

The Crystal Shard

by R. A. Salvatore

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: alliance, apprentice, deception, focus (2), heed, horde, incite, nomadic, ogre, ponder, principle, proficiency, refugee, retort, reverse, stealth, taunt, visage, vulnerable



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	B
3	B
4	A
5	C
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	B
10	A
11	A
12	A
13	C
14	A
15	A
16	B
17	C
18	B
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 understands the shifting **alliances** in the Middle East.
 - A. associations formed to support common interests
 - B. sets of competing interests amongst neighbors
 - C. borders between countries
2. Although she was still an **apprentice**, Clara already had a natural talent for woodworking and carved beautiful details into her projects.
 - A. employee with seniority
 - B. learner on the job
 - C. licensed professional
3. The con artist used clever **deception** to trick wealthy investors.
 - A. kindness
 - B. trickery
 - C. praise
4. This week, I'm **focusing** on finishing my research paper.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help
5. The discussion brought into focus an important difference of opinion.
 - A. hiding
 - B. conflict
 - C. view
6. She didn't **heed** the storm warnings and got caught in the heavy rain.
 - A. pass through
 - B. tell others of
 - C. pay attention to
7. A **horde** of excited fans rushed toward the stage when the band made their surprise appearance.
 - A. tiny group
 - B. huge crowd
 - C. single person
8. The rumors were spread by her enemies to **incite** the people against her.
 - A. provoke
 - B. calm the anger of
 - C. distract
9. She lived a **nomadic** lifestyle, never staying in one place for too long and always seeking new adventures.
 - A. seeking thrills
 - B. moving from place to place
 - C. always staying near family
10. The **ogre** in the story terrorized travelers passing through his forest.
 - A. monster
 - B. princess
 - C. shepherd
11. We **pondered** our fate.
 - A. thought about
 - B. feared for
 - C. actively changed

12. One guiding principle is that everyone should be treated fairly.
- A. rule or belief
 - B. complaint
 - C. answer or result
13. After months of practice, she gained enough proficiency in Spanish to hold a simple conversation.
- A. interest
 - B. permission
 - C. skill
14. She was a Tutsi refugee from Rwanda.
- A. someone who fled their homeland
 - B. someone who suffered
 - C. someone who immigrated
15. She retorted, "Takes one to know one."
- A. quickly replied
 - B. insulted back
 - C. joyfully laughed
16. She reveres nature and all that is natural.
- A. dislikes and avoids
 - B. deeply respects
 - C. thoroughly enjoys
17. The soldiers are trained to move through the night with stealth.
- A. a manner that is considered safe
 - B. a manner that is very fast
 - C. a manner that is hard to detect
18. They taunted her until she responded physically, and then they beat her up.
- A. followed
 - B. insulted
 - C. surrounded
19. She gazed at her reflection in the mirror, studying her own visage with a critical eye.
- A. body
 - B. clothing
 - C. face
20. The team's preferred style of defense is vulnerable to good outside shooters.
- A. designed to stop
 - B. easily hurt by
 - C. dependent upon

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 Never again would he be **taunted** by the other apprentices, boys much younger than he who climbed through the ranks in the guild step by tedious step.
 - A. made appropriate in size, amount, or degree
 - B. intentionally angered, challenged, or upset
 - C. concentrated, look at, or paid attention to
- 2 Never again would he be **taunted** by the other apprentices, boys much younger than he who climbed through the ranks in the guild step by tedious step.
 - A. injures the ligaments of a joint by stretching them too far (ligaments are the tough, fibrous bands that connect bones across joints)
 - B. person who learns a trade or skill through hands-on experience under a skilled worker; or (as a verb) performance of that kind of work
 - C. a means of control -- most commonly the straps attached to a bit in a horse's mouth that are used to control it OR restrains or controls
- 3 He felt as **vulnerable** in the sunlight as a human would in the dark of night.
 - 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
- 4 The huge, one-eyed king himself led the procession, his great, swinging strides indicative of the **nomads** of the tundra.
 - A. things exclusive to (someone or some group) -- such as an activity or place
 - B. tending to make a home in different places rather than staying in one place
 - C. artists who created medieval European art associated with Gothic cathedrals
- 5 Though primarily known for his ferocious **proficiency** in battle, Heafstaag was a leader who carefully weighed his every move.
 - A. snake
 - B. story
 - C. skill
- 6 But now he **pondered** the quality of his life.
 - A. thought deeply or carefully about
 - B. was overly unhappy and unsociable
 - C. not limited or without boundaries
- 7 They were a poor remnant of what had once been a thriving dwarven society, a band of **refugees** beaten and broken by the loss of their homeland and heritage.
 - A. people who fled their homeland
 - B. understandings or explanations
 - C. quiet voices; or a quiet voice
- 8 Bryn Shander remains the key, but the **principle** city will only be spurred to action if the major fishing towns, Targos in particular, join in.
 - A. basic rule or belief
 - B. the act of forgiving
 - C. narrow water passage
- 9 But Kemp of Targos surely believes that his walled city is powerful enough to stand alone, whereas its rival, Teralaine, would be hardpressed to hold back the **horde**.
 - A. a fat compound
 - B. a large number
 - C. a hooved mamma

