## *Flowers for Algernon* Vocabulary List

-Several of these words can be used as other parts of speech, but for this story, we will focus our definitions and usage on the forms noted below.

Fissures (n) cracks in a surface

Tangible (adj) able to be grasped physically or mentally

Subconscious (adj) below the level of awareness, yet present in the mind

<u>Refute</u> (v) to prove something wrong

Vacant (adj) empty, without occupancy

Smirking (v) smiling in a self-satisfied smug manner

Naivete (n) innocence, lack of sophistication or experience

Infuriated (adj) extremely angry

<u>Opportunist</u> (n) one who exploits circumstances for gain, unprincipled person

Inferiority (n) the state of being less than, of lower status or quality

Feeble (adj) lacking physical or mental strength, weak

<u>Regression</u> (n) the return to a less developed condition or manner

Obscure (v) to block one's vision, not easily or fully seen or understood

Introspective (adj) reflective, inward-thinking

Irritable (adj) easily bothered or aggravated

Invariably (adv) always, without change

Cowered (v) to pull away or hide in fear

Vacuous (adj) seriously lacking intellect, empty to the point of creating negative space

Applicability (n) relevancy, appropriate suitability, ability to be applied appropriately

<u>Cerebral</u> (adj) relating to the brain, representing intellectual, fact-based thought