

Vocabulary

Learning new vocabulary is a crucial part of the reading experience. Helping your students to comprehend the words they come across while reading leads to a richer reading experience, as well as increasing their ability to understand complex text.

Common Core Standards Correlations for Vocabulary Activities

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.4 Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.10 Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.3 Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.5 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.6 Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.

Ashfall – Chapter 1 vocabulary

Legion – “The topics were *legion*: my poor study habits, my video games, my underwear on the bathroom floor – whatever.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/legion?s=t>

Malodorous – “When she announced this *malodorous* plan, over dinner on Wednesday, my bratty little sister, Rebecca, almost bounced out of her chair in delight.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/malodorous>

Benign – “Dad responded with his usual *benign* lack of interest, mumbling something like, ‘Sounds nice, honey.’”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/benign?s=t>

Admonition – “It was a little disappointing to be left without some kind of warning, an *admonition* against wild parties and booze.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/admonition?s=t>

Artillery – “I screamed but couldn’t hear myself over the noise: a boom and then a whistling sound – incoming *artillery* from a war movie, but played in reverse.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/artillery?s=t>

Malevolent – “If I were the star in one of those, I suppose I would have jumped up, thrown the desk aside, and leapt to battle whatever *malevolent* god had struck my house.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/malevolent?s=t>

Joist – “When I’d wormed my way fully alongside the *joist*, I jammed my head and shoulders up through the broken ceiling into what used to be the unfinished attic above my room.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/joist?s=t>

Scuttled – “Keeping my head low to avoid the worst of the smoke, I *scuttled* down the hallway to the staircase.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/scuttled?s=t>

Vile – “Sweat had drenched my T-shirt and jeans, mixing with plaster dust, insulation, and smoke to form a *vile* gray-white sludge that coated my body.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/vile?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 2 vocabulary

Impulsively – “I’d taken off *impulsively*, needing to do something – anything – instead of jawing with Darren while my house burned down.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/impulsively?s=t>

Aerate – “We’re going to *aerate* some walls and do a little salvage work.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/aerate?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 3 vocabulary

Inexhaustible – “It went on and on, machine-gun style, as if Zeus had loaded his bolts into an M60 with an *inexhaustible* ammo crate.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/inexhaustible?s=t>

Pantomimed – “He *pantomimed* tearing off bits of toilet paper and stuffing them in his ears.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/pantomimed?s=t>

Defibrillator – “But I heard a new sound: my ears ringing, like that annoying high-pitched whine a *defibrillator* makes when a patient is flatlining on TV.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/defibrillator?s=t>

Appreciably – “When Joe closed the door, the noise diminished *appreciably*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/appreciably?s=t>

Tolerable – “Maybe we’d be better off outside, in the open, but the explosive noise was barely *tolerable* even now, in an interior room.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/tolerable?s=t>

Gingerly – “He stepped out *gingerly*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/gingerly?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 4 vocabulary

Muntins – “Little drifts of dust clung to the *muntins* dividing the window panes.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/muntins?s=t>

Sloughed – “I tapped the glass, and a bunch of stuff sloughed off and drifted down, joining the main flow raining down unceasingly.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sloughed?s=t>

Precursor – “The radio said that was either a *precursor* or trigger for the eruption.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/precursor?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 6 vocabulary

Speculation – “That made the current round of explosions a little better than yesterday’s, when the boredom and terror were compounded by wild *speculation*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/speculation?s=t>

Aural – “It sounded puny and hollow after the *aural* bombardment we’d just endured.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/aural?s=t>

Sulfurous – “I took a deep breath, which was a mistake, earning me a mouthful of *sulfurous* grit.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sulfurous?s=t>

Slogged – “I followed him, and we *slogged* around to the side of the house in the direction the noise had come from, while Darren waiting on the porch.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/slogged?s=ts>

Ashfall – Chapter 7 vocabulary

Loginess – “I stood and tried to shake the postnap *loginess* out of my brain.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/loginess?s=t>

Fecal – “My nostrils filled with the copper tang of blood blended with a faint *fecal* stink.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/fecal?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 8 vocabulary

Contorted – “I doubted I could ever look at him again without seeing that rage-*contorted* face.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/contorted?s=t>

Abrading – “The ash had permeated my socks and was *abrading* my skin.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/abrading?s=t>

