

Book Scavenger

by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

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: accompany, alternative (2), cipher, coincidence, confide, deduce, earnest, focus (2), genre, incredulous, initiate, narrator, negative, positive, prominent (2), protagonist, theme



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

- The exact numbers are shown in the **accompanying** table.
 - provided together
 - informative
 - previously published
- Can anyone think of a better **alternative**?
 - job
 - reason
 - possibility
- The Amish lead an **alternative** lifestyle that limits the use of technology.
 - non-standard
 - oriental or East Asian
 - traditional or standard
- The message was written with a **cipher**.
 - secret code
 - special pen
 - computer
- It was a fortunate **coincidence** that we ran into each other at Starbucks.
 - unlikely event
 - plan
 - likely event
- She **confided** in her parents.
 - trusted
 - didn't trust
 - was proud
- She trusts only what she can measure or can **deduce** from measurement.
 - describe in detail
 - conclude by reasoning
 - find in a book
- She has a casual, go-with-the-flow personality and doesn't appreciate his **earnestness**.
 - frivolous attitude
 - seriousness
 - falseness
- This week, I'm **focusing** on finishing my research paper.
 - concentrating
 - depending
 - getting help
- The discussion brought into focus an important difference of opinion.
 - hiding
 - conflict
 - view
- Jazz is her favorite musical **genre**.
 - origin
 - style
 - instrument
- At first, she was **incredulous**--thinking the report was in error.
 - worried
 - confused
 - without belief

13. The author uses the character to initiate his readers to life and norms within an American high-security prison.
- A. introduce
 - B. criticize
 - C. make excuses
14. One of the more popular narrators in movie history is Morgan Freeman. I especially liked him in *The Shawshank Redemption* where in addition to playing a major role, he narrated the film.
- A. producer who works closest with the actors
 - B. actor who talks directly to the audience
 - C. script writer
15. Higher gasoline prices **negatively** affected fast food sales.
- A. in a helpful manner
 - B. surprisingly
 - C. in a harmful manner
16. Volunteering had a **positive** impact on the whole neighborhood.
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. harmful or damaging
 - C. minor and unnoticed
17. The committee has many **prominent** members, so its findings will be taken seriously.
- A. well-known and important
 - B. diverse or varied
 - C. talented or skilled
18. The most **prominent** feature of the new building is its height.
- A. easily noticed
 - B. expensive
 - C. hard-to-see
19. We are all **protagonists** of our own story.
- A. the main characters
 - B. the strongest adversaries
 - C. the most concerned
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 When she **deduced** San Francisco was their next move, Emily should have flung the gold coins in celebration.
 - A. guessed wildly
 - B. figured out
 - C. made plans
- 2 The first letter of each word spelled out fifteen. That couldn't be a **coincidence**.
 - A. random chance
 - B. secret message
 - C. hidden pattern
- 3 Of course, there is another **alternative**.
 - A. requirement
 - B. decision
 - C. possibility
- 4 Griswold began publishing an **alternative** weekly paper called the Bayside Weekly, which eventually developed into one of the most prominent publishing companies in San Francisco.
 - A. non-traditional
 - B. nonprofit
 - C. electronic
- 5 Emily blinked at James a few times, like she couldn't quite get her eyes to **focus**.
 - A. look away
 - B. stare blankly
 - C. see clearly
- 6 But Emily was too **focused** on her discovery to pay attention to anything else.
 - A. concentrated
 - B. surprised
 - C. confused
- 7 James knew from keyboarding class that the sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" used every letter in the alphabet, so they made that their **cipher** key.
 - A. secret code
 - B. shortcut
 - C. typing trick
- 8 Griswold began publishing an alternative weekly paper called the Bayside Weekly, which eventually developed into one of the most **prominent** publishing companies in San Francisco.
 - A. important and well-known
 - B. creative and independent
 - C. international and expanding
- 9 The Gold-Bug sat **prominently** on top of her notebook.
 - A. in a noticeable position
 - B. in a random location
 - C. in a protected place
- 10 This poem was **accompanied** by an illustration of a black bird almost exactly like the one used in place of the seagull in the Bayside Press symbol.
 - A. joined
 - B. separated
 - C. topped
- 11 Or here's another idea: Maybe there's an animal **theme** with the scavenger hunt—gold bug, black cat, Maltese falcon.
 - A. recurring idea
 - B. secret message
 - C. prize location

- 12 "How could I have been so dumb?" she moaned. "Confiding in Mr. Quisling, of all people."
A. placing trust
B. relying heavily
C. taking advice
- 13 You shot him over a book? How could you do that? He did nothing but **positive** things!
A. good
B. bad
C. certain
- 14 "Do you always sleep here?" Emily asked.
"Fairly often. Ever since you brought that book in my shop, actually."
"The Gold-Bug?" Emily asked **incredulously**. "Did you know about the game? You knew it ended here?"
A. with excitement
B. out of curiosity
C. in disbelief
- 15 He altered some of Poe's letters and writings and compiled them into a posthumous biography in an attempt to paint Poe in a very **negative** light.
A. good
B. objective
C. bad
- 16 The animosity between Poe and Griswold might have begun **in earnest** when Poe wrote a review of this anthology in which he criticized the selection of poets (even though Poe's own poems appeared in it).
A. in a rude way
B. in a serious way
C. in a sudden way
- 17 Poe is credited with originating the detective-mystery **genre** with his character Le Chevalier C. Auguste Dupin, who appeared in three short stories:
A. main character
B. type of story
C. famous author
- 18 Some classify "The Gold-Bug" as one of Poe's detective stories because the **narrator** and protagonist work like detectives to unravel the mystery of the gold-bug and decipher the encrypted message.
A. main character
B. storyteller
C. wise character
- 19 Some classify "The Gold-Bug" as one of Poe's detective stories because the narrator and **protagonist** work like detectives to unravel the mystery of the gold-bug and decipher the encrypted message.
A. main character
B. storyteller
C. wise character
- 20 Masquerade **initiated** a literary genre called "armchair treasure hunts."
A. started
B. explained
C. criticized

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	deduce	Used 4 times in this book.
2	A	coincidence	Used 4 times in this book.
3	C	alternative (<i>as in: an alternative plan</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	A	alternative (<i>as in: alternative medicine</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
6	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	cipher (<i>as in: a secret cipher</i>)	Used 126 times in this book.
8	A	prominent (<i>as in: a prominent politician</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
9	A	prominent (<i>as in: a prominent place on the shelf</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
10	A	accompany (<i>as in: the accompanying chart</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
11	A	theme (<i>as in: theme of the novel</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
12	A	confide	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	A	positive (<i>as in: had a positive effect</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
14	C	incredulous	Used 3 times in this book.
15	C	negative (<i>as in: had a negative effect</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	B	earnest	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
17	B	genre	Used 4 times in this book.
18	B	narrator	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
19	A	protagonist	Used 2 times in this book.
20	A	initiate (<i>as in: initiate into the art of drumming</i>)	High-utility academic word