

# Lord of Light

by Roger Zelazny

## 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

|                            |   |                               |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Answer Key — Preview ..... | 2 | teacher use / self-check only |
| Vocabulary Preview .....   | 3 |                               |

#### OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

|                               |   |                  |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Vocabulary in Context .....   | 5 |                  |
| Answer Key — In Context ..... | 7 | teacher use only |

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:** aesthetic, assail, attribute, deity, descend (2), detract, doctrine, incarnate, monastery, monk, parable, parry, pavilion, probe, pyre, regent, serpent, venerable, wrest



#### More Vocabulary Printables

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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

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

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## Vocabulary Preview

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. She expressed concern about the **aesthetic** impact of wind turbines in such beautiful countryside.
  - A. related to money
  - B. related to beauty
  - C. related to morality
2. She took every opportunity to **assail** the policy.
  - A. study
  - B. attack
  - C. understand
3. She described his physical **attributes**.
  - A. characteristics
  - B. strengths
  - C. weaknesses
4. The village feared angry **deities**.
  - A. neighboring villages
  - B. gods and goddesses
  - C. wild animals
5. She saw him as he was **descending** the stairs.
  - A. climbing
  - B. looking at
  - C. going down
6. A feeling of hopelessness **descended** upon us.
  - A. battled
  - B. came
  - C. caused confusion
7. Loud music can **detract** from a quiet dinner conversation.
  - A. lessen or weaken
  - B. enhance or boost
  - C. match or echo
8. She challenges accepted **doctrine**.
  - A. champions
  - B. authority
  - C. beliefs
9. Tolkien referred to his *Lord of the Rings* character, Gandalf, as an *angel* **incarnate**.
  - A. in a human body
  - B. in training
  - C. in evil surroundings
10. During her travels, she found peace and tranquility in the serene surroundings of the ancient monastery nestled high in the mountains.
  - A. religious residence
  - B. secure castle
  - C. remote cabin
11. 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

12. Jesus often taught using a **parable** rather than a direct lecture.
- A. scientific report
  - B. moral teaching story
  - C. long autobiography
13. The fencer managed to **parry** every thrust his opponent attempted.
- A. launch or throw
  - B. watch or admire
  - C. deflect or block
14. We ate lunch under the open-sided **pavilion** near the lake.
- A. freestanding shelter
  - B. tall stone monument
  - C. narrow garden path
15. The committee will **probe** the cause of the failure.
- A. investigate
  - B. make better
  - C. make worse
16. In 1829 India banned the Hindu custom of a widow's suicide on her husband's funeral **pyre**.
- A. coffin
  - B. fire
  - C. gravestone
17. While the young king was ill, his uncle served as **regent** to rule the kingdom.
- A. temporary substitute ruler
  - B. elected prime minister
  - C. royal court advisor
18. What does the **serpent** represent in the Garden of Eden?
- A. fig leaf
  - B. snake
  - C. apple
19. Many were surprised that a **venerable** institution like Bear Stearns could so rapidly go out of business.
- A. large and successful
  - B. long respected
  - C. popular
20. They **wrested** power from the old government.
- A. gave
  - B. took
  - C. understood

## Vocabulary in Context

### Lord of Light

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

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

- 1 He tended the pray-machine, and the giant metal lotus he had set atop the **monastery** roof turned and turned in its sockets.
  - A. the residence of a religious community
  - B. dense, rainy forest with many species
  - C. island (that is made of a coral reef)
- 2 Under his breath, he called upon the more notable of the current fertility **deities**, invoking them in terms of their most prominent **Attributes**.
  - A. after tax incomes
  - B. gods or goddesses
  - C. gives or supplies
- 3 Under his breath, he called upon the more notable of the current fertility **deities**, invoking them in terms of their most prominent **Attributes**.
  - A. characteristics (of something or someone)
  - B. dreamlike states of altered consciousness
  - C. piles of wood or other burnable materials
- 4 You know that he stole the fabric of his **doctrine**, path and attainment, the whole robe, from prehistorical forbidden sources.
  - A. a substance that stimulates the production of antibodies to protect against a disease
  - B. an economic system where most decisions are made through voluntary buying and selling
  - C. a belief (or system of beliefs or principles) accepted as authoritative by some group
- 5 It is only fitting, therefore, that we fallen ones take umbrage within the pale of another **venerable** tradition.
  - A. relating to understanding or explaining something in a particular way
  - B. respected (worthy of respect) -- typically because of age or position
  - C. [of food] able to be prepared in a manner that keeps it from spoiling
- 6 We could not permit them to continue their attempts to possess the machines of **incarnation** and the bodies of men.
  - A. embodiment
  - B. difference
  - C. thigh bone
- 7 This **monk** located a priest and passed the information to him.
  - A. gradual destruction (of something previously established) -- such as a government, rule, or belief
  - B. a male member of a religious order typically living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
  - C. a system of government with a ruler who has absolute power -- especially one who abuses that power
- 8 Dust off some of your old **parables**.
  - A. dreamlike states of altered consciousness
  - B. short stories told to teach moral lessons
  - C. characteristics (of something or someone)
- 9 The problem, therefore, is not one of good or evil, but one of **esthetics**.
  - A. defensive players who line up closest to the sideline to defend against passes
  - B. related to beauty or good taste; or the study of what is beautiful or tasteful
  - C. powerful attacks; or sudden and enormous amount of things that must be handled
- 10 There came then a flashing of lights along the lengths of the Nagas, the two holy **serpents** who twisted about the transparent face of the machine.
  - A. copies
  - B. snakes
  - C. enters
- 11 About a dozen years ago the Council authorized the use of **psych-probes** on those who were up for renewal.
  - A. investigations
  - B. officially requests, demands, or takings of things; or the forms used to make such requests
  - C. isn't voting "yes" or "no"; or voluntarily isn't doing something -- such as drinking alcohol