Oppressive – “Under the *oppressive* smell of sulfur, I caught a hint of my mom – a faint whiff of the Light Blue perfume we bought her every year for Mother’s Day.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/oppressive?s=t>

Benevolent – “Without Dad’s *benevolent* disinterest.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/benevolent?s=ts>

Ashfall – Chapter 9 vocabulary

Nunchucks – “I planned to pick up my competition sword and ssahng jeol bong (*nunchucks*, but I prefer the Korean words).”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/nunchucks?s=t>

Opaque – “The car’s back windows were intact and *opaque*, caked with ash.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/opaque?s=t>

Detritus – “I picked through the *detritus* on the practice floor.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/detritus?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 10 vocabulary

Degenerate – “I’d been shocked to see Cedar Falls *degenerate* into looting and violence, but here I was with my forearm crushing a little girls’ throat, a little girl who only wanted something to eat.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/degenerate?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 11 vocabulary

Unabated – “Oddly enough, the lightning and thunder continued *unabated*, even without any rain.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/unabated?s=t>

Porte-cochere – “Laura led us to the side door of the church, protected by a steep-roofed *porte-cochere*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/porte+cochere?s=t>

Pestilence – “A fourth of the earth shall be given over to famine and *pestilence*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/pestilence?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 12 vocabulary

Tendrils – “Tendrils of grease floated in the soup.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/tendrils?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 13 vocabulary

Protruded – “There was a chain-link fence around the house, but the ash was so deep that only a foot of it protruded.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/protruded?s=t>

Galvanized – “In the bathroom, a sink held a sponge and a *galvanized* metal pail.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/galvanized?s=t>

Maudlin – “Now don’t be getting *maudlin*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/maudlin?s=t>

Monotone – “Instead, there was a little brightening on the eastern horizon of the black, *monotone* sky.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/monotone?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 14 vocabulary

Vengeance – “Now it returned with a *vengeance*, although after that horrible night in the Jacuzzi back at Joe and Darren’s, even loud thunder sounded puny.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/vengeance?s=t>

Omnipresent – “It smelled okay: the *omnipresent* sulfur stench and a hint of stale French fries.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/omnipresent?s=t>

Resin – “There was a sharp, welcome odor of pine *resin* almost strong enough to cover the pervasive stench of sulfur.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/resin?s=t>

Pervasive – “There was a sharp, welcome odor of pine resin almost strong enough to cover the *pervasive* stench of sulfur.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/pervasive?s=t>

Sparser – “The ashfall was *sparser*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sparser?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 16 vocabulary

Relented – “I was in my no-religion phase, as Mom called it, and didn’t really want to get sucked back into St. John’s, but eventually I *relented* and said fine, I’ll fast for two days.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/relented?s=t>

Haunch – “A *haunch* of meat was roasting over the fire.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/haunch?s=t>

Stropped – “He *stropped* the edge of his hand-ax on the leather belt for a minute.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/stropped?s=t>

Momentum – “That saved my neck, but the *momentum* of his blow was such that it slid down off my elbow, and the blade thunked into my right side just below my armpit.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/momentum?s=t>

Falsetto – “Target screamed and screamed in an eerie *falsetto*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/falsetto?s=t>

Laboriously – “The hope of finding shelter convinced me to push *laboriously* up from the valleys.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/laboriously?s=t>

Palpitating – “As my legs dragged, my heart beat faster until I could feel it *palpitating* in my chest.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/palpitating?s=t>

Traversed – “I *traversed* four, maybe five hills this way.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/traversed?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 17 vocabulary

Addlepat – “A strange angel, my *addlepat* brain thought.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/addlepat?s=t>

Ambrosia – “Warm water, but I was so thirsty that pure *ambrosia* wouldn’t have tasted better.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/ambrosia?s=ts>

Ashfall – Chapter 19 vocabulary

Polysyllabic – “Never mind full sentences, even *polysyllabic* words were beyond me when I was half asleep.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/polysyllabic?&o=100074&s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 20 vocabulary

Stifling – “The sky looked sort of like a faded yellow twilight; not a hint of blue or cloud was visible, only a *stifling* blanket of yellow haze.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/stifling?s=t>

Frenetic – “I couldn’t shovel nearly as fast as Mrs. Edmunds, let alone match Darla’s *frenetic* pace.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/frenetic?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 21 vocabulary

