

The Lords of Discipline

by Pat Conroy

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

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: abide (2), alcove, cadence, contemptible, conviction, cunning, formidable, grotesque, irrelevant, luxuriant, melancholy, resolute, sinister, sublime (2), swagger, transfigure, tyranny, unconscionable



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. He couldn't **abide** their religious intolerance.
 - A. put up with
 - B. criticize
 - C. understand
2. Our love is deep and **abiding**.
 - A. growing
 - B. tolerant
 - C. long-lasting
3. We shared an intimate dinner in one of the restaurant's **alcoves**.
 - A. outdoor patios
 - B. spacious rooms
 - C. recessed or secluded spaces
4. The poem has a steady **cadence** that makes it easy to read aloud.
 - A. rhythm
 - B. volume
 - C. meaning
5. She is a **contemptible** liar.
 - A. good (at pretending)
 - B. deserving no respect
 - C. unreliable
6. She stood up in class with total **conviction** and said, "I believe animals deserve to be treated kindly, no matter what."
 - A. raised voice
 - B. firm belief
 - C. shaky voice
7. The worst mix -- greedy, cunning, and without morals.
 - A. stupid and impatient
 - B. clever and deceitful
 - C. strong and cruel
8. The challenge is **formidable**.
 - A. trivial
 - B. understood
 - C. intimidating
9. The disease causes **grotesque** deformity.
 - A. hidden (internal)
 - B. as from aging
 - C. ugly or distorted
10. The writer should delete the sentence because it provides background information that is **irrelevant** to the paragraph.
 - A. confusing
 - B. unimportant
 - C. too wordy
11. Beavers were hunted nearly to extinction for their **luxuriant** fur.
 - A. thick and abundant
 - B. scarce (rare)
 - C. dark brown

12. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
A. happy
B. sad
C. feel like singing
13. Despite the criticism, she remained **resolute** in her decision to speak out.
A. hopeful
B. determined and unwavering
C. out of touch with reality
14. In the movie, there was a **sinister** plot to kill people and harvest their organs.
A. complicated
B. evil
C. clever
15. We found a **sublime** seaside bed and breakfast.
A. wonderful
B. shabby
C. old
16. With **sublime** stubbornness, she refused to see that the project could not succeed.
A. newly developed
B. pure or extreme
C. optimistic
17. The cowboy **swaggered** into the saloon with his holster unstrapped.
A. limped with difficulty
B. walked confidently
C. snuck
18. She was **transfigured** by a spiritual awakening.
A. barely affected
B. deeply confused
C. completely changed
19. Pure democracy (without protection of minority rights) can become **tyranny** of the majority.
A. a situation in which a difficult choice must be made between imperfect alternatives
B. a form of government where some people control others in a harsh, unfair manner
C. a form of government that is fair because decisions are made by majority vote
20. She described the monitoring of sermons as unconstitutional and **unconscionable**.
A. unreasonable or immoral
B. dull (uninteresting and unimpactful)
C. confidently optimistic and cheerful

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 To walk in the spire-proud shade of Church Street is to experience the chronicle of a mythology that is particular to this city and this city alone, a trinitarian mythology with equal parts of the **sublime**, the mysterious, and the grotesque.
 - A. wonderful
 - B. mirror back (an image)
 - C. create dramatic change
- 2 I think it's this sense of **sublime** order that offends you, Will.
 - A. help make clear
 - B. extreme
 - C. work or operate
- 3 The city, river-girt, has a **tyrannical** need for order and symmetry.
 - A. likely to change
 - B. harsh and unjust
 - C. able to be found
- 4 The adversary who is truly **formidable** is the one who works within the fortress walls, singing pleasant songs while licking honey off knives.
 - A. the quality of disagreeing
 - B. the quality of being Dutch
 - C. intimidating or impressive
- 5 The frozen, unconvincing smile is an expression of almost incomprehensible **melancholy**.
 - A. relating to the outside
 - B. a sad feeling or manner
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 6 This was the story he would tell: At the Institute the making of men was a kind of **grotesque** artistry.
 - A. clarifies (makes clear)
 - B. beautifies
 - C. distorted and unnatural in shape or size -- especially in a disturbing way

or:

ugly, gross, or very wrong
- 7 In Charleston, more than elsewhere, you get the feeling that the twentieth century is a vast, **unconscionable** mistake.
 - A. excessively unreasonable or immoral
 - B. in a manner that takes on or adopts
 - C. full of strong desire for something
- 8 It was an education she gladly shared with me, and though I had no **abiding** interest in interior or exterior design, her enthusiasm was catching.
 - A. taking on or adopting
 - B. suggesting indirectly
 - C. long-lasting
- 9 It was the system and we had all agreed to **abide** by its laws.
 - A. live (follow, or comply with)
 - B. disagree
 - C. subtract
- 10 He gave me a look that linked us as spiritual allies, **resolute** desperadoes in headlong flight from the false and sinister veneer of Charleston.
 - A. able to be understood or explained
 - B. firm in purpose, belief, or action
 - C. aware or concerned about something

