

Native Speaker

by Chang-rae Lee

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: boycott, camaraderie, crucial, cynical, eminent, heed, hubris, idiom, interpret, irony (2), malice, narrative, quell, resplendent, revise, serene, strident, sundry, venerable



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Advertisers **boycotted** the show because of accusations that the script was racist.
 - A. refused to buy advertising of
 - B. investigated
 - C. paid discount rates
2. The veteran team showed **camaraderie** in the locker room.
 - A. tension between members
 - B. close friendship in a group
 - C. respect for opponents
3. The information is **crucial** to making a good decision.
 - A. helpful
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
4. Over the years, she has grown **cynical** and unhappy.
 - A. distrustful of others
 - B. trusting of strangers
 - C. envious of friends
5. Despite her **eminent** status in the art world, she remained humble and approachable.
 - A. respected and well-known
 - B. newly acquired
 - C. barely noticed
6. She didn't **heed** the storm warnings and got caught in the heavy rain.
 - A. pass through
 - B. tell others of
 - C. pay attention to
7. Her **hubris** led to the collapse of the company.
 - A. excessive confidence
 - B. tendency to fight
 - C. excessive ambition
8. She was not familiar with the **idiom**, "bite the bullet."
 - A. a type of figurative language that uses words in a non-literal way to create a vivid or imaginative description
 - B. an expression that is unique to a particular language or dialect and cannot be translated directly into another language
 - C. an expression whose meaning cannot be inferred from the meanings of the words that make it up
9. She will stand to his left and **interpret** his speech into sign language.
 - A. refute (prove false)
 - B. elaborate upon
 - C. translate
10. **Ironically**, her strongest supporters undermined her popularity through their extremism.
 - A. when what happens is exactly what usually happens
 - B. when what happens is very different than what might be expected
 - C. when what happens is very fitting for the situation
11. Her voice was dripping with **irony** as she said, "You look beautiful."
 - A. sincerity
 - B. sarcasm
 - C. kindness

12. Words can be like baseball bats when used **maliciously** against someone who is sensitive.
- A. carelessly
 - B. mockingly
 - C. evilly
13. It's an interesting **narrative** about her first year in college.
- A. story
 - B. joke
 - C. theatrical play
14. The principal tried to **quell** the rumors before they spread further.
- A. put an end to
 - B. make louder
 - C. ask about
15. The bird is called a **Resplendent** Quetzal because of its beautiful, shimmering colors.
- A. colorful
 - B. magnificent
 - C. shimmering
16. Do you think the writer should **revise** the underlined sentence?
- A. remove
 - B. highlight
 - C. improve
17. She remained **serene** even when he was yelling at her.
- A. unmoved
 - B. calm
 - C. aggressive
18. The protesters' **strident** chants could be heard from blocks away.
- A. forceful or loud and harsh
 - B. unexpected or non-typical
 - C. calm and composed
19. Power in the city is divided amongst the mayor, city council, and **sundry** city commissions.
- A. skillful
 - B. various
 - C. elected
20. Many were surprised that a **venerable** institution like Bear Stearns could so rapidly go out of business.
- A. large and successful
 - B. long respected
 - C. popular

