

Divergent

Chapters 14–20

by Veronica Roth

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: associating, calls into question, ideals, manipulated, passive, pose, principle, rational, stimulates, suppress

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

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Answer Key — Preview	3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. He stopped **associating** with his old teammates after the move.

- A. competing against
- B. keeping company with
- C. quarreling with

2. The missing receipt **calls into question** his whole story.

- A. casts doubt on
- B. draws attention to
- C. brings to an end

3. She refused to give up the **ideals** she was raised with.

- A. opinions held about others
- B. habits kept out of routine
- C. high standards to aim at

4. She **manipulated** the controls until the drone hovered steady.

- A. operated with skill
- B. tapped at nervously
- C. adjusted at random

5. The crowd stayed **passive** while the argument grew louder.

- A. not acting or responding
- B. amused and curious
- C. unsure and confused

6. Loose wires **pose** a danger to everyone in the workshop.

- A. present or create
- B. warn of
- C. point out

7. Honesty is the **principle** she refuses to bend for anyone.

- A. a goal she hopes to reach
- B. a habit formed early on
- C. a basic rule one lives by

8. The engineer offered a **rational** explanation for the strange noise.

- A. given in simple words
- B. guided by clear reason
- C. based on a quick guess

9. A strong cup of coffee **stimulates** the brain.

- A. gradually wears down
- B. rouses into activity
- C. protects from harm

10. He had to **suppress** a laugh during the serious ceremony.

- A. apologize for out loud
- B. point out to a friend
- C. hold back or keep down

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

faction before blood — the Dauntless rule that loyalty to your faction comes before loyalty to your family

simulation serum — the injected drug that puts an initiate inside a fear simulation (controlled hallucination)

morally bereft — completely without morals

wide berth — a wide margin of space kept to avoid someone or something

ANSWER KEY

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

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 “You look familiar for some reason, Four. I can’t imagine why,” he replies, his voice suddenly cold. I don’t make a habit of associating with the Abnegation.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “associating” most nearly suggests that Four...

- A. avoids their company by choice
- B. has never heard of them
- C. openly argues with them

2 “Faction transfers are not really supposed to discuss their old factions once they become members. It’s supposed to make it easier for them to change their allegiance from family to faction—to embrace the principle ‘faction before blood.’”

The author most likely includes the principle “faction before blood” in order to...

- A. show how factions recruit members
- B. explain why transfers feel homesick
- C. name the rule members must live by

3 “A laugh bubbles in my stomach. Hysterical. I have to suppress hysteria if I’m going to help him.”

In the passage, the narrator is characterized as someone who...

- A. is too shaken to be of any use
- B. sees nothing serious in the situation
- C. forces down feeling in order to act

4 “Maybe Dauntless was formed with good intentions, with the right ideals and the right goals. But it has strayed far from them.”

The information in the excerpt about Dauntless primarily functions to...

- A. praise the bravery of the founders
- B. explain how a new faction is formed
- C. contrast founding standards with today

5 “I should scream, like any rational human being would, but when I open my mouth again, I just crow with joy.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the narrator’s reaction to the fall is...

- A. the opposite of what reason expects
- B. caused by her fear of heights
- C. the result of careful planning

6 “Simulations aren’t real; they pose no real threat to me, so logically, I shouldn’t be afraid of them, but my reaction is visceral.”

Which statement is best supported by the passage?

- A. The narrator misunderstands the test.
- B. Fear does not answer to logic.
- C. The simulations can cause real harm.

7 “In addition to containing the transmitter, the serum stimulates the amygdala, which is the part of the brain involved in processing negative emotions—like fear—and then induces a hallucination.”

According to the passage, the serum produces a hallucination by acting on the amygdala to...

- A. stir it into activity
- B. measure its electrical output
- C. shield it from fear signals

8 “‘The mass exodus of the children of Abnegation leaders cannot be ignored or attributed to coincidence,’ he reads. The recent transfer of Beatrice and Caleb Prior, the children of Andrew Prior, calls into question the soundness of Abnegation’s values and teachings.”

Which choice best describes the article’s attitude toward Abnegation?

- A. doubtful about its soundness
- B. alarmed by its recent growth
- C. respectful of its traditions

9 “The water burns my eyes. The initiates’ passive faces stare back at me. They don’t care.”

It can reasonably be inferred from the initiates’ faces that they will...

- A. report what they have seen
- B. do nothing to help her
- C. panic along with her

10 “I feel my heartbeat in my throat. I manipulated the simulation; I broke the glass. I didn’t know that was an act of Divergence.”

As used in the passage, the word “manipulated” most nearly means...

- A. endured without resisting
- B. altered by deliberate action
- C. misled by clever trickery

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	A	'I don't make a habit of' turns a personal refusal into a stated policy — worth pointing out as a formal way of keeping distance.
2	C	
3	C	The laugh here is a stress reaction, not amusement; 'suppress' is what tells students she is holding it down rather than giving in to it.
4	C	
5	A	
6	B	Students who know 'pose' only as holding still for a picture may stumble; here it means to present something — a threat, a question, a problem.
7	A	
8	A	'Calls into question' is how formal argument raises doubt without making an accusation outright — a useful move for students to recognize in persuasive writing.
9	B	This moment happens inside a fear simulation, so the onlookers are not really there; the question turns only on what their faces show.
10	B	Here 'manipulated' means operating on a system with skill, not deceiving a person — the negative sense students usually meet first. Both senses are common; context decides.

Teacher Context: Chapters 14–20

Tris's mother visits and delivers a quiet warning about keeping her results to herself. The second stage of initiation begins — fear simulations — and Four notices how quickly Tris comes out of them. Rivalry among the initiates turns violent with Edward's stabbing.