

A Crisis of Confidence

by Jimmy Carter

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

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

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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context	5	
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Pages are ordered for double-sided printing.

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: abundant, agony, conflict, crucial, democracy, indulgent, innovate, invincible, John F. Kennedy, mandatory, massive, moreover, proverb, ration, recession, stagnate, synthetic, tradition, ultimate, yield



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The region has **abundant** natural resources, from oil to fresh water.
 - A. extremely scarce
 - B. highly disputed
 - C. widely available
2. She cried out in **agony**.
 - A. sudden surprise
 - B. intense anger
 - C. intense suffering
3. The Israeli-Palestinian **conflict** flared up again in Jerusalem.
 - A. agreement
 - B. border
 - C. struggle
4. The information is **crucial** to making a good decision.
 - A. helpful
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
5. Canada has a **parliamentary democracy**.
 - A. government by the people
 - B. government by one ruler
 - C. government by the wealthy
6. Her **indulgent** parents bought her every toy she asked for.
 - A. strictly demanding
 - B. coldly distant
 - C. overly lenient
7. Companies must **innovate** quickly to stay ahead of their competitors.
 - A. follow old rules
 - B. create new methods
 - C. imitate rivals
8. She has an **invincible** spirit.
 - A. impossible to overcome
 - B. not capable of being understood
 - C. misleading or not trustworthy
9. **John F. Kennedy** was elected president in 1960 and became one of the youngest presidents in U.S. history.
 - A. youngest ever U.S. president known for breaking business monopolies
 - B. U.S. president who led the country The Depression and World War II
 - C. U.S. president whose term was cut short by assassination in 1963
10. Safety training is **mandatory** for all new employees.
 - A. required
 - B. optional
 - C. unexpected
11. The markets panicked as **massive** losses piled up during the financial crisis.
 - A. unexpected
 - B. sudden
 - C. very large
12. Many graduates have high college debt. **Moreover**, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
 - A. in contrast to that
 - B. in addition to that
 - C. as a result of that

13. "It takes a village to raise a child," goes the African proverb.
- A. a well-known, short saying that is thought to communicate wisdom
 - B. a legislative assembly in certain countries (that can pass laws)
 - C. a portable platform for storing or moving goods that are stacked on it
14. During the Second World War, products such as food and gasoline were rationed in the United States, so more resources could be devoted to the war effort.
- A. restricted in the amount each person could have
 - B. set at a high price only the military could afford
 - C. imported in small amounts from many countries
15. As consumer spending dropped during the recession, the company saw a 20% decrease in gross revenue.
- A. winter
 - B. transition
 - C. poor economy
16. If the company doesn't innovate, it will stagnate and lose its competitive edge.
- A. get expensive
 - B. stop developing
 - C. lose customers
17. They are trying to make a good synthetic fabric that breathes better than cotton.
- A. durable
 - B. man-made
 - C. insulating
18. I want to have a traditional wedding ceremony compete with bridesmaids and a white dress.
- A. in the modern style
 - B. in the grand style
 - C. in the long-established style
19. When everything was included, the ultimate cost was just over \$200.
- A. estimated
 - B. preliminary
 - C. final
20. After the scandal, she yielded to public pressure and resigned her position.
- A. added
 - B. gave in
 - C. produced

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 It's clear that the true problems of our Nation are much deeper – deeper than gasoline lines or energy shortages, deeper even than inflation or **recession**.
 - A. a period when the economy does well
 - B. a long period when the economy does not change much
 - C. a period when the economy does poorly
- 2 I want to talk to you right now about a fundamental threat to American **democracy**.
 - A. a system of government in which citizens have power with equal votes
 - B. relating to logical examination of something to better understand it
 - C. lack of interest; or the process of stopping interaction or interest
- 3 The confidence that we have always had as a people is not simply some romantic dream or a **proverb** in a dusty book that we read just on the Fourth of July.
 - A. a well-known, short saying that is thought to communicate wisdom
 - B. a group formed to discuss or offer insight on a particular topic
 - C. to constrain in some way -- such as tie up, require, or obligate
- 4 Our people are losing that faith, not only in government itself but in the ability as citizens to serve as the **ultimate** rulers and shapers of our democracy.
 - A. the state or degree of having found a condition or substance to be present
 - B. related to a chronic mental disorder that leads to violent social behavior
 - C. most extreme as in final, best, worst, most important, or most fundamental
- 5 In a nation that was proud of hard work, strong families, close-knit communities, and our faith in God, too many of us now tend to worship **self-indulgence** and consumption.
 - A. the state or characteristic of being less than zero
 - B. temperature scale, mostly used in the United States
 - C. being excessively kind to or undemanding of oneself
- 6 We were sure that ours was a nation of the ballot, not the bullet, until the murders of John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. We were taught that our armies were always invincible and our causes were always just, only to suffer the agony of Vietnam.
 - A. youngest ever U.S. president known for breaking business monopolies
 - B. U.S. president who led the country The Depression and World War II
 - C. U.S. president whose term was cut short by assassination in 1963
- 7 We were sure that ours was a nation of the ballot, not the bullet, until the murders of John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. We were taught that our armies were always **invincible** and our causes were always just, only to suffer the agony of Vietnam.
 - A. impossible to defeat or overcome
 - B. the condition of being different
 - C. indicating approval or agreement
- 8 We were sure that ours was a nation of the ballot, not the bullet, until the murders of John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. We were taught that our armies were always invincible and our causes were always just, only to suffer the **agony** of Vietnam.
 - A. size or dimension
 - B. circular movement
 - C. intense suffering
- 9 You see every extreme position defended to the last vote, almost to the last breath by one **unyielding** group or another.
 - A. relating to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
 - B. strict, firm, or hard (not giving in, not giving way, or not giving up)
 - C. rude or unfriendly because of using too few words or moving too quickly
- 10 Often you see **paralysis and stagnation** and drift.
 - A. the ability to take on or adopt
 - B. lack of development or movement
 - C. calculating or judging too high

