

Amusement Park Physics

by Annenberg Learner

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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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: approximate, coincidence, collide, criteria, diffuse, direct, evoke, external, Galileo, invert, linear, pendulum, phenomenon, physics, principle, propel, recluse, simulate, technique, theme



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The circumference of the earth is **approximately** 24,900 miles at the equator.
 - A. exactly
 - B. commonly mistaken as
 - C. about
2. It was a fortunate **coincidence** that we ran into each other at Starbucks.
 - A. unlikely event
 - B. plan
 - C. likely event
3. If the two cars **collide** at high speed, the damage will be severe.
 - A. crash
 - B. wait
 - C. split
4. The job posting listed several **criteria** for applicants.
 - A. rewards or prizes
 - B. standards or rules
 - C. jokes or stories
5. She helped **diffuse** his ideas throughout the school.
 - A. improve
 - B. discourage
 - C. spread
6. The judge **directed** the jury to ignore the question.
 - A. asked
 - B. ordered
 - C. understood
7. This remark **evoked** sadness.
 - A. eased
 - B. caused
 - C. relieved
8. **External** pressure from competitors forced the company to lower its prices.
 - A. located inside
 - B. coming from outside
 - C. happening before
9. **Galileo** proved that different weights fall at the same speed when he dropped 2 balls of different weights from the Leaning Tower of Pisa.
 - A. Famous Greek philosopher and mathematician (427–347 BC)
 - B. important Italian astronomer and physicist (1564–1642)
 - C. Renowned English chemist and physicist (1642–1727)
10. "She **inverted** the ""M"" to make a ""W""."
 - A. turned upside down
 - B. copied exactly
 - C. erased completely
11. The runners followed a **linear** course along the river, with no sharp turns or detours.
 - A. scenic
 - B. muddy
 - C. straight

12. The clock's **pendulum** swung steadily from side to side.
- A. fixed support
 - B. swinging weight
 - C. measuring mark
13. The **phenomenon** was first noticed by Marie Curie.
- A. thing of interest
 - B. thing that is growing
 - C. thing that is hidden
14. She became interested in **physics** after building a model rocket that launched using air pressure.
- A. study of living things
 - B. science of matter and energy
 - C. study of human cultures
15. One guiding **principle** is that everyone should be treated fairly.
- A. rule or belief
 - B. complaint
 - C. answer or result
16. The hot air balloon depends upon wind to **propel** it.
- A. turn
 - B. push
 - C. lift
17. Howard Hughes became an eccentric **recluse**.
- A. loaner
 - B. millionaire
 - C. collector
18. Our police are tested in conditions that **simulate** gunfire exchange with criminals in the presence of innocent bystanders.
- A. imitate
 - B. train
 - C. defend against
19. 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
20. What is the **theme** of your essay?
- A. basic idea
 - B. grammatical voice
 - C. narrative point of view

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 *Amusement Park **Physics** — What are the forces behind the fun?*
 - A. lacking things most people enjoy
 - B. the science of matter and energy
 - C. referring to any rocky mountains
- 2 *A **final set of wheels** keeps the coaster on the track even if it's **inverted**.*
 - A. turned in the opposite position -- such as upside down, inside out, or (of two things) in switched position
 - B. treated something in an educated, intellectual way -- often excluding emotional or practical considerations
 - C. (of an injury) became inflamed and created pus OR (generally) got worse -- especially through inattention
- 3 *Sand was used to help slow down the sled at the end of the ride to keep it from crashing, a **technique** based on the principle of friction.*
 - A. way of doing something
 - B. not easily set on fire
 - C. surrounding conditions
- 4 *Sand was used to help slow down the sled at the end of the ride to keep it from crashing, a technique based on the **principle** of friction.*
 - A. basic rule or belief
 - B. the act of forgiving
 - C. narrow water passage
- 5 *In 1955, the nation's first **theme park** opened: Disneyland.*
 - A. an amusement park with one or more basic underlying ideas -- such as the "Magic Kingdom" of Disneyworld
 - B. a living organism such as a bacterium, or virus that is so small, it can be seen only with a microscope
 - C. someone who specializes in a branch of psychology concerned with the links between biology and behavior
- 6 *This means the horses on the outside have a faster **linear** speed than those at the hub.*
 - A. clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate -- sometimes to indicate a difference that is excellent
 - B. using passive (sometimes subtle) resistance in interpersonal or occupational situations while avoiding direct confrontation
 - C. arranged in a straight line or progressing in a straight, orderly sequence -- often used for shapes, movement, time, or ideas
- 7 *On some carousels, the horses go up and down in a galloping motion **simulating** what it might be like to ride a real horse.*
 - A. making an imitation or representation of
 - B. hiring, reserving, booking, or occupying
 - C. opposing (struggling against each other)
- 8 ***Colliding Cars** — Predict the outcome of bumper car collisions.*
 - A. crashing together with violent impact; or coming into conflict
 - B. providing investment funds for something -- such as a business
 - C. making uncomfortable (weighing heavily on the senses or spirit)
- 9 *Each car has a large rubber bumper all around it, which prolongs the impact and **diffuses** the force of the collision.*
 - A. examines an issue, gets opinions by asking specific questions; and/or asks people for political support individually
 - B. accepts someone's membership though a special procedure such as a ceremony and/or period of instruction and/or test
 - C. to spread; or to soften or calm

