

I Am Prepared to Die

by Nelson Mandela

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

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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: abject, apartheid, approximate, attain, communism, creed, enable, grievance, impartial, imply, incite, irrelevant, liberate, manifesto, monopoly, nucleus, prescribe, socialism, subsequent, treason



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	C
4	C
5	B
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	A
10	A
11	A
12	B
13	B
14	C
15	C
16	C
17	C
18	B
19	C
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 grew up in **abject** poverty; though she didn't know it.
 - A. beneficial
 - B. extreme
 - C. moderate
2. Nelson Mandela fought against **apartheid** and became a symbol of justice and equality.
 - A. a legal system that give equal rights to all citizens
 - B. a tradition that celebrates cultural differences
 - C. a system that unfairly treats people of a different race
3. The circumference of the earth is **approximately** 24,900 miles at the equator.
 - A. exactly
 - B. commonly mistaken as
 - C. about
4. They hope to **attain** effective law and order in the region before withdrawing troops.
 - A. openly oppose
 - B. carefully describe
 - C. successfully gain
5. Marx's writings on **communism** inspired revolutions across many countries in the 1900s.
 - A. free market trade
 - B. collective ownership
 - C. religious reform
6. She lived by the simple creed that honesty is always the best policy.
 - A. quotation
 - B. misunderstanding
 - C. set of beliefs
7. Modern smartphones **enable** people to work from almost anywhere.
 - A. require
 - B. allow
 - C. remind
8. It is a long-standing **grievance**.
 - A. complaint
 - B. connection
 - C. agreement
9. They trusted her to be **impartial**.
 - A. unbiased
 - B. smart
 - C. forgiving
10. She **implied** that she would vote with us.
 - A. hinted
 - B. insisted
 - C. denied
11. The rumors were spread by her enemies to **incite** the people against her.
 - A. provoke
 - B. calm the anger of
 - C. distract

12. The writer should delete the sentence because it provides background information that is irrelevant to the paragraph.
- A. confusing
 - B. unimportant
 - C. too wordy
13. She writes to **liberate** her readers from social conformity.
- A. teach
 - B. free
 - C. instruct
14. The candidate's **manifesto** outlined her vision for economic reform and social justice.
- A. detailed account of personal achievements
 - B. comprehensive plan for economic growth
 - C. public declaration of principles or policies
15. Critics warned that the tech giant's **monopoly** over online search could limit innovation and competition.
- A. minor stake
 - B. shared market
 - C. complete control
16. The small reading group became the **nucleus** of a schoolwide book club.
- A. ending
 - B. critics
 - C. center
17. Most doctors **prescribe** simple lifestyle changes before medication.
- A. ignore
 - B. delay
 - C. recommend
18. Societies calling themselves **socialist** range from Western-style democracies to dictatorships.
- A. with an economic system that has a complete absence of political authority
 - B. with an economic system based on government control of all important companies
 - C. with an economic system based on private ownership of property and businesses
19. The results of the initial investigation were unclear, but a **subsequent** investigation concluded that she used good judgment.
- A. thorough
 - B. official
 - C. following
20. Benedict Arnold was not captured after he committed **treason**.
- A. committing acts of sabotage
 - B. war crimes against civilians
 - C. betrayal of one's own country

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 am a convicted prisoner serving five years for leaving the country without a permit and for **inciting** people to go on strike at the end of May 1961.*
 - A. provoking
 - B. colliding
 - C. restoring
- 2 *I shall deal also with the part played by the **Communist** Party.*
 - A. a member of the 1960's counterculture associated with long hair, illegal drugs, casual sex, and opposition to violence.
 - B. someone who supports an economic system that abolishes private ownership of property with the goal of a classless society
 - C. someone or something that changes to fit a different situation, or that changes something to fit a different situation
- 3 *It put forward demands and resolutions; it sent delegations to the Government in the belief that African **grievances** could be settled through peaceful discussion and that Africans could advance gradually to full political rights.*
 - A. complaints
 - B. sympathies
 - C. main roads
- 4 *The change was embodied in a decision which was taken to protest against **apartheid** legislation by peaceful, but unlawful, demonstrations against certain laws.*
 - A. a legal system that give equal rights to all citizens
 - B. a tradition that celebrates cultural differences
 - C. a system that unfairly treats people of a different race
- 5 *They are called volunteers because they volunteer to face the penalties of imprisonment and whipping which are now **prescribed** by the legislature for such acts.*
 - A. examined carefully for accuracy with the intent of verification -- especially an inspection of a company's accounting procedures and records by a trained accountant
 - B. treated in a manner that demonstrated a sense of superiority, but was supposed to seem kind OR acted like a patron (supported someone or something; or was a customer)
 - C. recommended or required what should be done OR (of a medical doctor) gave medical instructions -- such as writing that a patient should take antibiotics
- 6 *In 1956, 156 leading members of the Congress Alliance, including myself, were arrested on a charge of high **treason** and charges under the Suppression of Communism Act.*
 - A. easily set on fire
 - B. untied or released
 - C. an act of betrayal
- 7 *Africans, who constituted **approximately** 70 per cent of the population of South Africa, were not entitled to vote, and were not even consulted about the proposed constitutional change.*
 - A. relating to the outside
 - B. cheerfully and friendly
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 8 *Some of this may appear **irrelevant** to this trial.*
 - A. a person who works from within to destroy an established order; or relating to such destructive efforts
 - B. not relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
 - C. the character or degree of bouncing back light (or more rarely: heat, sound, electromagnetic waves...)
- 9 *In fact, I believe none of it is irrelevant because it will, I hope, **enable** the Court to appreciate the attitude eventually adopted by the various persons and bodies concerned in the National Liberation Movement.*
 - A. stop fighting
 - B. make possible
 - C. grant a favor