- 12 *Brahma entered the pavilion and crossed to the screen of crystal, about which a bronze Naga twisted, tail in teeth.*
- A. a large structure separate from a main structure or temporary
  - B. make something more attractive or interesting by adding to it
  - C. a small group of people who plot in secret and exercise power
- 13 *Twice, he parried the staff.*
- A. changed
  - B. delayed
  - C. avoided
- 14 *Eight pyres blazed against the predawn sky.*
- A. dreamlike states of altered consciousness
  - B. piles of wood or other burnable materials
  - C. works of fiction depicting a bleak future
- 15 *And you have detracted from the glory of a goddess, whose supremacy here has always been undisputed.*
- A. diminished (reduced the value of something)
  - B. began speaking with someone about something
  - C. concentrated, look at, or paid attention to
- 16 *Why do the Regents of the world approach?*
- A. someone appointed to a position of temporary or delegated authority -- such as a temporarily while the king or queen is too young, too sick, or away; or a member of a governing board
  - B. organisms in the early stages of growth prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting; in humans organisms during the first eight weeks of development (prior to the fetal stage)
  - C. used historically or possibly in relation to a very poor country: people of low income, education, and social standing -- especially those who raise crops or livestock
- 17 *Then I shall wrest it from him and turn it against him.*
- A. protect something or keep it as it is
  - B. obtain with difficult effort or force
  - C. a quick look or partial understanding
- 18 *A horde of demons had tried to descend upon the City at that moment, but the power of the weird held them back.*
- A. lie or mislead
  - B. come or arrive
  - C. begin fighting
- 19 *Sam raised his lance and a jagged line of light ran up into the heavens, provoking a dozen more to descend upon the field.*
- A. create dramatic change
  - B. mirror back (an image)
  - C. come down
- 20 *And another party assails the gates of the city!*
- A. is attractive or desirable
  - B. to attack or cause trouble
  - C. struggles or disagreements

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

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| #  | KEY | WORD                                                 | NOTE                                                   |
|----|-----|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | A   | monastery                                            | Used 22 times in this book.                            |
| 2  | B   | deity                                                | Used 11 times in this book.                            |
| 3  | A   | attribute ( <i>as in: It is an attribute of...</i> ) | Used 19 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.   |
| 4  | C   | doctrine                                             | Used 7 times in this book.                             |
| 5  | B   | venerable                                            | High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book. |
| 6  | A   | incarnate                                            | Used 17 times in this book.                            |
| 7  | B   | monk                                                 | Used 48 times in this book.                            |
| 8  | B   | parable                                              | Used 3 times in this book.                             |
| 9  | B   | aesthetic                                            | High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book. |
| 10 | B   | serpent                                              | Used 14 times in this book.                            |
| 11 | A   | probe                                                | Used 23 times in this book.                            |
| 12 | A   | pavilion                                             | Used 32 times in this book.                            |
| 13 | C   | parry                                                | Used 12 times in this book.                            |
| 14 | B   | pyre                                                 | Used 12 times in this book.                            |
| 15 | A   | detract                                              | Used 4 times in this book.                             |
| 16 | A   | regent                                               | Used 13 times in this book.                            |
| 17 | B   | wrest                                                | Used 2 times in this book.                             |
| 18 | B   | descend ( <i>as in: thieves descended upon us</i> )  | 2 meanings in this book.                               |
| 19 | C   | descend ( <i>as in: descend the mountain</i> )       | Used 18 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.   |
| 20 | B   | assail                                               | Used 5 times in this book.                             |