

Nation

by Terry Pratchett

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 from the Resources menu.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

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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: accompany (2), arrogant, banish, blasphemy, clamor, cower, debris, doctrine, heathen, mutiny, nevertheless, oblong, peril, ratify, scorn, tact, wily, wretched, zeal



More Vocabulary Printables

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(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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. Anyone who plays a musical instrument is encouraged to come to tryouts to **accompany** the choir.
 - A. enjoy
 - B. perform with
 - C. help evaluate
3. I'm not worried that she might appear insecure. I'm worried that she might appear **arrogant**.
 - A. warm and welcoming
 - B. shy and uncertain
 - C. overly self-important
4. I tried to **banish** the thought from my mind.
 - A. understand
 - B. collect
 - C. send away
5. Even in the 21st century, high school teachers in the country are still occasionally imprisoned and/or lashed for **blasphemy**.
 - A. disrespect of something considered sacred
 - B. a dispute where there is strong disagreement
 - C. a serious logical error
6. Noisy **clamor** gave way to reasoned dialogue.
 - A. demands
 - B. insults
 - C. whining
7. She **cowered** behind her big sister.
 - A. walked slowly
 - B. walked proudly
 - C. fearfully hid
8. Crews spent hours clearing **debris** from the highway after the crash.
 - A. intact structures
 - B. valuable items
 - C. scattered wreckage
9. She challenges accepted **doctrine**.
 - A. champions
 - B. authority
 - C. beliefs
10. The Spanish colony prohibited **heathen** worship.
 - A. religious
 - B. organized
 - C. non-Christian
11. The largest **mutiny** in modern military history occurred during the first world war when an estimated 40,000 French soldiers, probably wisely, ignored the command to advance on German troops entrenched in hilltop positions.
 - A. open rebellion against authority
 - B. turnaround in a battle
 - C. defeat in battle

12. She loves him. Nevertheless, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
- A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition
13. The table is an oblong shape, with curved edges.
- A. elongated
 - B. circular
 - C. square
14. The journalist's investigation put her in great peril.
- A. fame
 - B. danger
 - C. weariness
15. It will require a union vote to ratify the labor contract.
- A. approve
 - B. criticize
 - C. restrict
16. That coach scorns students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains
17. She means well, but she lacks tact.
- A. a plan
 - B. sensitivity
 - C. ability
18. Don't underestimate that wily old attorney.
- A. well-connected
 - B. clever
 - C. experienced
19. The photograph showed poor people in a wretched village in East Africa.
- A. irresponsible
 - B. in terrible condition
 - C. foolish or thoughtless
20. We need someone with both zeal and ability.
- A. enthusiasm
 - B. patience
 - C. honesty

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 *We may declare the succession overseas—even crown the man if necessary—but his presence will be required on English soil within the time period for full **ratification**.*
 - A. formal approval
 - B. not real
 - C. allowing
- 2 *He knew every hymn in *The Antique and Contemporary Hymn Book*, and sang his way through them loudly and joyously when he was on watch, which had been one of the reasons for the **mutiny**.*
 - A. open rebellion against authority -- especially by seamen or soldiers against their officers
 - B. a legal order requiring witnesses to appear, or documents related to an appeal be provided
 - C. utter obscenities or profanities; or to speak disrespectfully of something considered sacred
- 3 *"Oh hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in **peril** on the sea," he finished, and stopped and stared ahead.*
 - A. useful
 - B. danger
 - C. allows
- 4 *At first they were hard to see, tangled as they were with **debris** and as gray as the ashen mud.*
 - A. the act of treating or preparing food in a way that keeps it from spoiling
 - B. passages food and drink follow between the back of mouths and the stomachs
 - C. pieces of something that has been destroyed; or trash that is lying around
- 5 *He closed his eyes and tried to force the **clamoring** memories away, into the dark.*
 - A. demanding loudly and/or persistently
 - B. suggesting that someone was involved
 - C. walking in an awkward, shuffling way
- 6 *A white **oblong** had been wedged in a piece of broken wood, and there were toeless footprints in the sand.*
 - A. an elongated shape (having more length than width) -- typically of a stretched circle that is longer than an oval, but occasionally used to describe a rectangle
 - B. a workplace where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals (also used figuratively) OR (as an adjective) related to such a place
 - C. soccer: a foul kick taken from 12 yards in front of the goal and defended only by the goalkeeper who cannot advance beyond the goal line until the shot is taken
- 7 *They would be elegant and **tactful**.*
 - A. relating to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
 - B. to say or handle things in a way that makes others feel good about them
 - C. rude or unfriendly because of using too few words or moving too quickly
- 8 *Nevertheless, I **forbid**—*
 - A. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 9 *It would have been so easy to heed the **wily** words of Locaha and sink into the blackness, but that would have drowned her, too.*
 - A. sloped
 - B. clever
 - C. steady
- 10 *My mother made me a little shepherdess outfit, and I looked so sweet it would make you sick, and the **wretched** creature used to take every opportunity to butt me in the—to butt me.*
 - A. not easily identified
 - B. miserable or very bad
 - C. exactness or accuracy
- 11 *Perhaps they see a use for your sorrowful **blasphemy**.*
 - A. disrespectful of something considered sacred
 - B. found a condition or substance to be present
 - C. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18