- 10 *Were we to give in to the show of force and the implied threat against future action, or were we to fight it and, if so, how?*
 A. suggested (said indirectly)
 B. not wanting to do something
 C. was attractive or desirable
- 11 *Anything else would have been abject surrender.*
 A. outside
 B. extreme
 C. certain
- 12 *This was our feeling in June of 1961 when we decided to press for a change in the policy of the National Liberation Movement.*
 A. aroused or inspired again
 B. the act of being set free
 C. expressing intense hatred
- 13 *When we took this decision, and subsequently formulated our plans, the ANC heritage of non-violence and racial harmony was very much with us.*
 A. in a manner that changes
 B. in an understated manner
 C. following something else
- 14 *The Manifesto of Umkhonto was issued on the day that operations commenced.*
 A. portray or create in a particular way OR interpret, translate, or extract from
 B. to release from slavery or servitude; or (metaphorically) from social restraints
 C. a public declaration of principles or policies -- typically of a political nature
- 15 *It was in our view essential to build up a nucleus of trained men who would be able to provide the leadership which would be required if guerrilla warfare started.*
 A. the act, process, or instance of telling a story
 B. a general feeling of not being as good as others
 C. the center (or most important part) of something
- 16 *The ideological creed of the ANC is, and always has been, the creed of African Nationalism.*
 A. a basic building block for proteins
 B. someone who believe in a single God
 C. any system of principles or beliefs
- 17 *It is by no means a blueprint for a socialist state.*
 A. relating to an artistic movement pioneered by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque that featured surfaces of geometrical planes to depict three-dimensional organic forms
 B. a person who wants an economic system based on government ownership or control of all important companies -- with the ideal of equal benefits to all people
 C. relating to the 20th century movement of artists and writers who used impossible or unlikely images to represent unconscious thoughts and dreams
- 18 *It calls for redistribution, but not nationalization, of land; it provides for nationalization of mines, banks, and monopoly industry, because big monopolies are owned by one race only, and without such nationalization racial domination would be perpetuated despite the spread of political power.*
 A. sculptures or other things made of the brownish metal with the same name -- such as third place medals
 B. small paper forms made to lists the amount of money and each check being deposited into a bank account
 C. complete control over a product, service, or resource -- usually by a single person, company, or group
- 19 *They were the only political group which was prepared to work with the Africans for the attainment of political rights and a stake in society.*
 A. a group, made up of government representatives, that has the power to create laws
 B. an angle measuring 90 degrees (like the angle between a classroom floor and wall)
 C. the gaining or reaching of something with effort; or something gained with effort
- 20 *All this has led me to feel that in my search for a political formula, I should be absolutely impartial and objective.*
 A. without favoritism or bias
 B. the quality of disagreeing
 C. the quality of being Dutch

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	incite	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
2	B	communism	Used 56 times in this speech.
3	A	grievance	Used 2 times in this speech.
4	C	apartheid	Used 4 times in this speech.
5	C	prescribe	Used 3 times in this speech.
6	C	treason	Used 3 times in this speech.
7	C	approximate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.
8	B	irrelevant	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this speech.
9	B	enable	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this speech.
10	A	imply	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.
11	B	abject	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	B	liberate	Used 6 times in this speech.
13	C	subsequent	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this speech.
14	C	manifesto	Used 4 times in this speech.
15	C	nucleus	Used 3 times in this speech.
16	C	creed	Used 2 times in this speech.
17	B	socialism	Used 5 times in this speech.
18	C	monopoly	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.
19	C	attain	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this speech.
20	A	impartial	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.