- 11 *That path would be one of constant **conflict** between narrow interests ending in chaos and immobility.*
A. include consideration of
B. make nervous or confused
C. struggle or disagreement
- 12 *All the **traditions** of our past, all the lessons of our heritage, all the promises of our future point to another path, the path of common purpose and the restoration of American values.*
A. small portable radios made with transistors rather than vacuum tubes
B. acts of again being in a working position; or acts of starting again
C. long-established or previously long-established practices or beliefs
- 13 *Just as a similar **synthetic** rubber corporation helped us win World War II, so will we mobilize American determination and ability to win the energy war.*
A. title for the head of a government body in some countries
B. artificial (man-made rather than natural); or not genuine
C. an unborn child (or other unborn or unhatched vertebrate)
- 14 *Moreover, I will soon submit legislation to Congress calling for the creation of this Nation's first solar bank, which will help us achieve the crucial goal of 20 percent of our energy coming from solar power by the year 2000.*
A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
B. in addition to what has just been said
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 15 *Moreover, I will soon submit legislation to Congress calling for the creation of this Nation's first solar bank, which will help us achieve the **crucial** goal of 20 percent of our energy coming from solar power by the year 2000.*
A. natural
B. very important
C. more than is needed
- 16 *Point four: I'm asking Congress to mandate, to require as a matter of law, that our Nation's utility companies cut their **massive** use of oil by 50 percent within the next decade and switch to other fuels, especially coal, our most abundant energy source.*
A. changeable
B. related to
C. very large
- 17 *Point four: I'm asking Congress to mandate, to require as a matter of law, that our Nation's utility companies cut their massive use of oil by 50 percent within the next decade and switch to other fuels, especially coal, our most **abundant** energy source.*
A. able to be disagreed with
B. not tending to find fault
C. present in great quantity
- 18 *I ask Congress to give me authority for **mandatory** conservation and for standby gasoline rationing.*
A. required by rule or law
B. interaction or interest
C. a subtle characteristic
- 19 *I ask Congress to give me authority for mandatory conservation and for standby gasoline **rationing**.*
A. restricting the amount of something each person can have -- such as food or gasoline when there is a shortage
B. treating something in an educated, intellectual way -- often excluding emotional or practical considerations
C. "spiritual renewing" a person in a Christian ceremony OR initiating or purifying by a challenging experience
- 20 *We have the most skilled work force, with **innovative** genius, and I firmly believe that we have the national will to win this war.*
A. greater than zero
B. new and different
C. not demonstrating

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	recession (<i>as in: economic recession</i>)	Used 2 times in this speech.
2	A	democracy	Used 3 times in this speech.
3	A	proverb (<i>as in: the well-known proverb</i>)	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	C	ultimate	High-utility academic word
5	C	indulgent	Used about 6 times per 10 books in our high school library.
6	C	John F. Kennedy	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
7	A	invincible	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	C	agony	Used about 14 times per 10 books in our high school library.
9	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word
10	B	stagnate	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
11	C	conflict	High-utility academic word
12	C	tradition	High-utility academic word
13	B	synthetic	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
14	B	moreover	High-utility academic word
15	B	crucial	High-utility academic word
16	C	massive	Used 2 times in this speech.
17	C	abundant	High-utility academic word
18	A	mandatory (<i>as in: it is mandatory</i>)	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
19	A	ration	Used about 10 times per 10 books in our high school library.
20	B	innovate	High-utility academic word