

# The Chrysalids

by John Wyndham

## 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 from 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:** approach (2), blasphemy, consequence (2), deviate, however (2), incredulous, infer, inquire, inquiry, negative (2), nevertheless, penance, ponderous, positive (2), reprove



#### More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

*(all resources free)*

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

### The Chrysalids

by John Wyndham

---

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

# Vocabulary Preview

## The Chrysalids

by John Wyndham

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

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

- I grow more nervous as the test **approaches**.
  - gets nearer
  - is remembered
  - continues
- We need to **approach** this problem in a new way.
  - avoid
  - think about
  - assign
- Even in the 21st century, high school teachers in the country are still occasionally imprisoned and/or lashed for **blasphemy**.
  - disrespect of something considered sacred
  - a dispute where there is strong disagreement
  - a serious logical error
- Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
  - result
  - unimportant part
  - important part
- It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
  - unethical
  - important
  - harmful
- Good students rarely **deviate** from their study schedule.
  - depart from norms
  - stick to plans
  - yell at rules
- I hope to take the ACT just once. **However**, I will take it early, so there is time to study and take it again if my scores aren't high enough.
  - but
  - also
  - and
- However** safe we make it, there will always be risk.
  - on-the-other-hand
  - in addition
  - no matter how
- At first, she was **incredulous**--thinking the report was in error.
  - worried
  - confused
  - without belief
- The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
  - different
  - figured out
  - converted
- I am here to **inquire** about the job.
  - answer questions
  - ask about
  - perform a task

12. The official inquiry has ended, but the press continues to ask questions.
- A. story
  - B. statement
  - C. investigation
13. Higher gasoline prices **negatively** affected fast food sales.
- A. in a helpful manner
  - B. surprisingly
  - C. in a harmful manner
14. We're getting a lot of **negative** feedback about the proposed changes.
- A. indicating criticism or disagreement
  - B. indicating popular support
  - C. harmful
15. She loves him. Nevertheless, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
- A. also
  - B. despite that
  - C. in addition
16. As **penance** for lying, she apologized and spent the afternoon helping her sister.
- A. act of making amends
  - B. plan for gaining praise
  - C. way of blaming others
17. The old truck made **ponderous** progress up the steep mountain road.
- A. slow and heavy
  - B. quick and light
  - C. loud and showy
18. I'm **positive** our team will win on Friday.
- A. happy
  - B. pretty sure
  - C. certain
19. Volunteering had a **positive** impact on the whole neighborhood.
- A. good or beneficial
  - B. harmful or damaging
  - C. minor and unnoticed
20. I don't want to spoil her, but I don't have the heart to reprove her.
- A. criticize
  - B. compliment
  - C. instruct

## Vocabulary in Context

### The Chrysalids

by John Wyndham

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

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

- 1 It is a **blasphemy** against the true Image of God, and hateful in the sight of God.
  - A. disrespectful of something considered sacred
  - B. found a condition or substance to be present
  - C. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18
- 2 ...there was just a chance that one might encounter some kind of wild dog or cat. **However**, and as usual, the only creatures I heard were small ones, hurriedly making off.
  - A. though (used to connect contrasting ideas)
  - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
  - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 3 Sometimes he is clever enough to make a nearly-perfect imitation, so we have always to be on the look-out for the mistake he has made, **however** small, and when we see one it must be reported at once.
  - A. people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning
  - B. aka analysis -- psychiatric treatment; or a theory of psychiatric treatment
  - C. regardless of how
- 4 In faith father and son were at one; the difference between them was only in **approach**; the evangelical flash did not appear in my father's eye; his virtue was more legalistic.
  - A. change the direction of something or the purpose for which it is used
  - B. technique (way of doing something)
  - C. to stick out, attract more attention than desired, or impose on others
- 5 For a long time I sat on a stool, pressing my back against the wall so that nothing should **approach** me unaware.
  - A. come near
  - B. create dramatic change
  - C. mirror back (an image)
- 6 Our district, and, **consequently**, our house as the first there, was called Waknuk because of a tradition that there had been a place of that name there, or thereabouts, long, long ago, in the time of the Old People.
  - A. resultantly (as a result)
  - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
  - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 7 My father was a man of local **consequence**.
  - A. translates
  - B. importance
  - C. sticks out
- 8 Nevertheless, the question of Offences was not always as simple as one might think, and when there was disagreement the district's inspector could be sent for.
  - A. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
  - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
  - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 9 We sat there with the whole heap quivering beneath us as the engine chugged **ponderously** on.
  - A. large or of great weight; or slow and unwieldy -- especially because of size

or

  - B. boring -- especially because of length
  - B. in a manner that works with government officials whose job is to represent their country in discussions with other countries
  - C. in a manner that is not relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)

