

Fast Food Nation

by Eric Schlosser

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

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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: antitrust, approach (2), bacteria, cumulative, differentiate, innovate, liability (2), microbe, migrant, monetary, obese, republic, rigorous (2), subsequent, taint, theme (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She claims the administration is not adequately enforcing **antitrust** laws.
 - A. anti-poverty
 - B. anti-pollution
 - C. anti-monopoly
2. I grow more nervous as the test **approaches**.
 - A. gets nearer
 - B. is remembered
 - C. continues
3. We need to **approach** this problem in a new way.
 - A. avoid
 - B. think about
 - C. assign
4. She survived a severe infection of MRSA **bacteria**.
 - A. lice
 - B. germs
 - C. mosquitoes
5. At my company, sick days are not **cumulative**. They say, "Thank you," but you lose days you do not use by the end of the year.
 - A. increased by additions over time
 - B. interchangeable with similar things
 - C. swappable for cash
6. The software does a good job of **differentiating** between real messages and spam.
 - A. including everything
 - B. recognizing difference
 - C. rapidly switching
7. Companies must **innovate** quickly to stay ahead of their competitors.
 - A. follow old rules
 - B. create new methods
 - C. imitate rivals
8. Her speed is an asset, but her short height is a **liability** for basketball.
 - A. negative trait or thing that creates a problem
 - B. something that eliminates her from consideration
 - C. something that is rare or unusual
9. **Liability** insurance should cover the financial costs of the accident.
 - A. legal responsibility
 - B. extra coverage
 - C. carried by someone else
10. The book, *Microbe Hunters*, tells the stories of early heroes of microbiology.
 - A. an African animal with a reputation for attacking people that that hunters made extinct in the mid-twentieth century
 - B. a member of certain peoples of very short stature inhabiting parts of Africa and Southeast Asia
 - C. a living organism such as a bacterium, or virus that is so small, it can be seen only with a microscope
11. The crops won't be picked without **migrant** workers.
 - A. hard-working
 - B. from elsewhere
 - C. low-wage

12. The **monetary** value of the brooch does not reflect its sentimental value to me.
- A. auction
 - B. money
 - C. low
13. 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
14. A **republic** is a particular type of democracy.
- A. weak monarchy
 - B. representative government
 - C. oligarchy
15. The scientist conducted a **rigorous** study to ensure the results were reliable.
- A. thorough
 - B. speedy
 - C. expensive
16. Navy SEALs go through an incredibly **rigorous** qualification and training program.
- A. up-to-date
 - B. fun and energetic
 - C. difficult and demanding
17. The results of the initial investigation were unclear, but a **subsequent** investigation concluded that she used good judgment.
- A. thorough
 - B. official
 - C. following
18. Authorities said the milk was **tainted** with rat poison.
- A. contaminated
 - B. stored
 - C. sabotaged
19. What is the **theme** of your essay?
- A. basic idea
 - B. grammatical voice
 - C. narrative point of view
20. My mood is uplifted when I hear the *Indiana Jones* theme music.
- A. instrumental
 - B. of an amusement park
 - C. primary melody

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 *Again and again, efforts to prevent the sale of **tainted** ground beef have been thwarted by meat industry lobbyists and their allies in Congress.*
 - A. spoiled or contaminated
 - B. did in a particular way
 - C. requested or challenged
- 2 *In other cases (such as the rise of franchising and the spread of **obesity**) fast food has played a more central role.*
 - A. thinks of something as true or likely, even though it is not known with certainty
 - B. change a letter from lower to upper case -- especially the first letter of words
 - C. the state of being significantly overweight (due to the accumulation of body fat)
- 3 *In 1947, GM and a number of its allies in the scheme were indicted on federal **antitrust** charges.*
 - A. exceedingly powerful bomb whose energy comes from the splitting of atoms
 - B. major categories into which scientists group types of animals and plants
 - C. related to laws intended to promote free competition in the market place
- 4 *It was the last stop on Route 66, end of the line for truckers, tourists, and **migrants** from the East.*
 - A. dreamlike states of altered consciousness
 - B. those who moves from one place to another
 - C. characteristics (of something or someone)
- 5 *His first television series, Disneyland (1954), provided weekly updates on the construction work at his **theme park**.*
 - A. an amusement park with one or more basic underlying ideas -- such as the "Magic Kingdom" of Disneyworld
 - B. a living organism such as a bacterium, or virus that is so small, it can be seen only with a microscope
 - C. someone who specializes in a branch of psychology concerned with the links between biology and behavior
- 6 *As the loudspeakers play the **theme** song from Chariots of Fire, Lowe wheels Christopher Reeve onstage.*
 - A. treat in a manner that demonstrates a sense of superiority, but is supposed to seem kind OR the actions of a patron (to support someone or something; or to be a customer)
 - B. (verb) to intentionally anger, challenge, or upset someone -- especially by mocking them or hurling insults OR (noun) an insult or other action intended to anger, challenge, or upset someone
 - C. music associated with a film
- 7 *With **innovative** technology and the proper organization, a small number of workers can produce an enormous amount of goods cheaply.*
 - A. greater than zero
 - B. new and different
 - C. not demonstrating
- 8 *If the rap sessions failed to provide adequate information, the stroking was abandoned for a more direct **approach**.*
 - A. change the direction of something or the purpose for which it is used
 - B. technique (way of doing something)
 - C. to stick out, attract more attention than desired, or impose on others
- 9 *As we **approach** the start of the line, for the first time I hear the steady pop, pop, pop of live animals being stunned.*
 - A. get near
 - B. create dramatic change
 - C. mirror back (an image)

