

SCAVENGER HUNT  
SECONDARY STUDENTS

THE  
ULTIMATE  
ALCHEMIST

VOCABULARY  
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## Vocabulary list

### CORE GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

**TRANSMUTATION:** The primary physical goal was turning lead or other common metals into gold, seen as the most perfect metal, using processes like creating the PHILOSOPHER STONE.

**ELIXIR OF LIFE:** Seeking a universal remedy or liquid (elixir) to cure all the diseases and **ACHIEVE/REACH** eternal life.

**SPIRITUAL PERFECTION:** Alchemy also served as a metaphor for spiritual transformation, purifying the soul from darkness and imperfection.

**PROTO SCIENCE:** It explored the nature of matter, believing all substances shared a common origin and could be refined through the right processes laying groundwork for chemistry.

### KEY ELEMENTS AND PRACTICES

**ELEMENTS:** Alchemists used concepts like four elements: (EARTH, AIR, FIRE, WATER) or principles: (SULPHUR, MERCURY, SALT) to understand substances.

**SYMBOLISM:** They used secret symbols, astronomical signs and allegorical art (like the green lion eating the sun) to represent reactions and spiritual ideas, often hidden as "trade secrets" (occult).

**LEGACY:** While the quest for gold failed, alchemists developed early laboratory techniques, identified new substances and laid the foundation for modern chemistry, pharmacology and metallurgy evolving into science disciplines.

**ALCHEMY:** was an ancient practice and philosophical tradition, a precursor to modern chemistry, aiming to TRANSMUTE BASE METAL INTO GOLD, find the ELIXIR OF LIFE (immortality / cure), and achieve spiritual perfection, using symbolic methods and early chemical processes to transform matter and consciousness, seeking ultimate purity and knowledge.

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