

Killing Kennedy

by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard

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: adversary, approximate, blockade, civil rights movement, communism, conspiracy, crucial, disdain, exile, monk, nucleus, ominous, omnipotent, opulent, reciprocate, recluse, republic, scrutiny, segregation, testify



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Their **adversaries** outsmarted them.
 - A. sub-groups
 - B. replacements
 - C. opponents
2. The circumference of the earth is **approximately** 24,900 miles at the equator.
 - A. exactly
 - B. commonly mistaken as
 - C. about
3. The protesters formed a **blockade** across the main highway.
 - A. an open pathway
 - B. a blocking barrier
 - C. a welcome banner
4. The **civil rights movement** was too diverse and fragmented to be credited to any one person, but Martin Luther King Jr. is most commonly associated with it.
 - A. 20th century effort to establish political and social equality for women
 - B. 20th century effort to establish political and social equality for labor unions
 - C. 20th century effort to establish political and social equality for African Americans
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 is inclined to believe **conspiracy** theories.
 - A. unproven
 - B. scientific
 - C. secret plot
7. The information is **crucial** to making a good decision.
 - A. helpful
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
8. She has nothing but **disdain** for the notion that common people can regulate their own lives better than she can.
 - A. lack of respect
 - B. humility
 - C. intense anger
9. Napoleon was forced into **exile** on the island of Elba.
 - A. apologizing
 - B. living elsewhere
 - C. hard labor
10. Each **monk** in the order leads a simple life without luxury.
 - A. a female member of a religious order
 - B. a male member of a religious order
 - C. a member of a religious order
11. The small reading group became the **nucleus** of a schoolwide book club.
 - A. ending
 - B. critics
 - C. center

12. With the clouds looking so ominous, I'm afraid there will be a bad storm.
- A. threatening
 - B. huge
 - C. fast-moving
13. His book was called *Omnipotent Government*.
- A. knowing everything
 - B. all powerful
 - C. present everywhere
14. The **opulent** hotel lobby had marble floors, crystal lights, and velvet chairs.
- A. rich and luxurious
 - B. plain and practical
 - C. small and crowded
15. She couldn't **reciprocate** his feelings after he professed his love for her.
- A. understand
 - B. return
 - C. hear
16. Howard Hughes became an eccentric **recluse**.
- A. loaner
 - B. millionaire
 - C. collector
17. A **republic** is a particular type of democracy.
- A. weak monarchy
 - B. representative government
 - C. oligarchy
18. The new policy faced **scrutiny** from independent reviewers.
- A. strong support
 - B. quick approval
 - C. careful examination
19. The court ruling helped end **segregation** in public schools.
- A. equal treatment
 - B. shared leadership
 - C. forced separation
20. She **testified** that he struck her.
- A. said
 - B. hid
 - C. lied

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 A Note to Readers NOVEMBER 22, 1963 MINEOLA, NEW YORK APPROXIMATELY 2:00 P.M. The students in Brother Carmine Diodati's freshman Religion class were startled.
A. relating to the outside
B. cheerfully and friendly
C. about (but not exactly)
- 2 Words that will heal a nation divided by McCarthyism, terrified of the cold war, and still struggling with racial **segregation** and discrimination.
A. an eating disorder in which overeating is followed by guilt and unhealthy attempts at correction -- especially self-induced vomiting
B. removing something that was caught by something else; or separating or smoothing things that were twisted together in a confusing mass
C. the act of keeping people or things separate -- especially people due to discrimination based on race, gender, ethnicity, or religion
- 3 This morning, he rose after just four hours of sleep and, pencil in hand, **scrutinized** his speech again and again.
A. mirrored back (an image)
B. quoted (to make a point)
C. looked at very carefully
- 4 And here at home, the power of the Mafia crime syndicates and the divisiveness of the **civil rights movement** are two crucial situations requiring immediate attention.
A. 18th-century movement when thinkers used reason and science to challenge old ideas and improve society
B. a situation where two people tend to select a sub-optimal outcome because they cannot trust each other
C. popular effort to establish political and social equality for African Americans in the USA (1954-1968)
- 5 And here at home, the power of the Mafia crime syndicates and the divisiveness of the civil rights movement are two **crucial** situations requiring immediate attention.
A. natural
B. very important
C. more than is needed
- 6 Kennedy has authorized a covert invasion of the island nation, sending fourteen hundred anti-Castro **exiles** to do a job that the U.S. military, by rule of international law, cannot do itself.
A. recommends or requires what should be done OR (of a medical doctor) gives medical instructions -- such as writing that a patient should take antibiotics
B. to force someone to live outside of their homeland; or living in such a condition

