

# Sophie's World

by Jostein Gaarder

## Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

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### 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

Answer Key — Preview .....	2	teacher use / self-check only
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.

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#### 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:** accord (2), analysis, approach (2), empirical, establish (2), existential (2), immutable, interpret (2), materialistic, moreover, natural law, perceive, Renaissance, thesis (2)



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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	A
4	A
5	B
6	C
7	B
8	C
9	A
10	B
11	B
12	C
13	A
14	A
15	B
16	A
17	A
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. She dresses in **accordance** with the latest fashions.
  - A. opposition
  - B. keeping
  - C. ignorance
2. After the fight, he turned himself in of his **own accord**.
  - A. own fear
  - B. own safety
  - C. own mind
3. Freud's theory of **analysis** emphasized dreams and sexual repression.
  - A. psychiatric treatment
  - B. plot creation
  - C. film-making
4. I grow more nervous as the test **approaches**.
  - A. gets nearer
  - B. is remembered
  - C. continues
5. We need to **approach** this problem in a new way.
  - A. avoid
  - B. think about
  - C. assign
6. **Empirical** studies provide inputs for our formulas, but the formulas themselves are largely based upon intuitive values.
  - A. theoretical
  - B. creative
  - C. measured
7. Which word choice would help to **establish** a serious tone.
  - A. avoid
  - B. create
  - C. increase
8. The sixth paragraph (lines 67-68) is primarily concerned with **establishing** the contrast between men and masculine traits.
  - A. minimizing
  - B. exaggerating
  - C. showing
9. The loss of the buffalo was an **existential** blow to the Apache culture.
  - A. threatening existence
  - B. threatening pride
  - C. threatening poverty
10. While she was enjoying life and making a better world, he fell into depression, suffering an **existential** crisis in which he came to think of life as pointless.
  - A. relating to fear of death
  - B. relating to knowing what is important in life
  - C. relating to poor health
11. The universe is governed by **fixed and immutable** laws.
  - A. uncaring
  - B. unchangeable
  - C. understandable

12. She will stand to his left and interpret his speech into sign language.
- A. refute (prove false)
  - B. elaborate upon
  - C. translate
13. How will a court interpret the word *careless* if there is a lawsuit?
- A. understand
  - B. insist on
  - C. ignore
14. I wouldn't describe myself as **materialistic**, but I would like some financial security.
- A. too concerned with wealth and possessions
  - B. too afraid of risk and uncertainty
  - C. unwilling to spend any money
15. 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
16. **Natural law** is why war crimes are wrong even if national law allowed them.
- A. innate moral code
  - B. popular opinion
  - C. regional custom
17. It's one thing to **perceive** something with the senses and another to understand its importance.
- A. become aware of
  - B. physically touch
  - C. clearly see
18. The **Renaissance**, the Reformation, the Enlightenment, and the Scientific Revolution were some of the major signposts on Western civilization's road to modernity.
- A. the period of European history known for a revival of intellectual and artistic achievement (14th through mid-17th centuries)
  - B. a period of European history in which major efforts to reform the Catholic Church led to major protestant denominations (16th century)
  - C. 18th century period that further advanced the use of reason in Western civilization
19. What is the **thesis** of your paper.
- A. format
  - B. theory
  - C. grammatical voice
20. Her **thesis** studies how social media has made the country more divisive.
- A. class
  - B. research paper
  - C. organization

# Vocabulary in Context

## Sophie's World

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

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

- 1 **Moreover**, everything can be divided into even smaller parts, but even in the minutest parts there are fragments of all other things.
  - A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
  - B. in addition to what has just been said
  - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 2 Since he believed in nothing but material things, we call him a **materialist**.
  - A. overly concerned with wealth and possessions at the expense of other interests
  - B. something exclusive to (someone or some group) -- such as an activity or place
  - C. a rough substance that can be rubbed against something else to polish or clean
- 3 A philosopher, as we have seen, tries to grasp something that is eternal and **immutable**.
  - A. not pleasing
  - B. not subject to change
  - C. disagreeable
- 4 In short, we can only have inexact conceptions of things we **perceive** with our senses.
  - A. become aware of
  - B. think carefully
  - C. strongly desire
- 5 And just as in Rome around the beginning of the Christian era one could come across Greek, Egyptian, and Oriental religions, today, as we **approach** the end of the twentieth century, we can find in all European cities of any size religions from all parts of the world.
  - A. get near
  - B. create dramatic change
  - C. mirror back (an image)
- 6 They had a decidedly anti-middle class **approach** to life and could refer to the police or their landlords as philistines, for example, or simply as the enemy.
  - A. change the direction of something or the purpose for which it is used
  - B. technique (way of doing something)
  - C. to stick out, attract more attention than desired, or impose on others
- 7 And because this **natural law** was based on timeless human and universal reason, it did not alter with time and place.
  - A. rules of conduct said to be universally desired by all peoples
  - B. the act of being in a working position; or the act of starting
  - C. an expert who shares professional opinions in a specific field
- 8 The "Old Covenant" between God and Israel had been replaced by the "New Covenant" which Jesus had **established** between God and mankind.
  - A. persuaded someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
  - B. set in place
  - C. not having a relationship whereby a change in one thing helps predict a change in another
- 9 So we have **established** that we cannot use reason as a yardstick for how we ought to act.
  - A. accepted someone's membership though a special procedure such as a ceremony and/or period of instruction and/or test
  - B. examined an issue, got opinions by asking specific questions; and/or asked people for political support individually
  - C. proven or shown
- 10 We call this the **empirical method**.
  - A. having the ability to change for different situations
  - B. not concerned with what others might think of oneself
  - C. based on experience or observation rather than theory

