

Memoirs of a Geisha

by Arthur Golden

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: accustom, annex (2), apprentice, auspicious, contrast (2), debut, direct (2), disarray, elegant, ensemble, fidget, focus (2), interpret (2), peasant, protrude



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Memoirs of a Geisha

by Arthur Golden

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

Vocabulary Preview

Memoirs of a Geisha

by Arthur Golden

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Actors and politicians are **accustomed** to less privacy than the rest of us.
 - A. used to
 - B. happy with
 - C. paid for
2. Hitler **annexed** Lithuania.
 - A. defeated (as a result of a large, mechanized invasion)
 - B. took (a territory to make it part of a larger territory)
 - C. threatened (possibly indirectly)
3. Their display is in the **annex** to the main convention hall.
 - A. largest room
 - B. center
 - C. addition
4. Although she was still an **apprentice**, Clara already had a natural talent for woodworking and carved beautiful details into her projects.
 - A. employee with seniority
 - B. learner on the job
 - C. licensed professional
5. Clear skies and a warm breeze made for an **auspicious** start to the journey.
 - A. favorable and promising
 - B. dull and ordinary
 - C. ominous and dark
6. **Contrast** typical underlying beliefs of pro-life and pro-choice supporters.
 - A. study
 - B. compare
 - C. describe
7. There was quite a **contrast** between the styles of the two teachers.
 - A. notable similarity
 - B. covering of all styles
 - C. notable difference
8. The team celebrated his **debut** as their new starting quarterback.
 - A. first appearance
 - B. last farewell
 - C. worst showing
9. I would like to speak **directly** to the manager.
 - A. formally
 - B. personally
 - C. when convenient
10. She is easy to work with. She is **direct** in her communications and expectations.
 - A. straightforward
 - B. considerate
 - C. humble
11. They fled the **disarray** in the Palestinian territories.
 - A. disorder
 - B. poverty
 - C. violence

12. It was an **elegant** dinner party.
- A. feeling or showing sympathy for another's suffering
 - B. refined and tasteful
 - C. unsuitable (not fitting) for a particular situation
13. The comedy worked because every member of the **ensemble** played her part well.
- A. performing group
 - B. private audience
 - C. written script
14. She **fidged** like a child caught in a lie.
- A. moved restlessly
 - B. was embarrassed
 - C. cried
15. This week, I'm **focusing** on finishing my research paper.
- A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help
16. The discussion brought into focus an important difference of opinion.
- A. hiding
 - B. conflict
 - C. view
17. She will stand to his left and **interpret** his speech into sign language.
- A. refute (prove false)
 - B. elaborate upon
 - C. translate
18. How will a court **interpret** the word *careless* if there is a lawsuit?
- A. understand
 - B. insist on
 - C. ignore
19. In 1932 a **peasant** revolt in Su County, China stopped collection of the poppy tax.
- A. city dweller
 - B. young person
 - C. poor farmer
20. She is operating to repair the muscle wall through which the hernia **protrudes**.
- A. heals over
 - B. shrinks back
 - C. sticks out

