

Name: _____

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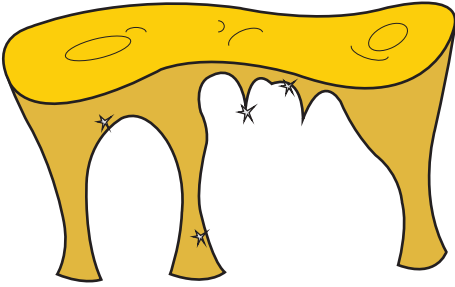
Answers

Vocabulary Practice: Using Context

Adapted excerpt from

The Golden Dream

By R.M. Ballantyne



Ned stood in the center of a cavern of **vast** dimensions—so vast, and so full of intense light, that instead of looking on it as a huge cave, he felt inclined to regard it as a small world. The sides of this cavern were made of pure gold, and the roof—far above his head—was **spangled** all over with glittering points, like a starry sky. The ground,

too, and, in fact, everything within the cave, was made of the same precious metal.

Thousands of **stalactites** hung from the roof like golden icicles. Millions of delicate threads of the same material also hung down from the star-spangled vault, each thread having a golden ball at the end of it, which, strange to say, was transparent, and **permitted** a bright flame within to shine through, and shed a yellow lustre over surrounding objects. All the edges, and angles, and points of the irregularly-formed walls were of burnished gold, which reflected the rays of these pendant lamps with dazzling brilliancy, while the broad masses of the frosted walls shone with **subdued** light. Magnificent curtains of golden filigree fell in rich voluminous folds on the pavement, half **concealing** several archways which led into smaller caverns, similar to the large one. Altogether it was a scene of **luxurious** richness and splendor that is utterly indescribable.

Read the text above. Then, use the context clues to match each vocabulary word to its definition

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| vast | cone-shaped structures hanging from the roof of a cave |
| spangled | soft and dim |
| stalactites | immense or huge |
| permitted | extremely elegant and grand |
| subdued | keeping from sight; hiding |
| concealing | allowed or enabled |
| luxurious | covered with small sparkling objects |