

# A Bend in the Road

by Nicholas Sparks

## Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

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### Contents & Printing Notes

Unlike our most popular resources, this one's auto-selected.  
Review before use, or edit the DOCX via "View / Print / Edit Web  
Quiz" on the Resources menu.

#### PRE-READING ACTIVITY

|                            |   |                               |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Answer Key — Preview ..... | 2 | teacher use / self-check only |
| Vocabulary Preview .....   | 3 |                               |

#### OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

|                               |   |                  |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Vocabulary in Context .....   | 5 |                  |
| Answer Key — In Context ..... | 7 | teacher use only |

Pages are ordered for double-sided printing.

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#### About the Pre-Reading Activity

Open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade. Students preview 20 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

#### About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz

Use after reading, or skip. The same words appear in excerpts from the text.

**Practice words:** commotion, comprehend, compulsion, context, corroborate, dormant, evaluate, eviction, feigned, implication, inevitable, irrevocable, naive, nonetheless, oblivious, ominous, premonition, skeptical, suppress, testify



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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

### A Bend in the Road

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| #  | KEY |
|----|-----|
| 1  | A   |
| 2  | A   |
| 3  | C   |
| 4  | B   |
| 5  | A   |
| 6  | A   |
| 7  | C   |
| 8  | A   |
| 9  | B   |
| 10 | A   |
| 11 | B   |
| 12 | C   |
| 13 | A   |
| 14 | A   |
| 15 | A   |
| 16 | A   |
| 17 | B   |
| 18 | A   |
| 19 | A   |
| 20 | A   |

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## Vocabulary Preview

### A Bend in the Road

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

*Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.*

1. Her entrance created quite a **commotion**.
  - A. disturbance
  - B. outburst of laughter
  - C. accident
2. Washington fails to **comprehend** the change in China's strategy.
  - A. fully understand
  - B. regard respectfully
  - C. respond adequately to
3. My eating **compulsion** doesn't make sense.
  - A. so slowly
  - B. unhealthfully
  - C. uncontrollably
4. A blood test **corroborated** the doctor's suspicion of diabetes.
  - A. disproved
  - B. supported
  - C. checked
5. Although her illness was currently **dormant**, the doctors advised regular checkups to watch for any changes.
  - A. inactive but still present
  - B. mild and unimportant
  - C. recently discovered
6. I'm **evaluating** job options.
  - A. considering
  - B. creating
  - C. avoiding
7. I was served an **eviction** notice.
  - A. legal demand to pay
  - B. legal demand to appear
  - C. legal demand to move
8. He **feigned** surprise when his coworkers shouted 'Happy Birthday!'
  - A. faked
  - B. expected
  - C. shared
9. The new policy has widespread legal and political **implications**.
  - A. disadvantages
  - B. effects
  - C. advantages
10. The leaves fall each year with the **inevitable** change of the seasons.
  - A. certain to happen
  - B. complete or total
  - C. minor
11. If you agree to the terms, you give them **irrevocable** permission to share your comments with others on their site.
  - A. easy to reverse later
  - B. unable to be undone
  - C. needing court approval

12. Being naive, she is too quick to believe what people say.  
A. honest  
B. a pleaser  
C. too trusting
13. The class was hard. It was nonetheless my favorite.  
A. despite that  
B. because of that  
C. for that reason
14. She's a happy girl--oblivious to most of the unhappiness around her.  
A. unaware of  
B. concerned with  
C. adding to
15. With the clouds looking so ominous, I'm afraid there will be a bad storm.  
A. threatening  
B. huge  
C. fast-moving
16. She quoted him out of context.  
A. in a misleading manner  
B. in a convincing manner  
C. in a respectful manner
17. Like most soldiers, I was scared before battle, but it's not like I had a premonition that something bad was going to happen to me.  
A. expectation  
B. feeling  
C. certainty
18. She is skeptical about the project.  
A. doubtful  
B. keeping silent  
C. excited
19. Stalin suppressed criticism in the press.  
A. kept from spreading  
B. caused to spread  
C. expressed publicly
20. She testified that he struck her.  
A. said  
B. hid  
C. lied

