

Story of My Life

by Helen Keller

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

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.

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: capricious, caricature, compel, consequence (2), creed, deprive, interpret (2), luminous, opportune, perplex, persevere, precede, recollect, revere, theme, vary, vex, wily



More Vocabulary Printables

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(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	B
4	A
5	B
6	C
7	B
8	C
9	A
10	C
11	B
12	C
13	B
14	C
15	C
16	B
17	B
18	B
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. The court overturned the ruling--describing it as having been made in a **capricious** manner.
 - A. biased
 - B. impulsive
 - C. harmful
2. The movie portrayed the villain as a **caricature**, lacking depth and complexity.
 - A. complex human being
 - B. silly clown
 - C. exaggerated representation
3. Can we **compel** the witness to testify?
 - A. prevent
 - B. force
 - C. delay
4. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
 - A. result
 - B. unimportant part
 - C. important part
5. It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
 - A. unethical
 - B. important
 - C. harmful
6. She lived by the simple **creed** that honesty is always the best policy.
 - A. quotation
 - B. misunderstanding
 - C. set of beliefs
7. The court ruling **deprived** him of custody of his children.
 - A. granted
 - B. stripped
 - C. delayed
8. She will stand to his left and **interpret** his speech into sign language.
 - A. refute (prove false)
 - B. elaborate upon
 - C. translate
9. How will a court **interpret** the word *careless* if there is a lawsuit?
 - A. understand
 - B. insist on
 - C. ignore
10. The snow was **luminous** from the moonlight.
 - A. soft and silent
 - B. wet and slushy
 - C. bright and glowing
11. With concern raised by the recent tragedy, this is an **opportune** time to introduce the legislation.
 - A. difficult
 - B. favorable
 - C. unfavorable
12. I am **perplexed** by her sudden change of mind on this important issue.
 - A. amused
 - B. annoyed
 - C. confused

13. Top athletes **persevere** through pain to reach their goals.
- A. give up at first try
 - B. push on through hardship
 - C. rest before any effort
14. In English, most adjectives **precede** the noun they modify.
- A. follow
 - B. describe
 - C. go before
15. I don't **recollect** her name, but I'd recognize her.
- A. pronounce properly
 - B. spell properly
 - C. remember
16. She **reveres** nature and all that is natural.
- A. dislikes and avoids
 - B. deeply respects
 - C. thoroughly enjoys
17. Do you choose the topic for your **theme** or is it assigned?
- A. book
 - B. essay
 - C. speech
18. McDonald's menu options **vary** by location.
- A. are consistent
 - B. are different
 - C. are known
19. The **vexing** puzzle kept her up late into the night.
- A. soothing
 - B. annoying
 - C. amusing
20. Don't underestimate that wily old attorney.
- A. well-connected
 - B. clever
 - C. experienced

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 I fancy I still have confused **recollections** of that illness.
 - A. restores
 - B. thoughts
 - C. memories
- 2 But during the first nineteen months of my life I had caught glimpses of broad, green fields, a **luminous** sky, trees and flowers which the darkness that followed could not wholly blot out.
 - A. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired
 - B. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions
 - C. glowing or shining

