

# Holes

by Louis Sachar

## 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:** adjacent, appropriate, assume, bacteria, comprehend, delirium, desolate, distinct, eviction, excavate, fugitive, initiate, neutral, perseverance, recite, refuge, subtle, tedious, trace, venom



#### More Vocabulary Printables

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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

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

# Vocabulary Preview

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

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

- The kitchen has an island that is **adjacent** to the family room.
  - opposite
  - near
  - matching
- The movie is not **appropriate** for young children.
  - bad
  - good
  - funny
- The detective had no concrete evidence, but he began to **assume** the suspect was hiding something based on his evasive answers.
  - wonder if
  - believe
  - prove
- She survived a severe infection of MRSA **bacteria**.
  - lice
  - germs
  - mosquitoes
- Washington fails to **comprehend** the change in China's strategy.
  - fully understand
  - regard respectfully
  - respond adequately to
- We found her in the desert--**dehydrated** and **delirious**.
  - mentally confused
  - completely alone
  - thirsty
- It is in her book of **desolate** desert photographs.
  - empty
  - bright
  - detailed
- Two **distinct** brain networks guide our judgments.
  - different
  - similar
  - identical
- I was served an **eviction** notice.
  - legal demand to pay
  - legal demand to appear
  - legal demand to move
- The **excavation** has uncovered a dinosaur burial ground.
  - digging
  - strong winds
  - flooding
- The **fugitive** fled to Venezuela.
  - person on vacation
  - rebel
  - person running from the law

12. We are encouraging local authorities to initiate long-term emergency planning.
- A. increase
  - B. extend
  - C. start
13. This store only sells gender neutral clothing.
- A. specific (clothes made to be worn only by men or only women)
  - B. not affected (clothes made to be worn regardless of gender)
  - C. colored (pink for women, blue for men)
14. She is more notable for her perseverance than for her natural talent.
- A. staying power
  - B. education
  - C. network
15. The children recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- A. memorized
  - B. said aloud
  - C. listened to
16. She took refuge from the sun under a beautiful oak tree.
- A. protection
  - B. shade
  - C. warmth
17. She has a good eye for subtle differences in color.
- A. contrasting
  - B. complementary
  - C. minor
18. I find it relaxing to wash the holiday dishes, but she finds it tedious.
- A. stressful
  - B. punishing
  - C. boring
19. The study found traces of cocaine on most \$20 bills used in large cities of the United States and Canada.
- A. tiny quantities
  - B. various types of
  - C. large amounts
20. She tried to suck the venom out of the bite.
- A. white blood cells
  - B. poison
  - C. germs

# Vocabulary in Context

## Holes

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

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

- 1 Stanley's father was smart and had a lot of **perseverance**.
  - A. patient effort
  - B. unusual knowledge
  - C. quick solutions
- 2 The land was barren and **desolate**.
  - A. empty
  - B. large
  - C. hot
- 3 [The dirt] expanded when it was **excavated**. The piles were a lot bigger than his hole was deep.
  - A. dug out
  - B. made wet
  - C. warmed by the sun
- 4 He used to think he wanted to work for the F.B.I., but this didn't seem the **appropriate** place to mention that.
  - A. bad
  - B. fitting
  - C. funny
- 5 Rattlesnake **venom**.
  - A. eggs
  - B. poison
  - C. skin
- 6 He **recited** the alphabet for Zero, then Zero repeated it without a single mistake.
  - A. wrote
  - B. said out loud
  - C. listened to
- 7 He was **delirious** when he said it.
  - A. mentally confused
  - B. very serious
  - C. joking
- 8 ...he hoped, that he didn't get any of the bad **bacteria**.
  - A. fleas
  - B. germs
  - C. lice
- 9 If there was no water, no **refuge**, then they'd have nothing, not even hope.
  - A. safe place
  - B. food
  - C. medical care
- 10 It took a moment for Stanley to **comprehend**.
  - A. understand
  - B. begin listening
  - C. arrive
- 11 It would mean living the rest of his life as a **fugitive**.
  - A. person who cannot work
  - B. person with a serious illness
  - C. person hiding from the police
- 12 In her last letter, his mom was worried that they might be **evicted** from their apartment because of the smell of burning sneakers.
  - A. foul-smelling
  - B. losing money
  - C. forced to move

- 13 *They were still too far away to see the camp, but he could hear a blend of **indistinct** voices.*  
A. not clearly heard  
B. not dignified  
C. not happy
- 14 *They climbed down into **adjacent** holes, and waited for the camp to fall asleep.*  
A. similar  
B. close to each other  
C. hard to see
- 15 *The A.G. will most likely **initiate** an investigation.*  
A. stop  
B. extend  
C. start
- 16 *"Yes, it is," the Warden agreed, with just a **trace** of disappointment in her voice.*  
A. small amount  
B. drawn out  
C. unmistakable
- 17 *I **assume** the phone works.*  
A. know  
B. believe  
C. wonder if
- 18 *But those changes are **subtle** and hard to measure.*  
A. fast  
B. of many kinds  
C. not obvious
- 19 *But it would be boring to go through all the **tedious** details of all the changes in their lives.*  
A. detailed  
B. unimportant  
C. boring
- 20 *Made from all natural ingredients, it **neutralizes** odor-causing fungi and bacteria.*  
A. increases (in this case by feeding)  
B. makes something have no effect  
C. removes acid from

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	perseverance	Used 2 times in this book.
2	A	desolate ( <i>as in: a desolate place</i> )	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
3	A	excavate	Used 2 times in this book.
4	B	appropriate ( <i>as in: it is appropriate</i> )	High-utility academic word
5	B	venom ( <i>as in: snake venom</i> )	Used 2 times in this book.
6	B	recite	Used 3 times in this book.
7	A	delirium ( <i>as in: fever induced delirium</i> )	Used 6 times in this book.
8	B	bacteria	Used 5 times in this book.
9	A	refuge	Used 6 times in this book.
10	A	comprehend	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
11	C	fugitive ( <i>as in: she is a fugitive</i> )	Used 2 times in this book.
12	C	eviction	Used 2 times in this book.
13	A	distinct	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
14	B	adjacent	High-utility academic word
15	C	initiate ( <i>as in: initiate discussions</i> )	High-utility academic word
16	A	trace ( <i>as in: found a trace of</i> )	High-utility academic word
17	B	assume ( <i>as in: I assume it's true</i> )	High-utility academic word
18	C	subtle ( <i>as in: a subtle difference or thinker</i> )	High-utility academic word
19	C	tedious	Used 3 times in this book.
20	B	neutral ( <i>as in: a carbon-neutral building</i> )	High-utility academic word