

The Maze Runner

by James Dashner

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 from the Resources menu.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

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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: analyze, banish, focus (2), however (2), mock, palpable, positive (2), psychotic, resolve (2), stupor, suppress, telepathy, trace (2), trepidation, variable



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The coach studied the film to **analyze** the defensive breakdown.
 - A. avoid
 - B. examine
 - C. cause
2. I tried to **banish** the thought from my mind.
 - A. understand
 - B. collect
 - C. send away
3. This week, I'm **focusing** on finishing my research paper.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help
4. The discussion brought into **focus** an important difference of opinion.
 - A. hiding
 - B. conflict
 - C. view
5. 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
6. **However** safe we make it, there will always be risk.
 - A. on-the-other-hand
 - B. in addition
 - C. no matter how
7. American's have a hard time understanding that to **mock** Islam is to invite violence.
 - A. discriminate against
 - B. not believe in
 - C. make fun of
8. Her concern was **palpable**.
 - A. passing
 - B. laughable
 - C. very apparent
9. I'm **positive** our team will win on Friday.
 - A. happy
 - B. pretty sure
 - C. certain
10. Volunteering had a **positive** impact on the whole neighborhood.
 - A. good or beneficial
 - B. harmful or damaging
 - C. minor and unnoticed
11. During the episode, he became **psychotic** and could not tell what was real.
 - A. angry without reason
 - B. detached from reality
 - C. unusually anxious

12. I resolved to never drink again.
- A. was forced
 - B. was encouraged
 - C. firmly decided
13. She is testing my resolve to keep a good attitude.
- A. determination
 - B. ability
 - C. optimism
14. After the fever broke, she lay in a stupor and barely responded.
- A. cheerful mood
 - B. angry outburst
 - C. dazed state
15. Stalin suppressed criticism in the press.
- A. kept from spreading
 - B. caused to spread
 - C. expressed publicly
16. Though popular in fiction, telepathy does not exist in the real world.
- A. communication from one mind to another without using the known senses
 - B. improperly bold or disrespectful -- especially toward someone who is older or considered to be of higher status
 - C. unsophisticated (meant disapprovingly to refer to old-fashioned or narrow-minded attitudes and ideas)
17. The study found traces of cocaine on most \$20 bills used in large cities of the United States and Canada.
- A. tiny quantities
 - B. various types of
 - C. large amounts
18. She used a stick to trace a mysterious symbol on the sand.
- A. draw
 - B. erase
 - C. uncover
19. I'm feeling something between normal trepidation and excessive test anxiety.
- A. confidence
 - B. nervousness
 - C. sleepiness
20. Her mood was variable throughout the day, sometimes cheerful and at other times noticeably quiet.
- A. consistent
 - B. changing
 - C. improving

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 *Where this sudden courage and **resolve** came from, he had no idea.*
 - A. determination
 - B. physical strength
 - C. clear thinking
- 2 *The code seemed like their only hope now, and he **resolved** to focus on that.*
 - A. was forced
 - B. was unable
 - C. decided
- 3 *Thomas felt one final moment of **trepidation**, a quick slice of fear through his body, and then it vanished.*
 - A. a last name
 - B. nervousness
 - C. well suited
- 4 *Chuck **suppressed** a laugh by putting his hand over his mouth.*
 - A. stopped
 - B. amplified (made louder)
 - C. altered
- 5 *Everyone immediately ran forward, forming a packed crowd around her, a **palpable** excitement hovering in the air.*
 - A. not important
 - B. causing death
 - C. very apparent
- 6 *He was almost **positive** the smell would bring back some sort of pleasant memory, but nothing came.*
 - A. outside
 - B. various
 - C. certain
- 7 *Thomas waited, hoping that Newt or Alby would have a **positive** reaction to the news, maybe even have further information to shed light on the mystery.*
 - A. good
 - B. not representative
 - C. impossible to find
- 8 *He squinted, trying to make out what was on the other side, then gasped when it came into **focus**.*
 - A. close proximity
 - B. concentration
 - C. view (a state where something can be seen clearly)
- 9 *Thomas snapped out of his daze and **focused** on Newt, who'd been talking for who knew how long; Thomas hadn't heard a word of it.*
 - A. concentrated
 - B. began again
 - C. jumped
- 10 *And then, as if his brain were **mocking** him, trying to make it worse, he had a thought.*
 - A. concentrating
 - B. bouncing back
 - C. making fun of
- 11 *But now he was gone, **Banished** to the world of the Grievers, taken to wherever they took their prey, victim to whatever was done there.*
 - A. sent (on a mission of exploration)
 - B. dead
 - C. expelled from the community

- 12 *And what if he became as psychotic as Ben?*
- A. group of people responsible for determining if early release from prison is permitted and if so, what conditions should be required of the prisoner
 - B. like someone who has lost contact with reality
 - C. inability to think clearly; or an instance of not thinking clearly; or describing parts as not fitting together in a consistent or pleasing manner
- 13 *Buy time to analyze the Maze.*
- A. restore
 - B. examine to better understand
 - C. predict
- 14 *They got to work, tracing from original Maps to wax paper, one by one, trying to keep it clean and correct while hurrying as fast as possible.*
- A. copying
 - B. switching
 - C. looking
- 15 *"The code?" Frypan repeated, his voice lighting up with a trace of hope.*
- A. small sign or indication
 - B. overwhelming amount
 - C. copy
- 16 *I think someone altered our brains, put something in there so we could do this telepathy thing.*
- A. communication without using the known senses
 - B. lymph node -- one of many bean-sized organs that filter bacteria and other toxins from circulating white-blood-cell filled lymph fluid
 - C. when what happens is very different than what might be expected; or when things are together that seem like they don't belong together
- 17 *Like I said, they wanted to test us, see how we'd react to what they call the Variables, and to a problem that has no solution.*
- A. someone who disturbs or annoys
 - B. things that are able to change
 - C. calculating or judging too low
- 18 *He felt the slightest hint of peace, as fleeting as it was, and tried to enjoy it for however long it might last.*
- A. lowest legal hourly pay
 - B. one mind (in agreement)
 - C. whatever length of time
- 19 *However, if there was one thing his gut told him, it was not to admit to any doubt.*
- A. though (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 20 *More pain snapped Thomas out of his stupor.*
- A. people who do not believe in the existence of god
 - B. a small facility where patients receive treatment
 - C. a state in which there is little ability to think

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	resolve (<i>as in: Her resolve weakened.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
2	C	resolve (<i>as in: I resolved to stop drinking.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	B	trepidation	Used 2 times in this book.
4	A	suppress	Used 9 times in this book.
5	C	palpable	Used 3 times in this book.
6	C	positive (<i>as in: I'm absolutely positive!</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
7	A	positive (<i>as in: had a positive effect</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	C	mock (<i>as in: don't mock me</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
11	C	banish	Used 14 times in this book.
12	B	psychotic	Used 3 times in this book.
13	B	analyze	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
14	A	trace (<i>as in: trace a picture or outline</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
15	A	trace (<i>as in: found a trace of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	A	telepathy	Used 4 times in this book.
17	B	variable	Used 8 times in this book.
18	C	however (<i>as in: However much she tried...</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
19	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	C	stupor	Used 2 times in this book.