or:

to be spread out (not concentrated) -- sometimes implying a lack of organization

- 10 Newton was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1642, only a few years after the death of Galileo Galilei.
- A. ancient Athenian philosopher who did much to influence Western thinking (428–347 BC)
 - B. Italian scientist who used the telescope to show that the Earth moves around the Sun
 - C. the third most common religion; polytheistic (many gods) with most adherents in India
- 11 Newton was insecure, badtempered, and sometimes **reclusive**—not exactly the friendly figure of folklore who was charmed by the fall of an apple.
- A. withdrawn from society (avoiding contact with others)
 - B. not concerned with what others might think of oneself
 - C. the degree of being completely in the specified state
- 12 This well-known law states that bodies in motion tend to stay in motion, unless they are acted on by an **external force**.
- A. certain
 - B. outside
 - C. various
- 13 Both your push against the earth and the earth's equal and opposite push against you **propel** you into the air.
- A. make different; or show difference
 - B. to cause something to move forward
 - C. make up for something bad; or save
- 14 If you want to observe the free-fall **phenomenon** in action, try the following demonstration in your home.
- A. something that exists or happened -- often of special interest
 - B. something that was once small, but is getting very large
 - C. something important that is hard to see or sense
- 15 Drill or punch two holes (**approximately** one-quarter inch in diameter) on opposite sides of the cup.
- A. relating to the outside
 - B. cheerfully and friendly
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 16 **Pendulum** rides are a little like the swing sets you might remember from your childhood.
- A. an inhabitant of Assyria -- an ancient kingdom centered in northern Mesopotamia which is in present-day Iraq; or their language
 - B. something that swings or shifts back and forth between two positions -- often seen in a swinging weight or in changing opinions
 - C. artist who belonged to an early 20th century art movement that expressed inner feelings through distorted renditions of reality
- 17 The motion of an object in a circle requires that there be a force **directed** toward the center of the circle (sometimes called a "centripetal force").
- A. helped make clear
 - B. aimed or focused
 - C. thought carefully
- 18 Many pendulum rides take the form of large boats, and it's probably no **coincidence** that a number of people find this ride evokes in them the same sense of seasickness that a real boat produces.
- A. a situation where things happened at the same time by chance even though it was unlikely
 - B. a person who studies DNA sequences or units of heredity that influence biological traits
 - C. baseball: a pitch thrown with little spin (so that it moves in an unpredictable manner)
- 19 Many pendulum rides take the form of large boats, and it's probably no coincidence that a number of people find this ride **evokes** in them the same sense of seasickness that a real boat produces.
- A. takes on as one's own
 - B. calls forth or causes
 - C. recognizes difference
- 20 These usually require that riders meet certain **criteria** relating to age, height, and weight, or warn them not to ride if they have certain medical conditions.
- A. the act of protecting something or keeping it as it is
 - B. reference points against which things can be evaluated
 - C. speaks with someone about something for the first time

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	physics	Used 7 times in this document.
2	A	invert	Used 2 times in this document.
3	A	technique	High-utility academic word
4	A	principle	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this document.
5	A	theme (<i>as in: theme of the novel</i>)	High-utility academic word
6	C	linear	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
7	A	simulate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this document.
8	A	collide	Used 12 times in this document.
9	C	diffuse	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
10	B	Galileo (<i>as in: Galileo Galilei</i>)	Used 7 times in this document.
11	A	recluse	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	B	external	Used 3 times in this document.
13	B	propel	Used 3 times in this document.
14	A	phenomenon	High-utility academic word
15	C	approximate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this document.
16	B	pendulum	Used 9 times in this document.
17	B	direct (<i>as in: direct a question; or direct a film</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this document.
18	A	coincidence	Used about 13 times per 10 books in our high school library.
19	B	evoke	High-utility academic word
20	B	criteria	High-utility academic word