

Dreamland

by Sarah Dessen

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

Answer Key — Preview	2	teacher use / self-check only
Vocabulary Preview	3	

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context	5	
Answer Key — In Context	7	teacher use only

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: attain, contemplate, controversial, critique, crucial, ecstatic, exasperated, facilitate, however (2), intervene, mosaic, oblivious, subsequent, subtle (2), thwart, trivia, trivial, waver



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Dreamland

by Sarah Dessen

#	KEY
1	C
2	C
3	C
4	C
5	B
6	B
7	C
8	B
9	A
10	C
11	B
12	C
13	A
14	C
15	B
16	C
17	B
18	A
19	C
20	C

Vocabulary Preview

Dreamland

by Sarah Dessen

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. They hope to **attain** effective law and order in the region before withdrawing troops.
 - A. openly oppose
 - B. carefully describe
 - C. successfully gain
2. The philosopher **contemplated** the meaning of life, pondering the big questions of existence.
 - A. wrote about
 - B. read about
 - C. thought about
3. The school reached a **controversial** decision on affirmative action.
 - A. final after a long period of indecision
 - B. difficult due to complexity
 - C. tending to arouse strong disagreement
4. Her **critique** of the editorial prompted a spirited discussion about economic policy.
 - A. approval and recommendation
 - B. reading aloud
 - C. analysis and judgment
5. The information is **crucial** to making a good decision.
 - A. helpful
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
6. She was **ecstatic** when her team won the championship.
 - A. exhausted
 - B. thrilled
 - C. furious
7. My little brother can be **exasperating**. He's always testing his boundaries.
 - A. very active
 - B. endearing (lovable)
 - C. greatly annoying
8. She argues that the stimulus **facilitated** an economic recovery.
 - A. ruled out
 - B. made easier
 - C. complicated
9. I hope to take the ACT just once. **However**, I will take it early, so there is time to study and take it again if my scores aren't high enough.
 - A. but
 - B. also
 - C. and
10. **However** safe we make it, there will always be risk.
 - A. on-the-other-hand
 - B. in addition
 - C. no matter how
11. They are opposed to Russian **intervention** in their country.
 - A. intense feeling of happiness and excitement
 - B. involvement
 - C. severe damage -- for example by cutting up

12. The museum has a **mosaic** that dates back to the 13th century.
- A. a piece of thick textile fabric with pictures or designs formed by weaving colored threads
 - B. a three-dimensional representation -- often made by carving, chiseling, or casting
 - C. art consisting of a design made of many pieces of colored material such as stone or tile
13. She's a happy girl--**oblivious** to most of the unhappiness around her.
- A. unaware of
 - B. concerned with
 - C. adding to
14. The results of the initial investigation were unclear, but a **subsequent** investigation concluded that she used good judgment.
- A. thorough
 - B. official
 - C. following
15. She likes dramatic statements, but he prefers to be **subtle**.
- A. quiet and action-oriented
 - B. understated so as not to draw excess attention
 - C. a careful listener
16. She has a good eye for **subtle** differences in color.
- A. contrasting
 - B. complementary
 - C. minor
17. The environmental activists **thwarted** the construction of the new oil pipeline by protesting and filing lawsuits.
- A. surprised
 - B. prevented
 - C. responded
18. The pub night featured **trivia** about movies from the 1980s.
- A. obscure little facts
 - B. deeply held secrets
 - C. wildly bold claims
19. I have heard only **trivial** objections.
- A. convincing
 - B. exaggerated
 - C. unimportant
20. We will never **waver** in our commitment to provide the best education possible.
- A. speak forcefully
 - B. grow rapidly
 - C. be unsteady

