

# Drinking Coffee Elsewhere

by ZZ Packer

## Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

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### 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.

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#### 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:** Achilles, altercation, aspire, bacteria, distort, essence, habitat, haughty, hepatitis, jovial, Malcolm X, obese, peril, persist, revise, Socrates, strident, taunt, vigor, zeal



#### More Vocabulary Printables

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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

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

# Vocabulary Preview

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Paris killed **Achilles** by shooting a poisoned arrow into his heal.
  - A. mythical Greek sorcerer who defeated Zeus
  - B. mythical Greek demigod with two heads
  - C. mythical Greek hero of the Iliad
2. We have video of the **altercation**.
  - A. fight
  - B. accident
  - C. theft
3. The young artist **aspires** to create masterpieces that will inspire generations to come.
  - A. hopes
  - B. delays
  - C. fears
4. She survived a severe infection of MRSA **bacteria**.
  - A. lice
  - B. germs
  - C. mosquitoes
5. The funhouse mirror **distorted** her reflection, making her head look huge.
  - A. reflected
  - B. improved
  - C. altered
6. The **essence** of friendship is trust, even more than shared interests.
  - A. most common activity
  - B. least noticeable detail
  - C. most important quality
7. They are found in the marine **habitat** of the kelp forest of southern California.
  - A. feeding routine
  - B. natural environment
  - C. breeding season
8. She has that **haughty**, rich and entitled attitude.
  - A. wealthy
  - B. arrogant
  - C. optimistic
9. The clinic offered vaccines to protect travelers from **hepatitis**.
  - A. skin injury
  - B. liver disease
  - C. broken bone
10. She is a **joyful** old woman.
  - A. impossible to understand
  - B. cheerful and friendly
  - C. very noticeable
11. **Malcolm X** criticized Martin Luther King Jr. and the mainstream civil rights movement for its emphasis on nonviolence and racial integration.
  - A. famous newspaper reporter
  - B. popular politician and orator
  - C. militant civil rights leader

12. The doctor explained that being **obese** can lead to health problems like heart disease and diabetes.
- A. significantly underweight
  - B. so muscular it limits movement
  - C. significantly overweight
13. The journalist's investigation put her in great **peril**.
- A. fame
  - B. danger
  - C. weariness
14. We expect the conditions to **persist** into next year.
- A. grow worse
  - B. continue
  - C. go away
15. Do you think the writer should **revise** the underlined sentence?
- A. remove
  - B. highlight
  - C. improve
16. **Socrates's** method of inquiry, the Socratic method, is still used by philosophers and educators today as a way to help people think critically about their beliefs.
- A. ancient Greek philosopher who did much to influence Western thinking (470–399 BC)
  - B. ancient Roman philosopher who did much to influence Western thinking (399–470)
  - C. ancient Babylonian philosopher who did much to influence Western thinking (599–670)
17. The protesters' **strident** chants could be heard from blocks away.
- A. forceful or loud and harsh
  - B. unexpected or non-typical
  - C. calm and composed
18. They **taunted** her until she responded physically, and then they beat her up.
- A. followed
  - B. insulted
  - C. surrounded
19. The scientist pursued her research with **vigor**, determined to make a breakthrough discovery.
- A. outside help
  - B. energy and strength
  - C. persistent patience
20. We need someone with both **zeal** and ability.
- A. enthusiasm
  - B. patience
  - C. honesty

