

The Lightning Thief

by Rick Riordan

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 via "View / Print / Edit Web
Quiz" on the Resources menu.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Answer Key — Preview	2	teacher use / self-check only
Vocabulary Preview	3	

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context	5	
Answer Key — In Context	7	teacher use only

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: barter, bronze, centaur, chasm, cleave, concerto, deflect, factor, faint, immortal, indignant, mortal, nevertheless, paraphrase, pavilion, prophecy, serpent, skeptical, talon, tempered



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	C
4	C
5	A
6	C
7	C
8	B
9	A
10	C
11	A
12	C
13	B
14	A
15	A
16	B
17	B
18	A
19	C
20	A

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The IRS is investigating a **barter** exchange we joined.
 - A. stock
 - B. trade
 - C. internet
2. She approached the impressive **bronze** doors.
 - A. made of a high-quality wood
 - B. notably large and appearing heavy
 - C. made of a type of high-quality metal
3. 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
4. We were stopped by an **impassable chasm**.
 - A. steep mountain
 - B. raging river
 - C. steep drop
5. It has the ability to **cleave** carbon-carbon bonds.
 - A. split
 - B. identify
 - C. find
6. She performed a famous **piano concerto** by Mozart at the recital.
 - A. well-known opera singer
 - B. stringed wooden instrument
 - C. piece for solo and orchestra
7. She **deflected** the blame onto someone else to avoid getting in trouble.
 - A. took full credit
 - B. explained it calmly
 - C. avoided by shifting away
8. In the second paragraph, the narrator's focus shifts from **factors** making her unhappy to identification of possible solutions to her unhappiness.
 - A. things that are unfair
 - B. things (that influence an outcome)
 - C. examples of illnesses
9. He **fainted** left and then charged from the right.
 - A. faked
 - B. attacked strongly
 - C. moved sideways
10. She believes we have an **immortal** soul.
 - A. conflicted
 - B. perfect in every way
 - C. lasting forever
11. She was **indignant**, but she agreed to be searched when they accused her of shoplifting.
 - A. annoyed at something unjust
 - B. surprised at the unexpected
 - C. defensive about being suspected

12. In the story, she was neither a mortal nor a god. She was a demi-god.
- A. type of bird
 - B. lucky survivor
 - C. human
13. She loves him. Nevertheless, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
- A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition
14. Her words were too perfect to paraphrase, so I will quote.
- A. reword
 - B. forget
 - C. summarize
15. We ate lunch under the open-sided pavilion near the lake.
- A. freestanding shelter
 - B. tall stone monument
 - C. narrow garden path
16. It was a self-fulfilling prophecy.
- A. profitable enterprise
 - B. prediction
 - C. explanation
17. What does the serpent represent in the Garden of Eden?
- A. fig leaf
 - B. snake
 - C. apple
18. She is skeptical about the project.
- A. doubtful
 - B. keeping silent
 - C. excited
19. Bird talons are similar to a dog's nails.
- A. beaks
 - B. teeth
 - C. claws
20. They found a tempered pickaxe in Galilee, dating from around 1000 to 1100 BCE.
- A. heat-treated
 - B. well-preserved
 - C. small

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 "And why, Mr. Jackson," Brunner said, "to **paraphrase** Miss Bobofit's excellent question, does this matter in real life?"
 - A. express the same message in different (or slightly different) words
 - B. spend time with; or someone with whom a person spends a lot of time
 - C. an overwhelming amount; or to overwhelm -- especially said of water
- 2 *Her fingers stretched, turning into talons.*
 - A. unties or releases
 - B. rules for behavior
 - C. sharp hooked claws
- 3 *There were **cloven** hooves.*
 - A. split (or divided in two)
 - B. together at the same time
 - C. aroused or inspired again
- 4 *Nevertheless, you made it here alive, and that's always the first test.*
 - 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)
- 5 *Ah, gods, plural, as in, great beings that control the forces of nature and human endeavors: the **immortal** gods of Olympus.*
 - A. (adjective) of low quality, or of lower quality or rank than something else OR (more rarely as a noun) a person of lower rank or status
 - B. relating to existentialism -- a philosophical movement that assumes each person is free to determine what is essential in their existence
 - C. living or existing forever

