

Childhood's End

by Arthur C. Clarke

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: analyze, artificial (2), consequence (2), descend (2), inhibit, inhibited, moreover, motive, phenomenon, profound (2), subtle (2), telepathy, trivial, ubiquitous, utopia



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	A
4	A
5	B
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	B
10	B
11	C
12	A
13	B
14	A
15	A
16	C
17	A
18	C
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 coach studied the film to **analyze** the defensive breakdown.
 - A. avoid
 - B. examine
 - C. cause
2. The company does not use **artificial** ingredients.
 - A. grown non-locally
 - B. containing gluten
 - C. made by humans
3. She put on an **artificial** smile for the cameras while berating my performance.
 - A. not sincere
 - B. very large
 - C. barely noticeable
4. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
 - A. result
 - B. unimportant part
 - C. important part
5. It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
 - A. unethical
 - B. important
 - C. harmful
6. She saw him as he was **descending** the stairs.
 - A. climbing
 - B. looking at
 - C. going down
7. A feeling of hopelessness **descended** upon us.
 - A. battled
 - B. came
 - C. caused confusion
8. Cold weather can **inhibit** the growth of many tropical plants.
 - A. slow down
 - B. monitor
 - C. describe
9. He was too **inhibited** to dance at parties, even when everyone else joined in.
 - A. wild and uncontrolled
 - B. shy and self-conscious
 - C. loud and confident
10. Many graduates have high college debt. **Moreover**, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
 - A. in contrast to that
 - B. in addition to that
 - C. as a result of that
11. A desire for religious freedom was their **motive** for leaving England.
 - A. excuse
 - B. technique
 - C. reason
12. The **phenomenon** was first noticed by Marie Curie.
 - A. thing of interest
 - B. thing that is growing
 - C. thing that is hidden

13. She is a **profound** thinker.
- A. shallow
 - B. deep
 - C. quick
14. It was a **profound** spiritual experience that changed her life.
- A. intense
 - B. common
 - C. traditional
15. It is a **subtle** poison. In small doses, it might never be detected, but eventually your heart will fail.
- A. hard to notice
 - B. powerful
 - C. painless
16. She has a good eye for **subtle** differences in color.
- A. contrasting
 - B. complementary
 - C. minor
17. Though popular in fiction, **telepathy** does not exist in the real world.
- A. communication from one mind to another without using the known senses
 - B. improperly bold or disrespectful -- especially toward someone who is older or considered to be of higher status
 - C. unsophisticated (meant disapprovingly to refer to old-fashioned or narrow-minded attitudes and ideas)
18. I have heard only **trivial** objections.
- A. convincing
 - B. exaggerated
 - C. unimportant
19. Cycling is **ubiquitous** in the Netherlands.
- A. everywhere
 - B. encouraged by law
 - C. weather-dependent
20. We thought we could create a **utopia**, but we failed because we overestimated human nature.
- A. an ideal place
 - B. constant innovation
 - C. a challenging journey

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 **Moreover**, Karellen took no action against those responsible, or even indicated that he had known of the attack.
A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
B. in addition to what has just been said
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 2 It was true that some scientists, after **analyzing** the record of his only speech, had suggested that the voice was that of a machine.
A. opposing (struggling against each other)
B. examining in detail to better understand
C. hiring, reserving, booking, or occupying
- 3 Oh yes, quite often—but only on **trivial** points.
A. not sincere
B. intentional
C. unimportant
- 4 Though it was much the largest, the Freedom League was only one of the organizations that opposed Karellen—and, **consequently**, the humans who co-operated with the Overlords.
A. resultantly (as a result)
B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 5 The fact that it was a mind not yet born was of no **consequence**, for Time is very much stranger than you think.
A. translates
B. importance
C. sticks out
- 6 He was honest enough to admit that, in the final analysis, his, main **motive** was simple human curiosity.
A. small quantity or indication
B. the sacred writings of Islam
C. reason (for doing something)
- 7 But behind that display of sleeping force were other and much **subtler** weapons.
A. working in an indirect or hidden way
B. lacking experience or sophistication, and the understanding that comes from them
C. someone who views something in a certain way so as to form a belief or opinion
- 8 The Supervisor did not use those actual words, of course, and the thoughts he really expressed were far more **subtle**.
A. of an organism in the early stages of development prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting OR of anything in an early stage of development
B. (adjective) of low quality, or of lower quality or rank than something else OR (more rarely as a noun) a person of lower rank or status
C. difficult to understand -- often due to slight distinctions
- 9 ...the **ubiquitous** little air-cars had washed away the last barriers between the different tribes of mankind.
A. present everywhere
B. without a tendency to be full of thought
C. lacking a tendency to be full of thought
- 10 Utopia was here at last: its novelty had not yet been assailed by the supreme enemy of all Utopias—boredom.
A. imaginary places considered to be perfect or ideal
B. light seen after bouncing off a surface to another
C. inexperience, innocence, or lack of sophistication