Offal – “Would you bury the stuff in the *offal* bucket?”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/offal?s=t>

Ironic – “The warmth of her hand sent an *ironic* shiver racing up my arm.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/ironic?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 24 vocabulary

Inevitable – “I blushed, hoping the *inevitable* layer of ash on my face hid it.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/inevitable?s=t>

Admonished – “Mrs. Edmunds hugged Darla, kissed her on the cheek, and *admonished* her to be careful and look after me.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/admonished?s=t>

Ersatz – “I would have given anything to have her in my embrace now, instead of this wonderful *ersatz* mother who had adopted me.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/ersatz?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 25 vocabulary

Granary – “We passed the *granary* and then a couple of large metal commercial buildings that had been squashed by the ash.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/granary?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 26 vocabulary

Antagonizing – “*Antagonizing* a little old lady holding a shotgun seemed like a very bad idea.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/antagonizing?s=t>

Porous – “Symptoms include high fever, respiratory distress, and unusual *porous* deposits on bones.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/porous?s=t>

Unfounded – “The three of us walked to her house to pick up the skis – apparently the rumor that she was sleeping on a cot in the library was *unfounded*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/unfounded?s=t>

Harbinger – “I hoped it was the volcano’s dying gasp and not a *harbinger* of more trouble to come.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/harbinger?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 27 vocabulary

Whipsawed – “I felt numb, *whipsawed* by adrenaline and shock.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/whipsawed?s=t>

Suppress – “I shrugged, trying to *suppress* the trembling in my shoulders.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/suppress?s=t>

Bile – “I swallowed *bile* and struggled to keep Darla underneath me, hoping my body would block the blast.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/bile?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 28 vocabulary

Marionette – “I felt wooden, like a numb *marionette* that the real Alex could only observe from a distance.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/marionette?s=t>

Catatonic – “Great, like I didn’t have enough problems, now Darla had gone *catatonic* on me.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/catatonic?s=t>

Quern – “I made my way slowly up to the hayloft with one arm wrapped around the *quern* on my shoulder and one hand on the ladder.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/quern?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 29 vocabulary

Lurid – “A *lurid* orange light shone into the loft from the room below.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/lurid?s=t>

Engulfed – “It was completely *engulfed* in flames.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/engulfed?s=t>

Roiling – “Maybe she was looking at the *roiling* brown smoke rising from the fire, searching for her mother’s face in the ever-shifting *doppelganger* cloud.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/roiling?s=t>

Doppelganger – “Maybe she was looking at the roiling brown smoke rising from the fire, searching for her mother’s face in the ever-shifting *doppelganger* cloud.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/doppelgangers>

Pallor – “I couldn’t remember a bit of it, only the waxy *pallor* of his skin in the casket during the viewing and the way his dead hand felt – cold and plastic, nothing like real skin.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/pallor?s=t>

Pyre – “We stood there a long time, warmed by the dying embers of Mrs. Edmunds’ funeral *pyre*, the rabbit squirming between us.

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/pyre?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 30 vocabulary

Excruciatingly – “It was *excruciatingly* slow.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/excruciatingly?s=t>

Ramparts – “There were *ramparts* of ash around it where someone had shoveled off the roof.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/ramparts?s=t>

Engrossed – “The woman was completely *engrossed* in a piece of paper that had Duty Schedule printed in block letters across the top.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/engrossed?s=t>

Porridge – “Dinner that night was thin corn *porridge*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/porridge?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 31 vocabulary

Sullenly – “She eyed me *sullenly*, scratching behind the rabbit’s ears.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sullenly?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 32 vocabulary

Precariously – “The whole back section and roof had collapsed, pulling the front wall backward so it leaned *precariously* at about a sixty-degree angle.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/precariously?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 33 vocabulary

Searing – “Not with the *searing* flame of a fire or the boom of a shotgun, but trapped in the frigid embrace of this riverbed, dark and silent.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/searing?s=t>

Abutment – “The buttons popped free, one of them pinging off the concrete bridge *abutment*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/abutment?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 34 vocabulary

Abated – “If the blizzard *abated*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/abated?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 35 vocabulary

Putrid – “There was a vaguely unpleasant smell, a hint of something *putrid* lingering on the knife-edge of the frozen air.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/putrid?s=t>