(also used metaphorically to describe beauty or intelligence)
- 3 This **vexed** me and the lesson always ended in a one-sided boxing match.
 - A. changed
 - B. frustrated (annoyed)
 - C. forgave
- 4 He was a famous story-teller; after I had acquired language he used to spell clumsily into my hand his cleverest anecdotes, and nothing pleased him more than to have me repeat them at an **opportune** moment.
 - A. not relating to practice or belief that is long-established or was previously long-established
 - B. favorable circumstances for a particular purpose -- especially the circumstance of good timing
 - C. relating to a residential area located near the outer edge of a city where it isn't as crowded
- 5 Mildred and I grew into each other's hearts, so that we were content to go hand-in-hand wherever **caprice** led us,
 - A. someone who expresses disapproval
 - B. impulse (whim or sudden desire)
 - C. purpose, job, or natural activity
- 6 My parents were deeply grieved and **perplexed**.
 - A. excessively excited
 - B. nervous or confused
 - C. confused or puzzled
- 7 I knew it, it was the odour that always **precedes** a thunderstorm, and a nameless fear clutched at my heart.
 - A. is abundant or plentiful
 - B. moves or slopes downward
 - C. goes, does, or is before
- 8 She was covered with dirt—the remains of mud pies I had **compelled** her to eat, although she had never shown any special liking for them.
 - A. fruit cooked with sugar (like jam)
 - B. forced; or (more rarely) convinced
 - C. didn't trust or have confidence in
- 9 Until then I had been like a foreigner speaking through an **interpreter**.
 - A. people who criticize or condemn
 - B. someone who extensively damages
 - C. someone who translates language
- 10 But when a great scholar like Professor Kittredge **interprets** what the master said, it is "as if new sight were given the blind."
 - A. explains (something in a particular way)
 - B. rug-like artworks -- often hung on a wall for display
 - C. admits ceremoniously into an organization or position

- 11 *Meanwhile I trust and hope and persevere, and try not to let the bitter memory of "The Frost King" trammel my efforts.*
A. a slight amount; or to contain a slight amount
B. keep working at something despite difficulties
C. to write or exchange written letters or emails
- 12 *My studies for the first year were English history, English literature, German, Latin, arithmetic, Latin composition and occasional themes.*
A. reasons for doing something
B. essays written by a student
C. social events or ceremonies
- 13 *I must have read parts of many books (in those early days I think I never read any one book through) and a great deal of poetry in this uncomprehending way, until I discovered "Little Lord Fauntleroy," which was the first book of any consequence I read understandingly.*
A. translates
B. importance
C. sticks out
- 14 *I was familiar with the story of Troy before I read it in the original, and consequently I had little difficulty in...*
A. resultantly (as a result)
B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 15 *When her fingers were too tired to spell another word, I had for the first time a keen sense of my deprivations.*
A. of the Netherlands or its people
B. to take away or keep from having
C. referring to any rocky mountains
- 16 *The ludicrous caricatures of the animals occupy my mind to the exclusion of the moral.*
A. (noun) things that are lighter and draw attention -- such as areas of a painting OR (verb) making some things lighter -- such as areas of a painting
B. recommends or requires what should be done OR (of a medical doctor) gives medical instructions -- such as writing that a patient should take antibiotics
C. a representation that exaggerates or highlights certain aspects -- especially of a person for comic effect; or creating a drawing with such exaggeration
- 17 *Love like Ruth's, love which can rise above conflicting creeds and deep-seated racial prejudices, is hard to find in all the world.*
A. instances of surrounding conditions
B. people related by blood or marriage
C. any system of principles or beliefs
- 18 *My delight in them is as varied as my moods.*
A. took on as one's own
B. differed; or changed
C. began fighting again
- 19 *my spirit reverently follows them into the regions where Beauty and Truth and Goodness are one.*
A. in a manner that is not appropriate or different than would be expected in size, amount, or degree
B. with feelings of deep respect and admiration
C. with nervousness or discomfort felt by someone due to concern about what others will think of them
- 20 *The prattle of the little ones and their pleasure in the stories I told them of elf and gnome, of hero and wily bear, are pleasant things to remember.*
A. sloped
B. clever
C. steady

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	recollect	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
2	C	luminous	Used 4 times in this book.
3	B	vex	Used 5 times in this book.
4	B	opportune	Used 2 times in this book.
5	B	capricious	Used 3 times in this book.
6	C	perplex	Used 7 times in this book.
7	C	precede	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
8	B	compel	Used 4 times in this book.
9	C	interpret (<i>as in: interpret Spanish to English</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
10	A	interpret (<i>as in: her interpretation of the data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	B	persevere	Used 2 times in this book.
12	B	theme (<i>as in: wrote a 2-page theme on my summer</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
13	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
15	B	deprive	Used 6 times in this book.
16	C	caricature	Used 2 times in this book.
17	C	creed	Used 5 times in this book.
18	B	vary	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
19	B	revere	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
20	B	wily	Used 2 times in this book.