

Cat's Eye

by Margaret Atwood

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: abstract, accord (2), appropriate (2), chronological, denotes, dispose (2), furtive, inert, malice, oblong, obsolete, ornate, perpetual, ravine, render, ridicule, scorn



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	B
3	C
4	B
5	C
6	C
7	B
8	B
9	A
10	A
11	B
12	C
13	A
14	A
15	C
16	B
17	B
18	C
19	C
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 room is decorated with **abstract** art.
 - A. seemingly real (like a photograph)
 - B. colorful
 - C. not imitating objects of nature
2. She dresses in **accordance** with the latest fashions.
 - A. opposition
 - B. keeping
 - C. ignorance
3. After the fight, he turned himself in of his own **accord**.
 - A. own fear
 - B. own safety
 - C. own mind
4. The movie is not **appropriate** for young children.
 - A. bad
 - B. good
 - C. funny
5. She **appropriated** my idea as her own.
 - A. built
 - B. bought
 - C. took
6. The art works are displayed to show technique in a way that ordinary regional or **chronological** display wouldn't permit.
 - A. by region
 - B. by artist
 - C. by date
7. In algebra, letters often **denote** unknown numbers in equations.
 - A. scatter
 - B. represent
 - C. confuse
8. The issue will be **disposed** of by the judge.
 - A. discussed
 - B. settled
 - C. studied
9. You have a tight deadline, but the entire company is at your **disposal**.
 - A. command
 - B. mercy
 - C. office
10. Later she said she was just trying to figure out whose phone it was, but she looked around **furtively** before she began reading my text messages.
 - A. nervously
 - B. eagerly
 - C. with curiosity
11. She considers our political system **inert** and calls for violent revolution as the path to change.
 - A. corrupt
 - B. unmoving
 - C. energetic

12. Words can be like baseball bats when used **maliciously** against someone who is sensitive.
- A. carelessly
 - B. mockingly
 - C. evilly
13. The table is an **oblong** shape, with curved edges.
- A. elongated
 - B. circular
 - C. square
14. That old phone is **obsolete**.
- A. outdated
 - B. classic
 - C. broken
15. It was the most **ornate** building I've ever seen.
- A. ancient
 - B. boring
 - C. decorated
16. He has a **perpetual** fear of forgetting important deadlines.
- A. joyful
 - B. constant
 - C. secret
17. I was afraid that if we climbed into the **ravine**, we might be caught in a flood before we could get out.
- A. a hole so deep the bottom cannot be seen
 - B. deep, narrow, steep-sided valley
 - C. a large, fast-moving river
18. The face of the child is **rendered** with much tenderness in this painting.
- A. depicted or created with more detail than normal
 - B. created in a manner that will always be remembered
 - C. portrayed or created in a particular way
19. The other children **ridiculed** him for wearing mismatched socks to school.
- A. warmly praised
 - B. completely ignored
 - C. mocked or made fun of
20. That coach **scorns** students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains

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 *Up ahead there are huge **oblong** towers, all of glass, lit up, like enormous gravestones of cold light.*
 - A. an elongated shape (having more length than width) -- typically of a stretched circle that is longer than an oval, but occasionally used to describe a rectangle
 - B. a workplace where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals (also used figuratively) OR (as an adjective) related to such a place
 - C. soccer: a foul kick taken from 12 yards in front of the goal and defended only by the goalkeeper who cannot advance beyond the goal line until the shot is taken
- 2 ***Malicious**, *grudging*, *vindictive*, *implacable*.*
 - A. exceedingly important, serious, or dangerous
 - B. designed to be useful; or capable of working
 - C. the intention or desire to see others suffer
- 3 *That word, *plastered*, on the brink of **obsolescence**, indicates to me what sort of an event that was.*
 - A. no longer in general use because it was replaced by something better
 - B. difference; or the process of making different or showing difference
 - C. surrealist artist known for melting clocks and eccentric personality
- 4 *I can remember drawing such mustaches myself, and the spite that went into them, the desire to **ridicule**, to deflate, and the feeling of power.*
 - A. provide investment funds for something -- such as a business
 - B. ignore someone's wishes or cause inconvenience or discomfort
 - C. mock (make fun of); or the language or behavior that does so
- 5 *I riffle **furtively** through the SALE rack, bypassing sequins, angora roses, gold thread, grubby white leather, looking for something.*
 - A. while taking pains to avoid being observed; or in a nervous manner (as though hoping not to be seen)
 - B. in a manner that provokes, excites, or stimulates -- especially controversy, sexual desire, or anger
 - C. in a straightforward manner (uncomplicated or simple -- perhaps also indicating openness and honesty)
- 6 *The school we are sent to is some distance away, past a cemetery, across a **ravine**, along a wide curving street lined with older houses.*
 - A. another battle with the same foe
 - B. deep, narrow, steep-sided valley
 - C. describing someone as antisocial
- 7 *At the back are two grandiose entranceways with carvings around them and **ornate** insets above the doors, inscribed in curvy, solemn lettering: GIRLS and BOYS.*
 - A. able to be taken on as one's own
 - B. indicating approval or agreement
 - C. having lots of decorative detail
- 8 *She says this lightly but **scornfully**, as if only a fool would need to ask.*
 - A. in a disrespectful or rejecting manner
 - B. in a manner that is not easily noticed
 - C. with grace of movement and flexibility
- 9 *The boys of our school and the Catholic boys from Our Lady of **Perpetual** Help throw them at one another, but we would not do that.*
 - A. having the characteristics of a *monk* (often inclined toward self-denial)
 - B. continuing forever without change; or occurring so frequently it seems constant
 - C. about things beyond the physical world, such as existence, reality, or the soul
- 10 *I say I favor a **chronological** approach, but Charna has other ideas; she wants things to go together tonally and resonate and make statements that amplify one another.*
 - A. able to meet and talk with
 - B. the quality of disagreeing
 - C. arranged according to time

