

Half the Sky

by Nicholas D. Kristof

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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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: abolition, abortion, approach (2), correspondence, correspondent, discriminate, empirical, empower, gender, implicit, initiative, interpret (2), midwife, obstetrician, positive (2), prudent, suffrage



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The long fight for **abolition** finally achieved its goal in the 19th century.
 - A. outlawing alcohol
 - B. ending slavery
 - C. regulating child labor
2. **Abortion** is a highly controversial and divisive issue, with people holding strong opinions on both sides of the debate.
 - A. intentionally preventing pregnancy
 - B. intentionally ending pregnancy
 - C. planned adoption before birth
3. I grow more nervous as the test **approaches**.
 - A. gets nearer
 - B. is remembered
 - C. continues
4. We need to **approach** this problem in a new way.
 - A. avoid
 - B. think about
 - C. assign
5. I don't live in Los Angeles yet, but I joined the organization as a **corresponding** member.
 - A. visiting
 - B. founding
 - C. done from afar
6. Our **correspondent** in Iran was kidnapped.
 - A. reporter
 - B. worker
 - C. witness
7. It is wrong to **discriminate** against people because of their race.
 - A. treat unfairly
 - B. treat fairly
 - C. argue with
8. **Empirical** studies provide inputs for our formulas, but the formulas themselves are largely based upon intuitive values.
 - A. theoretical
 - B. creative
 - C. measured
9. The commission was **empowered** to redraw voting districts.
 - A. not allowed
 - B. allowed
 - C. ordered
10. The court found the company guilty of **gender** discrimination.
 - A. religious
 - B. male/female/trans
 - C. race or ethnic
11. Though she did not mention him by name, her comments were clearly an **implicit** criticism of his policies.
 - A. severe (very intense regarding something bad)
 - B. dull (uninteresting and unimpactful)
 - C. understood (without having been directly said)

12. She showed great initiative by organizing the project without being asked.
- A. reluctant obedience
 - B. self-starting drive
 - C. lengthy hesitation
13. She will stand to his left and interpret his speech into sign language.
- A. refute (prove false)
 - B. elaborate upon
 - C. translate
14. How will a court interpret the word *careless* if there is a lawsuit?
- A. understand
 - B. insist on
 - C. ignore
15. She is a licensed midwife.
- A. non-doctor who assists in childbirth
 - B. not the 1st or most recent wife
 - C. best friend of a married woman
16. She wants an obstetrician who is not inclined toward caesarean operations.
- A. a doctor for childbirth
 - B. a doctor for heart care
 - C. a doctor for skin issues
17. Volunteering had a positive impact on the whole neighborhood.
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. harmful or damaging
 - C. minor and unnoticed
18. The test for bacterial infection came back positive.
- A. showing it to be present
 - B. showing it was avoided
 - C. showing it is improving
19. Courage is dangerous without prudence.
- A. good sense
 - B. good purpose
 - C. good support
20. Susan B. Anthony fought for women's political rights, especially suffrage.
- A. the right to vote
 - B. the right to own property
 - C. freedom of expression

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 *Amartya Sen, the ebullient Nobel Prize-winning economist, has developed a gauge of **gender** inequality that is a striking reminder of the stakes involved.*
 - A. an official charge (of having broken the law)
 - B. male, female, or any of many trans categories
 - C. quick, informal vote to see what people think
- 2 *Since the 1990s, the spread of ultrasound machines has allowed pregnant women to find out the sex of their fetuses—and then get **abortions** if they are female.*
 - A. shows or demonstrates
 - B. ending of pregnancies
 - C. things that stand out
- 3 *The economic explosion in Asia was, in large part, an outgrowth of the economic **empowerment** of women.*
 - A. measles -- a highly contagious viral disease marked by distinct red spots followed by a rash
 - B. the giving of authority, power, knowledge, or confidence to someone so they can do something
 - C. a school of philosophy whose adherents try not to be affected by pleasure, pain, or emotions
- 4 *Frank heard about Bernard Krisher, a former Newsweek **correspondent** who was so appalled by poverty in Cambodia that he formed an aid group, American Assistance for Cambodia.*
 - A. reporter
 - B. disorder
 - C. marriage
- 5 *Then Tererai took **correspondence** classes and began saving money.*
 - A. small kitchens
 - B. leaps or jumps
 - C. done from afar (by mailing letters, reports, etc.)
- 6 *That must be the starting point of any **abolitionist** movement.*
 - A. someone who grants a favor to someone
 - B. a reformer who favored ending slavery
 - C. someone who believes in multiple gods
- 7 *In contrast, there's **empirical** evidence that crackdowns can succeed, when combined with social services such as job retraining and drug rehabilitation, and that's the approach we've come to favor.*
 - A. having the ability to change for different situations
 - B. not concerned with what others might think of oneself
 - C. based on experience or observation rather than theory
- 8 *Bernie Krisher of American Assistance for Cambodia tried another **approach**.*
 - A. change the direction of something or the purpose for which it is used
 - B. a way of doing something
 - C. to stick out, attract more attention than desired, or impose on others
- 9 *That was a great improvement over the previous **approach** of having the families run all over town, spending far more to buy bandages here, gauze there, scalpels somewhere else.*
 - A. get near
 - B. create dramatic change
 - C. mirror back (an image)
- 10 *This pattern persisted ever since: Only a few have held the monopoly on **initiative** because they alone have had the social tools.*
 - A. the state of not being relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
 - B. the ability and tendency to determine what should be done and to start doing it without instruction; or to start something
 - C. someone who is not civilized or not moral OR an offensive term for a person who does not believe in a preferred religion

