

from A VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN

COPY MASTER

Vocabulary Study

WORDS IN CONTEXT

Directions: As your teacher reads each sentence, listen for the boldfaced word. Discuss possible meanings of the word, and write on the chart what you think the word means. After reading “A Vindication of the Rights of Woman,” confirm or adjust your predictions.

1. In her classic essay, Mary Wollstonecraft argues for a full **vindication** of women’s rights, hoping that her logic will successfully justify a change.
2. She points out that men have several **prerogatives** that women do not; some of these advantages may be natural, but many are based on social conditioning.
3. A society dominated by men tends to **inculcate** certain ideas about women, but she disagrees with these teachings.
4. Wollstonecraft claims that passions like love are **evanescent**, fading away over time.
5. She urges women not to **feign** weakness in an attempt to appeal to men; indeed, she points out the danger of such deception.

Vocabulary Word	Predicted Meaning	Meaning in Selection
1. vindication		
2. prerogative		
3. inculcate		
4. evanescent		
5. feign		