- 11 *Each room has its own displays, grouped according to what you are supposed to learn.*
A. idiom meaning "won the day"
B. based upon (in keeping with)
C. U.S. history: pre-Civil War period
- 12 *What I want instead is pictures that seem to exist of their own accord.*
A. the achievement of 3 positive feats in a sport
B. tropical viral disease transmitted by a mosquito
C. will or mind (without anyone needing to create them)
- 13 *I am careful and accurate, but I have drawn a person-shaped bottle, inert and without life.*
A. the quality or degree of being straightforward or clear (sometimes indicating that truth is not worded carefully to spare feelings or gain advantage)
B. unmoving, inactive, or unable to move
- or:
- slow, lethargic, or without interest
- or (in chemistry/medicine):
- chemically inactive (not having an effect)
C. the degree to which a performance of or to someone else's work lends itself to the expression of personal artistic ideas or feelings by the performer
- 14 *The dry voice from the darkness concentrates on the formal properties of the compositions, ... the rendering of textures, the uses of perspective in archways and in the tiles underfoot.*
A. gradually destroying or changing the purpose of something -- such as a government, institution, or rule
B. expressing personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing (or performing to) someone else's work
C. portrayal (showing or creating in a particular way)
- 15 *The second one makes a twirling motion beside his ear, with his finger, denoting craziness.*
A. overly unhappy and unsociable
B. stand for or symbolize literally; or be a sign or indicator of
C. drawing pictures to accompany
- 16 *...a full cotton skirt of a dull blue-green with abstract black swirls and squares on it,*
A. poor ability to make a decision
B. non-traditional or non-standard
C. not imitating objects of nature
- 17 *In practice this means that she appropriates the MEAT LIKE YOU LIKE IT sign and incorporates it into one of her constructions,*
A. budgets
B. copies
C. takes without asking
- 18 *To him it seems appropriate, to me eccentric: it's a defiance of convention, but of a convention he's never heard of.*
A. unkind
B. suitable (fitting)
C. out-of-place
- 19 *I carry things up the stairs and stow them in the garage. In there they seem disposed of.*
A. moved again into position to work; or started again
B. taken care of so they will no longer require attention
C. not examined in an attempt to improve understanding
- 20 *I am at her disposal.*
A. available to use
B. the taking on or adoption of power or responsibility
C. the process of controlling (how something turns out)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	oblong	Used 11 times in this book.
2	C	malice	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
3	A	obsolete	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
4	C	ridicule	Used 8 times in this book.
5	A	furtive	Used 6 times in this book.
6	B	ravine	Used 25 times in this book.
7	C	ornate	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
8	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 10 times in this book.
9	B	perpetual	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
10	C	chronological	Used 2 times in this book.
11	B	accord (<i>as in: according to, or in accord with</i>)	Used 8 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
12	C	accord (<i>as in: done of her own accord</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
13	B	inert	Used 5 times in this book.
14	C	render (<i>as in: rendered interpretation</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
15	B	denotes	Used 2 times in this book.
16	C	abstract (<i>as in: abstract art</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
17	C	appropriate (<i>as in: appropriate from their culture</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	B	appropriate (<i>as in: it is appropriate</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
19	B	dispose (<i>as in: dispose of the matter</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
20	A	dispose (<i>as in: disposed the troops along...</i>)	3 meanings in this book.