

Drown

by Junot Diaz

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 via "View / Print / Edit Web
Quiz" on 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: accordion, commute, conciliatory, conscience, contradict, contrite, deliberate (2), doting, elaborate, immigrate, intrinsic, lucid, nevertheless, omit, optimistic, probation, spurn, swagger, unobtrusive



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	A
3	A
4	A
5	A
6	A
7	C
8	C
9	C
10	C
11	A
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. Her grandfather taught her to play the **accordion** at age seven.
 - A. bellows-based instrument
 - B. stringed instrument
 - C. brass instrument
2. The study shows that the time needed for average **commute** has increased again.
 - A. travel to work
 - B. permit for construction
 - C. jury service
3. She sent a **conciliatory** note after the argument, hoping they could talk calmly.
 - A. meant to restore peace
 - B. meant to assign blame
 - C. meant to delay action
4. I will vote as my **conscience** demands.
 - A. sense of right and wrong
 - B. memory of past events
 - C. fear of public ridicule
5. Does the sentence **contradict** what is said in the previous paragraph?
 - A. disagree with
 - B. reinforce
 - C. expand upon
6. Even after the jury found her guilty, she showed no sign of **contrition**.
 - A. regret
 - B. understanding
 - C. emotion
7. We need to **deliberate** on this further before making a decision.
 - A. wait
 - B. delay
 - C. talk
8. She wasn't accustomed to cold weather, but she managed to cross the icy street with **deliberate** care.
 - A. quick and energetic
 - B. very little
 - C. slow and careful
9. She **dotes** upon her children.
 - A. criticizes
 - B. worries
 - C. adores
10. Their culture has **elaborate** wedding ceremonies.
 - A. generous
 - B. exciting
 - C. detailed
11. At that time, most of the people who **immigrated** to the United States came from Latin America and Asia.
 - A. relocated
 - B. exported goods
 - C. visited
12. Curiosity is an **intrinsic** part of learning.
 - A. recently added
 - B. easily removed
 - C. built-in

13. The patient had a lucid moment between bouts of deep confusion.
- A. very confused
 - B. clear-thinking
 - C. half-asleep
14. She loves him. Nevertheless, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
- A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition
15. She omitted a few details to place herself in a more favorable light.
- A. made up
 - B. exaggerated
 - C. left out
16. She keeps telling me her chances of dying in a car accident are 1 in 150, but I keep telling her that's too optimistic if she drives after drinking.
- A. hopeful
 - B. gloomy
 - C. simplistic
17. She didn't adjust to college freedoms and now must pass academic probation or be expelled in the Fall.
- A. period of supervision
 - B. honors recognition
 - C. scholarship offer
18. She spurned both major parties in the last election.
- A. joined
 - B. rejected
 - C. founded
19. The cowboy swaggered into the saloon with his holster unstrapped.
- A. limped with difficulty
 - B. walked confidently
 - C. snuck
20. She sat unobtrusively in the rear of the room.
- A. without drawing attention
 - B. while shouting loudly
 - C. while crying softly

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 I still wanted him to love me, something that never seemed strange or **contradictory** until years later, when he was out of our lives.
 - A. in disagreement
 - B. relative amount
 - C. dramatic change
- 2 In her mind, American things—appliances, mouthwash, funny-looking upholstery—all seemed to have an **intrinsic** badness about them.
 - A. meticulousness (care for small details)
 - B. the state or degree of being very large
 - C. belonging to a thing by its very nature
- 3 She had two kids of her own, Yennifer and Bienvenido, but she didn't dote on them the way she **doted** on me.
 - A. emphasized (called attention to something)
 - B. not vaccinated (to protect from a disease)
 - C. demonstrated love and uncritical affection
- 4 When Rafa showed himself an hour later, **swaggering** in from a game of pool, I'd already tried to speak to Mami and Abuelo like five times.
 - A. giving an opinion of what is wrong with something
 - B. walking and behaving in a highly confident manner
 - C. expressing regret for having done something wrong
- 5 I watched him go through the **elaborate** ritual of lighting up--the flip of the thin cigarrillo into his lips and then the spark, a single practiced snap of the thumb.
 - A. without gender classification
 - B. overly unhappy and unsociable
 - C. special (with carefully arranged details)
- 6 The actors throw themselves around, passionate, but their words are plain and **deliberate**.
 - A. lacking a reason for doing something
 - B. inconspicuousness or trustworthiness
 - C. said with great care -- often slowly
- 7 The sun could have set twice on his **deliberations** but with his eyes quitting, his farm in Azua now dust and his familia in need, what could he really do?
 - A. differences
 - B. thigh bones
 - C. thoughts or discussions of considerations
- 8 Pruitt said he was **contrite** and determined and asked us to come again.
 - A. feeling sorrow or regret for a fault or offense
 - B. the state or degree of being good or beneficial
 - C. not able to change to fit a different situation
- 9 I try to sound **conciliatory**.
 - A. in a manner intended to end bad feelings or to build trust
 - B. the quality of being able to stop something
 - C. able to change to fit a different situation
- 10 Although the streets were empty and **accordion** gates stretched in front of store-fronts Papi recognized the prosperity in the buildings and in the tall operative lampposts.
 - A. characterized by narrower parallel folds when closed and wider when open
 - B. design based on alphabetic letters; or adding such a design to something
 - C. regular crisscross grid that repeats in a pattern of squares or diamonds

