

The Lost Boy

by Dave Pelzer

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: acquire, adapt, animate, badger, climax, comprehend, conviction, critique, establish, focus (2), immaculate, morsel, naive, persist, prejudice, probation, quiver, sufficient, validate



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	B
6	A
7	B
8	C
9	C
10	A
11	C
12	B
13	A
14	C
15	B
16	C
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. They are working to **acquire** nuclear weapons.
 - A. obtain (get)
 - B. eliminate (get rid of)
 - C. disguise or hide
2. This passage is **adapted** from Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* ©1952.
 - A. copied
 - B. read
 - C. changed
3. Have you seen the **animated** version of *Lord of the Rings*.
 - A. translated
 - B. moving cartoon
 - C. edited (to make shorter)
4. It's not helpful if you belittle and **badger** her until she is too defensive to rationally discuss the issue.
 - A. criticize
 - B. hit
 - C. annoy
5. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* reaches its climax when Harry enters the chamber of secrets.
 - A. most surprising part
 - B. most intense part
 - C. most thoughtful part
6. Washington fails to **comprehend** the change in China's strategy.
 - A. fully understand
 - B. regard respectfully
 - C. respond adequately to
7. 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
8. Her **critique** of the editorial prompted a spirited discussion about economic policy.
 - A. approval and recommendation
 - B. reading aloud
 - C. analysis and judgment
9. The sixth paragraph (lines 67–68) is primarily concerned with **establishing** the contrast between men and masculine traits.
 - A. minimizing
 - B. exaggerating
 - C. showing
10. This week, I'm **focusing** on finishing my research paper.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help
11. The discussion brought into focus an important difference of opinion.
 - A. hiding
 - B. conflict
 - C. view

12. Her timing and technique were immaculate.
A. terrible
B. perfect
C. adequate
13. She offered the hungry dog a small morsel of bread from her plate.
A. small bit of food
B. large dinner plate
C. kitchen utensil
14. Being naive, she is too quick to believe what people say.
A. honest
B. a pleaser
C. too trusting
15. We expect the conditions to persist into next year.
A. grow worse
B. continue
C. go away
16. Seeing the defendant wear prison clothes may prejudice the jury against the defendant.
A. create a sympathetic belief in
B. create a serious attitude in
C. create an unfair belief in
17. She didn't adjust to college freedoms and now must pass academic probation or be expelled in the Fall.
A. period of supervision
B. honors recognition
C. scholarship offer
18. Her hands began to quiver as she opened the envelope.
A. slightly shake
B. tightly grip
C. quickly move
19. Is there sufficient cause for a search warrant?
A. adequate (enough)
B. clear or obvious
C. dangerous
20. The test results validated her theory about the chemical reaction.
A. completely contradicted
B. confirmed the truth of
C. barely addressed

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 I climbed into garbage cans to hunt for a **morsel** of food.
 - A. small quantity
 - B. big chunk
 - C. wasted portion
- 2 The closer The Mother came, the more her red face, filled with hatred, came into **focus**.
 - A. software that stops unwanted software from spreading between computers and causing damage to data and software
 - B. a condition where the body cannot properly regulate blood sugar levels because it produces little or no insulin
 - C. view (a state where something can be seen clearly)
- 3 I pocketed the change and turned my hunger off, **focusing** on shelter instead.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. adjusting a lens to make an image clear
 - C. going to the center
- 4 At Aunt Mary's my awkward sense of humor and **naive** excitability made me popular with the older foster children.
 - 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
- 5 As usual, I **adapted** quickly, and joined in the hunt whenever a child left.
 - A. gave up
 - B. changed the environment
 - C. changed to fit into the situation
- 6 His face became tight as I **badgered** him relentlessly.
 - A. with rises and falls in pitch
 - B. embarrassed or self-conscious
 - C. nagged or repeatedly bothered
- 7 John's mouth **quivered**.
 - A. to shake or tremble slightly
 - B. not working or not operating
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 8 It took several blinks of my eyes for me to **comprehend** that it was Lilian's face, and not Mother's, that I was gawking at.
 - A. understand -- especially to understand it completely
 - B. to concentrate, look at; or the act of concentration
 - C. rug-like artwork -- often hung on a wall for display
- 9 I've spoken with Ms. Gold, and we think your mother has somehow cooked up this plan--this institution thing--to somehow **validate** everything she's ever done to you.
 - A. the right to run a local store or business under a big company's name
 - B. give evidence to support
 - C. dry out by heat or excessive exposure to sunlight; or make very thirsty
- 10 The counselors write behavior reports on you that are turned in to your **probation** officer.
 - A. a person who monitors a criminal who does not have to be in prison as long as they demonstrate good behavior and obey special restrictions
 - B. a person who monitors someone's health by checking that selected health measurements remain within specified ranges
 - C. a person who monitors someone's mental health by interviewing them and checking in with others who have contact with them

