

A Step from Heaven

by An Na

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	
Answer Key — In Context	7	teacher use only

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: abrupt, beckon, compassion, congregation, demure, down payment, ebb, glower, grovel, humiliate, immigrate, incredulous, intricate, lament, luminous, opaque, parched, principal, sparse, technique



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Try not to be so **abrupt** with the people you manage. It may seem quicker, but we're losing talented people because they don't like working with you.
 - A. rude or unfriendly because of using too few words or moving too quickly
 - B. relating to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
 - C. unbelieving; or having difficulty accepting something so unexpected
2. The police officer **beckoned** me to come over.
 - A. considered asking
 - B. called
 - C. prohibited
3. It is not enough to be **compassionate**. We must act. It is not enough to act. We must act with intelligence.
 - A. lucky
 - B. sympathetic
 - C. talented
4. The **congregation** voted to approve appointment of the new minister.
 - A. people who agree
 - B. people who worship together
 - C. people who meet periodically
5. She gave a **demure** nod and let her friend do most of the talking.
 - A. sharp and dismissive
 - B. modest and quiet
 - C. confused and nervous
6. They'll give us a lower interest rate if we can pay a larger **down payment**.
 - A. monthly payment
 - B. insurance fee
 - C. upfront cash payment
7. After the incident, support for the policy **ebbed**.
 - A. increased
 - B. disappeared
 - C. declined
8. She **glowered** at the ref, but she held her tongue.
 - A. winked happily
 - B. stared angrily
 - C. smiled briefly
9. Hoping for forgiveness, he **groveled** instead of calmly admitting his mistake.
 - A. acted overly submissive
 - B. spoke with confidence
 - C. refused to apologize
10. She's convinced PE class was invented to **humiliate** innocent kids.
 - A. strengthen
 - B. extremely embarrass
 - C. teach hard lessons
11. At that time, most of the people who **immigrated** to the United States came from Latin America and Asia.
 - A. relocated
 - B. exported goods
 - C. visited

12. At first, she was **incredulous**--thinking the report was in error.
- A. worried
 - B. confused
 - C. without belief
13. The law in that area is **intricate**. I suggest you talk with a lawyer.
- A. outdated
 - B. predictable
 - C. complicated
14. We **lamented** our sad circumstances.
- A. made worse
 - B. improved
 - C. expressed grief about
15. The snow was **luminous** from the moonlight.
- A. soft and silent
 - B. wet and slushy
 - C. bright and glowing
16. The bathroom has natural light that comes through an **opaque** window.
- A. high
 - B. openable
 - C. privacy
17. Cactus is about all that will grow in this **parched** soil.
- A. dried out
 - B. sandy
 - C. rocky
18. The **principal** reason for the delay was bad weather.
- A. final
 - B. main
 - C. stated
19. The desert had **sparse** vegetation, with only a few hardy plants scattered about.
- A. lush and thick
 - B. thinly scattered
 - C. neatly arranged
20. One **technique** I use for dealing with anger is to wait ten seconds before responding.
- A. way of doing something
 - B. habit
 - C. solution to anger

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 I do not want to **grovel** anymore like some bitch.
 - A. show submission or fear
 - B. gradually add or remove
 - C. not possible to satisfy
- 2 If I worked two jobs and we did not have to pay rent, we could save enough money for a **down payment** in no time.
 - A. two successive lines of poetry; usually rhymed
 - B. the main building (or buildings) of government
 - C. a partial payment made at the time of purchase
- 3 Joon's eyes squint against the pain, but more than that, the **humiliation** of being punished in public, in front of his friend.
 - A. a sexually transmitted disease that, if treated early, can be completely cured with antibiotics
 - B. extremely embarrass (decrease dignity, self-respect, or pride -- especially in front of others)
 - C. "spiritually renew" in a Christian ceremony OR initiate or purify by a challenging experience
- 4 His eyes **glower**.
 - A. stop fighting
 - B. stare angrily
 - C. make possible
- 5 I know the **technique**, how to look blank and as if you are listening when really you are trying to fly away from your body.
 - A. way of doing something
 - B. not easily set on fire
 - C. surrounding conditions
- 6 I silently read the words on the plaque, Department of **Immigration** and Naturalization Services.
 - A. the act of coming to live in a new country; or indication that something is related to that act
 - B. "spiritually renew" in a Christian ceremony OR initiate or purify by a challenging experience
 - C. a sexually transmitted disease that, if treated early, can be completely cured with antibiotics
- 7 I notice the moonlight on the chain-link fence, the way it turns even the ugliest pattern into a delicate, **luminous web**.
 - A. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired
 - B. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions
 - C. glowing or shining

