

Mastering the First Sentence

Please use the blanks to make notes to help yourself master* the words in the first sentence.

The	
steaming	
Shanghai	
night	
drapes	
heavy	
over	
my	
bare	
shoulders	
I	
lean	
against	
the	
door	
of	
a	
decrepit	
warehouse	

“The steaming Shanghai night drapes heavy over my bare shoulders. I lean against the door of a decrepit warehouse, gums aching, stomach grumbling, and wait on Big Wang’s secret delivery.”

First sentences from Chao, A. Y., author. *Shanghai Immortal*. United Kingdom: Hodderscape, 2023.

*To “master” a word is to gain a deep, interior knowledge of a word, such that the learner can, without notice or thought, regardless of context, use the word, explain the word’s meaning, pronounce it accurately as a word and within a sentence, recite the word from memory, and read the word on a printed page or screen.