

The Hunger Games

Part III: The Victor (Chapters 19–27)

by Suzanne Collins

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: demeanor, festering, insidious, instigator, irreverent, jeopardize, pariah, squeamish, stalemate, vengeance

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

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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 · Part I: The Tributes (Chapters 1–9) · Reaping day in District 12

Section 2 · Part II: The Games (Chapters 10–18) · The Games begin in the arena

Section 3 · Part III: The Victor (Chapters 19–27) · The final stretch of the Games

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. Her calm **demeanor** put the nervous patients at ease.

- A. outward manner
- B. tone of voice
- C. facial expression

2. The doctor warned that the **festering** wound needed treatment right away.

- A. deep and painful
- B. rotting and infected
- C. swollen and bruised

3. The villain's **insidious** scheme nearly destroyed the kingdom.

- A. sneaky and harmful
- B. risky and expensive
- C. cruel and violent

4. The principal wanted to know who the **instigator** of the fight really was.

- A. the one who started it
- B. the one who got caught
- C. the one who watched it

5. His **irreverent** jokes about the principal made the class laugh.

- A. clever and quick-witted
- B. playfully disrespectful
- C. long and rambling

6. Skipping practice could **jeopardize** your spot on the team.

- A. hand off to others
- B. put on hold
- C. put at risk

7. After the scandal, she was treated like a **pariah** at school.

- A. a lonely newcomer
- B. a rejected outcast
- C. a constant troublemaker

8. She felt too **squeamish** to watch the surgery scene in the movie.

- A. easily sickened
- B. easily frightened
- C. easily bored

9. After hours of arguing, the two sides reached a **stalemate**.

- A. a temporary pause
- B. a turning point
- C. a deadlock

10. He wanted **vengeance** after the men wronged his family.

- A. a public apology
- B. legal justice
- C. personal revenge

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

forte — a person's strongest skill or area of ability

respite — a short period of relief from something difficult or unpleasant

tourniquet — a band tightened around an injured limb to slow or stop severe bleeding

smacks of rebellion — strongly suggests rebellion or seems like an act of defiance

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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 “... if either of us took the other’s life now we’d be pariahs when we returned to District 12.”

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘pariahs’ most nearly suggests people who are —

- A. haunted by their own guilt
- B. punished by Capitol officials
- C. shunned by their own people

2 “For two tributes to have a shot at winning, our “romance” must be so popular with the audience that condemning it would jeopardize the success of the Games.”

The passage most strongly suggests that turning the audience against the romance would —

- A. make the romance more popular
- B. speed the Games to an end
- C. put the Games’ success at risk

3 “And worst of all, the smell of festering flesh.”

In the excerpt, the detail about the smell primarily functions to —

- A. show how dangerous Peeta’s wound is
- B. hint that Peeta has already died
- C. stress how filthy the cave has become

4 “I try to capture the calm demeanor my mother assumes when handling particularly bad cases.”

Based on the passage, Katniss’s effort to assume a ‘calm demeanor’ shows that she is —

- A. copying her mother’s medical skill
- B. hiding her fear behind a calm front
- C. naturally calm in a crisis

5 “You know, you’re kind of squeamish for such a lethal person,” says Peeta as I beat the shorts clean between two rocks.”

In the passage, Peeta’s remark characterizes Katniss as —

- A. easily sickened though she can kill
- B. fearless at the sight of blood
- C. too softhearted to harm anyone

6 “What would Peeta think of the irreverent banter that passes between us as we break the law each day?”

In context, the word ‘irreverent’ emphasizes the pair’s —

- A. playful disregard for the rules
- B. open anger at Capitol officials
- C. constant fear of being caught

7 “We’ve reached a stalemate. I can’t shoot Cato without killing Peeta, too.”

It can reasonably be inferred from the word ‘stalemate’ that —

- A. neither side can act without losing
- B. Katniss has already won the standoff
- C. Cato is ready to give up

8 “And I think the word he’s trying to say is please. Pity, not vengeance, sends my arrow flying into his skull.”

The author most likely includes the words ‘Pity, not vengeance’ in order to —

- A. show she wants Cato to suffer
- B. show she kills Cato out of mercy
- C. show she still fears Cato

9 “I’m the instigator. I’m the one to be punished.”

According to the passage, calling herself the ‘instigator’ means Katniss sees herself as —

- A. the one who will go unpunished
- B. the one who began the defiance
- C. an innocent, blameless bystander

10 “... but then there’s a more insidious fear that the Capitol may be monitoring and confining me.”

The passage most strongly suggests that Katniss’s ‘insidious’ fear is one that —

- A. comes on suddenly and openly
- B. is easy to shake off
- C. creeps in slowly and unseen

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	C	
2	C	
3	A	Event comprehension.
4	B	Character comprehension.
5	A	
6	A	
7	A	Event comprehension.
8	B	Event comprehension. Cato is being torn apart by the mutts, so the arrow ends his suffering — 'pity,' not revenge, drives the kill.
9	B	Event comprehension.
10	C	

Teacher Context: Part III: The Victor (Chapters 19–27)

The Games move toward their conclusion as the field of tributes is winnowed down and the Gamemakers force the survivors together. Katniss and Peeta navigate shifting rules, a deadly final confrontation, and the fraught aftermath of the arena, which sets up new tensions with the Capitol. Section runs to the end of the novel.