Sanguinary – “He looked almost normal – peaceful, even – except for the gun clutched in his right hand and the huge black stain wreathing his head in a *sanguinary* halo.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sanguinary?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 37 vocabulary

Cower – “She’d quit yelling, but now she was growling – a low, gravelly noise that would have made a pit bull *cower*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/cower?s=t>

Acrid – “The fire gave off an *acrid*, chemical reek at first.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/acrid?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 38 vocabulary

Impromptu – “I’d been getting way too much practice at leading *impromptu* funerals.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/impromptu?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 40 vocabulary

Abattoir – Inside, the candlelight revealed an *abattoir*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/abattoir?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 41 vocabulary

Maws – The storefronts gaped like monstrous *maws*, shards of glass in their smashed windows forming transparent teeth.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/maws?s=t>

Marred – “Nobody had been here for at least five days – no tracks *marred* the snow.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/marred?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 42 vocabulary

Berms – “Tall *berms* of snow and ash flanked the highway.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/berms?s=ts>

Dually – “It was a six-wheeled army *dually* with a cloth cover over its load bed, like a modern version of the Conestoga wagon.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/dually?s=t>

Incarceration – “Under the terms of the Federal Emergency Relief and Restoration of Order Act, you are subject to military rules of *incarceration* and must obey all orders given by camp personnel.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/incarceration?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 44 vocabulary

Condescending – “He gave me a *condescending* look and started talking more slowly.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/condescending?s=t>

Surreptitiously – “Yeah,’ I replied, munching *surreptitiously* on my almonds.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/surreptitiously?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 45 vocabulary

Pate – “His face was a little droopy, as if he’d lost a lot of weight recently, and he had a neatly trimmed fringe of hair around his otherwise bald *pate*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/pate?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 46 vocabulary

Furtively – “We ate them fast and *furtively*, huddled against the fence.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/furtively?s=t>

Waif – “I thought about waking the tent boss – surely we could find a corner to accommodate this *waif*, but before I’d made up my mind, the kid ran away.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/WAIF?s=t>

Sauntered – “Some of the backed away from me slowly, some *sauntered* off, but most ran.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sauntered?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 49 vocabulary

Minuet – “The lines danced as I watched, merging and doubling, doing a slow, repetitive *minuet* that told me I literally wasn’t seeing straight.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/minuet?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 50 vocabulary

Maladies – “I was tired, sore, and starving, but despite my *maladies*, I laughed.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/maladies?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 51 vocabulary

Mired – “The first Humvee was *mired* in the creek.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/mired?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 52 vocabulary

Fugue – “I dragged my feet along in a *fugue* state, not thinking anything, trying not to feel anything: right foot, left foot, right foot, left foot.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/fugue?s=t>

Traversed – “We’d *traversed* maybe half the driveway when we heard a faint noise from inside the house.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/traversed?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 53 vocabulary

Sublimely – “It was *sublimely* soft, made up with old cotton sheets conditioned by hundreds of washings to near perfect comfort.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sublimely?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 54 vocabulary

Retorts – “Several *retorts* occurred to me, but none of them would have helped my case.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/retorts?s=t>

Duress – “He saw me as the quiet, angry kid who used to visit his farm under *duress*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/duress?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 55 vocabulary

Futile – “It all seemed a bit *futile*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/futile?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 57 vocabulary

Terse – “I wasn’t trying to be *terse*.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/terse?s=t>

Braggadocio – “Maybe it would have if I’d still been at Cedar Falls High surrounded by the gossip and *braggadocio* of teenage boys.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/braggadocio?s=t>

Ashfall – Chapter 58 vocabulary

Excised – We hoped they’d survive if we *excised* the frozen parts.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/excised?s=t>

Amid – “Rebecca was there, too, reaching up to grab him, but he fell through our arms and landed with a thud *amid* the kale.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/amid?s=t>

Corrugated – “The guy on the exam table had a face *corrugated* by age and was wearing an old-fashioned Elmer Fudd hat with earflaps.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/corrugated?s=t>

Livid – “*Livid* bruises blotched his leg around the break, and it was grotesquely lumpy, but there was no blood.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/livid?s=t>

Rictus – “His face turned into a flaming *rictus* mask of pain.”

Definition: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/rictus?s=t>