

Cinder

Book Four, Chapters 30–38

by Marissa Meyer

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: at the expense of, feigned, imperative, mockery, ravaged, revulsion, ruse, sovereign, ulterior, undaunted

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Book One, Chapters 1–8 · A cyborg mechanic in New Beijing

Section 2 · Book Two, Chapters 9–20 · The plague reaches Cinder's household

Section 3 · Book Three, Chapters 21–29 · Pressure mounts on Prince Kai

Section 4 · Book Four, Chapters 30–38 · The night of the royal ball

***Bold = this section.** Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.*



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. He won the contest **at the expense of** his free time.

- A. in spite of
- B. with the help of
- C. at the cost of

2. He **feigned** a cough so he could leave class early.

- A. pretended; faked
- B. struggled to hold back
- C. forced out loudly

3. It is **imperative** that you arrive on time.

- A. strongly recommended
- B. somewhat convenient
- C. absolutely necessary

4. His rude joke made a **mockery** of the whole ceremony.

- A. a grand spectacle
- B. an insulting display
- C. a serious matter

5. The wildfire **ravaged** thousands of acres of forest.

- A. devastated; destroyed
- B. spread quickly across
- C. crept slowly toward

6. She stepped back in **revulsion** at the rotten smell.

- A. mild confusion
- B. strong disgust
- C. sudden surprise

7. He used a clever **ruse** to sneak past the guards.

- A. a trick; a deception
- B. a shortcut; a hidden path
- C. a disguise; a costume

8. Crowds bowed as the **sovereign** passed by.

- A. a palace guard
- B. a supreme ruler
- C. a royal advisor

9. I suspected she had **ulterior** motives for the favor.

- A. selfish; greedy
- B. unclear; confused
- C. hidden; secret

10. **Undaunted** by the steep cliff, she began to climb.

- A. not frightened or discouraged
- B. amazed by the sight
- C. worn out and exhausted

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

illusion — a false image

bloodline — the line of ancestors a person descends from

ghost — here, a person who has effectively vanished by cutting out her tracking chip

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY
1	C
2	A
3	C
4	B
5	A
6	B
7	A
8	B
9	C
10	A

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “Cinder feigned indifference. ‘I fixed one of the royal androids last week. He was just coming to pay me.’”

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘feigned’ most nearly suggests that Cinder was...

- A. only pretending not to care
- B. confused by Pearl’s reaction
- C. relieved the prince had gone

2 “My father was fighting a war against letumosis, the pestilence that has ravaged our planet for over a dozen years.”

The passage most strongly suggests that letumosis has...

- A. only recently reached Earth
- B. devastated the planet for years
- C. spread mainly among the wealthy

3 “... the sovereign of Luna, Her Majesty Queen Levana, has honored us with her presence for this past week.”

According to the passage, naming Levana ‘the sovereign of Luna’ identifies her as...

- A. Earth’s peace negotiator
- B. Luna’s honored ambassador
- C. Luna’s supreme ruler

4 “One of the servants had evidently gotten tired of standing motionless and impartial and was now looking her over with barely veiled revulsion.”

Which choice best describes the servant’s attitude toward Cinder?

- A. cautious curiosity
- B. weary indifference
- C. barely hidden disgust

5 “You little thief. How dare you come here and make a mockery of this family.”

The author most likely includes Adri’s ‘mockery’ accusation in order to...

- A. praise Cinder’s bravery at the ball
- B. reveal Adri’s secret pride in Cinder
- C. cast Cinder’s arrival as a public insult

6 “The desperation melted and, for the briefest of moments, the ulterior motives were gone.”

The passage most strongly suggests that, until this moment, Cinder’s kiss had been driven by...

- A. a hidden, calculated purpose
- B. a sudden, helpless panic
- C. a long-held secret crush

7 “We must have peace, but not at the expense of freedom. I cannot—I will not marry you.”

It can reasonably be inferred that, in refusing the queen, Kai values...

- A. peace over his people’s freedom
- B. freedom over a guaranteed peace
- C. his own safety over duty

8 “Though he had to crane his head back to meet the guard’s eye, his stance was undaunted.”

In the passage, Dr. Erland is characterized as...

- A. polite but secretly fearful
- B. unintimidated despite his size
- C. anxious before the larger guard

9 “That was a ruse. I am not here for blood samples.”

According to the passage, Dr. Erland’s request for blood samples was...

- A. a trick to reach Cinder
- B. a real medical necessity
- C. an order from the queen

10 “But now, it is imperative that you understand why you cannot let Levana take you.”

In context, the word ‘imperative’ emphasizes...

- A. how urgently necessary it is
- B. how unlikely it is to happen
- C. how difficult it is to grasp

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	A	
2	B	
3	C	
4	C	
5	C	Event comprehension.
6	A	Event comprehension. Cinder kissed Kai to goad Levana into a public reaction; here that calculation briefly gives way to genuine feeling.
7	B	Theme comprehension. The idiom is figurative: Kai trades nothing literal; 'not at the expense of freedom' means he will not sacrifice freedom to gain peace.
8	B	
9	A	
10	A	

Teacher Context: Book Four, Chapters 30–38

At the ball, Cinder races to warn Kai of the danger Levana poses, and long-hidden secrets about her identity come to light. The confrontation forces every thread of the story to a head. Section runs to the end of the novel.