

VOCABULARY: CONTEXT

Using the **context** of the sentence, write--in your own words-- a short definition for the underlined words. Then, identify the parts of the essay that help you determine the definition.

1. Then a strange **blight** crept over the area and everything began to change. Some evil spell had settled on the community:...
2. ...mysterious **maladies** swept the flocks of chickens; the cattle and sheep sickened and died.
3. The few birds seen anywhere were **moribund**; they trembled violently and could not fly.
4. A grim **specter** has crept upon us almost unnoticed, and this imagined tragedy may easily become a stark reality we all shall know.