

A Vampire's Assistant

by Darren Shan

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

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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: accommodate, agony, assets, aura, colleague, compensate, deception, dominate, essence, hysteria, inquisitive, intrigue, martial, novel, solemn, somber, summon, surreal, virtual, virus



More Vocabulary Printables

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(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	C
3	C
4	B
5	C
6	B
7	B
8	C
9	C
10	A
11	B
12	A
13	A
14	A
15	A
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. They had to **accommodate** various interests to get a majority.
 - A. adjust to
 - B. force
 - C. understand
2. She cried out in **agony**.
 - A. sudden surprise
 - B. intense anger
 - C. intense suffering
3. She's kind, beautiful and athletic, but her quick mind is her rarest **asset**.
 - A. characteristic
 - B. weakness
 - C. positive trait
4. The old theater had an **aura** of mystery.
 - A. written rule
 - B. distinctive atmosphere
 - C. loud announcement
5. The surgeon consulted her **colleague** before the operation.
 - A. former teacher
 - B. private patient
 - C. fellow worker
6. She's not as quick, but she more than **compensates** with extra effort.
 - A. pays
 - B. makes up for it
 - C. spreads confusion
7. The con artist used clever **deception** to trick wealthy investors.
 - A. kindness
 - B. trickery
 - C. praise
8. She completely **dominates** her boyfriend.
 - A. worships
 - B. obeys
 - C. controls
9. The **essence** of friendship is trust, even more than shared interests.
 - A. most common activity
 - B. least noticeable detail
 - C. most important quality
10. The worst legislation is passed when voters are whipped into a state of **hysteria**.
 - A. uncontrollable emotion
 - B. extreme anger
 - C. complete confusion
11. Her **inquisitive** nature led her to explore every corner of the old library.
 - A. nervous
 - B. curious
 - C. forgetful
12. It was the first time she met him, and she was intrigued by his easy confidence.
 - A. interested
 - B. unimpressed
 - C. surprised

13. The army practiced **martial** drills before the inspection.
- A. related to war
 - B. related to music
 - C. related to farming
14. It is a **novel** idea and just might work.
- A. original
 - B. important
 - C. valuable
15. Everyone was **solemn** at the funeral.
- A. serious and dignified
 - B. teary eyed
 - C. dressed in dark colors
16. She exhibited a **somber** mood.
- A. happy
 - B. curious
 - C. cheerless
17. She received a **summons** from the court.
- A. official call to appear
 - B. letter of recommendation
 - C. payment receipt
18. It felt **surreal** to win the championship after years of hard work.
- A. ordinary
 - B. dreamlike
 - C. exhausting
19. I qualified for the tournament but have **virtually** no chance of winning.
- A. absolutely
 - B. almost
 - C. sadly
20. Doctors quickly identified the virus that was making patients ill.
- A. tiny infectious agent
 - B. harmless dust speck
 - C. healing bacteria

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 raced through all levels, knocked out every opponent in **martial** arts tournaments, and zapped all the aliens attacking from the skies in the sci-fi adventures.
 - A. relating to war, the military, or fighting
 - B. mental activity of which one is self-aware
 - C. without involvement of anything in between
- 2 I had a great time for a while, **dominating** play, rushing back to defend, picking players out with pinpoint passes.
 - A. speaking in an ambiguous manner that does not clearly express an opinion or decision
 - B. pausing to change how something is done -- often while reducing the use of resources
 - C. controlling
- 3 Everybody in the game knew the difference between a yell of pain and a scream of real **agony**.
 - A. size or dimension
 - B. circular movement
 - C. intense feelings of suffering
- 4 I have searched for his **aura** many times.
 - A. treatment with extra kindness or tolerance OR (more rarely) a special pleasure (typically something done in excess of what is thought good -- such as eating too much cake, or being too lazy)
 - B. paranormal: a radiant light surrounding a person that is said to be seen by those sensitive to another's life force
 - C. a person with or something related to an eating disorder in which overeating is followed by guilt and unhealthy attempts at correction -- especially self-induced vomiting
- 5 When we drink small amounts of blood, we do not take any of a person's **essence**.
 - A. any of the military expeditions in the 11th to 13th centuries when Christian powers of Europe invaded Muslims in the Holy Land in the Middle East
 - B. one who believes in an economic system based on voluntary exchange in a competitive environment with private ownership of property and businesses
 - C. most important part (that is needed to be who they are)
- 6 When your **colleague-in-blood** arises" -- he meant Mr. Crepsley -- "you're free to spend the night with him if he so desires."
 - A. baseball: a pitch thrown with little spin (so that it moves in an unpredictable manner)
 - B. a person who studies DNA sequences or units of heredity that influence biological traits
 - C. fellow worker -- especially in a respected profession such as teaching, medicine, or law
- 7 Lords of the **surreal**.
 - A. the quality or degree of being clear (easily understood or capable of expressing ideas clearly)
 - B. fantastic imagery, or combinations of things and events that don't go together
 - C. having a beneficial relationship between two species (or entities) that live in close proximity
- 8 Living with real circus freaks, traveling the world, privy to **solemn** and magnificent secrets.
 - A. serious
 - B. indicating approval or agreement
 - C. able to be taken on as one's own
- 9 I'd be an **asset**.
 - A. something quoted (to make a point)
 - B. particles emitted by nuclear decay
 - C. something of value
- 10 I was really **intrigued** by Mr. Tiny and his Little People.
 - A. fascinated (or interested)
 - B. not provided with investment funds
 - C. stopped (something from happening)