- 11 Sunitha arranged for Abbas to be tested for HIV; she tested **positive**, so Sunitha is trying to find her an HIV-positive man to marry.
- A. indicating that a condition was found
 - B. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18
 - C. agreement to temporarily stop fighting a war
- 12 We thus regard the Pentecostal boom with some suspicion, but without doubt it also has a **positive** impact on the role of women.
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. not representative
 - C. impossible to find
- 13 The world's **obstetricians** are particularly neglectful of their duty in this regard.
- A. physicians who specialize in childbirth
 - B. ways of seeing or thinking about things
 - C. things accepted as true (without proof)
- 14 But he wanted \$100 for the surgery, and **Prudence's** husband and parents said that they could raise only \$20.
- A. good sense and caution
 - B. not easily set on fire
 - C. surrounding conditions
- 15 There was no high school for girls, so she returned to Hargeisa to work as an **interpreter** for a British doctor.
- A. people who criticize or condemn
 - B. someone who extensively damages
 - C. someone who translates language
- 16 Ali crushed the rebellion, and then for centuries Islamic scholars discounted Aisha's importance and rejected her feminist **interpretations**.
- A. ways of understanding or explaining things
 - B. people who express disapproval
 - C. quiet voices; or a quiet voice
- 17 She spent seven years there, studying nursing, **midwifery**, and hospital management.
- A. the profession of assisting women in childbirth without being a doctor
 - B. constraining in some way -- such as tying up, requiring, or obligating
 - C. geology that uses physical principles to study properties of the earth
- 18 Child mortality declined by 8-15 percent with the enactment of **suffrage** laws.... Nationwide, these reductions translate into roughly 20,000 averted child deaths each year.
- A. right to vote
 - B. use of reason
 - C. determination
- 19 And while job **discrimination** against women is real, it has less to do with sexism than with employers being wary of China's generous maternity benefits.
- A. unfair treatment of different groups of people differently
 - B. intangible (non-touchable) property that is the result of creativity (such as patents or trademarks or copyrights)
 - C. an English Protestant who in the 16th and 17th centuries who wanted simpler worship and strict, hard-working lives
- 20 **Implicit** in what we're saying about China is something that sounds shocking to many Americans: Sweatshops have given women a boost.
- A. mental activity of which one is not self-aware
 - B. with the involvement of other people or things
 - C. understood (without having been directly said)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	gender (<i>as in: gender discrimination</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 41 times in this book.
2	B	abortion (<i>as in: have an abortion</i>)	Used 35 times in this book.
3	B	empower	Used 28 times in this book.
4	A	correspondent (<i>as in: foreign correspondent of the paper</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
5	C	correspondence (<i>as in: a correspondence course</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
6	B	abolition	Used 22 times in this book.
7	C	empirical	High-utility academic word; used 3 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 45 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	initiative	Used 15 times in this book.
11	A	positive (<i>as in: The test came back positive.</i>)	5 meanings in this book.
12	A	positive (<i>as in: had a positive effect</i>)	High-utility academic word; 5 meanings in this book.
13	A	obstetrician	Used 9 times in this book.
14	A	prudent	High-utility academic word; used 43 times in this book.
15	C	interpret (<i>as in: interpret Spanish to English</i>)	Used 12 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
16	A	interpret (<i>as in: her interpretation of the data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	A	midwife	Used 24 times in this book.
18	A	suffrage	Used 4 times in this book.
19	A	discriminate (<i>as in: suffered discrimination</i>)	Used 16 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
20	C	implicit (<i>as in: not explicitly but implicitly</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.