

The Longest Ride

by Nicholas Sparks

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

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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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: accumulate, acquire, agony, ambivalent, calibrate, earnest, evaluate, exasperated, function (2), imply, lilt, naive, nonetheless, recede, replenish, scrutiny, skeptical, subsequent, synagogue



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. DNA damage **accumulates** with age.
 - A. rapidly disappears
 - B. stays unchanged
 - C. gradually increases
2. They are working to **acquire** nuclear weapons.
 - A. obtain (get)
 - B. eliminate (get rid of)
 - C. disguise or hide
3. She cried out in **agony**.
 - A. sudden surprise
 - B. intense anger
 - C. intense suffering
4. She is **ambivalent** about attending college.
 - A. especially happy
 - B. with mixed feelings
 - C. especially worried
5. The sensor needs to be **calibrated** in extreme weather.
 - A. finely adjusted
 - B. used carefully
 - C. protected
6. She has a casual, go-with-the-flow personality and doesn't appreciate his **earnestness**.
 - A. frivolous attitude
 - B. seriousness
 - C. falseness
7. I'm **evaluating** job options.
 - A. considering
 - B. creating
 - C. avoiding
8. My little brother can be **exasperating**. He's always testing his boundaries.
 - A. very active
 - B. endearing (lovable)
 - C. greatly annoying
9. My brain does not **function** as well when I'm under stress.
 - A. work
 - B. feel
 - C. have fun
10. Expertise is largely a **function** of hours spent on task.
 - A. social event
 - B. purpose or job
 - C. result
11. She **implied** that she would vote with us.
 - A. hinted
 - B. insisted
 - C. denied
12. Her grandmother spoke with a soft Irish lilt that charmed everyone.
 - A. a melodic rhythm
 - B. a harsh tone
 - C. a loud bark

13. Being naive, she is too quick to believe what people say.
A. honest
B. a pleaser
C. too trusting
14. The class was hard. It was nonetheless my favorite.
A. despite that
B. because of that
C. for that reason
15. The pain is beginning to recede.
A. get worse
B. return again
C. diminish (decrease)
16. After a hard workout, it's good to replenish the water and nutrients your body used up.
A. consider
B. measure
C. replace
17. The new policy faced scrutiny from independent reviewers.
A. strong support
B. quick approval
C. careful examination
18. She is skeptical about the project.
A. doubtful
B. keeping silent
C. excited
19. The results of the initial investigation were unclear, but a subsequent investigation concluded that she used good judgment.
A. thorough
B. official
C. following
20. In his speech at the synagogue, the President repeated that the United States will support Israel.
A. Jewish school
B. Jewish house of worship
C. universal religious building

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 He wasn't **naive**, though.
 - A. the quality of being characterized by fantastic imagery, or combinations of things and events that don't go together
 - B. the degree of being influenced by personal belief, feelings, or preferences (rather than being based purely upon fact)
 - C. lacking experience or sophistication, and the understanding that comes from them -- often too trusting or optimistic
- 2 He began to attend **synagogue** regularly with my mother—I'll get to her later—and offered financial support to numerous Jewish causes.
 - A. a particular way of seeing or thinking about things
 - B. a place of worship for a people of the Jewish faith
 - C. collection of star systems held together by gravity
- 3 Though it sends up flares of **agony**, I try the windshield wipers, expecting nothing, but a moment later they push at the snow, leaving a thin layer of ice in their wake.
 - A. size or dimension
 - B. circular movement
 - C. intense suffering
- 4 I breathe evenly, trying to keep the tears at bay, and when it finally **recedes**, I feel exhausted.
 - A. examines in detail to better understand
 - B. protects something or keeps it as it is
 - C. moves away or diminishes (becomes less)
- 5 "Yes," she says, a mischievous **lilt** in her voice.
 - A. pleasing way of speaking
 - B. learn, discover, or decide in advance
 - C. protect something or keep it as it is
- 6 Sophia made a **skeptical** face from her bed, where she was halfheartedly reviewing some Renaissance history notes.
 - A. doubtful (that something is true or worthwhile)

