The Moon is a Harsh Mistress

by Robert A. Heinlein

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: adapt, anarchist, conspiracy, dossier, embargo, evaluate, exile, infer, provisional, rational, redundant, repudiate, resignation (2), subversion, trajectory, unanimous, variable, yield (2)

More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. This passage is **adapted** from Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* ©1952.
   A. copied
   B. read
   C. changed

2. She didn't call herself an **anarchist**, but she refused to follow rules she saw as unfair.
   A. someone with anxiety
   B. someone against authority
   C. someone who gives advice

3. She is inclined to believe **conspiracy** theories.
   A. unproven
   B. scientific
   C. secret plot

4. I've studied her **dossier**.
   A. face
   B. file
   C. body language

5. The country placed an **embargo** on oil shipments during the conflict.
   A. ban on trade
   B. tax on trade
   C. increase in trade

6. I'm **evaluating** job options.
   A. considering
   B. creating
   C. avoiding

7. Napoleon was forced into **exile** on the island of Elba.
   A. apologizing
   B. living elsewhere
   C. hard labor

8. The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
   A. different
   B. figured out
   C. converted

9. Not all **provisional** ballots will be counted.
   A. not final
   B. fully valid
   C. already checked

10. Let's try to ignore how upset we are for a moment and think about this **rationally**.
    A. in a hurried manner
    B. in a creative manner
    C. in a reasonable manner

11. After the merger, they concluded the office was **redundant**.
    A. more than is needed or desired
    B. less than what is required
    C. exactly fitting requirements

12. The election results were a clear **repudiation** of the incumbent's policies.
    A. approval
    B. rejection
    C. explanation

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13. She said that if I don't **resign**, I will be fired.
    A. do better
    B. quit
    C. renew an agreement

14. She was **resigned** to being embarrassed by her younger brother.
    A. putting a stop
    B. resistant
    C. with acceptance

15. The novel explores the **subversion** of traditional values.
    A. overturning of order
    B. support of order
    C. creation of order

16. The rocket's **trajectory** carried it safely into orbit around the moon.
    A. speed at launch
    B. path through space
    C. weight at takeoff

17. The jury reached a **unanimous** decision after just two hours of deliberation.
    A. agreed on by all
    B. made by just one juror
    C. split nearly evenly

18. Her mood was **variable** throughout the day, sometimes cheerful and at other times noticeably quiet.
    A. consistent
    B. changing
    C. improving

19. The experiment **yielded** data that raised a new set of questions.
    A. produced
    B. destroyed
    C. slowed down

20. After the scandal, she **yielded** to public pressure and resigned her position.
    A. added
    B. gave in
    C. produced

Vocabulary in Context

The Moon is a Harsh Mistress

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

1 *Nor would he have spoken to Mike; Warden was political lawyer before* **exile**, *knew nothing about computers.*

A. (noun) something that is lighter and draws attention -- such as an area of a painting OR (verb) making something lighter -- such as an area of a painting
B. to force someone to live outside of their homeland; or living in such a condition

or more rarely: voluntary absence from a place someone would rather be
C. recommend or require what should be done OR (of a medical doctor) give medical instructions -- such as writing that a patient should take antibiotics

2 **Embargo**, *utter and absolute.*

A. an official ban or restriction -- especially a government-imposed trade barrier
B. portray or create in a particular way OR interpret, translate, or extract from
C. to release from slavery or servitude; or (metaphorically) from social restraints

3 *Must be* **unanimous**.

A. with everyone in agreement
B. able to meet and talk with
C. the quality of disagreeing

4 *I* **infer** *from the anechoic quality of his voice that he is speaking under a hush hood.*

A. take up or receive into heaven
B. conclude or guess by reasoning
C. hire, reserve, book, or occupy

5 *The trouble with* **conspiracies** *is that they rot internally.*

A. things taken on or adopted
B. reason for doing something
C. secret agreements or plots

6 *"Mannie," said Wyoh, "that's a most self-centered* **evaluation**."

A. the process of thinking carefully and making a judgment about something
B. the act of finding fault and telling others; or a description of faults
C. an international boundary or a wilderness at the edge of a settled area

7 *I'm a rational* **anarchist**.

