

## **Vocabulary and Terms “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard”**

**knell** -the sound of a bell rung slowly to announce a death or a funeral or the end of something

**lea** -a field covered with grass or herbage and suitable for grazing by livestock

**plod** -walk heavily and firmly, as when weary, or through mud

**low** -less than normal in degree or intensity or amount

**lull** -make calm or still

**bower** -a framework that supports climbing plants

**molder** -break down

**yew** -any of numerous evergreen trees or shrubs having red cup-shaped berries and flattened needlelike leaves

**rude** -belonging to an early stage of technical development; characterized by simplicity and (often) crudeness

**hamlet** -a community of people smaller than a village

**clarion** -loud and clear

**hearth** -an open recess in a wall at the base of a chimney where a fire can be built

**sire** -male parent of an animal especially a domestic animal such as a horse

**oft** -many times at short intervals

**furrow** -a long shallow trench in the ground (especially one made by a plow)

**glebe** -plot of land belonging to an English parish church or an ecclesiastical office

**jocund** -full of or showing high-spirited merriment

**grandeur** -the quality of being magnificent or splendid or grand

**annals** -a chronological account of events in successive years

**heraldry** -emblem indicating the right of a person to bear arms

**pomp** -cheap or pretentious or vain display

**impute** -attribute or credit to

**fretted** -having frets

**urn** -a large vase that usually has a pedestal or feet

**celestial** -relating to or inhabiting a divine heaven

**lyre** -a harp used by ancient Greeks for accompaniment

**ample** -more than enough in size or scope or capacity

**penury** -a state of extreme poverty or destitution

**genial** -diffusing warmth and friendliness

**serene** -not agitated; without losing self-possession

**dauntless** -invulnerable to fear or intimidation

**Milton** -English poet; remembered primarily as the author of an epic poem describing humanity's fall from grace (1608-1674)

**Cromwell** -English general and statesman who led the parliamentary army in the English Civil War (1599-1658)

**circumscribe** -to draw a geometric figure around another figure so that the two are in contact but do not intersect

**pang** -a sudden sharp feeling

**ingenuous** -lacking in sophistication or worldliness

**Muse** -in ancient Greek mythology any of 9 daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne; protector of an art or science

**ignoble** -completely lacking nobility in character or quality or purpose

**sequestered** -kept separate and secluded

**tenor** -the adult male singing voice above baritone

**nigh** -near in time or place or relationship

**uncouth** -lacking refinement or cultivation or taste

**implore** -call upon in supplication; entreat

**elegy** -a mournful poem; a lament for the dead

**strew** -spread by scattering ("straw" is archaic)

**precinct** -a district of a city or town marked out for administrative purposes

**pious** -having or showing or expressing reverence for a deity

**wonted** -commonly used or practiced; usual

**kindred** -group of people related by blood or marriage

**haply** -by accident

**hoary** -showing characteristics of age, especially having grey or white hair

**swain** -a man who is the lover of a girl or young woman

**noontide** -the middle of the day

**pore** -any tiny hole admitting passage of a liquid (fluid or gas)

**yon** -distant but within sight ('yon' is dialectal)

**rove** -move about aimlessly or without any destination, often in search of food or employment

**wan** -abnormally deficient in color as suggesting physical or emotional distress

**forlorn** -marked by or showing hopelessness

**rill** -a small stream

**dirge** -a song or hymn of mourning composed or performed as a memorial to a dead person

**lay** -put into a certain place or abstract location

**epitaph** -an inscription on a tombstone or monument in memory of the person buried there

**recompense** -make payment to; compensate

**abode** -any address at which you dwell more than temporarily

**bosom** -either of two soft fleshy milk-secreting glandular organs on the chest of a woman