

Airborn

by Kenneth Oppel

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

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.

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: carnivorous, collide, deviate, direct (2), foliage, gossamer, imply, indignant, infernal, infirmary, jut, mishap, nimble, taut, tether, trifle, trifle with, vary, vertebrae



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Airborn

by Kenneth Oppel

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

Vocabulary Preview

Airborn

by Kenneth Oppel

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

- Most bear species are omnivorous, but individuals' diets can range from almost exclusively herbivorous to almost exclusively **carnivorous** depending on what food sources are available locally and seasonally.
 - meat-eating
 - plant-eating
 - both meat-eating and plant-eating
- If the two cars **collide** at high speed, the damage will be severe.
 - crash
 - wait
 - split
- Good students rarely **deviate** from their study schedule.
 - depart from norms
 - stick to plans
 - yell at rules
- I would like to speak **directly** to the manager.
 - formally
 - personally
 - when convenient
- She is easy to work with. She is **direct** in her communications and expectations.
 - straightforward
 - considerate
 - humble
- I like to rest my eyes by periodically looking up from the computer and gazing out the window at the **foliage**.
 - birds
 - plant leaves
 - clouds
- A **gossamer** curtain softened the sunlight in the room.
 - thick and heavy
 - brightly colored
 - thin and delicate
- She **implied** that she would vote with us.
 - hinted
 - insisted
 - denied
- She was **indignant**, but she agreed to be searched when they accused her of shoplifting.
 - annoyed at something unjust
 - surprised at the unexpected
 - defensive about being suspected
- That **infernal** alarm clock kept going off every five minutes.
 - annoying
 - expensive
 - antique
- I walked her to the campus **infirmary**.
 - security office
 - health service
 - library

12. She tripped on a thick tree root that jutt~~ed~~ out across the muddy path.
- A. washed away
 - B. curled up
 - C. stuck out
13. Barbless hooks are much easier to remove from the fish (and the person fishing, in the event of a mishap).
- A. reversal of fortunes
 - B. violent argument
 - C. minor accident
14. Her nimble fingers danced on the keyboard.
- A. long and attractive
 - B. quick and agile
 - C. ebony-colored
15. The clothesline was taut between the two trees in the yard.
- A. shiny
 - B. tight
 - C. noisy
16. The astronaut is tethered to the space station while doing outside repairs.
- A. close
 - B. outside
 - C. tied
17. Don't waste my time with trifling matters.
- A. other's
 - B. future
 - C. unimportant
18. The European Parliament refuses to be trifled with.
- A. treated without respect
 - B. argued with
 - C. negotiated with
19. McDonald's menu options vary by location.
- A. are consistent
 - B. are different
 - C. are known
20. While making a tackle, the C3 and C4 vertebrae were compressed into each other.
- A. bony segments of the spinal column
 - B. flexible joints in the elbow
 - C. muscular tissues of the heart

Vocabulary in Context

Airborn

by Kenneth Oppel

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 I saw the line quickly swing up and become **taut**.
 - A. relating to logical examination to improve understanding
 - B. pulled or drawn tight;
or: subjected to great tension
 - C. the state or degree of being pessimistic or disagreeable
- 2 The sixth line went, and now there were but two lines **tethering** the balloon to the gondola, attached to opposite corners.
 - A. aka analyzing -- analyzing based upon a theory of psychiatry
 - B. trying to make a profit--typically making a risky investment
 - C. tying to something so as to limit the boundaries of movement
- 3 We've circled the globe a thousand times without **mishap**.
 - A. basic rule or belief
 - B. the act of forgiving
 - C. unfortunate accident
- 4 Well, it **varies** quite a lot, actually.
 - A. predicts or reveals
 - B. differs; or changes
 - C. shows or represents
- 5 Anyway, we got him inside and took him to the **infirmary**, and the doctor tended to him.
 - A. people who do not believe in the existence of god
 - B. a small facility where patients receive treatment
 - C. a state in which there is little ability to think
- 6 Our projected route was a dotted line, with a few little zigzag markings where we'd **deviated** because of wind and weather.
 - A. differed or changed
 - B. excessively excited
 - C. nervous or confused
- 7 As we turned and climbed, she turned and climbed with us, keeping herself on a **collision** course.
 - A. to crash together with violent impact
 - B. microorganisms (living creatures so small it takes a microscope to see them)
 - C. the smallest part of any material that cannot be broken up by chemical means
- 8 Tall gleaming black boots stepped **nimbly** down the rungs.
 - A. with strong desire
 - B. moving quickly with coordination and balance
 - C. in a sloped manner
- 9 What are they but things, baubles, **trifles**, bits of stuff?
 - A. struggles or disagreements
 - B. is attractive or desirable
 - C. things of small importance
- 10 I will not be **trifled with**.
 - A. treated thoughtlessly or without respect
 - B. injury to muscles or tendons of the knee
 - C. limit light vibrations to a single plane
- 11 As the last pirate began his climb, I ran down the catwalk and hurried up the ladder to the aft crow's nest, past the shimmering **gossamer** skin of the gas cells.
 - A. dreamlike state of altered consciousness
 - B. characteristic (of something or someone)
 - C. extremely light, delicate, airy, or thin

