

## Before You Read

### One's Name Is Mud

#### Connect to the Essay

The English language has many expressions that refer to literary characters or people from history.

**Graphic Organizer** Create a chart like the one below. Use a dictionary or online sources to find the meanings of the underlined words in each sentence. Then write the meaning of each sentence.

Sentence	Meaning of words	Meaning of sentence
He added his <u>John Hancock</u> to the petition.		
She has the <u>Midas touch</u> .		

#### Meet Leonard Mann

**Lover of Language** Leonard Mann is a retired minister and the author of many books. "One's Name Is Mud" comes from his book titled *Green-Eyed Monsters & Good Samaritans*, which explores the possible origins of many common expressions. Leonard Mann lives in Lancaster, Ohio.



Literature Online

**Author Search** For more about Leonard Mann, go to [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) and enter QuickPass code GL29763u2.

#### Build Background

This essay discusses events surrounding the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

- John Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln as Lincoln was attending a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C., in 1865.
- A man associated with Booth stabbed Lincoln's secretary of state, William Seward, that same night. Seward lived.

#### Vocabulary

**conspirator** (kən spir' ə tōr) *n.* a person who secretly plans with others to do something evil or illegal (p. 300).

*He was a conspirator in the plan to dump trash into the river.*

**epithet** (ep' ə thet') *n.* a descriptive word or phrase used with or in place of a name (p. 300).

*My friend Sally Gerhard is often laughing, so I use the epithet "Giggling Gerhard" when we are together.*

**integrity** (in teg' rə tē) *n.* honesty; sincerity (p. 300).

*George Washington showed his integrity by admitting to cutting down a cherry tree.*

# Set Purposes for Reading

## **BQ** BIG Question

Read this essay to find out how a common phrase may have come into the English language.

### **Literary Element** Diction

You've learned that **diction** refers to the author's choice and arrangement of words. Authors choose words carefully depending on their purpose for writing. Think about the word *bunny*. The exact meaning of *bunny* is "rabbit." That is its **denotation**. But many people think of a bunny as cute and cuddly. Those are **connotations** of the word *bunny*. An author may use the word *bunny* in order to create a certain feeling in the reader.

Diction, including denotation and connotation, is an important part of writing. Diction creates feelings and images for the reader and helps bring him or her into a selection.

As you read, notice the author's diction. How do certain words make you feel?

### **Reading Strategy** Analyze Text Structure

In **cause-and-effect text structure**, the text is arranged to show the relationship between outcomes and their causes. A cause is a condition or event that makes something happen. What happens as the result of a cause is an effect. Cause-and-effect structures are used often in science, social science, and history books.

Cause and effect is important because it helps you understand the reasons for and the results of events or actions. Remember that one cause may have many effects.

As you read, ask yourself, *why?* What caused that to happen? Then, look for signal words, such as *because*, *so*, and *as a result*. You may find it helpful to use a graphic organizer like the one below. As you read, arrange ideas and events in the boxes and draw arrows to show how one idea or event flows into another.