Vocabulary in Context

Memoirs of a Geisha

by Arthur Golden

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 *[of a particular kind of smile] Its advantage is that men can **interpret** it however they want; you can imagine how often I've relied on it.*
 - A. understand the meaning of
 - B. translate into another language
 - C. express personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing
- 2 *The actor Basil Rathbone had admired it so much that with the help of an **interpreter** the two of them had developed something of a friendship.*
 - A. someone who can explain the significance of dreams
 - B. someone who expresses personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing
 - C. someone who translates language
- 3 *Somewhere between the various thoughts about my mother—somewhere past the discomfort in my lip—there nestled a pleasant thought I tried again and again to bring into **focus**.*
 - A. adjusted camera lens
 - B. forgetfulness
 - C. view (a state where something can be seen clearly)
- 4 *The few times I did manage to **focus** my mind clearly on Nobu, I grew so numbed I seemed to feel nothing at all.*
 - A. concentrate
 - B. adjust a lens to make an image clear
 - C. spread
- 5 *She was old and cranky-looking, and I don't think you could ever meet anyone who **fidged** more.*
 - A. made small restless movements
 - B. stretched the truth or lied
 - C. complained
- 6 *Afterward she gave me a robe, which was nothing more than coarsely woven cotton in the simplest pattern of dark blue, but it was certainly more **elegant** than anything I'd ever worn before.*
 - A. warm
 - B. refined and tasteful
 - C. expensive
- 7 *I thought she looked more mean than hot, but I went **directly** to the window and opened it.*
 - A. in a roundabout manner
 - B. immediately
 - C. eventually
- 8 *Nor could I stare **directly** back at him without seeming too forward.*
 - A. in a straightforward manner (open and honest even if it makes someone uncomfortable)
 - B. with a serious look
 - C. in a casual manner
- 9 *And the **contrast** with her friend Korin was like comparing a rock along the roadside with a jewel.*
 - A. the difference between tones of an image
 - B. similarities
 - C. notable difference
- 10 *In **contrast** with the exciting life Pumpkin was now leading, I had only my lessons and my chores, as well as the fifteen or twenty minutes Mameha spent with me during the afternoons several times a week.*
 - A. in a difference between tones of an image
 - B. in a comparison (that shows differences)
 - C. in a comparison that shows similarities
- 11 *But when I went up to my room, I found my jewelry box in **disarray**, and rushed back down just in time to see Chiyo handing something over to the man.*
 - A. with things out-of-place
 - B. on the floor
 - C. moved to a different place

- 12 Mameha took up my almanac again and this time selected several dates over the following weeks that would be **auspicious** for significant change.
- A. favorable
 - B. suspicious
 - C. dangerous
- 13 I've heard it said that the week in which a young girl prepares for her **debut** as an apprentice geisha is like when a caterpillar turns into a butterfly.
- A. first presentation
 - B. dance
 - C. time
- 14 Already by this time, I'd been wearing the complete **ensemble** of an apprentice geisha for several hours.
- A. a group of parts considered as a whole
 - B. thing that affects a result or outcome
 - C. job, reservation, booking, or activity
- 15 While her popular older sister might drop in on as many as twenty parties during an evening, an **apprentice** probably attends no more than five.
- A. younger child
 - B. someone who works for an expert to learn a trade
 - C. older person
- 16 I may as well tell you, if you don't know it already, that as a young lieutenant in the Japanese marines, Nobu had been severely injured in a bombing outside Seoul in 1910, at the time Korea was being **annexed** to Japan.
- A. shown as minor
 - B. taken and attached
 - C. shown as important
- 17 I knew nothing about kimono except how to wear them, so I was given the task of spending my days in the basement of the workshop **annex**, tending to the vats of dye as they boiled.
- A. dirty building
 - B. a room beneath ground level
 - C. an addition that extends a main building
- 18 The Admiral seemed to me the sort of man who really was **accustomed** to winning.
- A. used to (adapted to something, so it seems normal)
 - B. the ability to be taken up or received into heaven
 - C. the state or character of being good or beneficial
- 19 "I am a **peasant**," I said to myself, "and not a geisha at all any longer."
- A. a person who has retired from work
 - B. someone who dyes fabrics
 - C. a person of low income, education, and social standing
- 20 He'd had holes in both of his socks, I remembered; through one a slender big toe had **protruded**, with the nail neatly groomed.
- A. ripped
 - B. shown
 - C. stuck out

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Memoirs of a Geisha

by Arthur Golden

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	interpret (<i>as in: her interpretation of the data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
2	C	interpret (<i>as in: interpret Spanish to English</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
3	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
4	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	A	fidget	Used 23 times in this book.
6	B	elegant (<i>as in: an elegant gown</i>)	Used 29 times in this book.
7	B	direct (<i>as in: directly above; or buy direct</i>)	Used 10 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.
8	A	direct (<i>as in: gave a direct answer</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
9	C	contrast (<i>as in: there is a contrast</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	contrast (<i>as in: contrast their writing styles</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	A	disarray	Used 7 times in this book.
12	A	auspicious	Used 5 times in this book.
13	A	debut	Used 20 times in this book.
14	A	ensemble	Used 6 times in this book.
15	B	apprentice	Used 99 times in this book.
16	B	annex (<i>as in: annexed the community</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
17	C	annex (<i>as in: annex of the main building</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
18	A	accustom	Used 22 times in this book.
19	C	peasant	Used 16 times in this book.
20	C	protrude	Used 13 times in this book.