

That Summer

by Sarah Dessen

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: acute, acute angle, commotion, consensus, contort, erratic, finale, fugitive, gaunt, hysteria, inconsequential, landmark, notwithstanding, partition, placate, poise, reverse, solidarity, subordinate, tether



More Vocabulary Printables

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(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Birds tend to have **acute** vision.
 - A. colorless
 - B. poor
 - C. excellent
2. All the angles of that triangle are **acute**.
 - A. less than 90 degrees
 - B. greater than thirty degrees
 - C. equal
3. Her entrance created quite a **commotion**.
 - A. disturbance
 - B. outburst of laughter
 - C. accident
4. Moderates in the senate sought to build a consensus between both parties so that the budget could be passed.
 - A. surplus of funds
 - B. general agreement
 - C. decrease in spending
5. She lay **contorted** in pain.
 - A. twisted
 - B. faced downward
 - C. flushed
6. Her heart rate increased and became **erratic**.
 - A. stronger
 - B. more regular
 - C. irregular
7. The orchestra played the symphony's **finale** with stunning power.
 - A. an opening note
 - B. a quiet middle
 - C. a closing piece
8. The **fugitive** fled to Venezuela.
 - A. person on vacation
 - B. rebel
 - C. person running from the law
9. Don Quixote looked **gaunt** and tired.
 - A. very worried
 - B. very thin
 - C. very bored
10. The worst legislation is passed when voters are whipped into a state of **hysteria**.
 - A. uncontrollable emotion
 - B. extreme anger
 - C. complete confusion
11. Compared to the bigger problem, that was an **inconsequential** concern.
 - A. huge and vital
 - B. minor or trivial
 - C. loud and bold

12. The old lighthouse stands as a beloved landmark along the rocky coast.
- A. well-known feature
 - B. hidden danger
 - C. passing ship
13. The budget was approved, notwithstanding the loud protests from the opposition.
- A. in spite of
 - B. as a result of
 - C. in addition to
14. A thin partition separated the office into two smaller workspaces.
- A. dividing wall
 - B. open doorway
 - C. wide window
15. He tried to placate his upset sister with a heartfelt apology.
- A. irritate or anger
 - B. ignore or avoid
 - C. soothe or pacify
16. The once self-conscious girl is now a woman with considerable poise.
- A. style
 - B. education
 - C. composure
17. She reveres nature and all that is natural.
- A. dislikes and avoids
 - B. deeply respects
 - C. thoroughly enjoys
18. I am in solidarity with those who are oppressed.
- A. agreement
 - B. communication
 - C. conflict
19. Every officer under the rank of Captain, shall be subordinate to the Officer of the Watch in regard to the performance of the duties with which he is charged.
- A. subservient
 - B. in charge of
 - C. considerate
20. The astronaut is tethered to the space station while doing outside repairs.
- A. close
 - B. outside
 - C. tied

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 My mother was an **erratic** defroster.
 - A. the best or most important
 - B. harsh and unfair treatment
 - C. irregular or unpredictable
- 2 It was as if I was attached to her with a **tether**, her every movement yanking at me, my own hands reaching to shield her from the dangers of her waving arms.
 - A. express personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing (or performing to) someone else's work
 - B. to gradually destroy or change the purpose of something -- such as a government, institution, or rule
 - C. to tie so as to limit the boundaries of movement; or the rope or other material used to do the tying
- 3 My mother kept her outbursts about that to a minimum, but I could tell by the way she winced when they showed my father and Lorna together at their **subordinate** news desk that it still hurt.
 - A. less important or subservient; or to rank as such
 - B. prepare food in a way that keeps it from spoiling
 - C. treat as a particular type that is considered bad
- 4 Just looking at her made me **acutely** aware of my own height,
 - A. in a continuing manner -- especially despite difficulties or opposition
 - B. in a manner that shows bad taste (crude, offensive, or unsophisticated)
 - C. very
- 5 I was all bony elbows and **acute angles**, like a jigsaw puzzle piece that can only go in the middle, waiting for the others to fit around it to make it whole.
 - A. sharp
 - B. workplaces where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals
 - C. supporters of dramatic change -- sometimes people fighting for overthrow of a government
- 6 I said again, louder this time because in our house you have to make a **commotion** to even be heard.
 - A. noisy disturbance
 - B. circular movement
 - C. size or dimension
- 7 We walked into the lobby of the church and were immediately gathered up in the large arms of my aunt Ree, who was representing the bulk of my father's side of the family, most of whom were still upset about the divorce and sided with my mother, family loyalty **notwithstanding**.
 - A. used to show that something remains true even though something else seems to go against it
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 8 They rock back and forth and their faces get all **contorted**.
 - A. twisted
 - B. faced downward
 - C. flushed
- 9 I could have said it all right there, all the Hallmark kinds of things that I felt I should say to my mother, words of support and **solidarity** and comfort.
 - A. a state of agreement and support -- especially for political action
 - B. people of the second most populous denomination of Islam (over 10%)
 - C. supporters of Oliver Cromwell and his side in the English Civil War
- 10 "Honey," my mother said, trying to be calm, but there was that crazy edge creeping into her voice, the family **hysteria** swelling to full force.
 - A. a state of excessive, uncontrollable emotion
 - B. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18
 - C. found a condition or substance to be present

