

Jasmine

by Bharati Mukherjee

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: benefactor, bushel, confide, conspicuous, dowry, frontier, frugal, hoard, indulge, infinitesimal, intuition, materialistic, mediocre, melancholy, nostalgia, partition, peasant, prudent, refugee, secular



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	C
3	A
4	A
5	B
6	B
7	B
8	A
9	A
10	A
11	B
12	A
13	C
14	B
15	B
16	A
17	C
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. Oprah Winfrey is often praised for overcoming diversity to become a **benefactor** to others.
 - A. helper or supporter
 - B. inspiration or example
 - C. taxpayer
2. We had **bushels** of fun.
 - A. measured in hours
 - B. shared by everyone
 - C. a large amount
3. She **confided** in her parents.
 - A. trusted
 - B. didn't trust
 - C. was proud
4. She is the most **conspicuous** person on the President's cabinet, often appearing on television.
 - A. easy to notice
 - B. hard to trust
 - C. quick to argue
5. **Dowries** are common in that culture.
 - A. extended-families living together
 - B. payment to a husband upon marriage
 - C. large families
6. They pass freely through mountain passes along the Afghanistan-Pakistan **frontier**.
 - A. someone who helps a person or organization -- especially financial help
 - B. an international boundary in a relatively unsettled area
 - C. convenient, speedy, or practical; or an action that is speedy or practical
7. She was raised with **frugal** habits and always orders tap water to drink at a restaurant.
 - A. health-promoting
 - B. money-saving
 - C. environmentally-conscious
8. She has **hoarded** so many things, you can barely step into her apartment.
 - A. gathered & stored
 - B. stacked in piles
 - C. made a mess of
9. I **indulge** my taste for sweets more than is good for me.
 - A. give in to
 - B. hold back from
 - C. complain about
10. Even an **infinitesimal** amount of impurity can drastically affect the results of a sensitive chemical experiment.
 - A. tiny
 - B. partial
 - C. unintentional
11. **Intuitively**, I knew not to trust her.
 - A. logically
 - B. instinctively
 - C. conclusively

12. I wouldn't describe myself as **materialistic**, but I would like some financial security.
- A. too concerned with wealth and possessions
 - B. too afraid of risk and uncertainty
 - C. unwilling to spend any money
13. The restaurant received **mediocre** reviews, so we chose another place.
- A. truly excellent
 - B. clearly terrible
 - C. only average
14. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
- A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing
15. My parents are sometimes **nostalgic** about their college days.
- A. secretive
 - B. longing
 - C. bitter
16. A thin **partition** separated the office into two smaller workspaces.
- A. dividing wall
 - B. open doorway
 - C. wide window
17. In 1932 a **peasant** revolt in Su County, China stopped collection of the poppy tax.
- A. city dweller
 - B. young person
 - C. poor farmer
18. Courage is dangerous without **prudence**.
- A. good sense
 - B. good purpose
 - C. good support
19. She was a Tutsi **refugee** from Rwanda.
- A. someone who fled their homeland
 - B. someone who suffered
 - C. someone who immigrated
20. Sweden's population is more **secular** than populations of most countries.
- A. non-religious
 - B. similar
 - C. blonde

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 He doesn't talk much about the **refugee** camp, other than that his mother cut hair, his older brother raised fighting fish, his married sister brought back live crabs and worms for him to eat whenever she could sneak a visit from her own camp.
A. someone who fled their homeland; or related to such people
B. of Norway, Sweden, Denmark and sometimes Finland & Iceland
C. of Athens during the Golden Age of Greece (5th century BC)
- 2 He's a **materialist**, no question, and his room is a warehouse.
A. overly concerned with wealth and possessions at the expense of other interests
B. something exclusive to (someone or some group) -- such as an activity or place
C. a rough substance that can be rubbed against something else to polish or clean
- 3 He refused to speak Hindi as well, considering it the language of Gandhi, the man who had approved the **partition** of Punjab and the slaughter of millions.
A. to divide something into parts; or a divider itself, or one of the sections created
B. to think of something as true or likely, even though it is not known with certainty
C. give authority, power, knowledge, or confidence to someone so they can do something
- 4 Ours was a no-**dowry**, no-guests Registry Office wedding in a town a 250-rupee taxi ride south of Hasnapur.
A. a powered mechanical device, typically used to fabricate metal components of machines by the selective removal of metal such as cutting, grinding or drilling
B. in some societies, money or property given by a woman's family to the husband at marriage

