

A Walk Across America

by Peter Jenkins

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 from the Resources menu.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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: bushel, congregation, evangelist, however (2), inhibited, intuition, irrational, lethargic, migrate, perplex, ponder, prejudice, repent, revere, seminary, sparse, suburban, telepathy, vary



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. We had **bushels** of fun.
 - A. measured in hours
 - B. shared by everyone
 - C. a large amount
2. The **congregation** voted to approve appointment of the new minister.
 - A. people who agree
 - B. people who worship together
 - C. people who meet periodically
3. The **evangelist** spoke to the crowd about her faith and urged them to believe.
 - A. school principal
 - B. medical researcher
 - C. religious preacher
4. I hope to take the ACT just once. However, I will take it early, so there is time to study and take it again if my scores aren't high enough.
 - A. but
 - B. also
 - C. and
5. **However** we get there, the main thing is to be absolutely sure we're not late.
 - A. whatever way
 - B. even if in a non-standard manner
 - C. to whatever degree
6. He was too **inhibited** to dance at parties, even when everyone else joined in.
 - A. wild and uncontrolled
 - B. shy and self-conscious
 - C. loud and confident
7. **Intuitively**, I knew not to trust her.
 - A. logically
 - B. instinctively
 - C. conclusively
8. I have an **irrational** fear of heights.
 - A. reasonable
 - B. varying
 - C. unreasonable
9. Large lunches make me feel **lethargic** in the afternoon.
 - A. sluggish
 - B. upset
 - C. energetic
10. Many Germans migrated to South America in the mid-19th century
 - A. flew toward
 - B. flew away
 - C. moved
11. I am **perplexed** by her sudden change of mind on this important issue.
 - A. amused
 - B. annoyed
 - C. confused

12. We pondered our fate.
- A. thought about
 - B. feared for
 - C. actively changed
13. Seeing the defendant wear prison clothes may prejudice the jury against the defendant.
- A. create a sympathetic belief in
 - B. create a serious attitude in
 - C. create an unfair belief in
14. She said the U.S. should repent for the sins of fossil fuels.
- A. reimburse
 - B. apologize
 - C. suffer
15. She reveres nature and all that is natural.
- A. dislikes and avoids
 - B. deeply respects
 - C. thoroughly enjoys
16. She plans to attend Fuller Theological Seminary.
- A. a school for training musicians, painters, and other artists
 - B. a school for training ministers, priests, or rabbis
 - C. a school for training teachers and school administrators
17. The desert had sparse vegetation, with only a few hardy plants scattered about.
- A. lush and thick
 - B. thinly scattered
 - C. neatly arranged
18. They open restaurants in nice suburban areas.
- A. located in the center of the city
 - B. located far from any city
 - C. located outside the edge of a city
19. Though popular in fiction, telepathy does not exist in the real world.
- A. communication from one mind to another without using the known senses
 - B. improperly bold or disrespectful -- especially toward someone who is older or considered to be of higher status
 - C. unsophisticated (meant disapprovingly to refer to old-fashioned or narrow-minded attitudes and ideas)
20. McDonald's menu options vary by location.
- A. are consistent
 - B. are different
 - C. are known

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 *Being the **suburban** pioneer that I was, I saw all the forests from the East to the West cleancut and balded like so many marines' shaved heads.*
 - A. not relating to practice or belief that is long-established or was previously long-established
 - B. outstanding or surpassing others in status, ability, or possession of a notable characteristic
 - C. relating to a residential area located near the outer edge of a city where it isn't as crowded
- 2 *That course was a square of improved road that went through **sparsely** populated farmland, with miles of golden pastures.*
 - A. in a manner that is not aware of something
 - B. not dense; or few in number and spread out
 - C. in a manner that is loving, but not sexual
- 3 *Bulleting over my head while I lay flat on my back on the hard rock, flocks of falcons and **migrating** hawks, maybe in the thousands, passed by.*
 - A. selecting (on a computer screen)
 - B. limiting or acting as a boundary
 - C. moving from one place to another
- 4 *Even happy Cooper seemed **lethargic**.*
 - A. lacking energy
 - B. agitated (upset)
 - C. apprehensive (nervous)
- 5 *This would be a supreme test of our faith in **intuitive** discovery and a fitting way to start the New Year.*
 - A. the quality of being without boundaries or limits
 - B. known instinctively rather than through reasoning
 - C. suitability; or the degree of having been adapted
- 6 *Most **perplexing** of all was the number of people I tried to tell about my walk across America who wouldn't believe me.*
 - A. treating as if of low worth
 - B. delaying until a later time
 - C. confusing due to complexity
- 7 *Cooper also sensed their coldness and wanted to get out of this **irrational** town.*
 - A. not pleasing
 - B. sticking out
 - C. unreasonable
- 8 *Right now, I was jealous of Cooper because he didn't have to make our decisions or struggle with social **prejudices** or worry about camping with these overgrown boys.*
 - A. (verb) intentionally angers, challenges, or upsets someone OR (noun) insults or other actions intended to anger, challenge, or upset someone
 - B. items characterized by narrower parallel folds when closed and wider when open -- such as a door or musical instrument with that characteristic
 - C. bias that prevents objective consideration -- especially an unreasonable belief that is unfair to members of a race, religion, or other group
- 9 *But **however** it felt, it smelled good.*
 - A. in whatever way
 - B. starts fighting
 - C. starts (a fire)
- 10 *When I got to Selma, **however**, I found that a lot of changes had taken place.*
 - A. a word used to connect contrasting ideas as when using *though, in spite of that, in contrast, nevertheless,* etc.
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)