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 *She was drawing up **idioms** in the list, visions of me in the whitest raw light, instant snapshots of the difficult truths native to our time together.*
 - A. different ways of doing something; or routes that lead to a particular place
 - B. world's premier bicycle races – run annually for 3 weeks primarily in France
 - C. a way of putting things that is characteristic of a specific group of people
- 2 *"My good friend Henry," he said **stridently**, the strangeness of that notion hanging there for us.*
 - A. unpleasantly forceful when expressing opinions; or loud and harsh
 - B. not straight; or done in a way that involves other people or things
 - C. not the manner in which things have generally been done in the past
- 3 *When he left us she bid him goodbye using his surname, with neither **irony** nor derision.*
 - A. soft leather shoe traditionally worn by Native Americans
 - B. indicating one thing while meaning something else
 - C. belief or opinion formed by viewing things a certain way
- 4 ***Ironically**, these were all the things that my father forever wanted me to consider, and to what as a teenager I had disingenuously cried, "What about love?"*
 - A. meticulously (with great care for small details)
 - B. when what happens is very different than what might be expected
 - C. in a manner that accepts as true (without proof)
- 5 *I pressed him on it and learned only that the emperor Diocletian had built a **resplendent** palace on the shores of the Adriatic, for his retirement, of all things, as if he might escape the snarls of his Rome.*
 - A. exactness or accuracy
 - B. beautiful or splendid
 - C. able to be translated
- 6 *It made him feel like an old-timer, **venerable**.*
 - A. relating to understanding or explaining something in a particular way
 - B. respected (worthy of respect) -- typically because of age or position
 - C. [of food] able to be prepared in a manner that keeps it from spoiling
- 7 *Normally I would have ceased matters temporarily, retreated to Westchester to reiterate and **revise**.*
 - A. follow
 - B. unwrap
 - C. change
- 8 *Hoagland, the human black cloud, had noticed this too, mentioned it sometimes as indicative of our good camaraderie.*
 - A. the degree of not being easily set on fire
 - B. close friendship amongst a group of people
 - C. not appropriate in size, amount, or degree
- 9 *They spoke in veiled attacks about his mediation of talks surrounding the black **boycotts** of Korean businesses across the city.*
 - A. to refuse to buy things (from someone); or to refuse to participate in an activity (with someone) in order to express disapproval
 - B. presents something to treat as true in order to advance a discussion or to further investigation even though it might not be true
 - C. enthusiastic expressions of feelings or thoughts OR squirts or gives off (typically under pressure such as blood or leaking gas)
- 10 *When we met him at one of his stores he always had a **sundry** basket of treats for her, trifles from his shelves, bars of dark chocolate, exotic tropical fruits, tissue-wrapped biscotti.*
 - A. certain
 - B. various
 - C. outside

- 11 *I imagined that something deeply horrible had happened to her when she was young, some nameless pain, something brutal, that a **malicious** man had taught her fear and sadness and she had had to leave her life and family because of it.*
- A. exceedingly important, serious, or dangerous
 - B. designed to be useful; or capable of working
 - C. the intention or desire to see others suffer
- 12 *I'm not being **cynical**.*
- A. someone who expects the worst -- especially of people (such as expecting them to be selfish and lie)
 - B. characterized by recurrent and persistent thoughts and feelings and repetitive, ritualized behaviors
 - C. related to the change of a light wave (or other wave) when it passes an opaque edge or narrow opening
- 13 *I was **heeding** you.*
- A. moving again into position to work; or starting again
 - B. spreading one-sided information to influence opinions
 - C. paying close attention to; or doing what is suggested
- 14 *Its **adherents** know no **hubris**.*
- A. excessive pride, arrogance, or confidence
 - B. ability to accept as true (without proof)
 - C. characterized by having multiple purposes
- 15 *Inconsistencies began to arise in **crucial** details, all of which I inexplicably confused and alternated.*
- A. natural
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
- 16 *"**Eminently**," he answered, smiling.*
- A. with high standing
 - B. with strong desire
 - C. in a sloped manner
- 17 *But Hoagland would have wanted me to continue pushing him, to extend the evening's **narrative** to its logical and fitting end.*
- A. story
 - B. snake
 - C. skill
- 18 *And leaving right then would also serve to **quell** any suspicions, at least at the level we were working.*
- A. suppress or stop completely
 - B. develop or change gradually
 - C. pessimistic or disagreeable
- 19 *Bring an **interpreter** or phrase book.*
- A. people who criticize or condemn
 - B. someone who extensively damages
 - C. someone who translates language
- 20 *My **mask of serenity** and...*
- A. relative amount
 - B. untroubled calmness
 - C. in disagreement

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	idiom	Used 3 times in this book.
2	A	strident	Used 4 times in this book.
3	B	irony (<i>as in: verbal irony</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
4	B	irony (<i>as in: situational irony</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
5	B	resplendent	Used 3 times in this book.
6	B	venerable	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
7	C	revise	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
8	B	camaraderie	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
9	A	boycott	Used 7 times in this book.
10	B	sundry	Used 5 times in this book.
11	C	malice	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
12	A	cynical	Used 6 times in this book.
13	C	heed	Used 5 times in this book.
14	A	hubris	Used 2 times in this book.
15	B	crucial	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
16	A	eminent	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
17	A	narrative (<i>as in: Narrative of the Life of...</i>)	Used 7 times in this book.
18	A	quell	Used 5 times in this book.
19	C	interpret (<i>as in: interpret Spanish to English</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
20	B	serene	Used 5 times in this book.