

Another Country

by James Baldwin

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: anguish, compel, concerto, contrite, covert, diffident, hideous, insistent, irrelevant, mischievous, nevertheless, novel, perish, relentless, revelation, unprecedented, vengeance, vindictive, with a vengeance, wry



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Her guilt led to **anguish** until she committed her life to good.
 - A. extreme solitude
 - B. extreme distress
 - C. extreme depression
2. Can we **compel** the witness to testify?
 - A. prevent
 - B. force
 - C. delay
3. She performed a famous piano **concerto** by Mozart at the recital.
 - A. well-known opera singer
 - B. stringed wooden instrument
 - C. piece for solo and orchestra
4. Even after the jury found her guilty, she showed no sign of **contrition**.
 - A. regret
 - B. understanding
 - C. emotion
5. The government's **covert** funding of foreign rebel groups has been criticized for destabilizing the region.
 - A. secret
 - B. excessive
 - C. inadequate
6. She is so **diffident**; I can't imagine her as president of the organization.
 - A. young
 - B. unassertive
 - C. argumentative
7. He had a **hideous** scar running from his forehead to his jaw.
 - A. barely noticeable
 - B. extremely ugly
 - C. perfectly healed
8. She made an **insistent** request for more time on the project.
 - A. shy and hesitant
 - B. firmly demanding
 - C. unclear and brief
9. The writer should delete the sentence because it provides background information that is **irrelevant** to the paragraph.
 - A. confusing
 - B. unimportant
 - C. too wordy
10. The **mischievous** children spilled chocolate syrup all over the kitchen.
 - A. misbehaving
 - B. careless
 - C. young
11. She loves him. **Nevertheless**, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
 - A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition

12. It is a **novel** idea and just might work.
A. original
B. important
C. valuable
13. We can work together or **perish** separately.
A. work
B. die
C. fail
14. Her parents criticize her **relentlessly**.
A. subtly (in a non-obvious way)
B. constantly and oppressively
C. with an excessive sense of superiority
15. I was leaning toward voting for her, but her stance on education policy was a **revelation** to me.
A. something surprising and previously unknown
B. something that made a decision easy
C. something that reversed a previous decision
16. The targeting of civilians is **unprecedented** in the conflict.
A. a recurring problem
B. not having happened before
C. highly regrettable
17. Her evolutionary benefit theory of **vengeance** is supported by studies showing that a person's desire for revenge increases when others see their mistreatment.
A. fairness
B. status
C. revenge
18. She threw herself into work with a **vengeance**.
A. with reluctance
B. with intensity
C. with careful thought
19. She's not a **vindictive** person.
A. easy-going
B. revengeful
C. driven
20. Her **wry** comment made the bad news sound almost funny.
A. openly cheerful
B. dryly humorous
C. deeply serious

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 He paid the man and they got out and walked into the lobby, which was large and **hideous**, with mirrors and chairs.
 - A. the characteristic of demonstrating something
 - B. extremely ugly, offensive, and/or frightening
 - C. the quality of not being sensible and careful
- 2 There remained at the bottom of his mind, **nevertheless**, a numb speculation as to why this question should make him angry.
 - A. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 3 She held a drink and a cigarette in one hand and looked at once like the rather weary matron she actually was and the **mischievous** girl she once had been.
 - A. playfully causing minor trouble; or describing the smile of someone doing so
 - B. the state or degree of having the ability to change for different situations
 - C. the quality of behaving in an instinctive, uninhibited, and unplanned manner
- 4 She said the last with a **wry**, proud, grown-up exasperation, as one submitting to the penalties imposed by her brother's power, and glory.
 - A. the quality of being clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate
 - B. humor -- often understated, sarcastic, or ironic -- often expressed by twisting the face
 - C. the quality of not being clear, easily noticed, or identifiable as different or separate
- 5 Everything seemed to be swollen, thrusting and shifting and changing, about to burst into music or into flame or **revelation**.
 - A. something previously unknown; or making such a thing known
 - B. a large, elongated gland located behind the stomach that secretes digestive enzymes and insulin
 - C. of the philosophical & religious system based on the teachings of Laozi (also spelled Taoist)
- 6 He had a **diffident** manner and a nervous giggle.
 - A. young
 - B. hesitant and unassertive
 - C. belligerent (argumentative or aggressive)
- 7 The **concerto** was approaching its end.
 - A. an expert who shares professional opinions in a specific field
 - B. the act of being in a working position; or the act of starting
 - C. music written for orchestra and one (or more) solo instruments
- 8 He felt immediate **contrition**, seeing, in his mind's eye, her bewildered face, knowing how she wondered why her eldest son should cause, and appear to wish to cause her, so much pain.
 - A. sorrow or regret for a fault or offense
 - B. something that causes ongoing suffering
 - C. able to generate electricity from light
- 9 She thought, **irrelevantly**, I never should come to movies, I can't stand them, and then she began to cry.
 - A. in a manner that works with government officials whose job is to represent their country in discussions with other countries
 - B. in a manner that is not relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
 - C. in a manner that seems (at least at first impression) to be impossible because things that seem true contradict each other
- 10 And laughter rang down the street behind this call, the suppressed, bawdy laughter of the Italians—for, after all, Vivaldo was one of them, and a male, and apparently, a gifted one—and the delighted, **vindictive** laughter of the Negroes.
 - A. not capable of being suffered through (or put up with)
 - B. desirous of seeking revenge or wanting to hurt someone
 - C. not capable of surviving; or not capable of being done