or less formally: money or property a bride brings to a marriage
C. someone who believes in the teaching of Buddha -- that aims to end suffering by ending selfish desire and following a path of wisdom, ethics, and meditation
- 5 You see how the **mediocre** are smart enough to get away?
A. without purpose, job, or natural activity
B. unable or difficult to meet and talk with
C. average or a bit below average in quality
- 6 I heard **melancholy** snores.
A. relating to the outside
B. a sad feeling or manner
C. about (but not exactly)
- 7 Prakash hated bringing a **conspicuous** electronic item like a VCR home because burglars were likely to be tempted.
A. easily noticed -- typically attracting attention such as by being large, flashy, or unusual
B. the quality or degree of being in a crosswise direction (at a right angle to the long axis)
C. relating to an acute intestinal infection caused by ingestion of contaminated water or food
- 8 That's what excited Prakash about electronics. It was a **frontier**, especially in India, and no one was staying back to service the goods that were flooding in.
A. the process of thinking carefully and making a judgment about something
B. wilderness (figuratively; a place of opportunity)
C. the act of finding fault and telling others; or a description of faults
- 9 What a monstrous thing, what an **infinitesimal** thing, is the taking of a human life; for the second time in three months, I was in a room with a slain man, my body bloodied.
A. very tiny; or immeasurably small
B. the condition of being different
C. indicating approval or agreement
- 10 I am astounded by all this, the American need to make **intuition** so tangible, to possess a vision so privately.
A. the redirection energy from a negative (unacceptable) impulse or urge into a positive or acceptable action
B. the ability to know instinctively rather than through reasoning; or the thing that is known in such a way
C. someone with a potentially life-threatening psychological eating disorder that prevents eating enough food

- 11 *They were Bombay's "B" efforts at best, commercial failures and quite a few famous flops, burnished again by the dim light of **nostalgia**.*
A. the best or most important
B. longing for something past
C. a secret agreement or plot
- 12 *The parents were long asleep, no need to **indulge** ritual pleasantries.*
A. enjoy to excess
B. work or operate
C. think carefully
- 13 *A hair from some **peasant's** head in Hasnapur could travel across oceans and save an American meteorologist's reputation.*
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. someone who walks slowly without definite direction OR someone who writes or talks without definite direction (changing subjects or rambling rather than in a purposeful direct way)
C. used historically or possibly in relation to a very poor country: a person of low income, education, and social standing -- especially one who raises crops or livestock
- 14 *This loft, if it stood for anything beyond incredible good luck in the Manhattan housing market, was also a reflection of her mother's taste, put into practice by a dutiful daughter: simple, ample, plain, functional, **frugal**, even spiritual.*
A. sensible and careful
B. careful not to waste
C. not demonstrative of
- 15 *I had just escaped from the tidiness, the neatness, of my **benefactors** in Flushing.*
A. people who help a person or organization
B. acts of taking something on as one's own
C. logical conclusions reached by reasoning
- 16 *Wylie'd **confided** before she left that Stuart was joining her.*
A. placed trust (in someone) by talking about private things
B. viewed in a certain way so as to form a belief or opinion
C. made a decision or voiced an opinion by formal group vote
- 17 *In his growing up in an academic family, there was a **secular** trinity: NBC, the National League, and the Democratic Party.*
A. not religious
B. not important
C. inappropriate
- 18 *No wonder he fled into the silence of circuitry, in crossbreeding appliances, in **hoarding** and restoring.*
A. gathering something valuable and storing it
B. protecting something or keeping it as it is
C. keeping away (choosing not to do something)
- 19 *But Du's also like me, a striver and a saver, a **prudent** investor and money manager.*
A. sensible and careful
B. not demonstrative of
C. sincerity (realness)
- 20 *Twenty thousand **bushels** corn @ two-fifty per bushel: make that fifty thousand bucks; four thousand bushels beans @ six even per bushel, so another twenty-four thousand bucks.*
A. scales where each step is a multiple of the prior step rather than a fixed addition to it
B. fellow workers -- especially in a respected profession such as teaching, medicine, or law
C. a large amount

or:

a unit of measure used for dry goods (filling an 8 gallon container)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	refugee	Used 5 times in this book.
2	A	materialistic	High-utility academic word
3	A	partition	Used 6 times in this book.
4	B	dowry	Used 7 times in this book.
5	C	mediocre	Used 2 times in this book.
6	B	melancholy	Used 2 times in this book.
7	A	conspicuous	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
8	B	frontier (<i>as in: the frontier of Tibet</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
9	A	infinitesimal	Used 2 times in this book.
10	B	intuition	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
11	B	nostalgia	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
12	A	indulge	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	C	peasant	Used 4 times in this book.
14	B	frugal	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
15	A	benefactor	Used 2 times in this book.
16	A	confide	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
17	A	secular (<i>as in: a secular organization</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
18	A	hoard	Used 7 times in this book.
19	A	prudent	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	C	bushel	Used 4 times in this book.