**Vocabulary in Context**  
**Drinking Coffee Elsewhere**  
by ZZ Packer

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

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

- 1 *One guy said he'd like to be a gadfly, like **Socrates**.*
  - A. ancient Greek philosopher who did much to influence Western thinking (470–399 BC)
  - B. French painter who represents the bridge from impressionism to cubism (1839–1906)
  - C. of Judaism (the oldest of the three major monotheistic religions) or its culture
- 2 *The knocking **persisted**.*
  - A. disagreed
  - B. continued
  - C. stuck out
- 3 *Through the peephole I saw a white face, **distorted** and balloonish.*
  - A. said (or make a sound) with the voice
  - B. genetically changed through evolution
  - C. altered in an unnatural or untrue way
- 4 *Occasionally one would reach out to me with missionary **zeal**, but I'd rebuff that person with haughty silence.*
  - A. active interest and enthusiasm
  - B. made by taking on as one's own
  - C. relating to the chest (thorax)
- 5 *Occasionally one would reach out to me with missionary zeal, but I'd rebuff that person with **haughty** silence.*
  - A. absolute
  - B. arrogant
  - C. pleasing
- 6 *She was large but not **obese**, and crying had turned her face the color of raw chicken.*
  - A. the characteristic of being excessively unhappy and unsociable
  - B. the state or degree of being improper, awkward, or unfavorable
  - C. significantly overweight (due to the accumulation of body fat)
- 7 *Dressed like an **aspiring** plumber.*
  - A. hoping to be successful
  - B. attractive or desirable
  - C. predicting or revealing
- 8 *There's also **hepatitis**.*
  - A. obtaining pleasure from receiving punishment
  - B. disease that causes inflammation of the liver
  - C. expectation that things will turn out badly
- 9 *Each time you reheat it, you're killing good **bacteria**, which then can't keep the bad bacteria in check.*
  - A. the smallest part of any material that cannot be broken up by chemical means
  - B. microorganisms (living creatures so small it takes a microscope to see them)
  - C. psychoanalysis: that part of the unconscious mind that acts as a conscience
- 10 *With this, she put a **joyful** arm around my neck.*
  - A. not easily identified
  - B. friendly and cheerful
  - C. able to be translated

- 11 *Not in the God depicted in the Judeo-Christian Bible, but I do believe that nature's essence is a spirit that—*
- any of the military expeditions in the 11th to 13th centuries when Christian powers of Europe invaded Muslims in the Holy Land in the Middle East
  - one who believes in an economic system based on voluntary exchange in a competitive environment with private ownership of property and businesses
  - the defining or most important quality of something
- or:
- a extract that concentrates important qualities of something such as smell or taste
- 12 *We spent the first ten minutes discussing the Iliad, and whether or not the text actually states that Achilles had been dipped in the River Styx.*
- French general and emperor who ruled (through conquest) most of continental Europe for a brief time
  - Arab prophet who founded Islam and who, according to Islam, was the last messenger of Allah (570–632)
  - mythical Greek hero of the Iliad; central character and foremost Greek warrior at the siege of Troy
- 13 *The store was well swept, and people quietly checked long grocery lists—no screaming kids, no loud cashier-customer altercations.*
- a noisy argument, confrontation, or fight
  - dreamlike states of altered consciousness
  - works of fiction depicting a bleak future
- 14 *I'd come home from a school trip to an aquarium, and I was explaining the differences between baleen and sperm whales according to the size of their heads, the range of their habitats, their feeding patterns.*
- a system of logical examination of something to better understand it
  - the type of environment in which an organism or group normally lives
  - acts of again being in a working position; or acts of starting again
- 15 *Her response was to nod politely at the perilous elaborateness of it all; to nod in the knowledge that she would never be able to get where she wanted to go.*
- stuck out
  - dangerous
  - bent down
- 16 *Sometimes she slept on the floor; sometimes we slept sardinelike, my feet at her head, until she complained that my feet were "taunting" her.*
- giving an opinion of what is wrong with something
  - intentionally angering, challenging, or upsetting
  - keeping people and goods from reaching a location
- 17 *I got riled up by "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" and "The Chomsky Reader";*
- American short story writer (1783–1859)
  - U.S. abstract expressionist (1912–1956)
  - militant civil rights leader (1925–1965)
- 18 *His speech was strident but still smooth, and peppered with jokes.*
- unpleasantly forceful when expressing opinions; or loud and harsh
  - clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate
  - not capable of being better understood through detailed examination
- 19 *Heidi looked at me with what seemed to be a renewed vigor.*
- lacking things most people enjoy
  - strength, energy, or good health
  - opposed to people who are Jewish
- 20 *In that future time, you always have a chance to catch the groceries before they fall, your words can always be rewound and erased, rewritten and revised.*
- adapted
  - delayed
  - changed

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	Socrates	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
2	B	persist	Used about 9 times per 10 books in our high school library.
3	C	distort	Used about 9 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	A	zeal	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
5	B	haughty	High-utility academic word
6	C	obese	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
7	A	aspire	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	B	hepatitis	Used 2 times in this book.
9	B	bacteria	Used 2 times in this book.
10	B	jovial	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
11	C	essence	Used about 8 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	C	Achilles ( <i>in Greek mythology</i> )	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
13	A	altercation	High-utility academic word
14	B	habitat	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	B	peril	Used 2 times in this book.
16	B	taunt	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
17	C	Malcolm X	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
18	A	strident	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
19	B	vigor	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
20	C	revise	High-utility academic word