

Johnny Got His Gun

by Dalton Trumbo

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, deliberate (2), democracy, elaborate, fester, foreman, heathen, impetuous, indebted, pact, parley, pavilion, recede, serene, speculate, suppress, torrent, twilight, yearn



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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. She **deliberately** added false information to the Wikipedia page.
 - A. intentionally
 - B. carelessly
 - C. accidentally
3. She wasn't accustomed to cold weather, but she managed to cross the icy street with **deliberate** care.
 - A. quick and energetic
 - B. very little
 - C. slow and careful
4. Canada has a **parliamentary democracy**.
 - A. government by the people
 - B. government by one ruler
 - C. government by the wealthy
5. As we talked, she **elaborated** on her idea.
 - A. responded to criticism
 - B. changed thinking
 - C. added details
6. Rumors began to **fester** in the absence of clear communication from leadership.
 - A. grow worse over time
 - B. started abruptly
 - C. fade away gradually
7. If you want to leave early, you have to ask the **foreman**.
 - A. supervisor
 - B. owner
 - C. customer
8. The Spanish colony prohibited **heathen** worship.
 - A. religious
 - B. organized
 - C. non-Christian
9. She made an **impetuous** purchase, buying the car without test-driving it first.
 - A. impulsive
 - B. cautious
 - C. wealthy
10. She felt **indebted** to her mentor for years of patient guidance.
 - A. grateful
 - B. annoyed
 - C. jealous
11. Under the **pact**, North Korea agreed to stop producing weapons-grade uranium.
 - A. agreement
 - B. threat
 - C. plan
12. After days of fighting, the generals decided to **parley** at dawn to seek a peaceful resolution.
 - A. duel
 - B. retreat
 - C. negotiate

13. We ate lunch under the open-sided pavilion near the lake.
- A. freestanding shelter
 - B. tall stone monument
 - C. narrow garden path
14. The pain is beginning to recede.
- A. get worse
 - B. return again
 - C. diminish (decrease)
15. She remained serene even when he was yelling at her.
- A. unmoved
 - B. calm
 - C. aggressive
16. We were speculating as to whether a president would have to resign after that kind of scandal.
- A. hoping
 - B. thoughtfully guessing
 - C. demonstrating concern
17. Stalin suppressed criticism in the press.
- A. kept from spreading
 - B. caused to spread
 - C. expressed publicly
18. Since she posted that tweet, she's received a torrent of abuse.
- A. overwhelming amount
 - B. increasing amount
 - C. warning
19. I awakened to a twilight sky but did not know if the sun was setting or rising.
- A. the light from the sky just before sunrise
 - B. the light from the sky just after sunset
 - C. the light from the sky between daylight and darkness
20. I yearn for more independence.
- A. fear
 - B. desire
 - C. work

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 *Nine million corpses later, when the bands stopped and the **serenities** started running, the wail of bagpipes would never again sound quite the same.*
 - A. things that help clarify or demonstrate
 - B. in a manner that is calm and untroubled
 - C. things accepted as true (without proof)
- 2 *Since Mr. Blanshard fell into what I hope was unconscious error both as to the period of the book's "production" and the title under which it was "produced," I can't place too much faith in his story of its **suppression**.*
 - A. the act of trying to keep under control
 - B. something that causes ongoing suffering
 - C. vaccination (to protect from a disease)
- 3 *Reading it once more after so many years, I've had to resist a nervous itch to touch it up here, to change it there, to clarify, correct, **elaborate**, cut.*
 - A. genetic change through evolution
 - B. interact again or interest again
 - C. add detail
- 4 *...the night **foreman** kept a close watch on his crew.*
 - A. a person who is in charge of other workers
 - B. someone who roughly calculates or guesses a value, quantity, or extent of something
 - C. someone responsible for making a judgment after thinking carefully about something
- 5 *The piano kept time with the bell and the bell with the piano and in back of it there was thick silence and a **yearning** to listen and lonesomeness.*
 - A. changing to fit a different situation
 - B. strongly desiring; or a strong desire
 - C. charging (with having broken the law)
- 6 *When they came of an age to take girls out on dates they always took them to the **pavilion** in the fair grounds.*
 - A. a large structure separate from a main structure (perhaps a large roofed structure without walls)
 - B. make something more attractive or interesting by adding to it
 - C. a small group of people who plot in secret and exercise power
- 7 *What do you care about making the world safe for **democracy**?*
 - A. a system of government in which citizens have power with equal votes
 - B. relating to logical examination of something to better understand it
 - C. lack of interest; or the process of stopping interaction or interest
- 8 *It read Dear Howie why were you so **impetuous** stop I am miserable thinking what you have done stop please forgive me and come right back to Shale City stop I hate Glen Hogan stop love Onie.*
 - A. impulsive (acting suddenly without much thought)
 - B. most important; or person that is most important
 - C. tending to have exceedingly unfavorable opinions
- 9 *He hadn't **deliberately** planned to be there because it was a couple of blocks out of his way and he was really awfully tired.*
 - A. intentionally
 - B. unemotionally
 - C. with distaste
- 10 *She did them ... so **deliberately** that even her movements seemed thoughtful.*
 - A. in a manner that is likely to change
 - B. in a manner that does not find fault
 - C. carefully and slowly