Vocabulary in Context

Dreamland

by Sarah Dessen

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 My parents were **ecstatic** and threw a party to celebrate.
A. deeply disappointed
B. feeling intense happiness and excitement
C. intensely concerned
- 2 With a new semester, he was now busy with a class of incoming freshmen, a set of demonstrations over a **controversial** speaker, and a group of football players who had started a brawl at a local dance bar.
A. not bouncing back light/heat/sound...
B. expressing or arousing sensual desire
C. tending to arouse strong disagreement
- 3 It was the one reminder of Cass's **thwarted** college plans that she hadn't taken down yet.
A. portrayed or created something in a particular way OR interpreted, translated, or extracted from
B. to prevent someone from doing what they want to do; or (less commonly) to oppose someone's efforts
C. changed the direction of a light wave (or other wave) by passing an opaque edge or narrow opening
- 4 I'd forgotten my cheerleading sweater again, just as I was always forgetting something **crucial**—regulation socks, matching ponytail holders, pom-poms.
A. natural
B. very important
C. more than is needed
- 5 We'd been working on a big halftime number for a couple of weeks that involved not only a pyramid but some heavy-duty dancing, a can-can line, and a row of **subsequent** backflips.
A. able to take on or adopt
B. the state of being awake
C. following something else
- 6 Mike Evans asked me, and without even really realizing it, I pulled out from under his arm, one quick movement, costing him all the progress he'd slowly **attained** in the last thirty minutes.
A. examined in detail to better understand
B. tension from opposing ideas or feelings
C. gained or reached something with effort
- 7 Rogerson asked me, taking one last glance back as if still **contemplating** finishing what Mike had started.
A. restarted (a fire)
B. wrongly translates
C. consider or ponder
- 8 It was a Friday night, during my parents' and Boo and Stewart's weekly **Trivial** Pursuit war.
A. not sincere
B. intentional
C. unimportant
- 9 It was as if they were drunk on **trivia**, and every Friday was a bender.
A. facts or details that are generally considered unimportant
B. the practice or tendency to be pessimistic or disagreeable
C. the doctrine that all knowledge is derived from experience
- 10 "Ouch," I said, trying to be **subtle** in taking a glance at my watch: five minutes had passed.
A. mental activity of which one is not self-aware
B. understated (not obvious so it wouldn't be noticed)
C. the state or degree of being greater than zero
- 11 I'd only known Rogerson for three months, but I could recognize instantly the **subtle** signs of him growing irritated:
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. slightly noticeable

- 12 "There was a vote today, and everyone but me was in favor of a confrontation about your level of serious commitment to the school and the squad."
... A cheerleading **intervention**. Just what I needed.
- A. aka analyst -- psychiatrist
 - B. unwelcome involvement
 - C. something taken on or adopted
- 13 When we had sex, especially, I couldn't push it out of my mind, **however** badly I wanted to.
- A. people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning
 - B. aka analysis -- psychiatric treatment; or a theory of psychiatric treatment
 - C. regardless of how
- 14 With that added element, **however**, it was all I could do to sit down and remain calm as all eyes stayed on me.
- A. a word used to connect contrasting ideas as when using *though, in spite of that, in contrast, nevertheless*, etc.
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 15 "The check bounced last week."
"I thought we had it covered."
"We would have if you hadn't taken the money out," she said, **exasperated**.
- A. said indirectly
 - B. came or arrived
 - C. greatly annoyed
- 16 I hated the girl I saw there, and she didn't even care, didn't know, just staring out, **oblivious**.
- A. unaware
 - B. related to
 - C. very large
- 17 Then again, and again, tearing the pieces down until they grew smaller and smaller, tiny bits like the stones of a crazy **mosaic**.
- A. a piece of thick textile fabric with pictures or designs formed by weaving colored threads
 - B. a three-dimensional representation -- often made by carving, chiseling, or casting
 - C. art consisting of a design made of many pieces of colored material such as stone or tile
- 18 He was the ultimate **facilitator**, but this emotional thing, with the two of us one-on-one, was new to him.
- A. someone who avoids or tries to avoid either a responsibility or telling the whole truth
 - B. someone from outside a group, who helps the group to discuss issues and find solutions
 - C. someone who breaks the law by telling lies after formally promising to tell the truth
- 19 We'd sit in the good, bright fight of the solarium, **critiquing** technique and squinting over contact sheets.
- A. examining in detail to better understand
 - B. hiring, reserving, booking, or occupying
 - C. an examination and judgment of something
- 20 In some of these scenarios, he was angry with me, or so nice that I felt my strength **wavering**, if only slightly.
- A. thinking carefully and making a judgment about
 - B. returning to an undesirable previous condition
 - C. moving back and forth; or being unsure or weak

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Dreamland
by Sarah Dessen

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	ecstatic	Used 3 times in this book.
2	C	controversial	High-utility academic word
3	B	thwart (<i>as in: thwarted her plans</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
4	B	crucial	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
5	C	subsequent	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
6	C	attain	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
7	C	contemplate	Used 3 times in this book.
8	C	trivial	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
9	A	trivia	Used 8 times in this book.
10	B	subtle (<i>as in: a subtle shade of blue</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	C	subtle (<i>as in: a subtle difference or thinker</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
12	B	intervene (<i>as in: intervened in the war</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
13	C	however (<i>as in: However much she tried...</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
15	C	exasperated	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
16	A	oblivious	Used 3 times in this book.
17	C	mosaic	Used 3 times in this book.
18	B	facilitate	High-utility academic word
19	C	critique	High-utility academic word
20	C	waver	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
