ELA 10: Vocabulary –“The Tell-Tale Heart” /18 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean on the lines provided.

1. It is impossible to say how first the idea entered my brain; but once conceived, it haunted me day and night.
2. You should have seen how wisely I proceeded with what caution--with what foresight--with what dissimulation I went to work!
3. ...it was not the old man who vexed me, but his Evil Eye.
4. ...I felt the extent of my own powers--of my sagacity.
5. He was still sitting up in the bed listening;--just as I have done, night after night, hearkening to the death watches in the wall.
6. And it was the mournful influence of the unperceived shadow that caused him to feel...the presence of my head within the room.
7. And now have I not told you that what you mistake for madness is but over-acuteness of the senses?
8. ...I myself, in the wild audacity of my perfect triumph, I placed my own seat upon the very spot beneath which reposed the corpse of the victim.
9. ...they were making a mockery of my horror!...Anything was more tolerable than this derision!

Part II: Determining the Meaning -- Match the vocabulary words to their definitions.

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| \_\_\_ 1. conceived  \_\_\_ 2. Dissimulation  \_\_\_ 3. vexed  \_\_\_ 4. Sagacity   \_\_\_ 5. Hearkening  \_\_\_ 6. Unperceived  \_\_\_ 7. acuteness  \_\_\_ 8. Audacity   \_\_\_ 9. derision | A. The quality of being discerning, sound in judgment  B. Boldness; daring  C. Scoffing; ridicule   D. To form or develop in the mind; devise  E. Reacting readily to impressions; sensitive  F. Concealing one's true feelings or intentions  G. To bring distress or suffering to; plague or afflict  H. Unnoticed  I. Listening |