

Mao's Last Dancer

by Li Cunxin

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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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: accompany (2), allocate, capitalism, communism, consulate, coup (2), crucial, ecstatic, fluctuate, focus (2), implication (2), mentor, opera, peasant, persist, propaganda



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Will you **accompany** her to the party?
 - A. follow
 - B. precede
 - C. go with
2. The exact numbers are shown in the **accompanying** table.
 - A. provided together
 - B. informative
 - C. previously published
3. Let's think about how to best **allocate** time and resources.
 - A. decide on a minimum amount of
 - B. ration (distribute according to a plan)
 - C. decide on a maximum amount of
4. Under **capitalism**, private companies compete to sell goods and services.
 - A. government-run election
 - B. shared family tradition
 - C. private-market economy
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. After 9-11, the US increased security at **consulates** around the world.
 - A. headquarters of troops stationed in foreign countries
 - B. offices of diplomats living and working in foreign countries
 - C. offices of major corporations in a foreign country
7. It's the country's third **coup** in twenty years.
 - A. major catastrophe
 - B. seizure of power
 - C. regional war
8. Signing him was a **coup** for our club.
 - A. terrible and notable mistake
 - B. brilliant move gone bad
 - C. brilliant and notable success
9. The information is **crucial** to making a good decision.
 - A. helpful
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
10. She was **ecstatic** when her team won the championship.
 - A. exhausted
 - B. thrilled
 - C. furious
11. The stock market **fluctuates**.
 - A. frustrates people
 - B. alternately increases and decreases
 - C. rises in the long run
12. This week, I'm **focusing** on finishing my research paper.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help

13. The **focus** of this class is classic American Literature.
- A. hardest part
 - B. area where attention is concentrated
 - C. prerequisite (understanding required to enroll)
14. The new policy has widespread legal and political **implications**.
- A. disadvantages
 - B. effects
 - C. advantages
15. The fault clearly lies with the manufacturer, but we were **implicated** in the lawsuit because our company installed their equipment.
- A. victorious
 - B. found guilty
 - C. involved
16. The famous professor **mentored** her during her years in graduate school.
- A. graded essays by
 - B. personally advised
 - C. lectured to
17. We're going to the **opera** this evening.
- A. musical theater performance
 - B. outdoor sporting event
 - C. casual dinner gathering
18. In 1932 a **peasant** revolt in Su County, China stopped collection of the poppy tax.
- A. city dweller
 - B. young person
 - C. poor farmer
19. We expect the conditions to **persist** into next year.
- A. grow worse
 - B. continue
 - C. go away
20. It is another example of typical Russian **propaganda** that blames foreigners for every evil.
- A. social media
 - B. television
 - C. slanted news

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 The commune **allocated** each family in the village a piece of land.
 - A. selected (on a computer screen)
 - B. set apart for a special purpose
 - C. took up or received into heaven
- 2 My mother's earnings, as with all the **peasants'**, depended on the weather and luck.
 - A. 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)
 - B. members of an artistic movement pioneered by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque that featured surfaces of geometrical planes to depict three-dimensional organic forms
 - 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
- 3 My joy and sadness **fluctuated** along with my niang's.
 - A. a non-doctor who assisted a women in childbirth
 - B. alternately increased and decreased in quantity
 - C. not found guilty or forced into a bad situation
- 4 I looked scary, comical--like an evil Beijing Opera character.
 - A. a musical play with orchestra in which most of the dialogue is sung (or the art form that consists of such musicals; or describing something as related to that art form)
 - B. a person with or something related to an eating disorder in which overeating is followed by guilt and unhealthy attempts at correction -- especially self-induced vomiting
 - C. the act of forcing into an undesired activity or situation -- such as legally sentencing someone to punishment OR the act of finding guilty -- especially in court
- 5 He was politically astute, and the head of the **propaganda** department for the Building Materials Bureau in Qingdao.
 - A. a psychological disorder characterized by excessive distrust of others
 - B. an approach to psychology that emphasizes observable measurable behavior
 - C. one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions
- 6 They tore down temples and shrines: Mao wanted **communism** to have no competition from other religions.
 - 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
- 7 If anyone looked up, he would be regarded as arrogant or too stubborn to change and too deeply influenced by **capitalist** filth.
 - A. any of the military expeditions in the 11th to 13th centuries when Christian powers of Europe invaded Muslims in the Holy Land in the Middle East
 - B. part of the brain responsible for hormone levels which influence such things as appetite, digestion, sexuality, circulation, emotions, and sleep
 - C. one who believes in an economic system based on voluntary exchange in a competitive environment with private ownership of property and businesses
- 8 Despite seeing a few local healers, her sickness **persisted** and on the second night she had a strange dream: Na-na accused her and my dia of not looking after her.
 - A. disagreed
 - B. continued
 - C. stuck out
- 9 The hunter was **ecstatic**.
 - A. deeply disappointed
 - B. feeling intense happiness and excitement
 - C. intensely concerned