- 11 *He walked back the way he had come and went into the hotel, its spastic neon sign **obtrusively** jutting into the street.*
- A. in a manner demanding attention
 - B. in a manner that is made by humans rather than occurring in nature
 - C. in a manner that exercises privileges to which one is not entitled
- 12 *The brothers would stumble home late, stepping on Papi, howling about some morena who had **spurned** them to their faces.*
- A. not wanting to do something
 - B. rejected as not good enough
 - C. not having gotten closer to
- 13 *New York, he said, carefully **omitting** the Nueva and the Yol.*
- A. telling someone about something
 - B. commending or praising publicly
 - C. to exclude or neglect something
- 14 *It was a **lucid** enjoyable night that would stick out in his memory like a spike.*
- A. cheerful and optimistic; or a tendency to maintain or quickly recover cheerfulness and optimism after setbacks
 - B. clear in his mind
 - C. able to be portrayed or created in a particular way OR able to be interpreted, translated, or extracted from
- 15 *With the hum of his new life Papi should have found it easy to bury the memory of us but neither his **conscience**, nor the letters from home that found him wherever he went, would allow it.*
- A. feeling or appraisal of having personally behaved in a morally right or wrong manner
 - B. a complex carbohydrate that is the chief constituent of all plant tissues and fibers
 - C. not planning to kill a person, but then intentionally killing in the heat of passion
- 16 *It was nearly a two-hour **commute**,*
- A. regular travel -- such as between home and work
 - B. give an opinion of what is wrong with something
 - C. mark important text; or the text that is marked
- 17 *It was the first time he had moved outside the umbra of his fellow immigrants.*
- A. people who came from elsewhere to live in the country
 - B. acts of taking something on as one's own
 - C. oxygen-carrying parts of red blood cells
- 18 *The two fights he had were reported to the bosses and they put him on **probation**.*
- A. a period during which someone is watched carefully to assure behavior improves
 - B. wrongly understands
 - C. wrong understanding
- 19 *Nilda wasn't **optimistic** about his plan.*
- A. expecting good results
 - B. in a manner of accepting something as true (without proof)
 - C. relating separately to the people or things just mentioned
- 20 *His father, Jose Edilio, the loudmouthed ball-breaking vagrant who had never married Papi's mother but **nevertheless** had given her nine children, had attempted a similar stunt when he worked in a hotel kitchen in Rao Piedras.*
- A. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. therefore (for that reason)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	contradict	High-utility academic word
2	C	intrinsic	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
3	C	doting	Used 2 times in this book.
4	B	swagger	Used 2 times in this book.
5	C	elaborate (<i>as in: an elaborate design</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
6	C	deliberate (<i>as in: a deliberate thinker</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
7	C	deliberate (<i>as in: need to deliberate</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
8	A	contrite	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
9	A	conciliatory	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
10	A	accordion (<i>as in: an accordion door</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
11	A	unobtrusive	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	B	spurn	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
13	C	omit	High-utility academic word
14	B	lucid	Used 2 times in this book.
15	A	conscience	Used 2 times in this book.
16	A	commute (<i>as in: commute from New Jersey</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
17	A	immigrate	Used 7 times in this book.
18	A	probation	Used 3 times in this book.
19	A	optimistic	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word