

## Word Biographies Answer Key

### Sample Responses

1. **Lugubrious** - Meaning: Mournful or gloomy, especially in an exaggerated way. | Origin: Latin *lugere* ("to mourn"). | Part of Speech: Adjective | Usage: Describes tone or mood. | Sample: The movie's **lugubrious** soundtrack set a somber tone from the very first scene.
2. **Ephemeral** - Meaning: Lasting for a very short time. | Origin: Greek *ephemeros* ("lasting only a day"). | Part of Speech: Adjective | Usage: Used to describe fleeting beauty or brief moments. | Sample: The rainbow's beauty was **ephemeral**, vanishing as the rain stopped.
3. **Sagacious** - Meaning: Wise or shrewd; showing good judgment. | Origin: Latin *sagax* ("keen to perceive"). | Part of Speech: Adjective | Usage: Often describes people or decisions guided by wisdom. | Sample: Her **sagacious** advice helped the team avoid disaster.

### Teacher's Guide

- **Purpose:** Strengthens students' understanding of **rare and academic vocabulary** by combining etymology, meaning, and creative application.
- **Teaching Tips:**
  - Model how to research word origins using reputable dictionaries or etymology sources.
  - Encourage students to read their favorite profiles aloud to hear how words "sound alive" in context.
- **Differentiation:**
  - *Support:* Provide etymology stems or pre-filled word meanings for students to expand upon.
  - *Challenge:* Ask advanced learners to include related forms (noun/adverb versions) or synonyms.
- **Engagement Idea:** Turn the activity into a "Word Museum." Each student posts their profiles on a wall, and classmates "tour" the exhibit to discover new words.
- **Extension Activity:** Have students select one word from their profile and write a short poem, speech, or paragraph centered around it, highlighting its meaning through tone and imagery.