

Slaughterhouse-Five

by Kurt Vonnegut

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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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: advocate (2), anecdote, azure, communism, convention (2), furlough, habitat, incidental, lament, listless, massacre, pneumatic, render (2), scorn, senile, serene, simulate



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	A
3	A
4	C
5	B
6	B
7	C
8	C
9	B
10	A
11	C
12	A
13	A
14	B
15	C
16	C
17	A
18	C
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. Privacy **advocates** want the law changed.
 - A. opponents
 - B. sufferers
 - C. supporters
2. The company needs a good **advocate** to represent them in trial in Scotland.
 - A. lawyer
 - B. sympathetic witness
 - C. expert witness
3. She is good at making a point in an interesting and memorable way with an **anecdote**.
 - A. short true story
 - B. long boring lecture
 - C. detailed research report
4. The children painted the ocean an **azure** shade on the classroom mural.
 - A. dark red
 - B. pale yellow
 - C. bright blue
5. Marx's writings on **communism** inspired revolutions across many countries in the 1900s.
 - A. free market trade
 - B. collective ownership
 - C. religious reform
6. Hotel rooms are expensive that week because so many people are attending a big **convention**.
 - A. unexpected emergency
 - B. large conference or meeting
 - C. traditional holiday
7. In most countries, the **convention** is to shake the head to indicate "no", but in Bulgaria that indicates "yes".
 - A. movement
 - B. agreement
 - C. normal behavior
8. The company **furloughed** employees on the third shift.
 - A. fired
 - B. gave raises to
 - C. ordered not to come to work
9. They are found in the marine **habitat** of the kelp forest of southern California.
 - A. feeding routine
 - B. natural environment
 - C. breeding season
10. Travel costs were the main expense; meals were just **incidental**.
 - A. minor and secondary
 - B. central and primary
 - C. carefully planned
11. We **lamented** our sad circumstances.
 - A. made worse
 - B. improved
 - C. expressed grief about
12. She accepted her fate with **listless** resignation.
 - A. unenergetic
 - B. frustrated
 - C. lonely

13. The village suffered a brutal massacre during the long civil war.
- A. mass slaughter
 - B. tense standoff
 - C. quiet retreat
14. Workers use pneumatic drills to break up the concrete sidewalk.
- A. battery-operated
 - B. air-powered
 - C. water-cooled
15. I received an invoice for \$100 for services rendered.
- A. to be performed
 - B. described in writing
 - C. provided or supplied
16. The face of the child is rendered with much tenderness in this painting.
- A. depicted or created with more detail than normal
 - B. created in a manner that will always be remembered
 - C. portrayed or created in a particular way
17. That coach scorns students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains
18. About 10% of Americans between the ages of 65 and 75 suffer from senility.
- A. loneliness most days of the week
 - B. a poor sense of smell
 - C. mental weakness caused by old age
19. She remained serene even when he was yelling at her.
- A. unmoved
 - B. calm
 - C. aggressive
20. Our police are tested in conditions that simulate gunfire exchange with criminals in the presence of innocent bystanders.
- A. imitate
 - B. train
 - C. defend against

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 asked him how it was to live under **Communism**, and he said that it was terrible at first, because everybody had to work so hard, and because there wasn't much shelter or food or clothing.
A. a will (written instructions expressing how somebody wants their property distributed after they die)
B. an economic system that abolishes private ownership of property with the goal of a classless society
C. infectious disease characterized by inflammation of the tissues that surround the brain or spinal cord
- 2 We were connected to the institutions that supported us by means of **pneumatic** tubes which ran under the streets of Chicago.
A. not capable of being suffered through (or put up with)
B. of or relating to or using air (or gas) under pressure
C. the degree to which something can be solved or settled
- 3 ...and the great services they **rendered** to Christianity.
A. restart (a fire)
B. started (a fire)
C. gave
- 4 ...and another pamphlet of German phrases **rendered** in English phonetics,
A. changed the direction of a light wave (or other wave) by passing an opaque edge or narrow opening
B. directed energy from a negative (unacceptable) impulse or urge into a positive or acceptable action
C. translated
- 5 Billy has gone to sleep a **senile** widower and awakened on his wedding day.
A. relating to a government, country, or ruling family of a country ruled by a king or queen
B. in the dark (figuratively) due to a lack of knowledge, advantages, or moral understanding
C. mental weakness caused by old age; or describing a medical condition as caused by old age
- 6 an international **convention** of optometrists in Montreal
A. result or predictable value
B. formal gathering
C. a long uninterrupted speech
- 7 ...where 135,000 people died as the result of an attack with **conventional** weapons.
A. complete or total
B. able to challenge
C. normal or typical
- 8 Billy was given an emergency **furlough** home because his father, a barber in Ilium, New York, was shot dead by a friend while they were out hunting deer.
A. a method of artistic painting on a wall by using watercolors on wet plaster; or the painting made in such a manner
B. accept someone's membership through a special procedure such as a ceremony and/or period of instruction and/or test
C. temporary leave from work or duty
- 9 Weary **scornfully** bet Billy one time that he didn't even know what a blood gutter was.
A. in a disrespectful or rejecting manner
B. in a manner that is not easily noticed
C. with grace of movement and flexibility
- 10 Billy read the opinion of a staff judge **advocate** who reviewed Slovik's case, which ended like this: He has directly challenged the authority of the government, and future discipline depends upon a resolute reply to this challenge.
A. a lawyer or officer of the court in some jurisdictions in Europe, colonial America, and the military
B. aka natural right -- a right that is naturally due because of human nature and the natural condition
C. a powerful stimulant drug that increases activity in the brain and nervous system -- often addictive

