

The Chosen

by Chaim Potok

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: allude, congregation, contradict, gaunt, hypothesis (2), indifferent, jut, medieval, minute, minutes, orthodox, passage, peasant, reconcile, recuperate, refute, secular, somber, synagogue



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	B
3	A
4	B
5	B
6	C
7	A
8	C
9	A
10	C
11	A
12	B
13	B
14	C
15	C
16	C
17	C
18	A
19	C
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 didn't mention any names, but everyone knew she was **alluding** to the President.
 - A. being discouraging
 - B. indirectly referring
 - C. not talking
2. The **congregation** voted to approve appointment of the new minister.
 - A. people who agree
 - B. people who worship together
 - C. people who meet periodically
3. Does the sentence **contradict** what is said in the previous paragraph?
 - A. disagree with
 - B. reinforce
 - C. expand upon
4. Don Quixote looked **gaunt** and tired.
 - A. very worried
 - B. very thin
 - C. very bored
5. He **hypothesized** the existence of Pluto before its discovery.
 - A. fantasized
 - B. theorized
 - C. disbelieved
6. Her **hypothesis** was that the plants grew faster with classical music playing.
 - A. confirmed scientific fact
 - B. well-known principle
 - C. unproven proposed idea
7. She was **indifferent** to his anger.
 - A. without interest
 - B. with fear
 - C. with anger
8. She tripped on a thick tree root that **jutted out** across the muddy path.
 - A. washed away
 - B. curled up
 - C. stuck out
9. The museum displayed **medieval** armor worn by knights centuries ago.
 - A. from the Middle Ages
 - B. from modern times
 - C. from ancient Egypt
10. Even a **minute** amount of lead can be harmful to children.
 - A. large
 - B. 60 seconds
 - C. tiny
11. I always review the **minutes** to make sure there are no errors.
 - A. written record of what happened at a meeting
 - B. plans that detail how something will be done
 - C. time that has just passed
12. My parents are accustomed to my challenging their more **orthodox** views.
 - A. crazy
 - B. normal
 - C. creative

13. After reading each **passage**, choose the best answer to each question.
- A. article
 - B. short part of a longer work
 - C. route to get somewhere
14. In 1932 a **peasant** revolt in Su County, China stopped collection of the poppy tax.
- A. city dweller
 - B. young person
 - C. poor farmer
15. The treaty helped **reconcile** the two countries after years of conflict.
- A. delayed progress or slowed down
 - B. celebrated a shared history
 - C. made peace or restored friendship
16. To control the spread of the disease, the school has a separate room where sick students wait for a ride home to **recuperate**.
- A. family care
 - B. do homework
 - C. regain health
17. He **refuted** the argument.
- A. avoided
 - B. complained about
 - C. argued against
18. Sweden's population is more **secular** than populations of most countries.
- A. non-religious
 - B. similar
 - C. blonde
19. She exhibited a **somber** mood.
- A. happy
 - B. curious
 - C. cheerless
20. In his speech at the **synagogue**, the President repeated that the United States will support Israel.
- A. Jewish school
 - B. Jewish house of worship
 - C. universal religious building

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 Most of the stores were run by gentiles, but some were owned by **Orthodox Jews**, members of the Hasidic sects in the area.
 - A. acceptance of what happens without trying to take control or reacting strongly
 - B. normal (describing thinking or behavior as commonly or traditionally accepted)
 - C. the state of being a concept or idea not associated with any specific instance
- 2 He was lying in the bed with his head on the pillow, his palms flat under his head and his elbows **jutting upward**.
 - A. expressed strong hatred or loathing for
 - B. expresses strong hatred or loathing for
 - C. to stick out; or a part that sticks out
- 3 He sat there now, wearing his small, black skullcap and pecking at the typewriter with his index fingers, a thin, frail man in his fifties, with gray hair, **gaunt** cheeks, and spectacles.
 - 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
- 4 Nothing happened for a long time, because the Cossacks, like the Polish **peasants**, were afraid of the Polish nobles.
 - A. organisms in the early stages of growth prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting; in humans organisms during the first eight weeks of development (prior to the fetal stage)
 - B. members of an artistic movement pioneered by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque that featured surfaces of geometrical planes to depict three-dimensional organic forms
 - C. used historically or possibly in relation to a very poor country: people of low income, education, and social standing -- especially those who raise crops or livestock
- 5 **Secular** literature was forbidden, and the Hasidim lived shut off from the rest of the world.
 - A. not religious
 - B. not important
 - C. inappropriate
- 6 The **synagogue** had been burned to the ground.
 - A. a particular way of seeing or thinking about things
 - B. a place where members of the Jewish faith worship
 - C. collection of star systems held together by gravity
- 7 A whisper moved through the **congregation**, followed by the rustle of pages as prayer books were opened.
 - A. the act, process, or instance of telling a story
 - B. people who worship together in the same building
 - C. a general feeling of not being as good as others
- 8 He asked what a certain **medieval** commentator had remarked about that statement, and Danny answered.
 - A. relating to or belonging to the Middle Ages