- 11 *The church had been built piece by piece, one dollar at a time, by the deacons and stout men in the congregation.*
- the act, process, or instance of telling a story
 - people who worship together in the same building
 - a general feeling of not being as good as others
- 12 *The only decent building on the place was surrounded by tire ruts and pickup trucks in varying states of repair.*
- gaining advantage from
 - differing; or changing
 - taking on as one's own
- 13 *He had his students read all the books they could read about Zen, science fiction, extrasensory perception, mental telepathy and yoga.*
- communication from one mind to another without using the known senses (often used in fiction but not scientifically supported as real)
 - lymph node -- one of many bean-sized organs that filter bacteria and other toxins from circulating white-blood-cell filled lymph fluid
 - when what happens is very different than what might be expected; or when things are together that seem like they don't belong together
- 14 *While he gave out the assignments, I pondered the distances these frustrated flower children had come.*
- thought deeply or carefully about
 - was overly unhappy and unsociable
 - not limited or without boundaries
- 15 *They also grew 1355 bushels of yellow corn, 166 bushels of cabbage, 25 tons of tomatoes and 800 bushels of spinach.*
- scales where each step is a multiple of the prior step rather than a fixed addition to it
 - fellow workers -- especially in a respected profession such as teaching, medicine, or law
 - a large amount
- or:
- a unit of measure used for dry goods (filling an 8 gallon container)
- 16 *Here in the simple forest, feelings of uninhibited freedom sprang from my soul like mountain spring water.*
- the process of excessive encouragement or excitement
 - acting naturally without being overly self-conscious
 - the ability to take or adopt power or responsibility
- 17 *This "revival" started tonight with an evangelist named James Robison.*
- relating to the 20th century movement of artists and writers who used impossible or unlikely images to represent unconscious thoughts and dreams
 - of the ancient collection of city states at eastern end of the Mediterranean known for their maritime trading culture between 1550 BC to 300 BC
 - someone who actively tries to persuade others to accept a belief or cause, especially a Christian preacher who urges people to become Christians
- 18 *Most of what he said about knowing God, repenting and salvation, I didn't clearly understand.*
- giving an opinion of what is wrong with something
 - expressing regret for having done something wrong
 - keeping people and goods from reaching a location
- 19 *The evangelist remained reverent and quiet for long seconds.*
- without purpose, job, or natural activity
 - feeling or showing respect and admiration
 - the quality of being sensible and careful
- 20 *The last thing I wanted to happen to me was to get serious with some seminarian.*
- someone who tries to obtain a result through gentle and careful effort
 - a school for training clerics -- usually ministers, priests, or rabbis
 - a specialist in the branch of engineering that deals with small things

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	suburban	Used 10 times in this book.
2	B	sparse	Used 3 times in this book.
3	C	migrate	Used 3 times in this book.
4	A	lethargic	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
5	B	intuition	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
6	C	perplex	Used 2 times in this book.
7	C	irrational	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
8	C	prejudice	Used 4 times in this book.
9	A	however (<i>as in: However you do it, get it done!</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
10	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	B	congregation (<i>as in: the congregation voted</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 15 times in this book.
12	B	vary	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	A	telepathy	Used 4 times in this book.
14	A	ponder	Used 3 times in this book.
15	C	bushel	Used 5 times in this book.
16	B	inhibited (<i>as in: she is shy and inhibited</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
17	C	evangelist	Used 6 times in this book.
18	B	repent	Used 8 times in this book.
19	B	revere	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	B	seminary	Used 18 times in this book.