- 11 He looked nervously at Jean, who had managed to force a somewhat **artificial** smile, and finally recovered his voice.
- A. not genuine
 - B. intentional
 - C. helpfulness
- 12 They were spaced with perfect precision along the rim of the planet--too huge to be **artificial**, yet too regular to be natural.
- A. the quality or degree of straightness, or absence of anything in between
 - B. bold or self-confident in a manner that seems disrespectful or tasteless
 - C. made by man
- 13 Their summits were streaked with snow, and the clouds above them were turning to fire as the sun **descended** on the last few minutes of its daily journey.
- A. mirrored back (an image)
 - B. quoted (to make a point)
 - C. moved down
- 14 Silence **descended** on the murmuring crowd
- A. said indirectly
 - B. came suddenly
 - C. greatly annoyed
- 15 She really seemed to think that there was something in this business of **telepathy** and second-sight.
- A. communication from one mind to another without using the known senses (often used in fiction but not scientifically supported as real)
 - B. lymph node -- one of many bean-sized organs that filter bacteria and other toxins from circulating white-blood-cell filled lymph fluid
 - C. when what happens is very different than what might be expected; or when things are together that seem like they don't belong together
- 16 The mild alcoholic fog prevented any **profound** analysis of what had happened,
- A. foolish or showing ignorance of important circumstances
 - B. deep or far-reaching in intellect or insight
 - C. quick or efficient
- 17 ...such natural catastrophes as earthquakes or floods, which might have a **profound** effect on large numbers of people...
- A. very intense
 - B. without a tendency to be full of thought
 - C. lacking a tendency to be full of thought
- 18 All down the ages there have been countless reports of strange **phenomena**--poltergeists, telepathy, precognition--which you had named but never explained.
- A. interesting observable things
 - B. computer code modules each of which perform a specific task
 - C. stock markets during times of generally rising stock values
- 19 I am well aware of the fact that we have also **inhibited**, by the contrast between our civilizations, all other forms of creative achievement as well.
- A. limited or restricted
 - B. governed
 - C. encouraged
- 20 From the Overlord's description, Jan built up a picture of a cyclopean beast living among the asteroidal rubble of some distant sun, its growth **uninhibited** by gravity, depending for food and life upon the range and resolving power of its single eye.
- A. the process of excessive encouragement or excitement
 - B. acting naturally without being overly self-conscious
 - C. the ability to take or adopt power or responsibility

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
2	B	analyze	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
3	C	trivial	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
4	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
6	C	motive (<i>as in: What is her motive?</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 11 times in this book.
7	A	subtle (<i>as in: a subtle poison</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	C	subtle (<i>as in: a subtle difference or thinker</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	ubiquitous	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
10	A	utopia	Used 4 times in this book.
11	A	artificial (<i>as in: an artificial smile</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
12	C	artificial (<i>as in: an artificial heart</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
13	C	descend (<i>as in: descend the mountain</i>)	Used 8 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
14	B	descend (<i>as in: thieves descended upon us</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
15	A	telepathy	Used 5 times in this book.
16	B	profound (<i>as in: profound idea</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
17	A	profound (<i>as in: profound sadness</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	A	phenomenon	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
19	A	inhibit (<i>as in: inhibited the growth of...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	B	inhibited (<i>as in: she is shy and inhibited</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.