

Monster

by Walter Dean Myers

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

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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: approximate, assent, bravado, conspirator, cross-examination, defendant, demonstrate, determine, determined, direct (2), engage, establish (2), infer, pessimistic, positive (2), testify, testimony



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The circumference of the earth is **approximately** 24,900 miles at the equator.
 - A. exactly
 - B. commonly mistaken as
 - C. about
2. The singer **assented** to the request for an encore.
 - A. declined or refused
 - B. dislike or resented
 - C. consented or agreed
3. His confident speech was mostly **bravado**; he was nervous before the debate.
 - A. quiet act of kindness
 - B. false show of courage
 - C. careful use of facts
4. She was labeled a **conspirator** after leaked documents revealed her involvement in the plan.
 - A. observer of a public event
 - B. member of a secret plot
 - C. critic of a literary work
5. On **cross-examination**, their expert witness seemed less like an expert.
 - A. opposing questions
 - B. important questions
 - C. complex questions
6. The jury did not know the **defendant** had a long criminal history.
 - A. person who is on trial
 - B. person who is a witness
 - C. person filing a complaint
7. The medal is given only to a few who have **demonstrated** extraordinary courage while defending their country.
 - A. protested
 - B. shown
 - C. encouraged
8. She is **determined** to find a cure for the disease.
 - A. firmly planning
 - B. hoping
 - C. without hope
9. She **determined** that there was an error in the calculation.
 - A. insisted stubbornly
 - B. incorrectly believed
 - C. discovered
10. I would like to speak **directly** to the manager.
 - A. formally
 - B. personally
 - C. when convenient
11. She is easy to work with. She is **direct** in her communications and expectations.
 - A. straightforward
 - B. considerate
 - C. humble

12. At the time, she was **engaged** in a research project at Stanford.
- A. a candidate
 - B. involved
 - C. promised to marry
13. Which word choice would help to **establish** a serious tone.
- A. avoid
 - B. create
 - C. increase
14. The sixth paragraph (lines 67–68) is primarily concerned with **establishing** the contrast between men and masculine traits.
- A. minimizing
 - B. exaggerating
 - C. showing
15. The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
- A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted
16. Her outlook on the future was quite **pessimistic**, as she worried about the economy and the environment.
- A. expecting that things will turn out well
 - B. expecting that things will turn out badly
 - C. having no expectation of how things will turn out
17. I'm **positive** our team will win on Friday.
- A. happy
 - B. pretty sure
 - C. certain
18. Volunteering had a **positive** impact on the whole neighborhood.
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. harmful or damaging
 - C. minor and unnoticed
19. She **testified** that he struck her.
- A. said
 - B. hid
 - C. lied
20. Before your **testimony**, they will have you solemnly swear to tell *the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth*.
- A. job interview
 - B. statements at a trial
 - C. confession

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 judge is going to rule on a motion that King's lawyer made to suppress Cruz's **testimony**, and a few other things.
 - A. an atom that has acquired an electrical charge by the loss or gain of an electron
 - B. something that serves as evidence -- especially a statement at a trial or hearing
 - C. an organ attached to the wall of the uterus to nourish the fetus during pregnancy
- 2 On the 22nd of December of last year, at **approximately** 4 o'clock in the afternoon, 2 men entered a drugstore on 145th Street in Harlem.
 - A. relating to the outside
 - B. cheerfully and friendly
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 3 Yet another of the **conspirators**, the planners of this robbery that left a man dead, was to go into the store prior to the robbery to check it out, to make sure that there were no police in the store.
 - A. People who are of lower rank or status
 - B. participants involved in a secret plot
 - C. things that affect a result or outcome
- 4 This death was a **direct** result of the robbery.
 - A. clear, straightforward, or to the point
 - B. the state or degree of being very large
 - C. meticulousness (care for small details)
- 5 Neither STEVE nor KING is **directly** facing the camera.
 - A. in a manner that is appropriate or related in size, amount, or degree
 - B. exactly where stated (used for emphasis)
 - C. in a manner that is not sexually attractive, or persuasively tempting
- 6 The 2 **defendants** you see before you will be shown to be participants in that act and are being charged with felony murder.
 - A. people (or institutions) legally accused or sued in court
 - B. soft leather shoes traditionally worn by Native Americans
 - C. people of the majority denomination of Islam (almost 90%)
- 7 What are you, a **pessimist**?
 - A. someone or something that combines components to create a complex whole
 - B. someone who expects the worst; or who focuses on the bad part of things
 - C. someone who joins with others in a public protest or display of support
- 8 KARYL is still on stand as BRIGGS **cross-examines**.
 - A. careful, detailed questioning—especially in court, where the opposing side questions a witness after the other side has questioned them
 - B. a means of control -- most commonly the straps attached to a bit in a horse's mouth that are used to control it OR restrains or controls
 - C. injures the ligaments of a joint by stretching them too far (ligaments are the tough, fibrous bands that connect bones across joints)
- 9 It's my understanding that the crime-scene technicians didn't find any fingerprints they could **establish** as belonging to a perpetrator.
 - A. take (power or responsibility)
 - B. accept as true (without proof)
 - C. prove
- 10 I'd like to **establish** the objection.
 - A. interact again or interest again
 - B. set in place (for the record to argue upon appeal)
 - C. genetic change through evolution

