

The Lost Symbol

by Dan Brown

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: adorn, approach (2), ascend, bronze (2), conveyor belt, however (2), interpret (2), metaphor, parable, perspective (2), philanthropy, quantum, talisman, tapestry (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Flowers **adorned** all the tables.
 - A. decorated
 - B. obscured (hid)
 - C. grew under
2. I grow more nervous as the test **approaches**.
 - A. gets nearer
 - B. is remembered
 - C. continues
3. We need to **approach** this problem in a new way.
 - A. avoid
 - B. think about
 - C. assign
4. He watched the hot-air balloon **ascend** slowly into the clear morning sky.
 - A. move upward
 - B. drift downward
 - C. spin in place
5. 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
6. I saw her **bronze** hair.
 - A. reddish-brown or yellowish-brown
 - B. curly
 - C. straight
7. Most luggage **conveyor** belts work at a speed of about 1 meter/second.
 - A. a moving band or belt that transports objects
 - B. parts of a poem or song where each part consists of a fixed number of lines
 - C. things that are lacking which are needed to live in a satisfactory manner
8. 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
9. **However** we get there, the main thing is to be absolutely sure we're not late.
 - A. whatever way
 - B. even if in a non-standard manner
 - C. to whatever degree
10. She will stand to his left and **interpret** his speech into sign language.
 - A. refute (prove false)
 - B. elaborate upon
 - C. translate
11. How will a court **interpret** the word *careless* if there is a lawsuit?
 - A. understand
 - B. insist on
 - C. ignore

12. Jefferson used *a wall* as a metaphor to describe the separation of church and state.
- A. clever strategy
 - B. exaggeration
 - C. figure of speech
13. Jesus often taught using a **parable** rather than a direct lecture.
- A. scientific report
 - B. moral teaching story
 - C. long autobiography
14. Also, try to see it from her **perspective** before you make up your mind.
- A. timeframe
 - B. education level
 - C. way of looking at things
15. The clouds and turns in the trail continually change the magnificent **perspectives** while hiking in the mountains.
- A. colors seen
 - B. patterns of light
 - C. views
16. The billionaire's **philanthropy** supported hospitals around the world.
- A. selfish hoarding
 - B. charitable giving
 - C. loud boasting
17. The atom released a **quantum** of energy when the electron changed levels.
- A. large empty space
 - B. random mistake
 - C. tiny fixed amount
18. The witch wore a **talisman** around her neck which she believed protected her from evil.
- A. garlic necklace thought to have magical power
 - B. object thought to have magical power
 - C. chain thought to have magical power
19. The **tapestry** depicts the building of the Notre Dame Cathedral.
- A. story
 - B. painting
 - C. artwork
20. There are some loose threads in my childhood, but were they to be pulled out, the **tapestry** of my life would unravel.
- A. a story told chapter-by-chapter
 - B. a strong foundation made of many pieces
 - C. something consisting of many interconnected, non-mechanical parts

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 The assembly of brothers encircling him all were **adorned** in their full regalia of lambskin aprons, sashes, and white gloves.
A. decorated
B. disagreed
C. postponed
- 2 Outside the main entrance, two seventeen-ton sphinxes guarded the **bronze** doors.
A. examine in detail to better understand
B. appropriate in size, amount, or degree
C. made of a type of high-quality metal
- 3 The man's tattoos had obviously been concealed beneath **bronzing** makeup.
A. tan-colored (reddish brown)
B. recommending or requiring what should be done OR (of a medical doctor) giving medical instructions -- such as writing that a patient should take antibiotics
C. expressing of feelings or thoughts enthusiastically OR squirting or giving off (typically under pressure such as blood or leaking gas)
- 4 Langdon looked up to see a middle-aged woman with a badge and clipboard hurrying toward him, waving happily as he **approached**.
A. moved nearer
B. made possible
C. not satisfied
- 5 He was about to retool and try a different **approach** when his phone rang.
A. change the direction of something or the purpose for which it is used
B. technique (way of doing something)
C. to stick out, attract more attention than desired, or impose on others
- 6 In 2001, in the hours following the horrifying events of September 11, the field of Noetic Science made a **quantum** leap forward.
A. holds together (connects or unites) or wraps
B. not adjusting a lens to create a clear image
C. tiny, indivisible packet of energy or matter
- 7 So you believe this portal is a **metaphor**.
A. a melody that, after a short interval, is exactly repeated by a different instrument or voice to create competing melodic lines (a strict counterpoint)
B. law: an alternative to pleading guilty or not guilty, which says that even if the facts listed in charges are correct, they do not constitute a crime
C. a figure of speech in which a similarity between two things is highlighted by using a word to refer to something that it does not *literally* mean
- 8 A Mason with family money, interested in **philanthropy** and ancient mythology?
A. opinion of what is good and bad about something
B. helping others; or an organization that does so
C. the majority denomination of Islam (almost 90%)
- 9 Traditionally, **talismans** were used for bringing luck, warding off evil spirits, or aiding in ancient rituals.
A. sculptures or other things made of the brownish metal with the same name -- such as third place medals
B. a small object or piece of jewelry thought to have magical power -- especially to protect against evil
C. small paper forms made to lists the amount of money and each check being deposited into a bank account
- 10 Every esoteric tradition **interprets** 'the stone' in its own way, but invariably the *occultum lapidem* is a source of power and enlightenment.
A. understands (something in a particular way)
B. rug-like artworks -- often hung on a wall for display
C. admits ceremoniously into an organization or position