(the period of European history between the fall of the Roman Empire and the beginning of the Renaissance -- roughly 500–1500 AD)

 - B. the degree to which a performance of or to someone else's work lends itself to the expression of personal artistic ideas or feelings by the performer
 - C. the quality or degree of being straightforward or clear (sometimes indicating that truth is not worded carefully to spare feelings or gain advantage)
- 9 He chose a **minute** aspect of the answer and asked who had dealt with it in an altogether different way, and Danny answered.
 - A. awake
 - B. exact
 - C. minor

- 10 The meeting had started pleasantly enough with the usual reading of the **minutes** and committee reports, when Davey Cantor burst into the room, looking as though he was crying, and shouted! breathlessly that someone had just told him President Roosevelt was dead.
- A. formal notes
 - B. results or predictable values
 - C. things not easily set on fire
- 11 He sounded unhappy, and there was a **somber** look on his face.
- A. the state of being unaware of one's mental activity
 - B. increasing reason or general desire to do something
 - C. serious (without humour or fun--perhaps sad)
- 12 I saw **allusions** in passages that Danny and his father overlooked, and I resolved a contradiction with an appeal to grammar.
- A. outward appearances
 - B. indirect references
 - C. agreements to marry
- 13 Instead, I heard him sigh a little, then offer a passage from the Baba Bathra that **contradicted** Danny's explanation.
- A. disagreed
 - B. separated
 - C. satisfied
- 14 My father, **recuperating** slowly and looking worn and weary, sat in his bed propped on pillows, and read the newspaper stories of the horrors that had occurred in those camps.
- A. gradually adding or removing
 - B. subsequent (happening later)
 - C. regaining health or strength
- 15 They are interested solely in confirming highly dubious theoretical hypotheses ... and make no attempt at **refutation**
- A. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18
 - B. found a condition or substance to be present
 - C. evidence or argument that something is false
- 16 Inductive logic, Freud, experimental psychology, mathematizing **hypotheses**, scientific study of the Talmud.
- A. constrains in some way -- such as ties up, requires, or obligates
 - B. ideas or explanations that are seemingly reasonable, but unproven
 - C. the quality of being insincere, pretended, or designed to impress
- 17 --and invariably these arguments revolved around this **hypothetical** question: On what side would an American Jew fight should America ever declare war against a Jewish state?
- A. relating to the threadlike structures in the cell nucleus that carry genes in a linear order
 - B. nervousness or discomfort felt by someone due to concern about what others will think of them
 - C. of something temporarily treated as true to advance a discussion or to further investigation
- 18 I had broken up the **passage** into its thought units as I had studied it, so I knew precisely at what points I would stop reading and begin my explanations.
- A. the act of stopping a battle or fight
 - B. a short part of a longer written work
 - C. dense, rainy forest with many species
- 19 Then I would go into the attempt of the late medieval commentary to **reconcile** the diverse explanations of the commentaries.
- A. an appropriate size, amount, or degree in relation to something else
 - B. surprise -- often so much so that one doesn't know what to say or do
 - C. bring into agreement
- 20 It destroys our self-pride, our arrogance, our **indifference** toward others.
- A. lack of concern and interest
 - B. risky investment
 - C. chaotic disorder

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	orthodox	Used 13 times in this book.
2	C	jut	Used 6 times in this book.
3	B	gaunt	Used 6 times in this book.
4	C	peasant	Used 9 times in this book.
5	A	secular (<i>as in: a secular organization</i>)	Used 7 times in this book.
6	B	synagogue	Used 72 times in this book.
7	B	congregation (<i>as in: the congregation voted</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
8	A	medieval	Used 10 times in this book.
9	C	minute (<i>as in: minute size</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
10	A	minutes (<i>as in: keep the minutes</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
11	C	somber (<i>as in: a somber mood</i>)	Used 8 times in this book.
12	B	allude	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
13	A	contradict	High-utility academic word; used 12 times in this book.
14	C	recuperate	Used 2 times in this book.
15	C	refute	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
16	B	hypothesis (<i>as in: a study to test her hypothesis</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	C	hypothesis (<i>as in: assume as a working hypothesis</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
18	B	passage (<i>as in: In lines 1–9 of the passage...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
19	C	reconcile (<i>as in: reconciled their differences</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	A	indifferent	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.