A. involvement in or the suggestion that someone was involved
B. someone who favors eliminating all government or authority
C. of Norway, Sweden, Denmark and sometimes Finland & Iceland

8 *Mike amigo mio, there should be in that file a* **dossier** *on me.*

A. to find someone blameless; or to forgive OR the words by which a clergyman pronounces someone forgiven by the church
B. a collection of papers containing detailed information about a particular person or subject -- often a person's record
C. a small hole or a series of small holes such as are used to make it easy to tear a piece of paper along a specific line

9 *Mike's "head" works faster; he answered, "The concussion of a hundred-tonne mass on Terra approaches the* **yield** *of a two-kilotonne atomic bomb."*

A. production
B. stop (something from happening)
C. think deeply or carefully about

10 *During evening session Prof reported on trip and then* **yielded** *to me—Committee Chairman Korsakov consenting—so that I could report what "five-year plan" meant and how Authority had tried to bribe me.*

A. with rises and falls in pitch
B. gave in, gave way, or gave up
C. embarrassed or self-conscious

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11 *As Prof says, a society* adapts *to fact, or doesn't survive.*

A. makes different; or shows difference
B. declares invalid; or ends or cancels
C. changes to fit a different situation

12 *After we decided that Mike should talk voice-to-voice to any comrade under some circumstances, it was necessary to give him more voices and dress him up, make him three dimensions, create "Adam Selene, Chairman of the* Provisional *Committee of Free Luna."*

A. temporary; or in effect while awaiting approval or a more permanent solution
B. the state or degree of having the ability to change for different situations
C. the quality of behaving in an instinctive, uninhibited, and unplanned manner

13 *No* subversive *literature was ever in her shop, nor our home, nor that hotel room; distribution was done by kids, too young to read.*

A. intended to undermine a government
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...)

14 *Then I had seen her at end in free* trajectory*—curled into ball in air and had hit a yellow jacket in knees, he whose jaw I broke a moment later.*

A. something that encourages something else to happen; or the process of something being encouraged
B. the path followed by an object moving through space

or:

the path of any sequence of events
C. a colonnade (series of regularly spaced columns) surrounding a building or enclosing a courtyard

15 *Give a computer enough groups and a* rational *theory involving meanings or subjects for meanings, and it will eventually worry it out because meanings themselves will show patterns.*

A. very large
B. related to
C. reasonable

16 *Any method of communication needs* redundancy*, or information can be lost.*

A. a secondary component designed to work if the primary component fails
B. a person with or something related to an eating disorder in which overeating is followed by guilt and unhealthy attempts at correction -- especially self-induced vomiting
C. a musical play with orchestra in which most of the dialogue is sung (or the art form that consists of such musicals; or describing something as related to that art form)

17 *To Mike, whole world was* variable *series of electrical pulses, sent or received or chasing around his innards.*

A. unable to find
B. able to change
C. very important

18 *If we ever managed to leave, price to lift that mass to Luna would hurt--I was* resigned *to abandoning a p-suit with years more wear in it*

A. to be or to become used to (adapted to and with an expectation of)
B. showed something -- such as demonstrated, expressed, or represented
C. accept something undesired as unavoidable or the lesser of evils

19 *What you are doing is forcing me to* resign*.*

A. draw
B. quit (a job)
C. rule

20 *Sir, if nominated, I shall* repudiate *it.*

A. work or operate
B. strongly reject
C. help make clear

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	exile	Used 10 times in this book.
2	A	embargo	Used 11 times in this book.
3	A	unanimous	Used 10 times in this book.
4	B	infer	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
5	C	conspiracy	Used 11 times in this book.
6	A	evaluate	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
7	B	anarchist	Used 9 times in this book.
8	B	dossier	Used 5 times in this book.
9	A	yield *(as in: will yield valuable data)*	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	yield *(as in: yield to pressure)*	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	C	adapt *(as in: adapted to the new rules)*	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
12	A	provisional	Used 6 times in this book.
13	A	subversion	Used 15 times in this book.
14	B	trajectory	Used 11 times in this book.
15	C	rational *(as in: rational behavior)*	Used 8 times in this book.
16	A	redundant	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
17	B	variable	Used 8 times in this book.
18	C	resignation *(as in: accepted it with resignation)*	Used 6 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
19	B	resignation *(as in: submitted her resignation)*	2 meanings in this book.
20	B	repudiate	Used 3 times in this book.

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