

The Last Battle

by C. S. Lewis

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: bewilder, centaur, cunning, deceive, however (2), inexorable, judicious, mane, mock, nevertheless, reign (2), scarcity, sentry, shamble, solemn, treacherous, wrath, wretched



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	C
3	B
4	C
5	A
6	C
7	B
8	B
9	B
10	C
11	B
12	C
13	C
14	C
15	B
16	B
17	A
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. I am trying to understand her, but I am **bewildered**.
 - A. confused
 - B. bored
 - C. distracted
2. In Greek mythology, Chiron is probably the most famous of the centaurs. He is known for his wisdom and knowledge of medicine.
 - A. demigod fighters in wars between gods
 - B. winged horses that can fly
 - C. mythical beings that are half man and half horse
3. The worst mix -- **greedy, cunning,** and without morals.
 - A. stupid and impatient
 - B. clever and deceitful
 - C. strong and cruel
4. The fake article was written to attract attention and **deceive** readers.
 - A. entertain
 - B. attract
 - C. lie to or mislead
5. I hope to take the ACT just once. However, I will take it early, so there is time to study and take it again if my scores aren't high enough.
 - A. but
 - B. also
 - C. and
6. **However** safe we make it, there will always be risk.
 - A. on-the-other-hand
 - B. in addition
 - C. no matter how
7. The march of time is **inexorable**, no matter how much we wish to hold on to the past.
 - A. unpredictable
 - B. unstoppable
 - C. forgettable
8. She chooses her battles **judiciously**.
 - A. in a reckless manner
 - B. with good judgment
 - C. with excessive anger
9. She brushed the horse's tangled mane until it flowed smoothly down its neck.
 - A. long curved tail
 - B. thick neck hair
 - C. sharp pointed hoof
10. American's have a hard time understanding that to **mock** Islam is to invite violence.
 - A. discriminate against
 - B. not believe in
 - C. make fun of
11. She loves him. **Nevertheless**, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
 - A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition

12. During his reign, Augustus shrank the size of the senate from 900 to 600 members.
- A. lifetime
 - B. period of rapid change
 - C. time during which he ruled
13. Fame reigns in Hollywood.
- A. comes and goes
 - B. is both good and bad in its effect
 - C. is most important or powerful
14. Work is scarce in the region.
- A. easily found
 - B. extremely hard
 - C. in short supply
15. The sentry challenged anyone who tried to enter the camp after dark.
- A. kitchen helper
 - B. watchful guard
 - C. village healer
16. After the long hike, he shambled into camp, shoulders slumped and feet dragging.
- A. walked in a proud way
 - B. walked in a shuffling way
 - C. walked in a quick way
17. Everyone was solemn at the funeral.
- A. serious and dignified
 - B. teary eyed
 - C. dressed in dark colors
18. It was a treacherous act.
- A. betraying trust
 - B. especially cruel
 - C. highly moral
19. She fears the wrath of God.
- A. angry punishment
 - B. power
 - C. unpredictable moods
20. The photograph showed poor people in a wretched village in East Africa.
- A. irresponsible
 - B. in terrible condition
 - C. foolish or thoughtless

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 As soon as he was alone Shift went **shambling** along, sometimes on two paws and sometimes on four, till he reached his own tree.
 - A. suggesting that someone was involved
 - B. walking in an awkward, shuffling way
 - C. blending three or more musical notes
- 2 It must be one of the **centaurs**.
 - A. images (seen on a mirror or other shiny surface)
 - B. electronic components that act as one-way valves
 - C. a creature that is half man, half horse
- 3 The Calormene bowed and replied, in the pompous Calormene way: "Most sapient Mouthpiece of Aslan, The Tisroc (may he-live-forever) is wholly of one mind with your lordship in this **judicious** plan."
 - A. exactness or accuracy
 - B. showing good judgment
 - C. able to be translated
- 4 ...their **reign** had been the golden age of Narnia.
 - A. draw
 - B. copy
 - C. time of rule (of those kings and queens)
- 5 ...gloom and fear **reigned** over Narnia.
 - A. made appropriate in size, amount, or degree
 - B. concentrated, look at, or paid attention to
 - C. was most powerful or noticeable
- 6 My dream led me into your world **scarce** ten minutes since.
 - A. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
 - B. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
 - C. in short supply OR barely or hardly (by a small margin)
- 7 Dinner was, **however**, a dull meal, for the best they could do was to pound up some of the hard biscuit which they found in a locker and pour it into boiling water, with salt, so as to make a kind of porridge.
 - A. a word used to connect contrasting ideas as when using *though, in spite of that, in contrast, nevertheless,* etc.
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 8 Whatever she looked at, **however** far away it might be, once she had fixed her eyes steadily on it, became quite clear and close as if she were looking through a telescope.
 - A. people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning
 - B. aka analysis -- psychiatric treatment; or a theory of psychiatric treatment
 - C. regardless of how
- 9 Stand here, **sentry**, with your back to the wall.
 - A. social event or ceremony
 - B. someone who stands guard
 - C. a positively charged ion
- 10 He had felt quite sure that the Dwarfs would rally to his side the moment he showed them how they had been **deceived**.
 - A. told (a story)
 - B. began fighting
 - C. lied or misled
- 11 And then she understood the devilish **cunning** of the enemies' plan.
 - A. related to the natural world (life, air, water, land...)
 - B. cleverness and deceit
 - C. relating to logical examination to improve understanding

- 12 *His eyes were shining, his face very solemn,*
A. serious and possibly dignified
B. indicating approval or agreement
C. able to be taken on as one's own
- 13 *Then Tirian rushed upon the wretched creature, picked it up by the scruff of the neck,*
A. not easily identified
B. bad
C. exactness or accuracy
- 14 *Then it mumbled in its throaty voice, bewildered to the last, "I - I don't understand,"*
A. very confused
B. restored
C. collided
- 15 *Dirty, filthy, treacherous little brutes.*
A. untrustworthy
B. cruel
C. difficult
- 16 *Inexorable Tash!*
A. clear, straightforward, or to the point
B. impossible to stop, persuade, or change
C. the quality of relating to intelligence
- 17 *Aslan raised his head and shook his mane.*
A. select (on a computer screen)
B. a lion or horses hair
C. exchange, convert, or pay off
- 18 *for if he had, how could he dare to mock him?*
A. bounce back
B. windy storm
C. make fun of
- 19 *Nevertheless I hid my anger and held my tongue and waited to see how it would end.*
A. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
C. therefore (for that reason)
- 20 *his wrath was not against me*
A. intense anger
B. determination
C. use of reason

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	shamble (<i>as in: she shambled along</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
2	C	centaur	Used 13 times in this book.
3	B	judicious	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	C	reign (<i>as in: She reigned over England</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
5	C	reign (<i>as in: uncertainty reigns</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
6	C	scarcity	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
7	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	C	however (<i>as in: However much she tried...</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
9	B	sentry	Used 10 times in this book.
10	C	deceive	Used 3 times in this book.
11	B	cunning (<i>as in: a cunning thief</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
12	A	solemn	Used 3 times in this book.
13	B	wretched	Used 4 times in this book.
14	A	bewilder	Used 5 times in this book.
15	A	treacherous (<i>as in: a scheming, treacherous assistant</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	B	inexorable	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
17	B	mane	Used 9 times in this book.
18	C	mock (<i>as in: don't mock me</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
19	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	A	wrath	Used 3 times in this book.
