

*The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis  
**Screwtape Proposes a Toast: Preface worksheet**

© 1999-2002 Beverly Schmitt

**Vocabulary** Define the following words with only 1-2 words

1. diabolical \_\_\_\_\_

2. ventriloquism \_\_\_\_\_

3. device \_\_\_\_\_

4. diligently \_\_\_\_\_

5. factitious \_\_\_\_\_

6. egalitarianism \_\_\_\_\_

**Extra Credit Vocabulary**

idlers, inferiority, diligent minority

**Bonus Vocabulary**

popularity

**Comprehension Questions** Answer the questions briefly (full sentences are unnecessary)

1. Explain: "Screwtape's outlook is like a photographic negative; his whites are our blacks and whatever he welcomes we ought to dread."

---

---

---

2. What scripture verse(s) does the above quote remind you of, if any?

---

---

---

3. Lewis tells us that the original *Letters* deals primarily with religious and moral life while the “Toast” has the main subject of education. Relate the statement “Thoughts have consequences” to education AND religious and moral life.

---

---

---

4. Lewis states that education ought to be democratic and ought not to be democratic. How does he distinguish the two?

Democratic \_\_\_\_\_

---

Not democratic \_\_\_\_\_

---

5. Do you agree with Lewis? Why or why not?

---

---

6. In Lewis’ view, how can parental definitions and expectations of education impact same?

---

---

7. Do you agree with Lewis (see #6)? Why or why not?

---

---

8. How do you think C. S. Lewis would respond to homeschooling in light of this statement: “If I had been writing ‘straight’ my article would have been an attack on the ‘public [government] schools’ of America.”

---

---

9. What is the purpose of having Screwtape hold up the government schools of America as a positive example of “education”?

---

---

---