- 11 *And whatever stalked there saw, and spread the news of what it saw throughout the entire kingdom of whomever, though the eye itself might **perish**.*
A. move into position to work; or start
B. die, be destroyed, or cease to exist
C. to spread to other parts of the body
- 12 *And at such moments Belle watched him, too, sympathy struggling to overcome the **relentless** vacuity in her face.*
A. the state of being aware of one's mental activity
B. to continue without stopping in an extreme manner
C. appropriate or related in size, amount, or degree
- 13 *Sometimes, unable to reach her and unable to reach the people in his **novel**, he stalked out and walked the summer streets alone.*
A. new and original
B. important and valuable
C. traditional (having withstood the test of time)
- 14 *The film was one of those politics, sex, and **vengeance** dramas the French love to turn out, and it starred one of the great French actors, who had died when this film was completed.*
A. something that stands out
B. something made from parts
C. the act of taking revenge
- 15 *He had used her in the hope of avoiding a confrontation with himself which he had, nevertheless, and with a **vengeance**, been forced to endure.*
A. available cash
B. with intensity
C. very important
- 16 *But I don't really feel that—terror—and that **anguish** and that joy I've sometimes felt with—a few men.*
A. extreme introversion
B. extreme pain, suffering, or distress
C. extreme depression
- 17 *She looked, **covertly**, at him again—her guilt began.*
A. done in a secret or hidden way
B. in a good or beneficial manner
C. in a manner that is misleading
- 18 *She could break him: for, to match her will, he would be **compelled** to descend to stratagems far beneath him.*
A. fruit cooked with sugar (like jam)
B. forced; or (more rarely) convinced
C. didn't trust or have confidence in
- 19 *It was strangely and **insistently** double-edged, it was like making love in the midst of mirrors, or it was like death by drowning.*
A. in a good or beneficial manner
B. in a persistent or firm manner
C. in a manner that does not stop
- 20 *But it was yet more strange and made for an **unprecedented** steadiness and freedom, that Eric loved him.*
A. relating to understanding or explaining something in a particular way
B. not having happened before; or nothing similar having happened before
C. [of food] able to be prepared in a manner that keeps it from spoiling

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	hideous	Used 18 times in this book.
2	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 14 times in this book.
3	A	mischievous	Used 6 times in this book.
4	B	wry	Used 6 times in this book.
5	A	revelation	Used 9 times in this book.
6	B	diffident	Used 3 times in this book.
7	C	concerto	Used 4 times in this book.
8	A	contrite	Used 3 times in this book.
9	B	irrelevant	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
10	B	vindictive	Used 4 times in this book.
11	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
12	B	relentless	Used 6 times in this book.
13	A	novel (<i>as in: a novel situation</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
14	C	vengeance (<i>as in: vengeance is mine</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
15	B	with a vengeance (<i>as in: with a vengeance</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
16	B	anguish	Used 15 times in this book.
17	A	covert (<i>as in: a covert plan</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
18	B	compel	Used 6 times in this book.
19	B	insistent	Used 8 times in this book.
20	B	unprecedented	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.