

Lord of the Flies

Chapters 10–12

by William Golding

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: compelled, delirious, dispersed, exulting, glamour, illumination, liberation, speculation, thicket, wielding

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–3 · Marooned schoolboys gather on the island

Section 2 · Chapters 4–6 · Painted hunters and talk of a beast

Section 3 · Chapters 7–9 · Hunting the beast in the forest

Section 4 · Chapters 10–12 · Two rival tribes on the island

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com
(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. A strong sense of duty **compelled** her to return the lost wallet.

- A. forced or driven to act
- B. gently reminded
- C. politely encouraged

2. The crowd was **delirious** as the home team scored the winning goal.

- A. nervously tense
- B. quietly relieved
- C. wildly excited beyond control

3. When the alarm sounded, the students quickly **dispersed** across the field.

- A. marched in orderly rows
- B. scattered and spread apart
- C. sprinted in a single line

4. The whole team was **exulting** after their last-second victory.

- A. rejoicing in triumph
- B. complaining loudly
- C. resting quietly

5. A mysterious **glamour** seemed to fall over the moonlit castle.

- A. a magical charm or spell
- B. an eerie stillness
- C. a thick, rolling fog

6. Reading that book was a real **illumination** for me.

- A. a pleasant distraction
- B. a flash of understanding
- C. a proud achievement

7. Winning the championship felt like a **liberation** after years of pressure.

- A. a fresh challenge
- B. a release from restraint
- C. a great reward

8. The scientists' talk was full of **speculation** about life on other planets.

- A. firsthand observation
- B. careful measurement and data
- C. guesswork without solid proof

9. The rabbit darted into the **thicket** and disappeared from sight.

- A. a tangle of bushes and brush
- B. a hollow, fallen log
- C. a shallow, rocky stream

10. The guard blocked the path, **wielding** a long spear.

- A. leaning on
- B. pointing at
- C. holding and using

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

propitiatingly — in an appeasing way; to placate

I've got pax — British schoolchildren's expression meaning "Truce—don't attack me."

inimical — hostile

put up a better show — perform more capably; handle the situation better

Coral Island — an adventure novel about British boys who remain civilized on a tropical island

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	C
3	B
4	A
5	A
6	B
7	B
8	C
9	A
10	C

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 *“Sitting on the tremendous rock in the torrid sun, Roger received this news as an illumination. He ceased to work at his tooth and sat still, assimilating the possibilities of irresponsible authority.”*

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘illumination’ most nearly suggests that the news...

- A. opened Roger’s eyes to a new idea
- B. left Roger baffled and uneasy
- C. dazzled Roger like a burst of light

2 *“A theological speculation presented itself. ‘We’d better keep on the right side of him, anyhow. You can’t tell what he might do.’”*

The author most likely calls this advice a ‘theological speculation’ in order to...

- A. show the beast is treated as a god
- B. show the boys plan to fight the beast
- C. explain where the beast came from

3 *“‘We gave them something to think about,’ said Sam. Honesty compelled him to go on. ‘At least you did. I got mixed up with myself in a corner.’”*

It can reasonably be inferred from the word ‘compelled’ that the speaker...

- A. was reluctant to admit how he did
- B. was eager to tell his story
- C. was ordered by the others to speak

4 *“The chief led then, trotting steadily, exulting in his achievement. He was a chief now in truth; and he made stabbing motions with his spear. From his left hand dangled Piggy’s broken glasses.”*

In the passage, the word ‘exulting’ helps characterize the chief as...

- A. anxious about being pursued
- B. grimly weary from the fighting
- C. triumphant and proud of himself

5 *“They understood only too well the liberation into savagery that the concealing paint brought.”*

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘liberation’ most nearly suggests that the paint...

- A. protects the boys from danger
- B. forces the boys to obey the chief
- C. sets the boys free from restraint

6 *“He pointed past them to where the trickle of smoke dispersed in the pearly air.”*

It can reasonably be inferred from the ‘dispersed’ trickle of smoke that the boys’ fire...

- A. has been deliberately put out
- B. is too feeble to be seen from afar
- C. is being kept hidden on purpose

7 *“High overhead, Roger, with a sense of delirious abandonment, leaned all his weight on the lever.”*

In the passage, the phrase ‘delirious abandonment’ characterizes Roger as...

- A. sick and barely conscious
- B. wildly beyond all self-restraint
- C. coolly carrying out a duty

8 *“Roger advanced upon them as one wielding a nameless authority.”*

As used in the passage, the word ‘wielding’ most nearly means...

- A. openly showing off
- B. holding and using
- C. struggling to win

9 *“At last Ralph wormed out of the ferns and sneaked forward to the edge of that impenetrable thicket that fronted the neck of land.”*

According to the passage, Ralph sneaked forward to the edge of...

- A. a tangle of growth too dense to cross
- B. a stretch of bare, open rock
- C. a stand of tall coconut palms

10 *“For a moment he had a fleeting picture of the strange glamour that had once invested the beaches.”*

As used in the passage, the word ‘glamour’ most nearly means...

- A. a dangerous, untamed wildness
- B. a welcoming familiarity
- C. an enchanting, magical charm

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	A	
2	A	A 'theological speculation' is guesswork about a god — the label marks the boys' fear of the beast hardening into religion, appeasement included.
3	A	
4	C	
5	C	'Liberation' — usually a positive word — is exact here: the paint really does free the boys, and what it frees them into is savagery.
6	B	
7	B	
8	B	
9	A	
10	C	An older sense of 'glamour' — enchantment, almost a magic spell — not modern stylishness; the beaches had once seemed under a spell.

Teacher Context: Chapters 10–12

Jack's tribe raids Ralph's camp and steals Piggy's glasses for fire; at Castle Rock, Piggy is killed and the conch destroyed. The tribe then hunts Ralph across the island until a naval officer arrives and the boys are rescued. Section runs to the end of the novel.