

The Chocolate War

by Robert Cormier

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: compassion, discrepancy, elude (2), establish, exult, goad, grotesque, humiliate, inhibit, malice, mock (2), poise, ponder, resent, subtle, taunt, vulnerable, wistful



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	B
3	C
4	B
5	B
6	B
7	B
8	C
9	B
10	A
11	C
12	C
13	B
14	C
15	A
16	B
17	C
18	B
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. It is not enough to be **compassionate**. We must act. It is not enough to act. We must act with intelligence.
 - A. lucky
 - B. sympathetic
 - C. talented
2. There was a clear **discrepancy** in the two witnesses' stories.
 - A. a strong match
 - B. an inconsistency
 - C. a happy ending
3. The quarterback **eluded** the linebackers.
 - A. overcame
 - B. ran into
 - C. avoided
4. The point of his story **eludes** me.
 - A. impresses
 - B. is not understood by
 - C. is important to
5. Which word choice would help to establish a serious tone.
 - A. avoid
 - B. create
 - C. increase
6. They **exulted** in the victory.
 - A. finally rested
 - B. felt extreme happiness
 - C. sang
7. She tried to **goad** the candidate into saying something extreme.
 - A. poke with a stick
 - B. provoke
 - C. prevent
8. The disease causes **grotesque** deformity.
 - A. hidden (internal)
 - B. as from aging
 - C. ugly or distorted
9. She's convinced PE class was invented to **humiliate** innocent kids.
 - A. strengthen
 - B. extremely embarrass
 - C. teach hard lessons
10. Cold weather can inhibit the growth of many tropical plants.
 - A. slow down
 - B. monitor
 - C. describe
11. Words can be like baseball bats when used **maliciously** against someone who is sensitive.
 - A. carelessly
 - B. mockingly
 - C. evilly
12. American's have a hard time understanding that to **mock** Islam is to invite violence.
 - A. discriminate against
 - B. not believe in
 - C. make fun of

13. It is an exercise where the two divisions take part in a mock battle.
- A. low-casualty
 - B. not real
 - C. high-casualty
14. The once self-conscious girl is now a woman with considerable poise.
- A. style
 - B. education
 - C. composure
15. We pondered our fate.
- A. thought about
 - B. feared for
 - C. actively changed
16. As the war dragged on, the Thai population came to resent the Japanese presence.
- A. appreciate
 - B. dislike
 - C. request
17. She has a good eye for subtle differences in color.
- A. contrasting
 - B. complementary
 - C. minor
18. They taunted her until she responded physically, and then they beat her up.
- A. followed
 - B. insulted
 - C. surrounded
19. The team's preferred style of defense is vulnerable to good outside shooters.
- A. designed to stop
 - B. easily hurt by
 - C. dependent upon
20. She had a wistful, dreamy look as she thought about how life would change if she could get a good job.
- A. showing longing
 - B. showing determination
 - C. showing optimism

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 Obie smiled in delicious **malice**.
 - A. not adjusting a lens to create a clear image
 - B. the quality of lacking exactness or accuracy
 - C. the desire to hurt others or see them suffer
- 2 Archie became absolutely still, afraid that the rapid beating of his heart might betray his sudden knowledge, the proof of what he'd always suspected, not only of Brother Leon but most grownups, most adults: they were **vulnerable**, running scared, open to invasion.
 - A. having the characteristic of or relating to bouncing back light/heat/sound...
 - B. easily hurt or in need of help; or easily influenced or subject to temptation
 - C. suffering from too few red blood cells