or more rarely: voluntary absence from a place someone would rather be
C. (noun) things that are lighter and draw attention -- such as areas of a painting OR (verb) making some things lighter -- such as areas of a painting
- 7 Fear about the global spread of **communism** is rampant in the United States.
A. a will (written instructions expressing how somebody wants their property distributed after they die)
B. an economic system that abolishes private ownership of property with the goal of a classless society
C. infectious disease characterized by inflammation of the tissues that surround the brain or spinal cord
- 8 Newspapers and magazines are gushing about the young president, calling Kennedy "omniscient" and "omnipotent."
A. not pleasing
B. all powerful
C. sticking out
- 9 That privilege, along with their mutual **disdain**, is all the two men have in common.
A. a lack of respect
B. differ; or change
C. influence opinion

- 10 *Chris Dumphy, a Florida Republican, connects Lawford with Bing Crosby, solving Law-ford's first problem.*
A. relating to a Christian ceremony signifying spiritual cleansing and rebirth OR relating to a challenging experience that initiates or purifies
B. of a system of government in which a majority of citizens elect representatives to make laws; or someone in favor of such a form of government
C. of an organism in the early stages of development prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting OR of anything in an early stage of development
- 11 *More ominously, the president suspects that Monroe has visions of moving into the White House sometime soon.*
A. threatening (suggestive of, or foreshadowing bad things to come)
B. in a manner that serves to help explain or demonstrate something
C. in a manner that tests someone or something for a period of time
- 12 *He does not see a worthy adversary in Kennedy.*
A. disorder
B. reporter
C. opponent
- 13 *"He didn't feel like he was of any importance to them," Fain will later testify.*
A. provide evidence of something -- especially oral evidence in court
B. to encourage growth or excitement, or to cause something to happen
C. to show something -- such as to demonstrate, express, or represent
- 14 *He states unequivocally that any missile launched by the Cubans or Soviets will be considered an act of war and that the United States will reciprocate with missiles of its own.*
A. less than zero
B. give in return
C. begin fighting
- 15 *In it the Communist leader states calmly and unequivocally that the president's proposed naval blockade is "a pirate act."*
A. aka analyze -- analyze based upon a theory of psychiatry
B. action to keep people and goods from reaching a location
C. search for and discover through persistent investigation
- 16 *The Russian dictator sees that the American president is willing to conduct a nuclear war if pushed to the limit.*
A. the quality of inappropriateness in size, amount, or degree
B. the condition of being exclusive to (someone or some group)
C. relating to the central or most important part of something
- 17 *When a fire truck tries to get close enough to drench the monk with water, other monks throw their bodies beneath its wheels to stop it.*
A. inhabitants of Assyria -- an ancient kingdom centered in northern Mesopotamia which is in present-day Iraq
B. male members of a religious order living together typically under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
C. amounts of the value of homes that some states and local jurisdictions deduct from the value that is taxed
- 18 *He also understands that his wife is drawn to the Christina's opulence and to the vast wealth of Aristotle Onassis.*
A. magnificence or luxury
B. lowers moral standards
C. not thinking carefully
- 19 *There is a dinner party in Camelot tonight, and the famously reclusive Swedish actress is the guest of honor.*
A. withdrawn from society (avoiding contact with others)
B. not concerned with what others might think of oneself
C. the degree of being completely in the specified state
- 20 *Some came to this belief thanks to Oswald's comments and J. Edgar Hoover's insistence that there was a conspiracy.*
A. the best or most important
B. harsh and unfair treatment
C. a secret agreement or plot

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	approximate	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
2	C	segregation	Used 8 times in this book.
3	C	scrutiny	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
4	C	civil rights movement	Used 15 times in this book.
5	B	crucial	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
6	B	exile	Used 10 times in this book.
7	B	communism	Used 63 times in this book.
8	B	omnipotent	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
9	A	disdain	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
10	B	republic (<i>as in: the country is a republic</i>)	Used 9 times in this book.
11	A	ominous	Used 5 times in this book.
12	C	adversary	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
13	A	testify	Used 7 times in this book.
14	B	reciprocate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
15	B	blockade	Used 5 times in this book.
16	C	nucleus	Used 30 times in this book.
17	B	monk	Used 9 times in this book.
18	A	opulent	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
19	A	recluse	Used 2 times in this book.
20	C	conspiracy	Used 9 times in this book.