

The Choice

by Nicholas Sparks

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

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: allude, compassion, evaluate, infer, intuition, lethargic, neurology, neurotic, nonetheless, oblivious, optimistic, pediatric, perpetual, persist, ponder, positive (2), simultaneous, skeptical, tirade



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She didn't mention any names, but everyone knew she was **alluding** to the President.
 - A. being discouraging
 - B. indirectly referring
 - C. not talking
2. 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
3. I'm **evaluating** job options.
 - A. considering
 - B. creating
 - C. avoiding
4. The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
 - A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted
5. **Intuitively**, I knew not to trust her.
 - A. logically
 - B. instinctively
 - C. conclusively
6. Large lunches make me feel **lethargic** in the afternoon.
 - A. sluggish
 - B. upset
 - C. energetic
7. She suffers from a **neurological** disorder.
 - A. cardiovascular system
 - B. respiratory system
 - C. nervous system
8. Her **neurotic** fear of heights prevented her from enjoying the breathtaking view from the skyscraper's observation deck.
 - A. present since birth
 - B. learned from bad experience
 - C. excessive worry about
9. The class was hard. It was **nonetheless** my favorite.
 - A. despite that
 - B. because of that
 - C. for that reason
10. She's a happy girl--**oblivious** to most of the unhappiness around her.
 - A. unaware of
 - B. concerned with
 - C. adding to
11. She keeps telling me her chances of dying in a car accident are 1 in 150, but I keep telling her that's too **optimistic** if she drives after drinking.
 - A. hopeful
 - B. gloomy
 - C. simplistic

12. The clinic has a separate **pediatric** wing designed just for infants and toddlers.
- A. for child patients
 - B. for elderly patients
 - C. for emergency cases
13. He has a **perpetual** fear of forgetting important deadlines.
- A. joyful
 - B. constant
 - C. secret
14. We expect the conditions to **persist** into next year.
- A. grow worse
 - B. continue
 - C. go away
15. We **pondered** our fate.
- A. thought about
 - B. feared for
 - C. actively changed
16. I'm **positive** our team will win on Friday.
- A. happy
 - B. pretty sure
 - C. certain
17. Volunteering had a **positive** impact on the whole neighborhood.
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. harmful or damaging
 - C. minor and unnoticed
18. The store provides shoppers with a **simultaneous** art/music experience.
- A. consecutive
 - B. alternating
 - C. at the same time
19. She is **skeptical** about the project.
- A. doubtful
 - B. keeping silent
 - C. excited
20. I'm growing tired of her **tirades**.
- A. displays of angry criticism
 - B. displays of useless guilt
 - C. displays of paralyzing worry

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 She's also more than a little **neurotic**, Travis thought.
 - A. something (typically a statement) that disagrees with itself; or (more rarely) the act of disagreeing
 - B. something made of the brownish metal with the same name -- such as a sculpture or a third place medal
 - C. mildly mentally disturbed -- usually worrying too much about something; or someone with such symptoms
- 2 Travis **pondered** the question.
 - A. thought deeply or carefully about
 - B. was overly unhappy and unsociable
 - C. not limited or without boundaries
- 3 He felt a surge of **compassion** for her and found himself nodding, just to let her know he was paying attention.
 - A. the taking on or adoption of power or responsibility
 - B. sympathy for another's suffering and wanting to help
 - C. the process of controlling (how something turns out)
- 4 When her **tirade** finally wound down, she ended up staring at the ground, spent.
 - A. speech of angry criticism
 - B. something that stands out
 - C. something made from parts
- 5 Stephanie leaned back, **evaluating** her brother.
 - A. thinking carefully and making a judgment about
 - B. returning to an undesirable previous condition
 - C. moving back and forth; or being unsure or weak
- 6 Life as a **perpetual** student is so much harder than actually earning a living.
 - A. having the characteristics of a *monk* (often inclined toward self-denial)
 - B. continuing forever without change; or occurring so frequently it seems constant
 - C. about things beyond the physical world, such as existence, reality, or the soul
- 7 It was shaping up to be one of those days when Gabby wondered why she'd decided to work in a **pediatric** office.
 - A. related to the branch of medicine concerned with the treatment of infants and children
 - B. someone who believes in doing things the way they have generally been done in the past
 - C. psychoanalysis: that part of the unconscious mind with primitive, instinctual desires
- 8 Dr. Furman struck her as **oblivious**, Dr. Melton struck her as a flirt, but it was an opportunity to be nearer to Kevin.
 - A. unaware of
 - B. related to
 - C. very large
- 9 I think he's old man Cason's, but I'm not **positive** about that.
 - A. outside
 - B. various
 - C. certain
- 10 Her only saving grace—the only **positive** thing to come out of the whole experience—was that she'd apologized in his office.
 - A. good
 - B. not representative
 - C. impossible to find
- 11 Maybe my **intuition** has been warning me about something I don't quite understand but shouldn't be underestimated.... "About you," she said, ignoring the little voice.
 - A. the redirection energy from a negative (unacceptable) impulse or urge into a positive or acceptable action
 - B. the ability to know instinctively rather than through reasoning; or the thing that is known in such a way
 - C. someone with a potentially life-threatening psychological eating disorder that prevents eating enough food

- 12 *He didn't bother to hide his skepticism.*
A. doubt (that something is true)
B. concern with practical matters
C. between daylight and darkness
- 13 *Of course not, she thought, while simultaneously thinking, Of course it did.*
A. done while awake
B. done with excess
C. at the same time
- 14 *Everyone was chattering as they reached the platform, talking about the fish or dolphins they'd seen, but Gabby nonetheless felt herself growing nervous as her turn approached.*
A. in spite of that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
C. therefore (for that reason)
- 15 *Gabby expected Stephanie to persist, but instead, Stephanie simply shrugged and lay back on her towel, as if she'd never said anything at all.*
A. disagree
B. continue
C. subtract
- 16 *You inferred that from what I was saying?*
A. was overly unhappy and unsociable
B. concluded or guessed by reasoning
C. not limited or without boundaries
- 17 *Gabby nodded, watching lethargically as Stephanie leaned over the deck railing.*
A. without energy
B. with certainty
C. without regret
- 18 *Though she had alluded to some problems at the pediatrician's office during their first weekend together, she hadn't been specific.*
A. marked important text
B. indirectly referenced
C. gained advantage from
- 19 *Travis didn't know whom to believe, but he chose to live his days on the side of the optimists.*
A. people who expect the best; or who focus on the good part of things
B. DNA sequences or units of heredity that influence biological traits
C. bases with a pH of greater than 7 (so they will dissolve in water)
- 20 *Later, he had to meet with the neurologist and the hospital administrator.*
A. a place where conditions are kept as they were to protect wildlife
B. someone who believes that all knowledge is derived from experience
C. physician that deals with the nervous system (including the brain)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	neurotic	Used 3 times in this book.
2	A	ponder	Used 4 times in this book.
3	B	compassion	Used 3 times in this book.
4	A	tirade	Used 2 times in this book.
5	A	evaluate	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
6	B	perpetual	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
7	A	pediatric	Used 6 times in this book.
8	A	oblivious	Used 4 times in this book.
9	C	positive (<i>as in: I'm absolutely positive!</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
10	A	positive (<i>as in: had a positive effect</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	B	intuition	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
12	A	skeptical	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	C	simultaneous	Used 3 times in this book.
14	A	nonetheless	Used 3 times in this book.
15	B	persist	Used 4 times in this book.
16	B	infer	High-utility academic word
17	A	lethargic	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
18	B	allude	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
19	A	optimistic	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	C	neurology	Used 4 times in this book.