

# Vocabulary Study

## WORDS IN CONTEXT

**Directions:** As your teacher reads each item, listen for the boldfaced word. Discuss possible meanings of the word, and write on the chart what you think the word means. After reading “The Darling,” confirm or adjust your definitions.

1. Olga gazed **apathetically** around her home, feeling no interest in anything she saw.
2. Smirnin’s wife was a **capricious** woman, who was likely to change her mind at any moment.
3. Her **inscrutable** expression made it difficult to guess what she was thinking.
4. Having had little experience, Olga was **naive** when it came to business matters.
5. The **ominous** knocking at the door warned Olga that bad news was coming.
6. Olga and her husband **prostrated** themselves before the holy figures, praying for good fortune.
7. People who saw how much time Olga and Smirnin spent together **surmised** that they cared for each other.
8. The man’s **unctuous** manner made people doubt the sincerity of his compliments.

Vocabulary Word	Predicted Meaning	Meaning in Selection
1. apathetically		
2. capricious		
3. inscrutable		
4. naive		
5. ominous		
6. prostrate		
7. surmise		
8. unctuous		