or:

someone famous throughout history

or:

someone who will never die -- such as a mythological god
- 6 "What a relief," the **centaur** said.
 - A. the act, process, or instance of telling a story
 - B. a general feeling of not being as good as others
 - C. a mythical being that is half man and half horse
- 7 *Chiron pointed to an outdoor **pavilion** framed in white Grecian columns on a hill overlooking the sea.*
 - A. a large structure separate from a main structure or temporary
 - B. make something more attractive or interesting by adding to it
 - C. a small group of people who plot in secret and exercise power
- 8 "It wasn't my fault."
*She looked at me **skeptically**, and I realized it was my fault*
 - A. in a doubtful manner (like she didn't believe me)
 - B. in a manner that is open to arguments, ideas, or change
 - C. inadequately (in a manner that does not provide enough)
- 9 *He'd had a **prophecy** from the Oracle.*
 - A. social event or ceremony
 - B. prediction of the future
 - C. a positively charged ion

- 10 *Luke deflected it easily, but I saw a change in his face.*
A. made something lighter -- such as an area of a painting
B. excessively examined in an attempt to better understand
C. turned aside from a fixed direction or line of interest
- 11 *In his pocket was a set of reed pipes his daddy goat had carved for him, even though he only knew two songs: Mozart's Piano **Concerto** no.*
A. an expert who shares professional opinions in a specific field
B. the act of being in a working position; or the act of starting
C. music written for orchestra and one (or more) solo instruments
- 12 *Annabeth drew her **bronze** knife.*
A. examine in detail to better understand
B. appropriate in size, amount, or degree
C. made of a brownish metal
- 13 *Her hair was moving, writhing like **serpents**.*
A. copies
B. snakes
C. enters
- 14 *They tugged at my clothes, trying to pull me back, but I felt compelled to walk forward to the very edge of the **chasm**.*
A. long eventful journey
B. a nerve or brain cell
C. a large gap or divide
- 15 *Percy, you can't **barter** with Hades.*
A. delay
B. trade
C. adapt
- 16 *There were just too many unknown **factors**.*
A. People who are of lower rank or status
B. things that affect a result or outcome
C. theories on the origin of the universe
- 17 *Few **mortals** have ever done this and survived:*
A. acts of being in a working position; or the acts of starting
B. things or characteristics that express agreement or approval
C. humans (especially merely humans)
- 18 *We exploded on the surface, in the middle of the Santa Monica Bay, knocking a surfer off his board with an **indignant**, "Dude!"*
A. anger or annoyance at something unjust or wrong
B. surprised as something unexpected
C. accepted of something undesired as unavoidable
- 19 *I landed behind him with a splash and **fainted** toward his head, as I'd done before.*
A. any distracting or deceptive maneuver; or the act of making the maneuver
B. having points along the edge -- like a saw, some knives, and some leaves
C. broke the law by telling lies after formally promising to tell the truth
- 20 *The other is **tempered** steel.*
A. made stronger
B. tending to have exceedingly unfavorable opinions
C. tending to have excessively unfavorable opinions

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	paraphrase	High-utility academic word
2	C	talon	Used 10 times in this book.
3	A	cleave (<i>as in: cleave through</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
4	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
5	C	immortal	Used 9 times in this book.
6	C	centaur	Used 11 times in this book.
7	A	pavilion	Used 12 times in this book.
8	A	skeptical	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
9	B	prophecy	Used 12 times in this book.
10	C	deflect	Used 5 times in this book.
11	C	concerto	Used 2 times in this book.
12	C	bronze (<i>as in: bronze won't corrode in salt water</i>)	Used 34 times in this book.
13	B	serpent	Used 5 times in this book.
14	C	chasm	Used 9 times in this book.
15	B	barter	Used 2 times in this book.
16	B	factor (<i>as in: It was the deciding factor.</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
17	C	mortal (<i>as in: mortal body</i>)	Used 40 times in this book.
18	A	indignant	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
19	A	feint	Used 2 times in this book.
20	A	tempered (<i>as in: tempered steel</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.