- 10 For years, one of OSHA's most severe critics in Congress has been Jay Dickey, an Arkansas Republican who once owned two Taco Bells.
- A. relating to a Christian ceremony signifying spiritual cleansing and rebirth OR relating to a challenging experience that initiates or purifies
 - B. of a system of government in which a majority of citizens elect representatives to make laws; or someone in favor of such a form of government
 - C. of an organism in the early stages of development prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting OR of anything in an early stage of development
- 11 The initial purchase of a food item may be driven by its packaging or appearance, but subsequent purchases are determined mainly by its taste.
- A. able to take on or adopt
 - B. the state of being awake
 - C. following something else
- 12 Taste is supposed to help us differentiate food that's good for us from food that's not.
- A. begin fighting again
 - B. recognize difference between
 - C. take on as one's own
- 13 Far from being a liability, a high turnover rate in the meatpacking industry — as in the fast food industry — also helps maintain a workforce that is harder to unionize and much easier to control.
- A. something that creates a problem
 - B. an image (seen on a mirror or other shiny surface)
 - C. the act of interacting or getting interested again
- 14 For years the large meatpacking companies have managed to avoid the sort of liability routinely imposed on the manufacturers of most consumer products.
- A. legal responsibility (that can result in lawsuits)
 - B. a group formed to discuss or offer insight on a particular topic
 - C. to constrain in some way -- such as tie up, require, or obligate
- 15 Tendinitis and cumulative trauma disorders are also quite common.
- A. increased by a series of additions
 - B. degree to which things are related
 - C. not connected by blood or marriage
- 16 Ken has learned how to handle the rigors of working in a packing plant and is trying to help others do the same.
- A. periods of time when someone exhibits unusual behavior
 - B. formal expressions of opinion arrived at by group vote
 - C. difficulties
- 17 The meatpacking industry is now willing to perform the sort of rigorous testing for fast food chains that it refuses to do for the general public.
- A. thorough and careful
 - B. poor ability to make a decision
 - C. non-traditional or non-standard
- 18 In the USDA study 78.6 percent of the ground beef contained microbes that are spread primarily by fecal material.
- A. the redirection energy from negative (unacceptable) impulses or urges into positive or acceptable actions
 - B. inhabitants of Assyria -- an ancient kingdom centered in northern Mesopotamia which is in present-day Iraq
 - C. living organisms such as a bacterium, or virus that are so small, they can be seen only with a microscope
- 19 Most E. coli bacteria help us digest food, synthesize vitamins, and guard against dangerous organisms.
- 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
- 20 Fearing the potential monetary costs, three of the activists reluctantly appeared in court and apologized to McDonald's.
- A. things that are able to change
 - B. relating to or involving money
 - C. with or based on basic beliefs

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	taint	Used 21 times in this book.
2	C	obese	Used 34 times in this book.
3	C	antitrust	Used 8 times in this book.
4	B	migrant	Used 16 times in this book.
5	A	theme (<i>as in: theme of the novel</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	C	theme (<i>as in: musical theme</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
7	B	innovate	High-utility academic word; used 11 times in this book.
8	B	approach (<i>as in: use the best approach</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	approach (<i>as in: approached the city</i>)	Used 7 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	republic (<i>as in: the country is a republic</i>)	Used 22 times in this book.
11	C	subsequent	High-utility academic word; used 13 times in this book.
12	B	differentiate (<i>as in: differentiate between right/wrong</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	A	liability (<i>as in: she is a liability to our cause</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	A	liability (<i>as in: legal liability</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
15	A	cumulative	Used 6 times in this book.
16	C	rigorous (<i>as in: a rigorous math class</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
17	A	rigorous (<i>as in: we follow a rigorous procedure</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
18	C	microbe	Used 13 times in this book.
19	B	bacteria	Used 14 times in this book.
20	B	monetary	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.