

## Kenya Vocabulary Day 3

### New Words:

vehemence            tremulous            obstinate            enigmatic            beseech

### *Walking in Waiyaki's Shoes*

What could be worse than bearing the burden of being named the savior of your people? How about being unsure whether you're the savior or not?! Poor Waiyaki. It seems far, far worse to have an **enigmatic** prophecy than a clear one. Wouldn't you have **beseeched** Chege to tell you whether the prophecy was referring to you or not? If Chege had **obstinately** refused, you could have stubbornly kept asking until he finally broke down and told you. If the prophecy had indeed meant you, you would have the backing of the all your people. You'd have the courage to speak out with **vehemence** in support of your ideas. In your powerful presence, the voices of your enemies would become **tremulous** and weak. And, even if the prophecy had meant someone else, you would gain courage and strength from the hope that another savior would soon come. As Pascal once said, "Clarity of the mind means clarity of passion, too."

**Sample sentences:** Try your hand now at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. With a \_\_\_\_\_ voice, Makesha timidly told her son that she felt worried about him.
2. She drove off and I was left there, dumbfounded. I knew that one day I'd grasp how I'd grown from going through all this, but in the moment, the lessons were completely \_\_\_\_\_ to me.
3. "Please, please, please can we keep him???" Derek and Josie \_\_\_\_\_ their parents imploringly. "We promise we'll take good care of him and take him on walks every day!"
4. The preacher spoke passionately and with great \_\_\_\_\_ about what would happen to the members of his congregation if they indulged in sinful behavior at the dance that weekend.
5. My sister can be so \_\_\_\_\_ against being told what to do that, rather than simply cleaning her room when my parents ask her to, she will choose to complain about the smell and how she can't find anything!

**Definitions:** Match the new words with their dictionary meanings.

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 6. vehemence _____ | a. stubborn: tenaciously unwilling or marked by tenacious unwillingness to yield |
| 7. tremulous _____ | b. not clear to the understanding  |
| 8. obstinate _____ | c. intensity or forcefulness of expression                                       |
| 9. enigmatic _____ | d. to ask for or request earnestly   |
| 10. beseech _____  | e. quavering: (of the voice) quivering as from weakness or fear                  |

**Today's Homophones** - Please write two sentences for each homophone using the word correctly.

**Sight** – an instance of visual perception

**Cite** – mention, make reference to, quote or refer to

**Site** – the piece of land on which something is located

**Kenya Vocabulary  
Day 4**

**New Words:**

beset                      augur                      renounce                      depose                      alienate

***Nayambura***

She knew it was a bad omen at the time, but how could Nayambura have known that Muthoni dropping her water barrel would **augur** such horrible consequences for her sister, heartbreak for her family, trouble between the ridges, and conflict among her people? If you were in her shoes what would you do? Would you choose to stand by your father and your religion or would you **renounce** them and return to traditional customs? Both paths seem heavily **beset** with tough choices and very real dangers. If you remain Christian and the Gikuyu people attempt to **depose** the missionaries, who now have the most power in the region, you will mostly likely become a target of attack. If you choose tradition, you will **alienate** yourself from the only family you have left and will have to face the initiation ceremony that was directly involved in your sister's death.

**Sample sentences:** Try your hand now at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. My brother is continually \_\_\_\_\_ romance, but it never lasts. It seems like as just as soon as he's finished saying, "I want to die old and alone!" he has a crush on someone new.
2. The road was \_\_\_\_\_ with trouble; it seemed at every turn we encountered a new obstacle.
3. In the movie *Mean Girls*, Cady Heron, a new girl in school, uses all sorts of mean tactics to try to \_\_\_\_\_ Regina George, the reigning "popular girl" and leader of "The Plastics."
4. The woman looked down at the tarot cards on the table and sighed ominously. "This card," she finally said, pointing to one depicting a stormy sea, "\_\_\_\_\_ troubled times ahead."
5. Some people say that the reason Van Gogh only sold one painting during his lifetime was because his rude behavior \_\_\_\_\_ so many possible friends and customers.

**Definitions:** Match the new words with their dictionary meanings.

- |              |       |  |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 6. beset     | _____ | a. to serve as an omen of; foretell                          |
| 7. augur     | _____ | b. to remove from office or power                            |
| 8. renounce  | _____ | c. to cause to become unfriendly or hostile; estrange        |
| 9. depose    | _____ | d. to reject; disown   |
| 10. alienate | _____ | e. to attack from all sides; to trouble persistently; harass |

**Today's Homophone -** Please write two sentences for each homophone using the word correctly.

Aloud – using the voice

Allowed – permitted