

The Giver

Chapters 19–23

by Lois Lowry

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: awed, clawing, disciplined, flee, hypnotically, limp, ribbon, syringe, unison, yearned

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 · Jonas awaits the Ceremony of Twelve

Section 2 · Chapters 6–8 · The Ceremony of Twelve

Section 3 · Chapters 9–13 · Jonas begins training with the Giver

Section 4 · Chapters 14–18 · Jonas receives memories of pain

Section 5 · Chapters 19–23 · Jonas questions the practice of release

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. The hikers stood **awed** at the edge of the canyon.
 - A. filled with wonder
 - B. tired from the climb
 - C. lost in daydreams
2. The trapped cat kept **clawing** at the closed door.
 - A. sniffing or whining
 - B. scratching or tearing
 - C. thumping or banging
3. The team followed a **disciplined** practice schedule all season.
 - A. based on punishment
 - B. demanding and exhausting
 - C. strictly controlled and orderly
4. The villagers had to **flee** when the fire spread.
 - A. gather to help out
 - B. run away to escape
 - C. call out for help
5. The pendulum swung **hypnotically** above the table.
 - A. in a lulling, trancelike way
 - B. in a quick, jerky way
 - C. in a wide, sweeping way
6. The flowers in the vase had gone **limp** by Friday.
 - A. dry and brittle
 - B. slack and drooping
 - C. pale and faded
7. A **ribbon** of smoke rose from the chimney.
 - A. a thick, curling cloud
 - B. a sudden, quick burst
 - C. a long, narrow strip
8. The nurse filled a **syringe** before the shot.
 - A. a cup for measuring doses
 - B. a small bottle of medicine
 - C. a needle for injecting liquid
9. The class answered in **unison** when the principal asked.
 - A. all at the same time
 - B. in a loud shout
 - C. one after another
10. All winter she **yearned** for the sound of the ocean.
 - A. longed deeply for
 - B. waited patiently for
 - C. listened carefully for

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

chastised — scolded or punished for doing something wrong

runners — the long metal blades a sled slides on — not the sense of people running

ANSWER KEY

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

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 took out a syringe and a small bottle. Very carefully he inserted the needle into the bottle and began to fill the syringe with a clear liquid.”

As used in the passage, the word ‘syringe’ most nearly means...

- A. a scale for weighing newborns
- B. a needle device for injecting liquid
- C. a bottle for storing medicine

2 “Then he went limp. His head fell to the side, his eyes half open. Then he was still.”

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘limp’ most nearly suggests that...

- A. the newchild’s life has ended
- B. the newchild is squirming and restless
- C. the newchild has calmed and relaxed

3 “Jonas felt a ripping sensation inside himself, the feeling of terrible pain clawing its way forward to emerge in a cry.”

As used in the passage, the word ‘clawing’ most nearly means...

- A. creeping in slowly and quietly
- B. scratching and tearing fiercely
- C. aching dully deep inside

4 “The Giver would lead the chant. Together they would let Jonas’s presence in their lives fade away as they said his name in unison more slowly, softer and softer ...”

According to the passage, the community would say Jonas’s name...

- A. all together at the same time
- B. one at a time, taking turns
- C. in a sung, layered harmony

5 “That night, Jonas was forced to flee. He left the dwelling shortly after the sky became dark and the community still.”

It can reasonably be inferred that Jonas fled at night because...

- A. he needed to slip away unseen
- B. he liked the calm of the evening
- C. he was sent on official business

6 “At dawn, the orderly, disciplined life he had always known would continue again, without him. The life where nothing was ever unexpected. Or inconvenient. Or unusual. The life without color, pain, or past.”

In context, the word ‘disciplined’ emphasizes...

- A. the community’s skill at hard work
- B. the strict control over daily life
- C. the punishments for breaking rules

7 “... a slow-swinging hammock under palm trees on an island someplace, at evening, with a rhythmic sound of languid water lapping hypnotically against a beach nearby.”

It can reasonably be inferred that water lapping ‘hypnotically’ would...

- A. lull a listener into drowsy calm
- B. keep a listener alert and watchful
- C. set a lively beat for dancing

8 “All of it was new to him. After a life of Sameness and predictability, he was awed by the surprises that lay beyond each curve of the road.”

In the passage, Jonas is characterized as...

- A. confused by his new surroundings
- B. frightened by what lies ahead
- C. amazed by the unfamiliar world

9 “He saw nothing ahead except the endless ribbon of road unfolding in twisting narrow curves.”

As used in the passage, the word ‘ribbon’ most nearly means...

- A. a prize awarded for winning
- B. a decorative cloth band
- C. a long, thin, winding strip

10 “But the moment passed and was followed by an urge, a need, a passionate yearning to share the warmth with the one person left for him to love.”

In context, the word ‘yearning’ emphasizes...

- A. his uncertainty about the next step
- B. his fear of losing the warmth
- C. the intensity of his desire to share

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	A	'Limp' is pinned to its 'lifeless' sense; the fallen head and final stillness confirm a death the text never states outright.
3	B	
4	A	
5	A	
6	B	
7	A	
8	C	
9	C	A familiar word in figurative use; the everyday 'cloth band' sense is the intended wrong answer for students not reading in context.
10	C	

Teacher Context: Chapters 19–23

Jonas discovers what release truly means when he watches a recording of his father killing a newborn twin, and he and the Giver plan Jonas's flight so the Community will have to reclaim its memories. Jonas escapes with the infant Gabriel toward Elsewhere. Section runs to the end of the novel.