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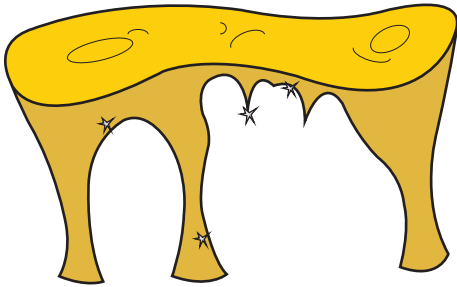
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# Vocabulary Practice: Using Context

*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.

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

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