



## Vocabulary/Context Clues SEARCH FOR MEANING...

The following are lines from Kander and Ebb's *Curtains*. Read each line, guess the meaning from context clues. Then look up the word to find a precise definition.

1. "If we lose, the bank's gonna' foreclose on the schoolhouse.

GUESS:

foreclose:

2. "This entire evening was a shambles I don't know what I'm doing in this show!"

GUESS:

shambles:

3. "Oh! What kind of low-down dirty bum?...  
Loathsome as they come?"

GUESS:

loathsome:

4. "Everyone's enemy, critics are hated  
and so excoriated..."

GUESS:

excoriated:

5. "What kind of genius has a mind like that? So perspicacious, wise, and kind like that?"

GUESS:

perspicacious:

6. "She fainted during the bows, when the critics dash out of the theater to dash off their postmortems."

GUESS:

postmortems:

7. "He got such horrendous reviews!"

GUESS:

horrendous:

8. "Is there no limit, I ask you to my unbridled brilliance?"

GUESS:

foreclose:

9. "Nothing to be gleaned by watching one's show with the fraudulent audience of an opening night.  
"And right there in the middle...I had an Epiphany."

GUESS:

epiphany:

10. "And as thespians, I know you would all like to display your sorrow, as both a tribute and as an acting exercise."

GUESS:

thespians:

11. "So it's a good life, a perfectly good life, not exactly sublime."

GUESS:

sublime:

12. "Although he appears with a posture that's pious, his principles hardly are pure."

GUESS:

pious:

13. "Complete anonymity is a critic's best tool."

GUESS:

anonymity:

"Well I think my dance number could be very provocative."

GUESS:

provocative:

"There's already been two murders committed on this stage."  
"Three, if you count the integrity of musical theater."

GUESS:

integrity: