

Metamorphosis

by Franz Kafka

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

Vocabulary in Context	5	
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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: albeit, austere, comprehend, contract, contrast, despair, diligent, dissuade, distinct, engrossed, however (2), lethargic, moreover, nonetheless, protrude, reproach, resolve, subordinate, sufficient



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The repair was successful, **albeit** expensive.
 - A. therefore
 - B. though
 - C. unless
2. The monk's room was **austere**, with only a bed, a small table, and a wooden chair.
 - A. lavishly decorated
 - B. plain and without luxury
 - C. warm and welcoming
3. Washington fails to **comprehend** the change in China's strategy.
 - A. fully understand
 - B. regard respectfully
 - C. respond adequately to
4. A lot of people get into trouble by signing **contracts** they don't understand.
 - A. written agreement with much small print
 - B. written agreements that is enforceable by law
 - C. written agreements with terms that are not specified
5. **Contrast** typical underlying beliefs of pro-life and pro-choice supporters.
 - A. study
 - B. compare
 - C. describe
6. She rescued me from **despair**.
 - A. fear
 - B. poverty
 - C. hopelessness
7. A **diligent** detective investigates all clues.
 - A. lazy and careless
 - B. rude and dishonest
 - C. careful and hardworking
8. The sanctions are intended to **dissuade** nuclear weapon development in other countries.
 - A. discourage
 - B. encourage
 - C. assist
9. Two **distinct** brain networks guide our judgments.
 - A. different
 - B. similar
 - C. identical
10. She was so **engrossed** in a conversation that she didn't see me.
 - A. interested
 - B. bored
 - C. angry
11. I hope to take the ACT just once. However, I will take it early, so there is time to study and take it again if my scores aren't high enough.
 - A. but
 - B. also
 - C. and

12. However safe we make it, there will always be risk.
A. on-the-other-hand
B. in addition
C. no matter how
13. Large lunches make me feel lethargic in the afternoon.
A. sluggish
B. upset
C. energetic
14. Many graduates have high college debt. Moreover, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
A. in contrast to that
B. in addition to that
C. as a result of that
15. The class was hard. It was nonetheless my favorite.
A. despite that
B. because of that
C. for that reason
16. She is operating to repair the muscle wall through which the hernia protrudes.
A. heals over
B. shrinks back
C. sticks out
17. Don't reproach yourself for things beyond your control.
A. congratulate
B. criticize
C. accept honor for
18. She is testing my resolve to keep a good attitude.
A. determination
B. ability
C. optimism
19. Every officer under the rank of Captain, shall be subordinate to the Officer of the Watch in regard to the performance of the duties with which he is charged.
A. subservient
B. in charge of
C. considerate
20. Is there sufficient cause for a search warrant?
A. adequate (enough)
B. clear or obvious
C. dangerous

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 *And it's a funny sort of business to be sitting up there at your desk, talking down at your **subordinates** from up there, especially when you have to go right up close because the boss is hard of hearing.*
 - A. less important or subservient; or to rank as such
 - B. is considered (for affect on a result or outcome)
 - C. things or characteristics that are bad or harmful
- 2 *He would have used his arms and his hands to push himself up; but instead of them he only had all those little legs continuously moving in different directions, and which he was **moreover** unable to control.*
 - A. even though
 - B. in addition to what has just been said
 - C. for that reason
- 3 *But now that I see your **incomprehensible** stubbornness I no longer feel any wish whatsoever to intercede on your behalf.*
 - A. not understandable
 - B. understandable
 - C. not childish
- 4 *Maybe you haven't read the latest **contracts** I sent in.*
 - A. formal letters
 - B. legal agreements
 - C. informal agreements
- 5 *If, **however**, they took everything calmly he would still have no reason to be upset, and if he hurried he really could be at the station for eight o'clock.*
 - A. a word used to connect contrasting ideas as when using *though, in spite of that, in contrast, nevertheless*, etc.
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 6 *Gregor's appeals to his father were of no help, his appeals were simply not understood, **however** much he humbly turned his head his father merely stamped his foot all the harder.*
 - A. people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning
 - B. aka analysis -- psychiatric treatment; or a theory of psychiatric treatment
 - C. regardless of how
- 7 *"That was the voice of an animal", said the chief clerk, with a calmness that was **in contrast** with his mother's screams.*
 - A. in a comparison that shows similarities
 - B. a comparison that shows differences
 - C. in keeping (fitting)
- 8 *Meanwhile the day had become much lighter; part of the endless, grey-black building on the other side of the street - which was a hospital - could be seen quite clearly with the **austere** and regular line of windows piercing its facade;*
 - A. seemingly endless; or long and unpleasant
 - B. notable for absence of luxury, comfort, or decoration
 - C. bold or unmistakable
- 9 *It's quite possible for someone to be temporarily unable to work, but that's just the right time to remember what's been achieved in the past and consider that later on, once the difficulty has been removed, he will certainly work with all the more **diligence** and concentration.*
 - A. intelligence
 - B. cooperation
 - C. hard work and care