or more rarely:

generally tending to doubt what others believe

 - B. the quality of being characterized by fantastic imagery, or combinations of things and events that don't go together
 - C. related to the branch of medicine that deals with the diseases of women -- especially those of the reproductive organs
- 7 Marcia fixed her with an **earnest** expression.
 - A. impossible to find
 - B. sincere or serious
 - C. good or beneficial
- 8 He'd heard the announcer talking about his injury and **subsequent** hiatus as he was getting ready in the chute.
 - A. able to take on or adopt
 - B. the state of being awake
 - C. following something else
- 9 At the time, I felt **ambivalent** about this.
 - A. not straightforward
 - B. with mixed feelings
 - C. not done on purpose

- 10 *Her voice was starting to **acquire** a bitter edge.*
A. obtain (come into the possession of something)
B. something that is necessary for something else
C. a slight amount; or to contain a slight amount
- 11 *After breakfast, Luke chopped wood for an hour and a half, **replenishing** the pile on the side of his mom's house.*
A. ignoring someone's wishes or causing inconvenience or discomfort
B. legally ordering to provide documents, or to appear as a witness
C. replacing what was used up; or restoring to a previous condition
- 12 ***Nonetheless**, he had to admit he was nervous at the prospect of her visit.*
A. in spite of that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
C. therefore (for that reason)
- 13 *She **evaluated** his answer, remembering that he'd said the same thing last night—when he'd won.*
A. thought carefully and made a judgment about
B. began speaking with someone about something
C. made appropriate in size, amount, or degree
- 14 *Why do I get the sense that you're a lot better than you're **implying**?*
A. suggesting (saying indirectly)
B. going back to a previous state
C. acting in an official capacity
- 15 *I flew my first solo there, and within three months I had **accumulated** enough hours in the air to move to the next stage of training at Gardner Field in Taft.*
A. caused something to move forward
B. not found, sought, or researched
C. collected or gradually increased
- 16 *But as far as she could tell, their **scrutiny** had no effect on him.*
A. the best or most important
B. a secret agreement or plot
C. careful look or inspection
- 17 *The room was **functional** and unpretentious, devoid of trophies or awards or laminated articles.*
A. useful for its purpose
B. the state or degree of agreeing or approving
C. exceedingly important, serious, or dangerous
- 18 *The fact that he didn't win in Macon wasn't a reflection of how well he rode, but rather a **function** of the quality of the bulls.*
A. the highest-ranking manager
B. a long uninterrupted speech
C. result
- 19 *She couldn't hide her **exasperation**.*
A. relative amount
B. in disagreement
C. great annoyance
- 20 *His dad had **calibrated** the machine for these longer rides, saying that it would make the live rides easier by comparison.*
A. make fine adjustments or measurements; or divide into marked intervals for optimal measuring;
B. separated two things to prevent passage of something such as heat, cold, noise, or electricity
C. interfered (in another's affairs or business); or handled (something that shouldn't be handled)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	naive	Used 5 times in this book.
2	B	synagogue	Used 12 times in this book.
3	C	agony	Used 10 times in this book.
4	C	recede	Used 5 times in this book.
5	A	lilt (<i>as in: an Irish lilt</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
6	A	skeptical	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
7	B	earnest	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
8	C	subsequent	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
9	B	ambivalent	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
10	A	acquire	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
11	C	replenish	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
12	A	nonetheless	Used 11 times in this book.
13	A	evaluate	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
14	A	imply	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
15	C	accumulate	Used 4 times in this book.
16	C	scrutiny	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
17	A	function (<i>as in: can't function well without sleep</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	C	function (<i>as in: oxygen is a function of altitude</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
19	C	exasperated	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
20	A	calibrate	Used 2 times in this book.