- 12 *Four more lines needed casting off, and then we'd no longer be tethered to that **infernal** little pirate ship.*
- A. very bad; or very annoying; or characteristic of hell or the underworld
 - B. relating to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
 - C. strict, firm, or hard (not giving in, not giving way, or not giving up)
- 13 *I guess **technically** it's not really a desert island. That would **imply** very little flora or fauna, which is obviously not the case here.*
- A. suggest (say indirectly)
 - B. struggle or disagreement
 - C. include consideration of
- 14 *The **dangerous, carnivorous** man-eating Mr. Cruse!*
- A. meat-eating
 - B. intentional
 - C. not sincere
- 15 *I could make out the long, knobby chain of **vertebrae** clear enough, and the rib cage, though some of the bones there were cracked or flattened.*
- A. bony segments of the spinal column
 - B. acts of stopping a battle or fight
 - C. a central open spaces in buildings
- 16 *You wouldn't be disobeying a **direct** order.*
- A. clear, straightforward, or to the point
 - B. the state or degree of being very large
 - C. meticulousness (care for small details)
- 17 *We stayed buried in the trees off her starboard side and worked our way back until we were **directly** across from her fins.*
- A. in a manner that is appropriate or related in size, amount, or degree
 - B. close, or in a straight line
 - C. in a manner that is not sexually attractive, or persuasively tempting
- 18 *I felt absurd hiking through the ferns and **foliage** hefting a carpetbag with a rose pattern on the outside.*
- A. shadows
 - B. plant leaves
 - C. clouds
- 19 *It had **jutting** shoulders and a humped back, but then I realized these were its massive wings, bundled tight.*
- A. expressed strong hatred or loathing for
 - B. expresses strong hatred or loathing for
 - C. to stick out; or a part that sticks out
- 20 *"I've heard there's one group already writing a paper claiming the whole thing's a hoax."
"How could they?" I asked **indignantly**.*
- A. anger or annoyance at something unjust or wrong
 - B. with surprise as something unexpected
 - C. with acceptance of something undesired as unavoidable

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Airborn

by Kenneth Oppel

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	taut	Used 7 times in this book.
2	C	tether	Used 8 times in this book.
3	C	mishap	Used 2 times in this book.
4	B	vary	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
5	B	infirmary	Used 10 times in this book.
6	A	deviate (<i>as in: deviate from the course</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
7	A	collide	Used 7 times in this book.
8	B	nimble	Used 7 times in this book.
9	C	trifle (<i>as in: a trifling matter</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
10	A	trifle with (<i>as in: trifle with her affections</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
11	C	gossamer	Used 3 times in this book.
12	A	infernal	Used 3 times in this book.
13	A	imply	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
14	A	carnivorous	Used 2 times in this book.
15	A	vertebrae	Used 5 times in this book.
16	A	direct (<i>as in: gave a direct answer</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	direct (<i>as in: directly above; or buy direct</i>)	Used 11 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
18	B	foliage	Used 12 times in this book.
19	C	jut	Used 4 times in this book.
20	A	indignant	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.