

Divergent

Chapters 1-7

by Veronica Roth

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: approachable, distinct, perplex, predetermined, regarded, remainder, stage, surges, uniform, vanity

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 · Chapters 1-7 · Beatrice's last days in Abnegation

Section 2 · Chapters 8-13 · Stage One of Dauntless initiation

Section 3 · Chapters 14-20 · Visiting Day and the second stage

Section 4 · Chapters 21-27 · Deeper into the fear simulations

Section 5 · Chapters 28-32 · Preparing for the final test

Section 6 · Chapters 33-39 · After the final rankings

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



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

Divergent

Chapters 1-7

by Veronica Roth

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Everyone says the new principal is **approachable**.

- A. easy to talk to
- B. highly experienced
- C. fair and even-handed

2. I had the **distinct** feeling that someone was watching me.

- A. odd and unfamiliar
- B. clear and unmistakable
- C. sudden and brief

3. The riddle continued to **perplex** the whole class.

- A. to amuse or entertain
- B. to annoy or irritate
- C. to puzzle or confuse

4. Our seats were **predetermined** by the teacher.

- A. decided in advance
- B. picked at random
- C. chosen at the last minute

5. Her grandmother is **regarded** as the finest cook in town.

- A. considered to be
- B. introduced as
- C. chosen to be

6. She ate half the pizza and put the **remainder** in the fridge.

- A. the first serving
- B. the part left over
- C. the largest portion

7. The first **stage** of the project is gathering research.

- A. one step in a process
- B. the hardest part of a job
- C. the final result of work

8. The crowd **surges** forward when the band takes the stage.

- A. sways from side to side
- B. moves slowly and quietly
- C. rushes with sudden force

9. When the paint dried, it was a **uniform** shade.

- A. pale and thin
- B. rich and glossy
- C. the same throughout

10. His **vanity** showed in the hour he spent on his hair each morning.

- A. constant worry about his looks
- B. too much pride in one's looks
- C. a love of expensive clothes

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

factionless — belonging to no faction; the outcast underclass of this society

Divergent — a person whose test aptitude spans several factions rather than just one

Abnegation — the faction that most prizes selflessness, humility, and serving others

Amity — the faction that most prizes being kind and living in peace

Candor — the faction that most prizes honesty and directness

Dauntless — the faction that most prizes bravery

Erudite — the faction that most prizes knowledge and intelligence

aptitude — natural ability or potential to learn or do something well

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Divergent

Chapters 1-7

by Veronica Roth

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

Vocabulary in Context

Divergent

Chapters 1–7

by Veronica Roth

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

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

1 “They should perplex me. I should wonder what courage—which is the virtue they most value—has to do with a metal ring through your nostril. Instead my eyes cling to them wherever they go.”

As used in the passage, the word ‘perplex’ most nearly means—

- A. impress me deeply
- B. leave me puzzled
- C. frighten me

2 “Everything—our houses, our clothes, our hairstyles—is meant to help us forget ourselves and to protect us from vanity, greed, and envy, which are just forms of selfishness. If we have little, and want for little, and we are all equal, we envy no one.”

It can reasonably be inferred that caring about one’s appearance is treated as—

- A. a sign of disloyalty
- B. a private matter
- C. a form of selfishness

3 “The city is ruled by a council of fifty people, composed entirely of representatives from Abnegation, because our faction is regarded as incorruptible, due to our commitment to selflessness.”

According to the passage, Abnegation holds every council seat because the faction is—

- A. widely viewed as beyond corruption
- B. required by law to govern
- C. the largest faction in the city

4 “Instead I get the distinct impression that my heart will burst out of my chest any minute now, and I grab his arm to steady myself as I walk up the front steps.”

In context, the word ‘distinct’ emphasizes that the narrator’s impression is—

- A. hard to put into words
- B. vivid, not vague
- C. brief and passing

5 “The uniform pounding of feet in my ears and the homogeneity of the people around me makes me believe that I could choose this.”

The information in the excerpt primarily functions to show—

- A. why sameness is tempting
- B. why crowds are unpleasant
- C. how tiring the climb is

6 “Welcome to the day we honor the democratic philosophy of our ancestors, which tells us that every man has the right to choose his own way in this world.

Or, it occurs to me, one of five predetermined ways.”

Which choice best describes the narrator’s attitude toward the promise of free choice?

- A. openly outraged
- B. genuinely grateful
- C. quietly skeptical

7 “The air howls in my ears as the ground surges toward me, growing and expanding, or I surge toward the ground, my heart pounding so fast it hurts, every muscle in my body tensing as the falling sensation drags at my stomach.”

The author most likely includes ‘or I surge toward the ground’ in order to—

- A. convey the confusion of falling
- B. emphasize how far the fall is
- C. suggest the fall is slow

8 “It must be because you’re so approachable,’ I say flatly. You know. Like a bed of nails.”

The narrator’s ironic use of ‘approachable’ characterizes the listener as—

- A. harsh and unwelcoming
- B. shy and soft-spoken
- C. warm but distracted

9 “Training takes place every day from eight to six, with a break for lunch. You are free to do whatever you like after six. You will also get some time off between each stage of initiation.”

It can reasonably be inferred that initiation—

- A. ends at six each evening
- B. is finished in a single day
- C. happens in more than one part

10 “Four initiates will be cut at the end of stage one. The remainder will be cut after the final test.”

As used in the passage, “the remainder” refers to—

- A. the four initiates cut at stage one
- B. the initiates not cut at the end of stage one
- C. the tests remaining after stage one

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Divergent
Chapters 1–7
by Veronica Roth

#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	C	Students usually meet 'vanity' only in 'in vain' or as a name for a bathroom fixture. Here it is the older moral sense — pride in how one looks — which is why it is listed beside greed and envy.
3	A	Worth pausing on: 'regarded as' reports a reputation, not a proven fact. The passage says the faction is seen as incorruptible, not that it has been shown to be — a distinction students tend to read past.
4	B	
5	A	
6	C	The irony is the point, and it turns on one word: the speech promises that every man chooses his own way, and the narrator silently counts the five ways already laid out for him.
7	A	
8	A	
9	C	
10	B	

Teacher Context: Chapters 1–7

Beatrice Prior takes the aptitude test, which returns an inconclusive result, and Tori warns her privately about what that means. At the Choosing Ceremony she leaves her family's faction for Dauntless, then rides the train, jumps from the roof, and lands among the initiates. The break falls where the compound tour ends and training has not yet begun.