- 10 *His eyes had become less **incredulous**, more accusing.*
- not capable of being better understood through detailed examination
  - clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate
  - unbelieving
- 11 *'Feeling lonely?' he **inquired**.*
- limited or with boundaries
  - asked
  - gradually added or removed
- 12 *Such **penances** had been sent before: the expulsion from Eden, the Flood, pestilences, the destruction of the Cities of the Plain, the Captivity.*
- an act that shows sorrow for wrongdoing -- such as expressing regret, asking for forgiveness, or trying to make up for the harm done
  - injures the ligaments of a joint by stretching them too far (ligaments are the tough, fibrous bands that connect bones across joints)
  - enthusiastic expressions of feelings or thoughts OR squirts or gives off (typically under pressure such as blood or leaking gas)
- 13 *'How long have you known that Sophie **deviates**?*
- changes or differs
  - takes on or adopts
  - influences opinion
- 14 *We've been wondering if anybody knows.....You see, if they found out about him -- I let him draw the **inference** himself.*
- someone who expresses disapproval
  - conclusion (reached by reasoning)
  - purpose, job, or natural activity
- 15 *We did not, and because we did not, we had no positive -- we were condemned to **negatives**, to not revealing ourselves, to not speaking when we would, to not using what we knew, to not being found out -- to a life of perpetual deception, concealment, and lying.*
- focusing on things not done--rather than on things done
  - changes one's mind back and forth between conflicting ideas OR sways back and forth
  - has a relationship such that a change in one thing helps predict a change in another
- 16 *As far as I was concerned a firm grasp of the **negative** in the cause of survival had been quite enough to occupy me; I was only just beginning to perceive the vacancy left by the absent positive.*
- tell (a story)
  - begin fighting
  - bad or harmful
- 17 *As far as I was concerned a firm grasp of the negative in the cause of survival had been quite enough to occupy me; I was only just beginning to perceive the vacancy left by the absent **positive**.*
- good to do
  - not representative
  - impossible to find
- 18 *It was odd, I felt, how many people seemed to have **positive**, if conflicting, information upon God's views.*
- outside
  - various
  - certain
- 19 *It's part of the inspector's job to keep watch and call an **inquiry** if the information he gets seems to warrant it.'*
- small quantity or indication
  - reason (for doing something)
  - questioning or investigating
- 20 *She perceived our confusion, and shook her head **reprovingly**.*
- in a critical manner
  - with great annoyance
  - in a wasteful manner

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

### The Chrysalids

by John Wyndham

---

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	blasphemy	Used 11 times in this book.
2	A	however (as in: <i>However, complications may...</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	C	however (as in: <i>However much she tried...</i> )	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
4	B	approach (as in: <i>use the best approach</i> )	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
5	A	approach (as in: <i>approached the city</i> )	Used 7 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.
6	A	consequence (as in: <i>a direct consequence of</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	B	consequence (as in: <i>of little consequence</i> )	2 meanings in this book.
8	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
9	A	ponderous	Used 5 times in this book.
10	C	incredulous	Used 10 times in this book.
11	B	inquire	Used 30 times in this book.
12	A	penance	Used 5 times in this book.
13	A	deviate (as in: <i>deviate from the course</i> )	Used 51 times in this book.
14	B	infer	High-utility academic word
15	A	negative (as in: <i>negative feedback from customers</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	C	negative (as in: <i>had a negative effect</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	A	positive (as in: <i>had a positive effect</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	C	positive (as in: <i>I'm absolutely positive!</i> )	2 meanings in this book.
19	C	inquiry	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
20	A	reprove	Used 4 times in this book.

---