- 11 *He gave me a look that linked us as spiritual allies, resolute desperadoes in headlong flight from the false and **sinister** veneer of Charleston.*
- A. not able to be disagreed with
 - B. evil, harmful, or frightening
 - C. not thoughtful about the past
- 12 *I was sitting at my desk in the rear of the **alcove** shining my inspection shoes when I heard the door open and Mark Santoro come into the room.*
- A. a room leading to a larger or more important room
 - B. extensive plain without trees (associated with eastern Russia and Siberia)
 - C. a recessed or secluded space -- such as in a room or garden
- 13 *The air filled up with the rhythm of **cadence**.*
- A. rhythm or recurring pattern
 - B. tone or pitch
 - C. low volume
- 14 *There was a **swaggering** cockiness to his walk, and he strutted like an imperfect cross between a pit bull and a bird of paradise.*
- A. giving an opinion of what is wrong with something
 - B. walking and behaving in a highly confident manner
 - C. expressing regret for having done something wrong
- 15 *I am a member-in-good-standing of that **contemptible** race and I cannot help it.*
- A. the quality or degree of not being straightforward
 - B. deserving no respect (worthless or of bad quality)
 - C. aka analytic -- relating to a theory of psychiatry
- 16 *She removed her scarf and her long blonde hair fell **luxuriantly** to her shoulders.*
- A. characterized by growing well or being richly thick or abundant -- as of vegetation or hair
- or (more rarely):
- characterized by luxury (very comfortable or extravagant)
 - B. in a manner not appearing dangerous, but actually very harmful over time OR treacherously (in a dangerous manner due to trickery or from hidden or unpredictable risks)
 - C. in a manner that is related to relating to existentialism -- a philosophical movement that assumes each person is free to determine what is essential in their existence
- 17 *At the Institute, I had learned to be cautious, to distrust the insistence of my own **convictions**, to cover my tracks, to walk invisibly through the Corps, without drawing too much attention to myself.*
- A. not working or not operating
 - B. a strong, firmly held belief
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 18 *I reeled sideways but fell into the **cunning**, waiting shout of another, and he screamed me back to the other one.*
- A. related to the natural world (life, air, water, land...)
 - B. good at achieving goals through cleverness and deception
 - C. relating to logical examination to improve understanding
- 19 *It is a precious, world-transfiguring stare when a girl looks at you with love in her eyes for the first time.*
- A. causing to happen -- especially something that is damaging and uncontrollable
 - B. very surprising -- often too surprising that you don't know what to say or do
 - C. change completely the nature or appearance of -- especially in a positive way
- 20 *It is **irrelevant** to discuss what Mr. Pignetti might have stolen.*
- A. a person who works from within to destroy an established order; or relating to such destructive efforts
 - B. not relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
 - C. the character or degree of bouncing back light (or more rarely: heat, sound, electromagnetic waves...)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	sublime (<i>as in: she is sublime</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
2	B	sublime (<i>as in: sublime ignorance</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
3	B	tyranny	Used 9 times in this book.
4	C	formidable	Used 10 times in this book.
5	B	melancholy	Used 15 times in this book.
6	C	grotesque	Used 12 times in this book.
7	A	unconscionable	Used 6 times in this book.
8	C	abide (<i>as in: an abiding desire to</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
9	A	abide (<i>as in: abide by her decision</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
10	B	resolute	Used 13 times in this book.
11	B	sinister	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
12	C	alcove	Used 24 times in this book.
13	A	cadence	Used 12 times in this book.
14	B	swagger	Used 12 times in this book.
15	B	contemptible	Used 6 times in this book.
16	A	luxuriant	Used 5 times in this book.
17	B	conviction (<i>as in: spoke with conviction</i>)	Used 14 times in this book.
18	B	cunning (<i>as in: a cunning thief</i>)	Used 12 times in this book.
19	C	transfigure	Used 6 times in this book.
20	B	irrelevant	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.