## Vocabulary in Context

### A Bend in the Road

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

*Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.*

- 1 ... as well as handling whatever else **inevitably** cropped up,
  - A. with certainty (will happen)
  - B. in a manner that involves betrayal
  - C. following as a result of something
- 2 Though the gardens were between seasons, she'd **nonetheless** left the palace wanting to live within walking distance so she could pass its gates each day.
  - A. in spite of that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
  - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
  - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 3 Miles looked across the table, and Charlie feigned a look of sudden **comprehension**.
  - A. the understanding of something
  - B. a change; or a changed version
  - C. a type of small portable radio
- 4 Miles stopped and visited with some of them, waiting until the **commotion** outside finally began to die down.
  - A. noisy disturbance
  - B. circular movement
  - C. size or dimension
- 5 In that instant, no shivers pricked the hairs on the back of his neck, no **premonitions** burst forth like exploding fireworks; he felt no sense of foreboding at all, and looking back—considering all that was to come—he was always amazed by that.
  - A. speaks with someone about something for the first time
  - B. feelings, not based on reason, that things will happen
  - C. periods of time when someone exhibits unusual behavior
- 6 Over the next month, the highway patrol interviewed everyone in the area; they searched for any evidence that might provide a lead, poking through bushes, **evaluating** the evidence at the scene, visiting local bars and restaurants, asking if any customers had seemed intoxicated and had left around that time.
  - A. thinking carefully and making a judgment about
  - B. returning to an undesirable previous condition
  - C. moving back and forth; or being unsure or weak
- 7 Perhaps **naively**, she had imagined that they would be a couple forever.
  - A. in a manner that expresses personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing (or performing to) someone else's work
  - B. in a manner that changes the direction of a light wave (or other wave) by passing an opaque edge or narrow opening
  - C. lacking experience or sophistication, and the understanding that comes from them -- often too trusting or optimistic
- 8 Sarah raised a **skeptical** eyebrow.
  - A. doubtful (that something is true)
  - B. the quality of being characterized by fantastic imagery, or combinations of things and events that don't go together
  - C. related to the branch of medicine that deals with the diseases of women -- especially those of the reproductive organs
- 9 "I don't knoweverything, " Brenda said, **feigning** indignation.
  - A. pretending (making a pretense of)
  - B. causing something to move forward
  - C. accepting as true (without proof)
- 10 Nor did Sarah, though in an entirely different **context**.
  - A. the setting or situation in which something occurs
  - B. the act of interacting or getting interested again
  - C. an image (seen on a mirror or other shiny surface)

- 11 *Except for **eviction** notices, my jurisdiction ends at the town limits.*
- A. opinion of what is good and bad about something
  - B. the majority denomination of Islam (almost 90%)
  - C. the process of forcing someone to leave a place
- 12 *In listening to their wishes, Harris Presser **irrevocably** sealed his fate.*
- A. separately in the specified order
  - B. in a manner that cannot be undone
  - C. in the manner of an investigation
- 13 *Her voice took on a more **ominous** tone.*
- A. threatening
  - B. huge
  - C. comforting
- 14 *Jonah and Mark raced by again, **oblivious** to their presence.*
- A. unaware of
  - B. related to
  - C. very large
- 15 *I don't **testify**, and I remain anonymous.*
- A. provide oral evidence in court
  - B. to encourage growth or excitement, or to cause something to happen
  - C. to show something -- such as to demonstrate, express, or represent
- 16 *The tone he used and the obvious **implications** made the hairs on the back of Miles's neck suddenly stand on end.*
- A. supporters of dramatic change -- sometimes people fighting for overthrow of a government
  - B. things suggested indirectly or that logically follow
  - C. workplaces where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals
- 17 *If he **corroborates** the story, we could cut a deal so he testifies.*
- A. survives
  - B. supports (tells a story consistent with)
  - C. forgives
- 18 *With the **compulsion** gone, I thought I had put the nightmare behind me.*
- A. a strategy or plan to do something
  - B. a dream about doing something
  - C. a strong (possibly uncontrollable) urge to do something
- 19 *Instead they had simply gone **dormant**, like a bear hibernating in the winter, feeding on its own tissue, waiting for the season yet to come.*
- A. not active or growing, but capable of doing so in the future
  - B. to again think carefully and make a judgment about something
  - C. the process or result of a detailed examination of something
- 20 *Miles's face began to twitch with barely **suppressed** rage.*
- A. kept under control
  - B. not learned, discovered, or decided
  - C. blended three or more musical notes

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

### A Bend in the Road

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| #  | KEY | WORD                                                     | NOTE                                                   |
|----|-----|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | A   | inevitable                                               | High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book. |
| 2  | A   | nonetheless                                              | Used 9 times in this book.                             |
| 3  | A   | comprehend                                               | High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book. |
| 4  | A   | commotion                                                | Used 4 times in this book.                             |
| 5  | B   | premonition                                              | Used 2 times in this book.                             |
| 6  | A   | evaluate                                                 | High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book. |
| 7  | C   | naive                                                    | Used 4 times in this book.                             |
| 8  | A   | skeptical                                                | High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book. |
| 9  | A   | feigned                                                  | Used 3 times in this book.                             |
| 10 | A   | context                                                  | High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book. |
| 11 | C   | eviction                                                 | Used 2 times in this book.                             |
| 12 | B   | irrevocable                                              | Used 2 times in this book.                             |
| 13 | A   | ominous                                                  | Used 4 times in this book.                             |
| 14 | A   | oblivious                                                | Used 8 times in this book.                             |
| 15 | A   | testify                                                  | Used 9 times in this book.                             |
| 16 | B   | implication ( <i>as in: the implication is that...</i> ) | High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book. |
| 17 | B   | corroborate                                              | Used 4 times in this book.                             |
| 18 | C   | compulsion                                               | Used 6 times in this book.                             |
| 19 | A   | dormant                                                  | Used 2 times in this book.                             |
| 20 | A   | suppress                                                 | Used 6 times in this book.                             |