

The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis
Letter 1 Worksheet

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Vocabulary Define the following words with only 1-2 words

1. trifle _____

2. naif (naive) _____

3. alter _____

4. accustomed _____

5. incompatible _____

6. philosophies _____

Extra Credit Vocabulary

doctrines, fatal, universal, abominable, presumably, counter-suggestion, unalterable, conviction, inarticulate, actuality, aberrations, logic, processess

Bonus Vocabulary

fuddle

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

1. Who is the “patient” in the letter?

2. Before we even read the first letter, we find the following two quotes:

*The best way to drive out the devil if he will not yield to text of Scripture,
is to jeer and flout him, for he cannot bear scorn.* Martin Luther

The devil ... the prowde spirite ... cannot endure to be mocked. Thomas More

Why do you think C. S. Lewis begins this letter thus ?

3. Who is Wormwood? _____

4. Who is Screwtape? _____

5. What does Lewis mean by, "They still connected thinking with doing and were prepared to alter their way of life as the result of a chain of reasoning"? (*Hint: Thoughts have consequences. We feel and act on what we think.*)

6. Can jargon be a type of propaganda? ___ yes ___ no ___ maybe

7. Can jargon be harmful? ___ yes ___ no ___ maybe

How can jargon be harmful? (*Hint: Thoughts have consequences.*)

8. Who is the Enemy from Screwtape's perspective? _____

9. Who is Our Father Below? _____

10. Explain. "The trouble about argument is that it moves the whole struggle onto the Enemy's own ground."

11. Lewis alludes to human beings being "enslaved ... to the pressure of the ordinary." What does this mean?

12. How does Screwtape encourage Wormwood to use “reality” and “real life” to tempt or sidetrack their patients?

(Think: Has Satan used this tactic with you in order to avoid taking responsibility or repenting your sins to God?)

13. With respect to the sciences, Screwtape states, “They will positively encourage him to think about realities he can’t touch and see” and, later, “But the best of all is to let him read no science but to give him a grand general idea that he knows it all and that everything he happens to have picked up is ‘the results of modern investigation.’ ” (Note: Theology has been referred to as the “Queen of the Sciences”) Why do you think Screwtape instructs Wormwood in this fashion?