- 11 *In the middle of our fit of **hysteria**, the flap to the door of our tent was pulled aside by an inquisitive head, and Hans Hands entered.*
- A. a state of excessive, uncontrollable emotion
 - B. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18
 - C. found a condition or substance to be present
- 12 *In the middle of our fit of hysteria, the flap to the door of our tent was pulled aside by an **inquisitive** head, and Hans Hands entered.*
- A. the quality or degree of the involvement of other people or things
 - B. interested in learning about things -- often asking many questions
 - C. not having the characteristic of bouncing back light/heat/sound...
- 13 *It can be a **deceptive** monster.*
- A. very large
 - B. misleading
 - C. changeable
- 14 *"Excuse me," I said, **summoning** all my courage, "but why do you call them Little People?"*
- A. calling forth (from within)
 - B. accepting as true (without proof)
 - C. causing something to move forward
- 15 *I can grow back **virtually** any part of my body. Except my head.*
- A. in an artificial manner to make an impression
 - B. to almost be so, but not so strictly speaking
 - C. in a manner that relates to the eyes or sight
- 16 *There was a new **novelty** I hadn't seen before: a small model of Cormac Limbs.*
- A. the quality of being new and original
 - B. lacking or not based on basic beliefs
 - C. not bouncing back light/heat/sound...
- 17 *She'd picked up a **virus**, and Evra had to stay in to look after her.*
- A. a submicroscopic organism that causes disease
 - B. the process of controlling (how something turns out)
 - C. the taking on or adoption of power or responsibility
- 18 *"You are stuck with me. If it is any **compensation**," he added, "I am none too fond of you, either."*
- A. a period of time or a stage during the development of something
 - B. something that makes up for something else
 - C. a measure of north/south (relative to the equator) on the earth
- 19 *"I came as soon as I could," the vampire said **somberly**, turning my head gently to the left and right, examining the damage.*
- A. in a manner that influences reason or general desire to do something
 - B. with disbelief; or with difficulty accepting something so unexpected
 - C. solemnly (in a manner that is serious--not cheerful or lighthearted)
- 20 *"I think they'd be quite happy to **accommodate** you," Mr. Tall said drily.*
- A. help
 - B. give an opinion of what is wrong with something
 - C. mark important text; or the text that is marked

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	martial	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
2	C	dominate	High-utility academic word
3	C	agony	Used 3 times in this book.
4	B	aura	Used 3 times in this book.
5	C	essence	Used 2 times in this book.
6	C	colleague	Used about 15 times per 10 books in our high school library.
7	B	surreal	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	A	solemn	Used about 17 times per 10 books in our high school library.
9	C	assets (<i>as in: it's one of her best assets</i>)	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
10	A	intrigue (<i>as in: she was intrigued</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
11	A	hysteria	Used 2 times in this book.
12	B	inquisitive	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
13	B	deception	High-utility academic word
14	A	summon	Used 4 times in this book.
15	B	virtual (<i>as in: virtual organization</i>)	Used about 10 times per 10 books in our high school library.
16	A	novel (<i>as in: a novel situation</i>)	High-utility academic word
17	A	virus (<i>as in: Covid 19 virus</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
18	B	compensate (<i>as in: she compensates with extra effort</i>)	High-utility academic word
19	C	somber (<i>as in: a somber mood</i>)	Used about 7 times per 10 books in our high school library.
20	A	accommodate (<i>as in: moved to accommodate her</i>)	High-utility academic word