- 11 *I couldn't picture her anywhere there, except standing in front of famous **landmarks** from my history books.*
A. an important event or achievement
or:
a well-known feature or structure used for navigation or recognition
B. is deliberately ambiguous or unclear in order to mislead or withhold information; or makes false statements
C. treats something in an educated, intellectual way -- often excluding emotional or practical considerations
- 12 *Lewis talked the same way; he was a **placater**, a peacemaker, the kind of person who would hold your hand on an airplane if you were scared, able to quote verbatim the statistics about how it was the safest thing, honestly.*
A. someone who provides start-up money to new companies
B. someone who violates a rule, promise, or social norm
C. calm someone who is or may become angry or concerned
- 13 *Tall people are **revered** and respected in this world.*
A. understood completely
B. deeply respected and admired
C. disliked and avoided
- 14 *No one wants to be **inconsequential**.*
A. not important
B. not important
C. causing death
- 15 *"You know what your problem is," Casey began, her hand **poised** to shake at me, but then she stopped dead, sucking in her breath.*
A. removed or suppressed something considered obscene, immoral, or politically unacceptable
B. without a personal preference; or without any tendency to move in a particular direction
C. calm, confident, and in control—especially in movement, behavior, or when ready to act
- 16 *She only looked at us for a few moments, with that haunted, **gaunt** expression before her mother prodded her along and she ducked into the doorway, vanishing.*
A. not having the characteristic of or relating to bouncing back light/heat/sound...
B. very thin and bony -- often from hunger or as though having been worn to the bone
C. able to qualify for regular payments that permit having an income without working
- 17 *I was watching the stage as she spoke, which now had two white **partitions** covering the big leaves I'd seen a few weeks ago.*
A. to divide something into parts; or a divider itself, or one of the sections created
B. pauses to change how something is done -- often while reducing the use of resources
C. dies or suffers due to upholding principle; or people who have suffered such a fate
- 18 *It was all a bit overwhelming, a definite change from the show of last year, which consisted of one lone ficus tree that the models walked by, posed around, and then pulled to the edge of the stage for the big **finale**, where they threw its leaves on the audience to symbolize fall.*
A. an architectural feature at the top of a roof, usually dome-shaped and opened by windows or columns
B. the degree to which a solution is simpler (and often more comprehensive) than most would anticipate
C. the final part of a series of events -- often of a performance and especially a musical performance
- 19 *I was still in my **fugitive** mode, suspicious, as I passed a group of tiny old women, all of them hunched over and white haired.*
A. the state or degree of agreeing or approving
B. the state of doing something unintentionally
C. someone hiding from law enforcement officers
- 20 *When the music stopped and I opened my eyes, all those elderly couples were grouped around us, applauding and smiling and nodding at each other, a silent **consensus** that what I'd felt wasn't just imagined.*
A. the quality of being continuous
B. agreement by a group as a whole
C. doubt (that something is true)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	erratic	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
2	C	tether	Used 5 times in this book.
3	A	subordinate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
4	C	acute (<i>as in: acute sense of smell</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
5	A	acute angle (<i>as in: an acute angle</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
6	A	commotion	Used 2 times in this book.
7	A	notwithstanding	High-utility academic word
8	A	contort	Used 2 times in this book.
9	A	solidarity	High-utility academic word
10	A	hysteria	Used 5 times in this book.
11	A	landmark	Used 3 times in this book.
12	C	placate	Used 2 times in this book.
13	B	revere	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
14	B	inconsequential	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	C	poise	Used 2 times in this book.
16	B	gaunt	Used 2 times in this book.
17	A	partition	Used 2 times in this book.
18	C	finale	Used 2 times in this book.
19	C	fugitive (<i>as in: she is a fugitive</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
20	B	consensus	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.