- 10 *His mother was not far away in front of him and seemed, at first, quite engrossed in herself, but then she suddenly...*
- A. with all attention focused
 - B. gradually added or removed
 - C. limited or with boundaries
- 11 *Gregor went and waited immediately by the door, resolved either to bring the timorous visitor into the room in some way or at least to find out who it was;*
- A. having firmly decided
 - B. having given up on
 - C. considering
- 12 *It was not until late at night that the gaslight in the living room was put out, and now it was easy to see that parents and sister had stayed awake all that time, as they all could be distinctly heard as they went away together on tip-toe.*
- A. in a manner that is clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate
 - B. in a manner that relates to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
 - C. in a manner related to a tendency to remain in a fixed stuporous state for long periods
- 13 *Long after he had finished eating and lay lethargic in the same place, his sister...*
- A. without energy
 - B. thirsty
 - C. anxious or restless
- 14 *Their business misfortune had reduced the family to a state of total despair,*
- A. adjusts a lens to make an image clear
 - B. not creating disagreement or struggle
 - C. hopelessness
- 15 *she probably even had to overcome the urge to flee when she saw the little bit of him that protruded from under the couch.*
- A. hid
 - B. looked
 - C. stuck out
- 16 *So she refused to let her mother dissuade her.*
- A. stop
 - B. help
 - C. argue with
- 17 *Perhaps only because her mother was there, she remained calm, bent her face to her so that she would not look round and said, albeit hurriedly and with a tremor in her voice: "Come on, let's go back in the living room for a while?"*
- A. in addition (used to introduce a phrase that strengthens what preceded it)
 - B. although (used to introduce a phrase that reduces the effect of what preceded it)
 - C. for that reason (used to introduce a phrase that explains what preceded it)
- 18 *Then, however much mother and sister would importune him with little reproaches and warnings he would keep slowly shaking his head for a quarter of an hour with his eyes closed and refusing to get up.*
- A. demands
 - B. criticisms
 - C. examples
- 19 *The gentlemen bent over the dishes set in front of them as if they wanted to test the food before eating it, and the gentleman in the middle, who seemed to count as an authority for the other two, did indeed cut off a piece of meat while it was still in its dish, clearly wishing to establish whether it was sufficiently cooked or whether it should be sent back to the kitchen.*
- A. adequately (in a manner that provides enough -- often without being more than is needed)
 - B. perfectly
 - C. overly
- 20 *He did not turn it all the way round as he felt his neck becoming stiff, but it was nonetheless enough to see that nothing behind him had changed, only his sister had stood up.*
- A. in spite of that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - B. less importantly
 - C. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	subordinate	High-utility academic word
2	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
3	A	comprehend	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
4	B	contract (<i>as in: legal contract</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
5	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	C	however (<i>as in: However much she tried...</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
7	B	contrast (<i>as in: contrast their writing styles</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
8	B	austere	High-utility academic word
9	C	diligent (<i>as in: she is diligent</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
10	A	engrossed (<i>as in: engrossed in the book</i>)	High-utility academic word
11	A	resolve (<i>as in: Her resolve weakened.</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
12	A	distinct	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	A	lethargic	High-utility academic word
14	C	despair (<i>as in: she felt despair</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
15	C	protrude	Used 3 times in this book.
16	A	dissuade	Used 2 times in this book.
17	B	albeit	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	B	reproach	Used 3 times in this book.
19	A	sufficient	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	A	nonetheless	Used 4 times in this book.