

## Words and Explanations

**deference** (DEHF uhr uhns) When you show deference, you act in a way that shows a deep respect for someone or something.

**epitome** (ih PIHT uh mee) The epitome of something is the best example or model of it.

**grueling** (GROOL ihng) A grueling experience is so difficult it exhausts you.

**hierarchy** (HY uh RAHR kee) A hierarchy is a way of ranking group members based on their importance.

**integral** (IHN tuh gruhl) Something that is an integral part of something else is absolutely necessary for it to work.

**mainstay** (MAYN STAY) A mainstay is the most important part of something, the part that supports everything else.

**odyssey** (OD uh see) An odyssey is a long, eventful journey.

**pan** (pan) If you pan an area, you look slowly across it from side to side.

**regale** (rih GAYL) If you regale someone, you entertain him or her with stories.

**scour** (skowr) When you scour something, you scrub it in order to clean it.

*“A new word is like a fresh seed sown on the ground of discussion.”*

—Ludwig Wittgenstein