

# Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

by J. K. Rowling

## Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

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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:** alternative, askew, bewilder, bias, centaur, cunning, disgruntled, dumfounded, dwell (2), exasperated, expel, meddle, on the other hand, ornate, provoke, resolution, taunt, therefore, utter



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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

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

**Vocabulary Preview**  
**Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**

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

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

1. Can anyone think of a better **alternative**?
  - A. job
  - B. reason
  - C. possibility
2. The earthquake left our pictures hanging **askew**.
  - A. crooked
  - B. alone
  - C. covered in dust
3. I am trying to understand her, but I am **bewildered**.
  - A. confused
  - B. bored
  - C. distracted
4. She has a **bias** against young people.
  - A. statistical analysis
  - B. personal preference
  - C. standing rule
5. In Greek mythology, Chiron is probably the most famous of the centaurs. He is known for his wisdom and knowledge of medicine.
  - A. demigod fighters in wars between gods
  - B. winged horses that can fly
  - C. mythical beings that are half man and half horse
6. The worst mix -- **greedy, cunning**, and without morals.
  - A. stupid and impatient
  - B. clever and deceitful
  - C. strong and cruel
7. Since the change, many **disgruntled** employees complain of worsening working conditions.
  - A. veteran
  - B. loyal
  - C. unhappy
8. She was too **dumbfounded** to answer.
  - A. surprised
  - B. unintelligent
  - C. polite
9. Her students were ready to move on, but she **dwelled** on and on about Chapter 7.
  - A. kept avoiding
  - B. kept talking about
  - C. tested
10. Their family has **dwelled** in that valley for ten generations.
  - A. visited
  - B. looked
  - C. lived
11. My little brother can be **exasperating**. He's always testing his boundaries.
  - A. very active
  - B. endearing (lovable)
  - C. greatly annoying

12. If her behavior does not improve, she could face expulsion from school.
- A. having to repeat a grade
  - B. serious punishment
  - C. being forcing to leave
13. Don't meddle in my affairs!
- A. interfere
  - B. pretend to understand
  - C. offer sympathy
14. I think she's pushy. On the other hand, my boyfriend describes her as assertive.
- A. also
  - B. from another point of view
  - C. for that reason
15. It was the most ornate building I've ever seen.
- A. ancient
  - B. boring
  - C. decorated
16. We should not permit deeply offensive words that provoke violence.
- A. stop
  - B. distract from
  - C. cause
17. Are you making any New Year's resolutions this year?
- A. decorations
  - B. event plans
  - C. decisions
18. They taunted her until she responded physically, and then they beat her up.
- A. followed
  - B. insulted
  - C. surrounded
19. We reduced locations where mosquito eggs can mature and therefore reduced the number of mosquitoes.
- A. in addition
  - B. in spite of that
  - C. for that reason
20. The company is in danger of utter collapse.
- A. partial
  - B. possible
  - C. total or complete

**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 have never seen any reason to be frightened of saying Voldemort's name."  
"I know you haven't," said Professor McGonagall, sounding half **exasperated**, half admiring.  
A. critical  
B. convinced  
C. annoyed
- 2 Owls hooted to one another in a **disgruntled** sort of way over the babble and the scraping of heavy trunks.  
A. excited  
B. concerned  
C. annoyed
- 3 "What's your Quidditch team?" Ron asked.  
"Er – I don't know any," Harry confessed.  
"What!" Ron looked **dumbfounded**. "Oh, you wait, it's the best game in the world –" And he was off, explaining all about...  
A. surprised  
B. concerned  
C. excited
- 4 You might belong in Gryffindor,  
Where  **dwell** the brave at heart,  
A. avoid  
B. visit  
C. live
- 5 It does not do to  **dwell** on dreams and forget to live, remember that.  
A. never think  
B. thinking too long  
C. place too much faith
- 6 Or perhaps in Slytherin  
You'll make your real friends,  
Those  **cunning** folk use any means  
To achieve their ends.  
A. enjoying other people  
B. clever and deceptive  
C. high-achieving
- 7 Wood? thought Harry,  **bewildered**; was Wood a cane she was going to use on him? But Wood turned out to be a person,  
A. very confused  
B. very bored  
C. very informed
- 8 ...Harry felt he was pushing his luck, breaking another school rule today.  **On the other hand**, Malfoys sneering face kept looming up out of the darkness – this was his big chance to beat Malfoy face-to-face.  
A. in addition to what was just said  
B. from another point of view  
C. as a result of what was just said
- 9 So Malfoy, jealous and angry, had gone back to  **taunting** Harry about having no proper family.  
A. intentionally avoiding  
B. intentionally upsetting  
C. intentionally hitting
- 10 "He was  **provoked**, Professor Snape," said Hagrid, sticking his huge hairy face out from behind the tree.  
"Malfoy was insultin' his family."  
A. making trouble  
B. in tears  
C. made angry

- 11 [T]he twins forced the sweater over his head, knocking his glasses askew.
- A. crooked
  - B. off
  - C. broken
- 12 It was a magnificent mirror, as high as the ceiling, with an **ornate** gold frame, standing on two clawed feet.
- A. wide
  - B. antique
  - C. fancy
- 13 The idea of overtaking Slytherin in the house championship was wonderful, no one had done it for seven years, but would they be allowed to, with such a **biased** referee?
- A. having poor vision
  - B. having a personal preference
  - C. having little experience
- 14 What **utter** rubbish! How dare you tell such lies!
- A. partial
  - B. possible
  - C. complete
- 15 It was a bit late to repair the damage, but Harry swore to himself not to **meddle** in things that weren't his business from now on.
- A. interfere
  - B. worry
  - C. look
- 16 Then, about a week before the exams were due to start, Harry's new **resolution** not to interfere in anything that didn't concern him was put to an unexpected test.
- A. solution
  - B. idea
  - C. firm decision
- 17 "D'you think that was a **centaur** we heard earlier?" said Harry.
- A. a type of wizard that lives for hundreds of years
  - B. a giant snail that can be ridden
  - C. a mythical being that is half man and half horse
- 18 Be warned, Potter--any more nighttime wanderings and I will personally make sure you are **expelled**.
- A. forced to repeat a grade
  - B. kept after school
  - C. kicked out of school
- 19 There was no **alternative**. [when Harry sacrificed Ron to win the chess game]
- A. time to think
  - B. available help
  - C. other possibility
- 20 It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends. I **therefore** award ten points to Mr. Neville Longbottom.
- A. regardless of that
  - B. even so
  - C. for that reason

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

### Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	exasperated	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
2	C	disgruntled	Used 2 times in this book.
3	A	dumfounded	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	C	dwell ( <i>as in: It dwells in the forest.</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	B	dwell ( <i>as in: Don't dwell on it.</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	B	cunning ( <i>as in: a cunning thief</i> )	Used about 7 times per 10 books in our high school library.
7	A	bewilder	Used 3 times in this book.
8	B	on the other hand	Used 5 times in this book.
9	B	taunt	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
10	C	provoke	Used about 10 times per 10 books in our high school library.
11	A	askew	Used 2 times in this book.
12	C	ornate	High-utility academic word
13	B	bias	High-utility academic word
14	C	utter ( <i>as in: utter stupidity</i> )	High-utility academic word
15	A	meddle	Used 2 times in this book.
16	C	resolution ( <i>as in: a New Year's resolution</i> )	High-utility academic word
17	C	centaur	Used 12 times in this book.
18	C	expel	Used 13 times in this book.
19	C	alternative ( <i>as in: an alternative plan</i> )	High-utility academic word
20	C	therefore	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.