- 10 "Who indeed?" **retorted** Jenson Brent, now a bit of fluster showing through his calm facade.
- quickly replied
 - said indirectly
 - greatly annoyed
- 11 "Unless we form an **alliance**," Regis continued in the same urgent tones, "the horde will overrun our communities one by one, slaughtering any who dare to oppose them!"
- association formed to support common interests
 - set of competing interests amongst neighbors
 - sense of isolation due to competing interests
- 12 They longed to announce their glorious charge with a song of war, but they understood that a certain degree of **stealth** was vital to the ultimate success of deBernezan's battle plan.
- not trustworthy with secrets, and/or conspicuous or obtrusive
 - the state or degree of being able to be taken on as one's own
 - hard to see or detect; or done in a manner to avoid detection
- 13 Bruenor curiously considered the engaging stare and calm **visage** as he closed in on the youth.
- a basic building block for proteins
 - someone who believe in a single God
 - someone's face or facial expression
- 14 The dwarf openly professed no love for battle, but he swung his notched axe with deadly accuracy and shrugged off blows that would fell an **ogre**.
- a frightening giant from fairy tales, especially one who eats people; or a cruel or terrifying person
 - someone who persuades someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
 - an elected government representative who (with fellow representatives) has the power to create laws
- 15 He came to accept his penance with stoicism, **heeding** Bruenor's commands without question or complaint.
- moving again into position to work; or starting again
 - spreading one-sided information to influence opinions
 - paying close attention to; or doing what is suggested
- 16 Bruenor **reverently** removed the small silver mallet and chisel from the coffer and approached the warhammer.
- in a manner that is not appropriate or different than would be expected in size, amount, or degree
 - with feelings of deep respect and admiration -- sometimes with a mixture of wonder and awe or fear
 - with nervousness or discomfort felt by someone due to concern about what others will think of them
- 17 The barbarian could use his unrivaled strength more effectively than **deceptive** feints and twists.
- very large
 - misleading
 - changeable
- 18 **Incited** by the aura of suspicion that Kemp had infused, Schermont, the new spokesman from Caer-Konig, pointed an accusing finger at Jenson Brent of Caer-Dineval.
- provoked
 - collided
 - not said
- 19 Taking a deep breath to steady himself and **focus** his thoughts on the task at hand, he took hold of Aegis-fang and waded into Evermelt.
- concentrate
 - make one's home in; or live in; or stay (in a place)
 - a real estate loan; or pledging something for a loan
- 20 Drizzt paused to consider the presence for a few moments, trying to bring the familiarity he felt into better focus.
- software that stops uninvited software from spreading between computers and causing damage to data and software
 - a condition where the body cannot properly regulate blood sugar levels because it produces little or no insulin
 - a state where something has come into view or can be seen clearly; or an adjustment made to permit a clear view

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	taunt	Used 13 times in this book.
2	B	apprentice	Used 20 times in this book.
3	B	vulnerable	Used 15 times in this book.
4	B	nomadic	Used 6 times in this book.
5	C	proficiency	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
6	A	ponder	Used 15 times in this book.
7	A	refugee	Used 17 times in this book.
8	A	principle	High-utility academic word; used 23 times in this book.
9	B	horde	Used 13 times in this book.
10	A	retort (<i>as in: quick retort</i>)	Used 20 times in this book.
11	A	alliance	Used 14 times in this book.
12	C	stealth	Used 6 times in this book.
13	C	visage	Used 8 times in this book.
14	A	ogre	Used 46 times in this book.
15	C	heed	Used 13 times in this book.
16	B	revere	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
17	B	deception	High-utility academic word; used 10 times in this book.
18	A	incite	Used 4 times in this book.
19	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
20	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	3 meanings in this book.