1. **coma (KOH-muh) noun**: A coma is a state of unconsciousness caused by damage to the brain from an injury or sickness. When people are in a coma, their bodies are in a sleeplike state that they cannot wake from; they do not respond to sounds or touch. A coma can last for hours, days, weeks, or even longer, and some people never wake up from a coma.

2. **feverishly (FEE-vuhr-ish-lee) adverb**: The adjective feverish can mean “having or showing the symptoms of a fever” or “involving intense emotion or activity.” You might feel feverish if you’re sick. A crowd might be full of feverish excitement.

   If you do something feverishly, you do it quickly and intensely, with great excitement or energy. You might work feverishly to finish an assignment before the bell rings.

3. **frantic (FRAN-tik) adjective**: Frantic means “wild with fear, worry, or extreme emotion” or “done in a hurried, nervous, and wild way.” A frantic bird might fly around your house in a state of panic after flying in through your kitchen window.

4. **glamorize (GLAM-uh-rahyz) verb**: To glamorize something is to make it appear glamorous and more exciting or attractive than it really is. For example, cigarette advertisements glamorize smoking—they make it look like something that young, cool, healthy people do, when in reality, smoking is terrible for your health.

5. **implement (IM-pluh-ment) verb**: To implement something is to put it into effect or practice. A school principal might announce that on Monday, the cafeteria will implement a new system for sorting trash and recycling.

6. **initial (ih-NISH-uhl) adjective**: Initial means “occurring first or at the beginning,” as in, “Once the initial shock wore off, I grew to really like my new haircut,” or “The initial drafts of my essay were much longer than the final version.”
7. **scrutiny (SKROOT-n-ee)** noun; Scrutiny is the act of carefully examining or inspecting something for faults or mistakes. You might check over your answers to a math test with scrutiny, making sure you haven't made any careless errors before handing in the test. If an actor is under scrutiny by the media, his actions are being constantly watched, judged, and reported. (*Scrutiny* is often preceded by the preposition *under*.)

8. **sustain (suh-STAYN)** verb; To sustain something is to support it or keep it going. If you've just started to learn French, you would probably find it hard to sustain a conversation in French for half an hour. If you're hungry, eating a snack might sustain you until lunch. A broken chair might not be able to sustain much weight. *Sustain* can also mean “to suffer, experience, or endure,” as in, “Chris sustained two broken toes in the accident.”

9. **traumatic (truh-MAT-ik)** adjective; Something that is traumatic is so upsetting and shocking that it may lead to serious mental and emotional problems. Witnessing a disaster might be a traumatic experience.

   In medical terms, *traumatic* means “relating to or caused by a serious injury to the body.”

**Directions:** In the space below or on the back of this page, list any other words from the article whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or peers. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence using the word.
Vocabulary Practice

“Deadly Hits”

Directions: Choose the word that is most similar in meaning to each word in bold.

1. initial
   A original
   B final

2. sustain
   A experience
   B avoid

3. frantic
   A upset
   B calm

4. traumatic
   A disturbing
   B pleasant

Directions: Fill in the circle next to the best answer choice.

5. Which news article is about Facebook facing scrutiny?
   A “Six new smiley emojis added to Facebook!”
   B “Facebook under investigation for how it shares its users’ data”

6. Which sentence uses feverishly correctly?
   A The team worked feverishly to complete the obstacle course for the million-dollar prize.
   B I talked to the puppy feverishly to make it feel more at ease.

7. Someone who helps people in comas might work in a ________________.
   A hospital
   B high school

Directions: In each pair of boldfaced words, underline the word that best completes the sentence.

8. Christina made a frantic/traumatic dash for the departing school bus.

9. After making it halfway up the hill, Darren could no longer sustain/glamorize his speed.

10. After being in a coma/scrutiny for three days, Mr. Goldberg woke up and made a full recovery.

11. The show glamorized/sustained the celebrity’s life, leaving out the challenges of being so famous.

12. My parents plan to implement/glamorize my new curfew at the beginning of summer break.