- 11 *She had written reams on the Renaissance and the scientific breakthrough, the new view of nature and Francis Bacon, who had said that knowledge was power.*
- a period of European history known for a revival of intellectual and artistic achievement (14th through mid-17th centuries)
  - a period of European history in which major efforts to reform the Catholic Church led to major protestant denominations (16th century)
  - 18th century period that further advanced the use of reason in Western civilization
- 12 *people in his time were deeply fascinated by machines and the workings of clocks, which appeared to have the ability to function of their own accord.*
- the achievement of 3 positive feats in a sport
  - tropical viral disease transmitted by a mosquito
  - own mind (voluntarily without anyone making it do so)
- 13 *Only then will you be acting in accordance with the moral law within you.*
- the quality of being continuous
  - keeping with
  - doubt (that something is true)
- 14 *I am scared that nothing is real. That's called existential angst, or dread, and is as a rule only a stage on the way to new consciousness.*
- (adjective) of low quality, or of lower quality or rank than something else OR (more rarely as a noun) a person of lower rank or status
  - relating to existence and what is important
  - of an organism in the early stages of development prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting OR of anything in an early stage of development
- 15 *Buddha answered by likening the monk to a man who gets pierced by a poisoned arrow. The wounded man would have no theoretical interest in what the arrow was made of, what kind of poison it was dipped in, or which direction it came from. He would most likely want somebody to pull it out and treat the wound. ... That would be existentially important to him.*
- characterized by threatening existence
  - with sympathy for another's suffering
  - immediately (happening with no delay)
- 16 *You could, for example, say that Descartes's rationalism was a thesis—which was contradicted by Hume's empirical antithesis.*
- the state or degree of being able to be taken on as one's own
  - an unproved statement put forward as a premise for discussion
  - not trustworthy with secrets, and/or conspicuous or obtrusive
- 17 *About the same time, Marx had written a doctoral thesis on Democritus and Epicurus—in other words, on the materialism of antiquity.*
- an agent that works against a bacterial infection that is typically contracted through a puncture wound with a dirty object
  - research paper
  - main character of Mark Twain's classic novel about Huck and Jim's journey down the Mississippi River to find freedom (1884)
- 18 *You're the interpreter.*
- people who criticize or condemn
  - someone who extensively damages
  - someone who translates language
- 19 *In order to interpret his patients' dreams, Freud often had to work his way through a dense language of symbols—rather in the way we interpret a picture or a literary text.*
- understand the meaning of
  - excessively examine in an attempt to better understand
  - become less drunk (or get completely past drunkenness)
- 20 *But as I mentioned, from the 1920s, Freud's psychoanalysis had a more direct influence on art and literature.*
- theory of psychiatric treatment
  - to whatever degree (regardless of how much; or whatever unspecified amount)
  - people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

### Sophie's World

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 30 times in this book.
2	A	materialistic	High-utility academic word; used 22 times in this book.
3	B	immutable	Used 27 times in this book.
4	A	perceive ( <i>as in: though blind, can perceive light</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	A	approach ( <i>as in: approached the city</i> )	Used 30 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
6	B	approach ( <i>as in: use the best approach</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	natural law	Used 16 times in this book.
8	B	establish ( <i>as in: establish a positive tone</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	C	establish ( <i>as in: establish that there is a need</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	C	empirical	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
11	A	Renaissance ( <i>as in: The Renaissance</i> )	Used 58 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
12	C	accord ( <i>as in: done of her own accord</i> )	Used 6 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
13	B	accord ( <i>as in: according to, or in accord with</i> )	Used 73 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
14	B	existential ( <i>as in: existential philosophy</i> )	Used 35 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
15	A	existential ( <i>as in: existential threat</i> )	2 meanings in this book.
16	B	thesis ( <i>as in: the thesis of her editorial</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	thesis ( <i>as in: her Master's thesis</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	C	interpret ( <i>as in: interpret Spanish to English</i> )	Used 9 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
19	A	interpret ( <i>as in: her interpretation of the data</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	A	analysis ( <i>as in: psychiatrist suggested analysis</i> )	Used 11 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.