- 11 *That made him indebted to Jody Simmons no?*
A. to be grateful for a favor; or to owe money; or to be in the position of owing a debt of gratitude
B. influenced by personal belief, feelings, or preferences (rather than being based purely upon fact)
C. the state or quality of expressing or displaying sexual activity or violence with detailed clarity
- 12 *How was he to get out of the job Jody Simmons had given him in order to take the new job without offending his benefactor?*
A. someone who helps a person or organization -- especially financially
B. relating to logical examination of something to better understand it
C. lack of interest; or the process of stopping interaction or interest
- 13 *But if you had the same hole and no maggots you simply festered for a while and then you had gangrene.*
A. suffered inflammation and created pus
B. treated something in an educated, intellectual way -- often excluding emotional or practical considerations
C. turned in the opposite position -- such as upside down, inside out, or (of two things) in switched position
- 14 *It seemed that the blackness in his eyes was changing to something purple something like twilight blue.*
A. the color of light from the sky just before sunrise
B. the color of light from the sky just after sunset
C. the color of the sky at the time of day between daylight and darkness
- 15 *Then the vibrations receded and there was a sharp little tremor of the door closing and he knew he was alone.*
A. genetically changed through evolution
B. not encouraged or emotionally aroused
C. move away or diminished (became less)
- 16 *To talk with Lucky to be with Lucky to lie with Lucky was like finding peace in a heathen country it was like breathing the air of a place you love when you're sick and dying for a breath of it.*
A. the ability and tendency to determine what should be done and to start doing it without instruction; or to start something
B. the state of not being relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
C. someone who is not civilized or not moral OR an offensive term for a person who does not believe in a preferred religion
- 17 *Parley vous parley vous yes sir no sir lonesome honey where's that American voice?*
A. think carefully and make a judgment about something again
B. to promise, guarantee, or indicate certainty of something
C. a negotiation or discussion -- especially between enemies
- 18 *The rest of the letters tumbled into his mind in a perfect torrent.*
A. an overwhelming amount -- especially of quickly moving water
B. tile designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
C. the state of not being in danger of suffering from something
- 19 *Each member of the family had a little cache of gifts hidden somewhere in the house away from the others. It was very dishonorable for anyone to snoop on the day before Christmas so no one ever did but there was no harm in speculating upon where the gifts might be hidden.*
A. aka analyzing -- analyzing based upon a theory of psychiatry
B. wondering or guessing
C. making a decision or voicing an opinion by formal group vote
- 20 *Let them form blocs and alliances and mutual assistance pacts and guarantees of neutrality.*
A. agreements between parties
B. sound quality or its study
C. reason for doing something

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	serene	Used 2 times in this book.
2	A	suppress	Used 2 times in this book.
3	C	elaborate (<i>as in: elaborate on your plan</i>)	High-utility academic word
4	A	foreman	Used 10 times in this book.
5	B	yearn	Used 2 times in this book.
6	A	pavilion	Used 4 times in this book.
7	A	democracy	Used 14 times in this book.
8	A	impetuous (<i>as in: an impetuous decision</i>)	High-utility academic word
9	A	deliberate (<i>as in: deliberate insult</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
10	C	deliberate (<i>as in: a deliberate thinker</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
11	A	indebted	Used 2 times in this book.
12	A	benefactor	Used 3 times in this book.
13	A	fester	Used 3 times in this book.
14	C	twilight (<i>as in: pink clouds in a twilight sky</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
15	C	recede	Used 2 times in this book.
16	C	heathen	Used 2 times in this book.
17	C	parley	Used 6 times in this book.
18	A	torrent	Used 2 times in this book.
19	B	speculate (<i>as in: don't know, but I'll speculate</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
20	A	pact	Used 3 times in this book.