- 10 The sports teacher stood in front of everyone with a loudspeaker in hand and shouted out the eight exercise routines **accompanied** by recorded music.
- A. joined at the same time
 - B. exercised privileges to which one is not entitled
 - C. having multiple areas of control or concentration
- 11 She was frequently **accompanied** by a handsome retired dancer, or a retired opera singer, a movie actor or a Ping-Pong champion.
- A. made possible
 - B. got closer to
 - C. joined
- 12 Lin Biao had been planning a major **coup** for a number of years, and Chairman Mao had narrowly escaped several assassination attempts.
- A. tile designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
 - B. sudden overthrow of a government by use of limited force
 - C. an important Christian ceremony such as baptism or communion
- 13 "Jeano, is it true that Mary McKendry is coming?" I asked our general manager eagerly.
"Yes, a real **coup**," he replied, beaming.
- A. measure of general intelligence
 - B. a firm decision to do something
 - C. brilliant and notable success
- 14 Chairman Mao's communist theory about the so-called "three classes of people" was **crucial** when selecting us.
- A. natural
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
- 15 They had absolute power and would become our political and ideological **mentors**.
- A. expresses personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing (or performing to) someone else's work
 - B. someone who guides and advises another who is less experienced; or the act of providing such guidance
 - C. gradually destroys or changes the purpose of something -- such as a government, institution, or rule
- 16 Being freed from the **consulate** with Elizabeth Mackey and Charles Foster With Barbara Bush at the White House in 1991.
- A. a math value that tells how many times a number is multiplied by itself to reach another number -- often used to describe very big or very small quantities
 - B. a diplomat appointed by a government to live in a foreign country and help its citizens visiting that country; or the offices of that person and assistants
 - 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
- 17 It was magical, and New York was the **focus**.
- A. calculating or judging too high
 - B. where attention is concentrated
 - C. the ability to take on or adopt
- 18 When I had danced this role at eighteen, I bashed through the performance, **focusing** only on the technical aspect of the role.
- A. concentrating, or looking
 - B. making someone want to do something
 - C. stopping (something from happening)
- 19 Ben's relationship with China mended after that trip and I was happy for him for that, but I still worried about the possible **implications** my defection might have had on my family and for several years I didn't write or call them, fearing I would get them into further trouble.
- A. supporters of dramatic change -- sometimes people fighting for overthrow of a government
 - B. consequences or impact
 - C. workplaces where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals
- 20 Some of my relatives and friends had distanced themselves from my family, for fear of being **implicated** in my defection, but the officials never contacted my family again.
- A. not provided with investment funds
 - B. not interacting; or not interested
 - C. accused of involvement

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	allocate	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
2	C	peasant	Used 60 times in this book.
3	B	fluctuate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
4	A	opera	Used 35 times in this book.
5	C	propaganda	Used 21 times in this book.
6	B	communism	Used 105 times in this book.
7	C	capitalism	Used 17 times in this book.
8	B	persist	Used 8 times in this book.
9	B	ecstatic	Used 8 times in this book.
10	A	accompany (<i>as in: the accompanying chart</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	C	accompany (<i>as in: accompany on the journey</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
12	B	coup (<i>as in: deposed in the coup</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
13	C	coup (<i>as in: a financial coup</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	B	crucial	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
15	B	mentor	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
16	B	consulate	Used 63 times in this book.
17	B	focus (<i>as in: The focus of our study is...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
19	B	implication (<i>as in: the implication is that...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	C	implication (<i>as in: Her implication in the crime</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.