

# Using a Thesaurus

The **thesaurus** is a reference book that gives synonyms for each word that it lists. Each synonym has a slightly different meaning. For example, the thesaurus lists many synonyms for *trifle*, including *bit*, *dash*, *hint*, *knickknack*, and *bauble*. Of these synonyms, *bit* best matches the meaning of *trifle* in the sentence below, from "A Mother in Manville."

I was a *trifle* abstracted about the boy, because of my work and plans.

**Use a Thesaurus** Read the sentences below. In a thesaurus, look up each underlined word from "A Mother in Manville." Select a synonym to replace each word. Make sure that the meaning of each sentence stays the same.

1. The teenager's integrity would not allow her to take money that she had not earned.

Synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Ice sparkled dazzlingly, yet treacherously, on the seldom-traveled road.

Synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

3. The artist's paintings were suffused with deep colors; each canvas was filled with bright hues.

Synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

4. The executives of the Dickinson Foundation worked hard to raise money for college scholarships.

Synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

5. The author almost wept when he found his manuscript, which had been mangled along with old financial records, in the paper shredder.

Synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Though Regina was new to the school, several of her acquaintances invited her to join the soccer team.

Synonym: \_\_\_\_\_