or (less commonly): lacking vitality
- 3 Archie knew what it was and recognized it, although it **eluded** a definition.
 - A. donated a portion of one's income to a church
 - B. was unachievable to give
 - C. caused to happen or occurred as a consequence
- 4 He continued to fade, fade, easy, easy, stalling until he could spot The Goober, tall and rangy, downfield where he'd be waiting if he had managed to **elude** the safety-man.
 - A. abundant or plentiful
 - B. decrease in intensity
 - C. avoid (get away from)
- 5 Sometimes Archie **resented** them.
 - A. to break a close association between two organizations or people
 - B. felt angry or unhappy about having to accept something not liked
 - C. wandered from a direct or straight course -- especially verbally
- 6 He found that people had a fear of being embarrassed or **humiliated**, of being singled out for special attention.
 - A. caused great mental or physical suffering
 - B. extremely embarrassed (decreased dignity)
 - C. not altered in an unnatural or untrue way
- 7 But for a moment there, Jerry had seen his father acting the part of a physician—wise and professional and **compassionate**.
 - A. did not find a condition or substance to be present
 - B. feeling or showing sympathy for another's suffering
 - C. to support by providing money or other economic aid
- 8 Leon accepted this small hint of **mockery** from Johnson because he was in such a good mood.
 - A. reason (for doing something)
 - B. small quantity or indication
 - C. ridicule
- 9 He swallowed, shaking his head in **mock** puzzlement.
 - A. not real
 - B. pretend (not real)
 - C. allowing
- 10 Brian shrugged, tabulating his own totals once more to be sure that Brother Leon wouldn't blame him for any **discrepancies**.
 - A. people bound to serve another without pay -- such as a slaves or serfs
 - B. disagreement -- especially an unexpected difference between two things
 - C. subtle, but fatal weaknesses where otherwise there is obvious strength

- 11 *Archie was at the doorway, **poised** to flee if Janza made a move.*
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. prepared (ready)
- 12 *One of those exams where the wrong, **subtle** interpretation of the facts made the difference between pass and fail.*
A. of an organism in the early stages of development prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting OR of anything in an early stage of development
B. (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
C. difficult to understand (requiring finely tuned sensitivity and relevant knowledge)
- 13 *Frowning, biting the pencil, he **pondered** the results of his arithmetic--sales were dropping at an alarming rate.*
A. thought deeply or carefully about
B. was overly unhappy and unsociable
C. not limited or without boundaries
- 14 *He thought **wistfully** of the guys out on the football field in the sweet fresh wind, tossing the ball around before practice began.*
A. with longing or unfulfilled desire
B. in a manner that involves betrayal
C. following as a result of something
- 15 *The **taunt**, the beginning of the old cat-and-mouse game.*
A. treat in a manner that demonstrates a sense of superiority, but is supposed to seem kind OR the actions of a patron (to support someone or something; or to be a customer)
B. mean teasing (intentionally angering, challenging, or upsetting)
C. American football: a defensive maneuver to swiftly tackle the quarterback by pursuing him with one or more defenders who normally remain behind the line of scrimmage
- 16 *"Kiss me," Janza said, puckering his lips **grotesquely**.*
A. in a manner that uses a scale where each step is a multiple of the prior step rather than a fixed addition to it
B. in a manner influenced by personal belief, feelings, or preferences (rather than being based purely upon fact)
C. in a gross, distorted and unnatural way
- 17 *He had disguised the event as a football rally, strictly for students, without the **inhibition** of the teachers being present.*
A. restraint
B. male, female, or any of many trans categories
C. an official charge (of having broken the law)
- 18 *Now, surveying his handiwork, the crowded bleachers, the frantic comings and goings as the raffle tickets were bought and sold and the directions scrawled on the tickets, Archie **exulted** quietly.*
A. considered (for affect on a result or outcome)
B. felt extreme happiness or satisfaction
C. held together (connected or united) or wrapped
- 19 *I'm not giving up, Jerry had pledged, listening to Archie's **goading** voice.*
A. suggesting indirectly
B. prodding or encouraging
C. taking on or adopting
- 20 *He shook his head, quick vision-clearing shakings and **established** himself in the world once more.*
A. persuaded someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
B. settled
C. not having a relationship whereby a change in one thing helps predict a change in another

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	malice	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
2	B	vulnerable	Used 5 times in this book.
3	B	elude (<i>as in: your point eludes me</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
4	C	elude (<i>as in: she eluded the police</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
5	B	resent	Used 8 times in this book.
6	B	humiliate	Used 9 times in this book.
7	B	compassion	Used 5 times in this book.
8	C	mock (<i>as in: don't mock me</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	B	mock (<i>as in: a mock trial</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	discrepancy	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
11	C	poise	Used 7 times in this book.
12	C	subtle (<i>as in: a subtle difference or thinker</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
13	A	ponder	Used 8 times in this book.
14	A	wistful	Used 5 times in this book.
15	B	taunt	Used 9 times in this book.
16	C	grotesque	Used 7 times in this book.
17	A	inhibit (<i>as in: inhibited the growth of...</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
18	B	exult	Used 3 times in this book.
19	B	goad	Used 3 times in this book.
20	B	establish (<i>as in: establish a positive tone</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.