

The Death Cure

by James Dashner

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

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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: adrenaline, analyze, anxiety, curt, debris, exasperated, facilitate, focus (2), immune, inevitable, jut, oblong, purge, sedative, stealth, succumb, telepathy, unanimous, variable



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	B
3	B
4	C
5	C
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	C
10	B
11	A
12	C
13	A
14	A
15	A
16	C
17	C
18	A
19	A
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 was still shaking from the adrenaline rush that came with the fright.
 - A. calming hormone
 - B. muscle protein
 - C. fight-or-flight hormone
2. The coach studied the film to analyze the defensive breakdown.
 - A. avoid
 - B. examine
 - C. cause
3. It is a vicious cycle in which worry leads to decreased spending and decreased spending leads to increased anxiety.
 - A. happiness
 - B. worry
 - C. saving
4. I tried asking open-ended questions, but all I could get were curt replies.
 - A. angry
 - B. selfish
 - C. short
5. Crews spent hours clearing debris from the highway after the crash.
 - A. intact structures
 - B. valuable items
 - C. scattered wreckage
6. My little brother can be exasperating. He's always testing his boundaries.
 - A. very active
 - B. endearing (lovable)
 - C. greatly annoying
7. She argues that the stimulus facilitated an economic recovery.
 - A. ruled out
 - B. made easier
 - C. complicated
8. This week, I'm focusing on finishing my research paper.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help
9. The discussion brought into focus an important difference of opinion.
 - A. hiding
 - B. conflict
 - C. view
10. She is immune to chickenpox because she has been vaccinated.
 - A. at risk
 - B. resistant
 - C. open
11. The leaves fall each year with the inevitable change of the seasons.
 - A. certain to happen
 - B. complete or total
 - C. minor

12. She tripped on a thick tree root that jutted out across the muddy path.
- A. washed away
 - B. curled up
 - C. stuck out
13. The table is an oblong shape, with curved edges.
- A. elongated
 - B. circular
 - C. square
14. Sometimes people purge old belongings to start their lives fresh.
- A. get rid of
 - B. hold on to
 - C. show off
15. I took a sedative, but still couldn't sleep.
- A. sleep aid
 - B. break
 - C. quiet room
16. 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
17. He succumbed to peer pressure and joined the protest.
- A. held out
 - B. ran off
 - C. gave in
18. Though popular in fiction, telepathy does not exist in the real world.
- A. communication from one mind to another without using the known senses
 - B. improperly bold or disrespectful -- especially toward someone who is older or considered to be of higher status
 - C. unsophisticated (meant disapprovingly to refer to old-fashioned or narrow-minded attitudes and ideas)
19. The jury reached a unanimous decision after just two hours of deliberation.
- A. agreed on by all
 - B. made by just one juror
 - C. split nearly evenly
20. Her mood was variable throughout the day, sometimes cheerful and at other times noticeably quiet.
- A. consistent
 - B. changing
 - C. improving

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 *However, everything has stayed true to the spirit of what the Creators envisioned—what you envisioned in their place after they were ...purg**ed**.*
 - A. eliminated (got rid of)
 - B. requested or challenged
 - C. did in a particular way
- 2 *Everything we've done up till now has been calculated for one purpose and one purpose only: to analyze your brain patterns and build a blueprint from them.*
 - A. restore
 - B. examine
 - C. predict
- 3 *Their ability to talk telepathically.*
 - A. communication from one mind to another without using the known senses (often used in fiction but not scientifically supported as real)
 - B. in a manner like a virus (often used to indicate that something spread quickly from person-to-person in a natural, unplanned manner)
 - C. submissively -- often in the manner of someone who is so submissive or eager to serve and please that they seem to lack self-respect
- 4 *Our doctors and nurses will give you a sedative to calm your nerves and something to dull the discomfort.*
 - A. a drug that calms or puts to sleep; or describing something as calming
 - B. the reason for doing something; or the level of desire to do something
 - C. a serious mental disorder in which people interpret reality abnormally
- 5 *Could it be that the very name they'd used for their organization had been one of the Variables from the beginning?*
 - A. someone who disturbs or annoys
 - B. things that are able to change
 - C. calculating or judging too low
- 6 *They're hated for their immunity to the terrible virus, are mockingly called Munies.*
 - A. tile designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
 - B. the state of not being in danger of suffering from something
 - C. an important Christian ceremony such as baptism or communion
- 7 *Thomas gasped for air, his chest heaving as adrenaline throbbed through his body.*
 - A. declaration of invalidity; or cancelation
 - B. the branch of geology that studies rocks
 - C. "fight or flight" stimulating hormone
- 8 *His friend gave him a sharp look but nodded curtly.*
 - A. in a manner that makes uncomfortable (weighs heavily on the senses or spirit)
 - B. in a manner that is the most exciting or important part of a series of events
 - C. in a manner that uses few words or is abrupt and perhaps discourteous or rude
- 9 *In the end, after an hour of arguing and going back and forth and coming full circle a dozen times, they decided—unanimously—to go to Denver.*
 - A. with complete agreement
 - B. relating to the outside
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 10 *The group waited quietly as a few minutes passed, Thomas's anxiety growing with every second.*
 - A. basic rule or belief
 - B. nervousness or worry
 - C. narrow water passage
- 11 *His gaze focused on Minho.*
 - A. looked
 - B. thought carefully and made a judgment about
 - C. began speaking with someone about something