- 12 *It was all so...arrogant.*
- A. lacking a tendency to be full of thought
 - B. without a tendency to be full of thought
 - C. having an excessive sense of superiority
- 13 *But they'll catch fish to put on the stones, and cower!*
- A. a pardon; or the time period during which the pardon is offered
 - B. recognize the value or importance of; and/or to be grateful for
 - C. show fear by positioning the body as though afraid of being hit
- 14 *"Are you a heathen god of some sort?" she asked.*
- A. the ability and tendency to determine what should be done and to start doing it without instruction; or to start something
 - B. the state of not being relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
 - C. someone who is not civilized or not moral OR an offensive term for a person who does not believe in a preferred religion
- 15 *You scorned them and spurned them, but the faster you ran from them, the closer you came to them.*
- A. disrespected or rejected
 - B. mirrored back (an image)
 - C. quoted (to make a point)
- 16 *"But the ghost girl is already banished," Mau pointed out.*
- A. thought -- possibly aloud
 - B. was abundant or plentiful
 - C. expelled or gotten rid of
- 17 *But Cookie said that in his opinion Roberts knew all about Cox and had been filled with missionary zeal at the chance to save such a big ripe sinner from the Pit of Damnation.*
- A. active interest and enthusiasm
 - B. made by taking on as one's own
 - C. relating to the chest (thorax)
- 18 *"And someone, please, to teach us doctrine," Mau added.*
- A. a substance that stimulates the production of antibodies to protect against a disease
 - B. an economic system where most decisions are made through voluntary buying and selling
 - C. a belief (or system of beliefs or principles) accepted as authoritative by some group
- 19 *An interesting little fact is that my father accompanied him on the drum, and the effect was considered... unusual.*
- A. not controlled
 - B. performed with
 - C. began fighting
- 20 *I myself was privileged to accompany Sir Patrick Moore and Professor Richard Feynman when they were up here together.*
- A. differ; or change
 - B. influence opinion
 - C. join (travel with)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	ratify	Used 3 times in this book.
2	A	mutiny	Used 7 times in this book.
3	B	peril	Used 4 times in this book.
4	C	debris	Used 4 times in this book.
5	A	clamor	Used 2 times in this book.
6	A	oblong	Used 3 times in this book.
7	B	tact	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
8	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
9	B	wily	Used 2 times in this book.
10	B	wretched	Used 5 times in this book.
11	A	blasphemy	Used 2 times in this book.
12	C	arrogant	Used 2 times in this book.
13	C	cower	Used 2 times in this book.
14	C	heathen	Used 4 times in this book.
15	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
16	C	banish	Used 2 times in this book.
17	A	zeal	Used 2 times in this book.
18	C	doctrine	Used 2 times in this book.
19	B	accompany (<i>as in: accompanied her in the performance</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	C	accompany (<i>as in: accompany on the journey</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.