- 11 The **advocates** of nuclear disarmament seem to believe that, if they could achieve their aim, war would become tolerable and decent.
- A. social events or ceremonies
 - B. reasons for doing something
 - C. people who publicly support
- 12 Billy Pilgrim had not heard this **anecdote**.
- A. a short story that is true -- often told for amusement or to make a point
 - B. a feeling of anger or unhappiness at having to accept something not liked
 - C. Hitler's fanatical and oppressive political party in World War II Germany
- 13 God grant me the **serenity** to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom always to tell the difference.
- A. relative amount
 - B. peace and calm
 - C. in disagreement
- 14 The hold of the saucer was crammed with other stolen merchandise, which would be used to furnish Billy's artificial **habitat** in a zoo on Tralfamadore.
- A. relating to logical examination of something to better understand it
 - B. the type of environment in which an organism or group normally lives
 - C. lack of interest; or the process of stopping interaction or interest
- 15 They would inevitably surface within a rectangle of barbed wire, would find themselves greeted **listlessly** by dying Russians who spoke no English, who had no food or useful information or escape plans of their own.
- A. with a lack of energy and normal enthusiasm
 - B. in a manner that stops or hinders something
 - C. in a manner involving only one part or side
- 16 And, at the far end of the shed, Billy saw pink arches with **azure** draperies hanging between them, and an enormous clock, and two golden thrones, and a bucket and a mop.
- A. reporter
 - B. disorder
 - C. sky-blue
- 17 And Billy had seen the greatest **massacre** in European history, which was the firebombing of Dresden.
- A. the savage and excessive killing of many people
 - B. to put someone into a state of hypnosis (a trance-like state of focused concentration and heightened suggestibility)
 - C. a method of artistic painting on a wall by using watercolors on wet plaster; or the painting made in such a manner
- 18 One of the biggest moral bombshells handed to Billy by the Tralfamadorians, **incidentally**, had to do with sex on Earth.
- A. of something that comes with something else, but is less important than it
 - B. a trance-like state of focused concentration and heightened suggestibility
 - C. in a way that suppresses (prevents something or decreases its development)
- 19 He wondered what tragedy so many had found to **lament** out of doors.
- A. gradually add or remove
 - B. make or cause to become
 - C. grieve (or express grief about)
- 20 The head zoo keeper ordered a crane operator, who was standing by, to drop a navy blue canopy over the dome, thus **simulating** Earthling night inside.
- A. imitating
 - B. hiring, reserving, booking, or occupying
 - C. opposing (struggling against each other)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	communism	Used 4 times in this book.
2	B	pneumatic	Used 2 times in this book.
3	C	render (<i>as in: rendered service or a verdict</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
4	C	render (<i>as in: rendered interpretation</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
5	C	senile	Used 4 times in this book.
6	B	convention (<i>as in: teacher's convention</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
7	C	convention (<i>as in: conventional behavior</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	C	furlough	Used 2 times in this book.
9	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
10	A	advocate (<i>as in: an advocate in court</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
11	C	advocate (<i>as in: an advocate supporting</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
12	A	anecdote	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	B	serene	Used 3 times in this book.
14	B	habitat	Used 3 times in this book.
15	A	listless	Used 5 times in this book.
16	C	azure	Used 8 times in this book.
17	A	massacre	Used 7 times in this book.
18	A	incidental (<i>as in: an incidental expense</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
19	C	lament	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	A	simulate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.