

The Fault in Our Stars

Chapters 6–10

by John Green

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: compartmentalize, elicit, gratification, gratuitous, inexorable, litany, premonition, reverie, soliloquy, vacuous

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–5 · Hazel's support group and a new friend

Section 2 · Chapters 6–10 · Planning the trip to Amsterdam

Section 3 · Chapters 11–15 · Amsterdam and the author Van Houten

Section 4 · Chapters 16–20 · Hazel and Augustus's hardest days

Section 5 · Chapters 21–25 · Hazel after a profound loss

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. He learned to **compartmentalize** and not let work ruin his weekends.

- A. to set troubling thoughts aside
- B. to talk problems through aloud
- C. to plan each day in detail

2. The survey was designed to **elicit** honest responses.

- A. to repeat word for word
- B. to draw out a response
- C. to write down in full

3. Finishing the marathon filled him with **gratification**.

- A. pleasure or satisfaction
- B. calm and inner peace
- C. pride and self-importance

4. Critics slammed the movie's **gratuitous** violence.

- A. uncalled-for or excessive
- B. lifelike and convincing
- C. tense and suspenseful

5. The **inexorable** rise of the tide swallowed the sandcastle.

- A. slow and barely noticeable
- B. sudden and unexpected
- C. impossible to stop or resist

6. When asked what bothered him, he launched into a **litany**.

- A. a long, repetitive recital
- B. a sincere apology
- C. an amusing story

7. An uneasy **premonition** kept her awake all night.

- A. a flash of sudden anger
- B. a feeling trouble is coming
- C. a fading memory of the past

8. Lost in **reverie**, she didn't hear the bell ring.

- A. a burst of clever ideas
- B. a deep, dreamless sleep
- C. a pleasant daydream

9. The actor delivered a long **soliloquy** from the empty stage.

- A. a spoken back-and-forth exchange
- B. a song performed by the cast
- C. a speech spoken alone aloud

10. She gave a **vacuous** smile and said nothing.

- A. warm and friendly
- B. empty or meaningless
- C. wide and toothy

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

ghettoize — to set apart or isolate a group (or thing) as if confining it to a ghetto

marrow — the soft tissue inside bones; here in the figure 'suck the marrow out of life'

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY
1	A
2	B
3	A
4	A
5	C
6	A
7	B
8	C
9	C
10	B

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “he’d overdone everything at the picnic, right down to the sandwiches that were metaphorically resonant but tasted terrible and the memorized soliloquy that prevented conversation.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “soliloquy” most nearly suggests that Augustus

- A. whispered a private secret
- B. recited a speech alone, to himself
- C. chatted easily back and forth

2 “It was not a move designed to elicit arousal, but it was certainly a designed move, because Augustus Waters was no improviser.”

It can reasonably be inferred that Augustus touched Hazel’s face in order to

- A. act on a sudden impulse
- B. stir up her physical desire
- C. draw some response out of her

3 “So maybe you have this premonition that there is something fundamentally incompatible and you’re preempting the preemption.”

The passage most strongly suggests that a “premonition,” as Kaitlyn uses the word, is

- A. a memory of an old heartbreak
- B. a firm decision to end things
- C. a feeling that trouble lies ahead

4 “I kept telling myself to compartmentalize, to be here now ...”

The author most likely has Hazel tell herself to “compartmentalize” in order to show that she is trying to

- A. push aside distressing thoughts
- B. hold back her Amsterdam excitement
- C. organize her busy daily schedule

5 “... to return to the moment before the Big Bang, in the beginning when there was the Word, and to live in that vacuous untreated space alone with the Word.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “vacuous” most nearly describes a space that is

- A. empty of all content
- B. vast and without limit
- C. dark and full of dread

6 “I was beginning to think that I was the subject of some existentialist experiment in permanently delayed gratification ...”

It can reasonably be inferred that, in calling it “permanently delayed gratification,” Hazel feels that her

- A. doctors enjoy testing her
- B. rewards keep being postponed
- C. pain will never be relieved

7 “... the inexorable truth is this: They might be glad to have me around, but I was the alpha and the omega of my parents’ suffering.”

In the passage, Hazel is characterized as someone who

- A. accepts a truth she cannot escape
- B. blames her parents for her pain
- C. expects her luck to soon change

8 “The world went on, as it does, without my full participation, and I only woke up from the reverie when someone said my name.”

It can reasonably be inferred that, before someone said her name, Hazel had been

- A. asleep in her chair
- B. lost in her own thoughts
- C. arguing with another member

9 “After the prayers for the living and the endless litany of the dead (with Michael tacked on to the end)”

The author most likely includes the phrase “the endless litany of the dead” in order to

- A. stress the long roll call of the dead
- B. list the survivors still in the group
- C. praise how briefly the group prayed

10 “I found the gore a bit gratuitous, so I looked away for a second ...”

Which choice best describes Hazel’s attitude toward the battle scene’s violence?

- A. thrilled by its bloody spectacle
- B. frightened by its realism
- C. put off by its pointless excess

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	C	
3	C	
4	A	Event comprehension. She is boxing off her dread after reading about Caroline Mathers's death, not hiding ordinary excitement.
5	A	
6	B	
7	A	Character comprehension. Hazel turns the blame inward, seeing herself rather than her parents as the source of their suffering.
8	B	
9	A	
10	C	

Teacher Context: Chapters 6–10

Augustus offers to use his wish to take Hazel to Amsterdam, and Hazel wrestles with whether to let herself get close to him, fearing she is a grenade who will hurt those around her. A sudden health crisis lands her in intensive care and throws the trip into doubt before doctors clear her to go. The break falls as the pair finally depart, separating the buildup at home from the trip itself.