- 11 *At the top of the image, we have the word Heredom—the 'Holy House'—which I interpret as the House of God or heaven.*
- A. collision
 - B. stick out
 - C. translate
- 12 *His shaved head, bare chest, and makeup-smeared face had been unveiled as a terrifying tapestry of tattoos.*
- A. suffer through (or put up with something difficult or unpleasant)
 - B. communication through gestures and body movements (without words)
 - C. something consisting of many interconnected, non-mechanical parts
- 13 *On the walls hung sixteenth-century tapestries and several religious paintings.*
- A. understands or explains something in a particular way
 - B. admits ceremoniously into an organization or position
 - C. rug-like artworks
- 14 *Resembling a small airport baggage distribution center, the circulation room had numerous conveyor belts that angled off in different directions.*
- A. a moving band or belt that transports objects -- such as goods in a factory
 - B. things exclusive to (someone or some group) -- such as an activity or place
 - C. artists who created medieval European art associated with Gothic cathedrals
- 15 *Tonight, however, he was apparently in a hurry to get inside and return Warren Bellamy's phone call.*
- 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)
- 16 *Katherine interceded now, quickly explaining that despite Bellamy's warnings and her brother's request that Langdon not unwrap the package, she had done so, feeling her first priority was to help her brother however she could.*
- A. in whatever way
 - B. starts fighting
 - C. starts (a fire)
- 17 *Sometimes all it takes is a tiny shift of perspective to see something familiar in a totally new light.*
- A. collection of star systems held together by gravity
 - B. resulting from God's intervention or plan; or lucky
 - C. way of seeing and thinking about things
- 18 *Langdon had never seen the Capitol from this perspective—hovering 555 feet in the air atop America's great Egyptian obelisk.*
- A. someone who believes in doing things the way they have generally been done in the past
 - B. related to the branch of medicine concerned with the treatment of infants and children
 - C. view
- 19 *The Gospel of Mark tells us, 'Unto you is given to know the mysterybut it will be told in parable.'*
- A. relating to properties of sound or hearing
 - B. a short story told to teach a moral lesson
 - C. something accepted as true (without proof)
- 20 *Then he glanced over at a cramped stairwell that ascended from this level climbing higher still.*
- A. climbed upward
 - B. not roughly calculated
 - C. consistent or the same

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	adorn	Used 18 times in this book.
2	C	bronze (<i>as in: bronze won't corrode in salt water</i>)	Used 18 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
3	A	bronze (<i>as in: a bronze tan</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
4	A	approach (<i>as in: approached the city</i>)	Used 26 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
5	B	approach (<i>as in: use the best approach</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	C	quantum	Used 7 times in this book.
7	C	metaphor	Used 18 times in this book.
8	B	philanthropy	Used 6 times in this book.
9	B	talisman	Used 21 times in this book.
10	A	interpret (<i>as in: her interpretation of the data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	C	interpret (<i>as in: interpret Spanish to English</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
12	C	tapestry (<i>as in: the tapestry of my life</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
13	C	tapestry (<i>as in: the tapestry hangs in the museum</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	A	conveyor belt	Used 6 times in this book.
15	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	A	however (<i>as in: However you do it, get it done!</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
17	C	perspective (<i>as in: Look at it from her perspective</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	C	perspective (<i>as in: a perspective of the entire block</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
19	B	parable	Used 6 times in this book.
20	A	ascend (<i>as in: ascend the mountain</i>)	Used 24 times in this book.