(also used metaphorically to describe beauty or intelligence)
- 8 I take a step back, my warm bed **beckoning**, when I think of something to say.
 - A. providing evidence of something -- especially oral evidence in court
 - B. calling (figuratively, by being desirable)
 - C. convincing (someone) that an idea previously believed is not correct
- 9 For an hour Mr. Shin uses Korean and English examples to talk about the **compassion** of God.
 - A. the taking on or adoption of power or responsibility
 - B. sympathy for another's suffering and wanting to help
 - C. the process of controlling (how something turns out)
- 10 Your wife has become a most valued member of our **congregation**.
 - A. the act, process, or instance of telling a story
 - B. people who worship together in the same building
 - C. a general feeling of not being as good as others
- 11 More and more like a **demure** young lady.
 - A. tendency to be direct in a disagreeable, insensitive manner
 - B. modest, quiet, and shy; or pretending such in a playful way
 - C. the quality of believing oneself morally superior to others

- 12 *Thank you for your words, he says **abruptly** and leads Uhmma away to the back row of chairs.*
 A. in a manner that is rude or unfriendly because of using too few words or moving too quickly
 B. adequately (in a manner that provides enough -- often without being more than is needed)
 C. in a manner that relates to questions that cannot be answered with the scientific method
- 13 *By the time the **principal** steps up to the podium to begin the awards ceremony, my entire face has flamed red from my lies.*
 A. serving to help explain or demonstrate something
 B. most important; or person that is most important
 C. the state or degree of criticism or disagreement
- 14 *She shakes her head and **laments**, To think of all those people there to honor you, and your own parents could not take a night off from their jobs.*
 A. changes through evolution
 B. gradually adds or removes
 C. expresses grief or regret
- 15 *Joon faces me fully, giving me an **incredulous** look.*
 A. not capable of being better understood through detailed examination
 B. clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate
 C. unbelieving; or having difficulty accepting something so unexpected
- 16 *The light from his desk lamp makes the black bristles of his hair look even more **sparse**, like a landscape of trees in winter.*
 A. mental activity of which one is self-aware
 B. not dense; or few in number and spread out
 C. able to be learned, discovered, or decided
- 17 *Almost instantly a white cloud of starch rises up and turns the water **opaque**.*
 A. not sensible or careful
 B. optimistic or agreeable
 C. cloudy so it is no longer clear
- 18 *Only hard wooden floors and an **intricate**, diamond-shaped design in the middle of the ceiling.*
 A. not capable of being suffered through (or put up with)
 B. the degree to which something can be solved or settled
 C. complicated -- having many complexly arranged elements
- 19 *As I walk with Uhmma now, her hand grasped firmly in mine, I can feel the strength that was there in our childhood **ebbing** away.*
 A. making uncomfortable (weighing heavily on the senses or spirit)
 B. supporting a beam, bracket, or other structure on only one side
 C. declining -- typically gradually as with the height of the tide
- 20 *Tiny flecks of skin, **parched** from dry-cleaning clothes, ironing shirts, "heavy on the starch," stand up searching for the moisture that was robbed day after day for eleven years.*
 A. dried out by heat or excessive exposure to sunlight; or very thirsty
 B. not with energy redirected from a negative impulse to a positive one
 C. convinced (someone) that an idea previously believed was not correct

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	grovel	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
2	C	down payment	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
3	B	humiliate	Used about 19 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	B	glower	Used about 6 times per 10 books in our high school library.
5	A	technique	High-utility academic word
6	A	immigrate	Used 3 times in this book.
7	C	luminous	Used about 5 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	B	beckon	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
9	B	compassion	Used about 10 times per 10 books in our high school library.
10	B	congregation (<i>as in: the congregation voted</i>)	High-utility academic word
11	B	demure	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	A	abrupt (<i>as in: she is abrupt</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
13	B	principal	Used 4 times in this book.
14	C	lament	High-utility academic word
15	C	incredulous	Used about 9 times per 10 books in our high school library.
16	B	sparse	Used about 5 times per 10 books in our high school library.
17	C	opaque (<i>as in: opaque shower door</i>)	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	C	intricate	Used about 7 times per 10 books in our high school library.
19	C	ebb	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
20	A	parched	High-utility academic word