

fester

to grow infected

renaissance

a time period when many people are interested in big ideas and in creating art, music and literature

figurative language

words or phrases that mean more than their dictionary definition; similes and metaphors are two examples of figurative language

literal meaning

the dictionary definition of a word

metaphor

comparison that does not use like or as

simile

comparison using the word *like* or *as*

Lesson 6

desperate

hopeless

line break

a place where a line ends

tone

the attitude of a piece of writing expressed through the style of writing and the words the author uses

Lesson 7

beam

a thick piece of wood

blithe

happy and untroubled

intermission

a break in the middle of something, usually a performance

mason

someone who builds things with stone

melodious

pleasant sounding

robust

healthy and strong

varied

different from each other or diverse

Lesson 8-11

stall

a room in a stable assigned to an animal or animals

waltz

a kind of dance

anaphora

the repetition of words at the start of a series of lines in a poem

plume

a feather, either on a bird or decoratively on a woman's hat

extended metaphor

a metaphor that continues for more than one sentence of a story or more than one line in a poem

| | Lesson 12 & 13 |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| defiance | disobedience, not obeying |
| ease | a feeling of comfort or relaxation |
| fraud | a dishonest action |
| lusty | healthy and strong |
| melancholy | sadness |
| multitude | a large group |
| patrons | people who support something; fans |
| stern | strict or harsh |
| stricken | upset |

a face or the expression on it

visage

Lesson 12 & 13

hyperbole

an exaggerated statement not meant to be taken literally; for example, "I've been waiting forever" uses hyperbole to state that the speaker has waited a long time.

quatrain

a four-line stanza