### Learning Objectives

For pages 297–301

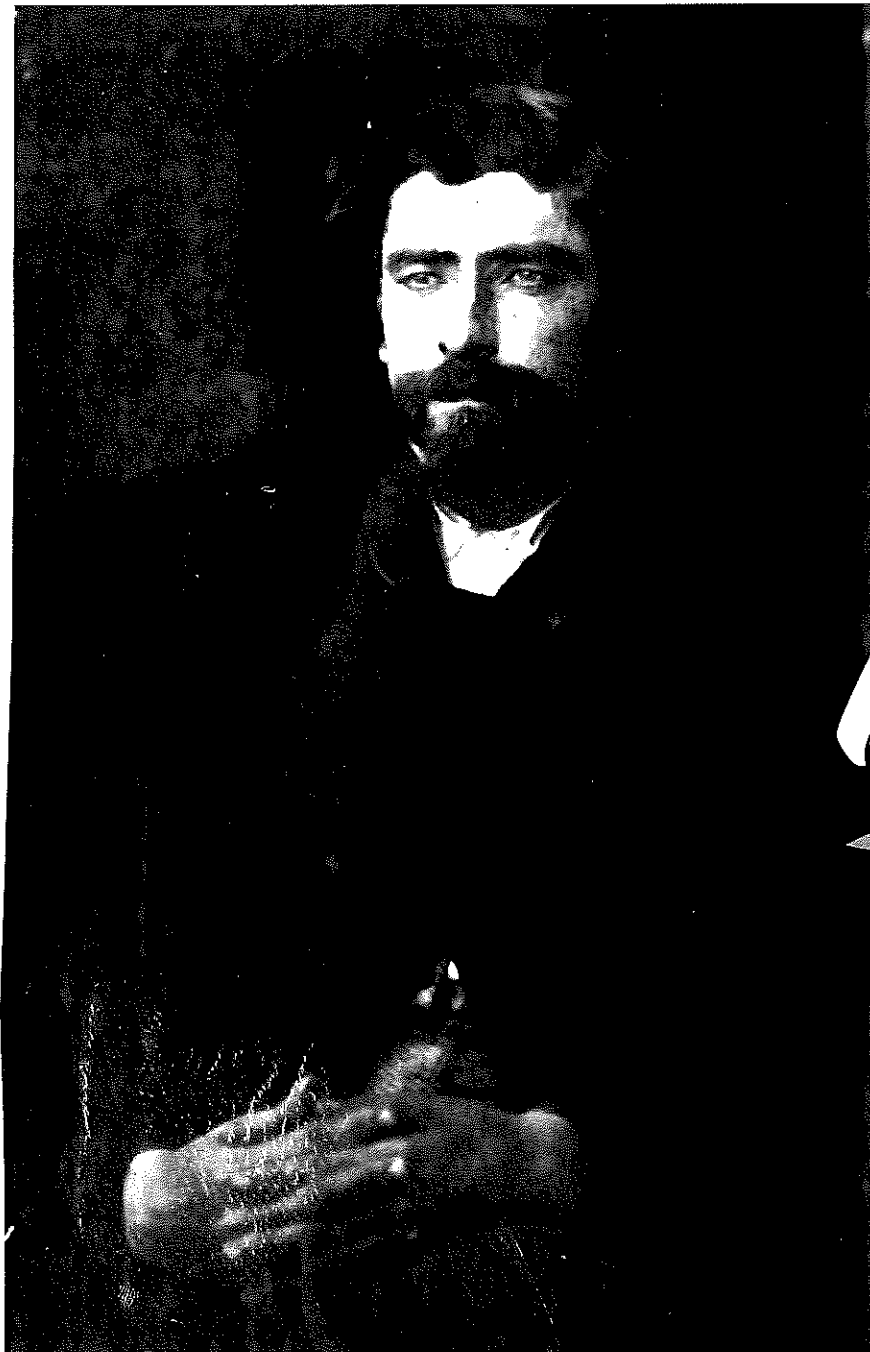
In studying this text, you will focus on the following objectives:

**Literary Study:** Analyzing diction.

**Reading:** Analyzing cause-and-effect relationships.

### TRY IT

With a partner, talk about a few experiences you've had that are examples of cause and effect. For example, *I wasn't happy with my grade on the math quiz, so I talked to my teacher after school.* Or, *Because my mother is working late this week, I am taking care of my younger brother.*



## ONE'S NAME IS

# MUD

Leonard Mann

**A**fter school, Johnny says to Marianne, "If I don't go straight home, my name will be mud." "My name will be mud if I go golfing today," says Joe, knowing he has promised to take his kids to the playground. The meaning is obvious: when in disfavor, *one's name is mud*. But why mud? Why not some other disagreeable thing?

### **BQ** BIG Question

What do you think you'll read about in this selection?