- 11 *Your Honor, while no direct corroboration has yet been made, the minor has an **established** pattern of extreme dysfunctional behavior.*
- A. accepted someone's membership though a special procedure such as a ceremony and/or period of instruction and/or test
 - B. examined an issue, got opinions by asking specific questions; and/or asked people for political support individually
 - C. demonstrated or known
- 12 *"Prior **convictions**?" he asked, as he turned to my lawyer.*
- A. not working or not operating
 - B. a strong, firmly held belief
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 13 *Thirty-four days later, I cried as I stuffed my collection of arts-and-crafts projects and the folders of schoolwork I had **acquired** into a small cardboard box.*
- A. obtained
 - B. regretted
 - C. lost
- 14 *By early afternoon I became so bored that I'd plop down in front of the television and watch Speed Racer cartoons. When I could not stand another **animated** episode, I'd drag myself to my room and kill time by coloring in a coloring book she had given me.*
- A. translated
 - B. moving cartoon
 - C. edited (to make shorter)
- 15 *"You going to be all right? You're not **prejudiced**, are you?"*
I shook my head as my mouth hung open. ... I had never had black foster parents before.
- A. unable to speak
 - B. extremely shy or insecure
 - C. having unreasonable beliefs or feelings based on race
- 16 *After every show, Alice and I went back and forth with our own **critiques**.*
- A. learns, discovers, or decides in advance
 - B. keeps away (chooses not to do something)
 - C. examinations and judgments of something
- 17 *I was pushing 16 and did not know how to cook for myself. Alice assured me that she would teach me when the time came. I **persisted**. I wanted to learn how to cook now.*
- A. waited patiently
 - B. continued despite obstacles
 - C. departed (left)
- 18 *The **immaculate** houses looked more like miniature mansions than ordinary homes,*
- A. messy or dirty
 - B. perfect (without fault or error)
 - C. immense (very large)
- 19 *The **climax** of the film was to have Dr. Strange, played by Dave, drag Bond up and down the street while Paul filmed from all angles.*
- A. treat something in an educated, intellectual way -- often excluding emotional or practical considerations
 - B. the most exciting or important part of a story, musical piece, or other thing that has a series of events
 - C. "spiritually renew" (a person) in a Christian ceremony OR initiate or purify by a challenging experience
- 20 *Many times I'd help Sandra with her housework, as I learned other ways to become self-**sufficient**.*
- A. adequate
 - B. in a manner of taking on or adopting power or responsibility
 - C. producing a stream of atomic particles through nuclear decay

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	morsel	Used 3 times in this book.
2	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
3	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	C	naïve	Used 2 times in this book.
5	C	adapt (<i>as in: adapted to the new rules</i>)	High-utility academic word
6	C	badger (<i>as in: badgered her until she agreed</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
7	A	quiver	Used 5 times in this book.
8	A	comprehend	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
9	B	validate	High-utility academic word
10	A	probation	Used 8 times in this book.
11	C	establish (<i>as in: establish that there is a need</i>)	High-utility academic word
12	B	conviction (<i>as in: spoke with conviction</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
13	A	acquire	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
14	B	animate (<i>as in: an animated cartoon</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
15	C	prejudice	Used 5 times in this book.
16	C	critique	High-utility academic word
17	B	persist	Used 3 times in this book.
18	B	immaculate (<i>as in: immaculate timing</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
19	B	climax (<i>as in: climax of the story</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
20	A	sufficient	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.