- 12 *Everything came into focus at that moment for Thomas.*
- A. software that stops uninvited software from spreading between computers and causing damage to data and software
 - B. a condition where the body cannot properly regulate blood sugar levels because it produces little or no insulin
 - C. a state where something has come into view or can be seen clearly
- 13 *Well, he seems to be succumbing to it rapidly.*
- A. protecting something or keeping it as it is
 - B. keeping away (choosing not to do something)
 - C. consenting reluctantly; or suffering defeat
- 14 *Thomas just sighed in exasperation.*
- A. relative amount
 - B. in disagreement
 - C. great annoyance
- 15 *They were miserable, scared to death of catching the Flare, knowing it's inevitable.*
- A. certain to happen
 - B. size or dimension
 - C. circular movement
- 16 *"Speed versus stealth," Thomas said.*
- A. not trustworthy with secrets, and/or conspicuous or obtrusive
 - B. the state or degree of being able to be taken on as one's own
 - C. hard to see or detect; or done in a manner to avoid detection
- 17 *A crowd of about twenty people were fighting over a big pile of something he couldn't quite make out, tossing debris and pushing and shoving, throwing punches.*
- A. the act of treating or preparing food in a way that keeps it from spoiling
 - B. passages food and drink follow between the back of mouths and the stomachs
 - C. pieces of something that has been destroyed; or trash that is lying around
- 18 *The forty or so oblong pods where the Grieviers rested and charged looked like they'd been sealed closed since the Gladers had come through weeks earlier.*
- A. an elongated shape (having more length than width) -- typically of a stretched circle that is longer than an oval, but occasionally used to describe a rectangle
 - B. a workplace where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals (also used figuratively) OR (as an adjective) related to such a place
 - C. soccer: a foul kick taken from 12 yards in front of the goal and defended only by the goalkeeper who cannot advance beyond the goal line until the shot is taken
- 19 *Brenda was there, trying her best with Jorge to facilitate who would go next, to prevent everyone from going at once in a stampede that would surely kill half of them.*
- A. bounce back
 - B. make easier
 - C. windy storm
- 20 *He took one last look at the quaking Maze—chunks of the ceiling torn loose and stone jutting from the ground where it had once been smooth.*
- A. expressed strong hatred or loathing for
 - B. expresses strong hatred or loathing for
 - C. to stick out; or a part that sticks out

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	purge	Used 5 times in this book.
2	B	analyze	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
3	A	telepathy	Used 3 times in this book.
4	A	sedative	Used 2 times in this book.
5	B	variable	Used 11 times in this book.
6	B	immune	Used 48 times in this book.
7	C	adrenaline	Used 6 times in this book.
8	C	curt	Used 7 times in this book.
9	A	unanimous	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
10	B	anxiety	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
11	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
12	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
13	C	succumb	Used 6 times in this book.
14	C	exasperated	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
15	A	inevitable	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
16	C	stealth	Used 2 times in this book.
17	C	debris	Used 4 times in this book.
18	A	oblong	Used 2 times in this book.
19	B	facilitate	High-utility academic word
20	C	jut	Used 4 times in this book.