The story begins just five days after the end of the Civil War, April 14, 1865. That evening, President Lincoln was seated in the balcony of Ford's Theater in Washington when John Wilkes Booth sneaked in and shot him. Leaping from the balcony, and breaking a leg in the leap, the assassin<sup>1</sup> managed to escape. At four o'clock the next morning he and a fellow **conspirator** were at the farmhouse door of Dr. Samuel Mudd near Bryantown, Maryland. Being a dedicated physician, the doctor set the stranger's broken leg, and later that day the two men rode away.

It was known within a few days that Dr. Mudd's patient had been Mr. Lincoln's assassin. Together with many others, Mudd was arrested and charged with involvement in the plot. Although no evidence was ever offered against him, in the hysteria<sup>2</sup> of the time, Dr. Mudd was found guilty, sentenced to life imprisonment, and incarcerated<sup>3</sup> at Fort Jefferson in the Gulf of Mexico. Feelings of hostility were so strong against him that his very name became an **epithet** denoting disfavor.

As time would tell, the popular attitude against the man was wholly unjustified. During an epidemic of yellow fever, the prisoner exhibited exceptional heroism. Because of this and other evidences of the man's innocence and **integrity**, he was granted a pardon by President Andrew Johnson in 1869. Tragically, though, in those first awful years the damage was done—the good doctor's name is still mud.

1 An **assassin** is a person who murders an important person.

2 **Hysteria** is extremely emotional behavior or overwhelming fear.

3 **Incarcerated** means "put into jail."

#### Vocabulary

**conspirator** (kən spīr'ə tōr) *n.* a person who secretly plans with others to do something evil or illegal

**epithet** (ep'ə thet') *n.* a descriptive word or phrase used with or in place of a name

**integrity** (in teg'rə tē) *n.* honesty; sincerity

#### Analyze Text Structure

This event caused other events to happen. Find the effects in this paragraph.

**Diction** Why might an author choose to use *mud* instead of *wet earth*? What connotations does the word *mud* have?

## After You Read

### Respond and Think Critically

1. What was President Lincoln doing when he was shot? [Recall]
2. Describe what happened to Booth from the time he shot President Lincoln until he and a fellow conspirator left Dr. Mudd's farmhouse. [Summarize]
3. Do you think that Dr. Mudd's punishment was fair? Explain. [Evaluate]
4. **Literary Element** **Diction** What is the author's attitude toward Dr. Mudd? Which words from the essay give you clues about the author's attitude? [Analyze]
5. **Reading Strategy** **Analyze Text Structure** Dr. Mudd's actions may have had an effect on the English language. In which paragraph do you find this effect? [Analyze]
6. **BQ** **BIG Question** What kind of information can you get from essays such as "One's Name Is Mud"? [Interpret]

### Vocabulary Practice

Match each boldfaced vocabulary word with a word from the right column that has the same meaning. Two of the words in the right column will not have matches. Then write a sentence or draw or find a picture that represents each word.

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. conspirator | a. plotter      |
| 2. epithet     | b. truthfulness |
| 3. integrity   | c. investigator |
|                | d. nickname     |
|                | e. panic        |

**Example:**  
dedicated

**Sentence:** The dedicated student rewrote his essay when he found incorrect information.

### Writing

**Write a Letter** Write a letter to Dr. Mudd. In the letter, explain whether you think he deserved to have the term "one's name is mud" associated with his name. Choose your words carefully and include words that have emotional connotations.

### TIP

#### Evaluating

Question 3 asks for your opinion, as well as a reason for your answer. As you answer these types of questions, be sure to

- state your opinion clearly.
- support your opinion with information from the selection. Refer to specific facts, events, or people from the selection.

**FOLDABLES** **Study Organizer** Keep track of your ideas about the **BIG Question** in your unit Foldable.



Literature Online

**Selection Resources** For Selection Quizzes, eFlashcards, and Reading-Writing Connection activities, go to [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) and enter QuickPass code GL29763u2.