- 11 Mr. Cruz, you're **testifying** against people you know.
- A. providing evidence of something -- especially oral evidence in court
 - B. calling -- typically to come nearer by using a hand gesture or a nod
 - C. convincing (someone) that an idea previously believed is not correct
- 12 Mayor Rudy Giuliani says that he is **determined** to stop crime in all areas of the city.
- A. firm in purpose
 - B. careful thought
 - C. starts (a fire)
- 13 A man is dead. But nowhere in the Medical Examiner's testimony does he indicate who was responsible for that murder. That is for you to **determine**.
- A. hire again or occupy again
 - B. draw pictures to accompany
 - C. figure out
- 14 I saw two young men **engaged** in an argument.
- A. studying
 - B. involved
 - C. promised to marry
- 15 Then I saw one of them grab the drugstore owner by the collar. (She grabs her own collar to **demonstrate**.)
- A. draw
 - B. show (what happened)
 - C. quit
- 16 I know the judge will tell the jury not to **infer** anything if you don't take the stand, but I believe that the jury wants to hear from you.
- A. take up or receive into heaven
 - B. conclude (through reasoning)
 - C. hire, reserve, book, or occupy
- 17 Then we see STEVE nod his **assent**.
- A. to release from slavery or servitude; or (metaphorically) from social restraints
 - B. removing the favoring any side in a contest, war, disagreement, or other dispute
 - C. to express agreement -- especially with a statement or proposal to do something
- 18 He's very much involved with depicting his neighborhood and environment in a **positive** manner.
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. not representative
 - C. impossible to find
- 19 Here is a Black woman, uneasy about her role in identifying a young Black man, who still had the courage to testify before you and to **positively** identify Mr. King.
- A. without regret
 - B. with hard work
 - C. with certainty
- 20 The other is putting on a show of **bravado**.
- A. related to or causing dramatic change; of a supporter of the change
 - B. a bold manner or show of bravery -- often hiding fear or insecurity
 - C. a basic building block of matter that makes up protons and neutrons

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	testimony	Used 31 times in this play.
2	C	approximate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
3	B	conspirator	Used 2 times in this play.
4	A	direct (<i>as in: gave a direct answer</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
5	B	direct (<i>as in: directly above; or buy direct</i>)	2 meanings in this play.
6	A	defendant	Used 6 times in this play.
7	B	pessimistic	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	A	cross-examination	Used 2 times in this play.
9	C	establish (<i>as in: establish that there is a need</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
10	B	establish (<i>as in: establish a positive tone</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
11	A	testify	Used 38 times in this play.
12	A	determined (<i>as in: is determined to succeed</i>)	2 meanings in this play.
13	C	determine (<i>as in: determined she is guilty</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
14	B	engage (<i>as in: engage in conversation</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this play.
15	B	demonstrate (<i>as in: It demonstrates my point.</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
16	B	infer	High-utility academic word
17	C	assent	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	A	positive (<i>as in: had a positive effect</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
19	C	positive (<i>as in: I'm absolutely positive!</i>)	2 meanings in this play.
20	B	bravado	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.