

I Am Malala

Part 3 (Chapters 16–20)

by Malala Yousafzai

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: charlatan, desecration, incursion, makeshift, oblivious, pockmarked, premonition, pretext, razed, riddled

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Introduction, Prologue, and Part 1 (Chapters 1–8) · Malala’s early years in Swat Valley

Section 2 · Part 2 (Chapters 9–15) · The Taliban arrive in Swat

Section 3 · Part 3 (Chapters 16–20) · Coming home to a changed Swat

Section 4 · Part 4 (Chapters 21–22) · The frantic race to the hospital

Section 5 · Part 5 (Chapters 23–24) and Epilogue · Waking up far from home

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



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(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The fortune-teller was nothing but a **charlatan**.
 - A. a fraud who fakes skill
 - B. a gifted entertainer
 - C. a harmless eccentric
2. The vandals' **desecration** of the temple outraged the whole town.
 - A. robbery of its treasures
 - B. neglect of its grounds
 - C. disrespect of something sacred
3. The border **incursion** lasted only a few hours before the troops withdrew.
 - A. a peaceful trade mission
 - B. a raid into another's land
 - C. a routine border patrol
4. We slept in a **makeshift** shelter during the storm.
 - A. temporary and improvised
 - B. warm and comfortable
 - C. large and crowded
5. She was **oblivious** to the crowd cheering her name.
 - A. completely unaware
 - B. clearly annoyed by
 - C. deeply grateful for
6. Years of hailstorms had left the car's hood **pockmarked**.
 - A. dented along the edges
 - B. covered with small pits
 - C. streaked with rust stains
7. A strange **premonition** kept her awake all night.
 - A. a pleasant daydream
 - B. a guilty conscience
 - C. a sense of coming trouble
8. He left the party early on the **pretext** of feeling ill.
 - A. a false excuse
 - B. a polite apology
 - C. a sudden decision
9. The developers **razed** the old stadium to build apartments.
 - A. fenced off for safety
 - B. remodeled into offices
 - C. tore down completely
10. The crumbling fortress was **riddled** with deep cracks.
 - A. loosely covered
 - B. filled all through
 - C. lightly marked

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

pardah — the practice of screening women from public view, by veils or seclusion (a South Asian and Muslim custom)

devouring — consuming greedily; here, the flood imagined as a dragon swallowing everything

severing — cutting off or through

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY
1	A
2	C
3	B
4	A
5	A
6	B
7	C
8	A
9	C
10	B

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “The army and Taliban had fought street to street and almost every wall was pockmarked with bullet holes.”

As it is used in the passage, ‘pockmarked’ most nearly suggests that the walls were...

- A. stained black with smoke
- B. knocked completely down
- C. covered in small holes

2 “They had no power, as all their makeshift hydroelectric projects had been smashed to pieces.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the villagers’ hydroelectric projects were...

- A. improvised from spare materials
- B. built by trained engineers
- C. funded by the government

3 “The school, hospital and electricity station along the main road were all razed to the ground.”

The detail that the buildings were ‘razed to the ground’ primarily functions to...

- A. praise the buildings’ strength
- B. list the village’s services
- C. stress how total the ruin was

4 “Then, under the pretext of bringing in aid, they could legitimately enter Pakistan and spy on all our secrets.”

The passage most strongly suggests that, in this theory, the offer of aid was...

- A. a cover story for spying
- B. a repayment of old debts
- C. a sincere relief effort

5 “In Pakistan we have something called the Blasphemy Law, which protects the Holy Quran from desecration.”

According to the passage, the Blasphemy Law protects the Holy Quran from...

- A. being lost or stolen
- B. disrespectful treatment
- C. being copied carelessly

6 “We couldn’t believe the army had been oblivious to bin Laden’s whereabouts.”

Which choice best describes the narrator’s attitude toward the army, signaled by ‘oblivious’?

- A. disbelief that it failed to notice
- B. pity for its hard task
- C. pride in its watchfulness

7 “... they seemed angrier at the American incursion than at the fact that the world’s biggest terrorist had been living on our soil.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the ‘American incursion’ refers to...

- A. a new trade agreement
- B. a military raid into Pakistan
- C. a wave of immigration

8 “My father said the doctor was a charlatan and this was why we needed to keep struggling against ignorance.”

As it is used in the passage, ‘charlatan’ most nearly means a doctor who...

- A. works without a license
- B. charges very high fees
- C. fakes medical expertise

9 “His body was riddled with TB and lung cancer ...”

The author most likely says Jinnah’s body was ‘riddled’ with disease in order to...

- A. praise his physical strength
- B. stress how far it had spread
- C. question the doctors’ reports

10 “We laughed at Miss Shazia’s premonition, but then I started having bad dreams too.”

The author most likely includes Miss Shazia’s premonition in order to...

- A. hint at danger ahead for Malala
- B. show Miss Shazia’s humor
- C. explain Malala’s poor sleep

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	C	
2	A	
3	C	
4	A	
5	B	
6	A	Event comprehension.
7	B	
8	C	
9	B	Figurative use: the disease spread throughout, not literal holes.
10	A	Event comprehension.

Teacher Context: Part 3 (Chapters 16–20)

Part Three ('Three Girls, Three Bullets') follows the family's return to a militarized, war-scarred Swat after months of displacement, and Malala's rise to national and international prominence as an advocate for girls' education. Her growing fame brings honors — and mounting threats from the Taliban.