

The One and Only Ivan

"the story" – "check marks" (vignettes 74–109)

by Katherine Applegate

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: apiece, bellow, crumple, dozing, flicker, gaze, glares, inspect, plod, protesting

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · "hello" – "lucky" (vignettes 1–32) · Ivan and the Big Top Mall

Section 2 · "arrival" – "worry" (vignettes 33–47) · A new arrival at the mall

Section 3 · "the promise" – "a bad dream" (vignettes 48–73) · Ivan makes a promise to Stella

Section 4 · "the story" – "check marks" (vignettes 74–109) · Ivan begins a secret project

Section 5 · "free ruby" – "silverback" (vignettes 110–153) · Protesters gather at the mall

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The tickets cost ten dollars **apiece** at the door.
 - A. for all of them together
 - B. for each one
 - C. after a small discount
2. The coach began to **bellow** orders across the field.
 - A. to speak in a rushed, nervous way
 - B. to call out in a cheerful voice
 - C. to shout in a loud, deep voice
3. The note began to **crumple** in his tight fist.
 - A. to grow damp and soggy
 - B. to tear into ragged pieces
 - C. to crush into wrinkles
4. Grandpa was **dozing** in his chair after lunch.
 - A. sleeping lightly
 - B. in a deep, heavy sleep
 - C. daydreaming while awake
5. For a **flicker** of a second, I thought I saw him.
 - A. a very brief moment
 - B. a soft, wavering glow
 - C. a flash of bright light
6. I **gaze** at the painting, taking in every detail.
 - A. to look at steadily
 - B. to search around for
 - C. to glance at quickly
7. Whenever I interrupt, my sister **glares** at me.
 - A. glances shyly at someone
 - B. stares angrily at someone
 - C. winks playfully at someone
8. Officials came to **inspect** the new bridge before it opened.
 - A. to give a tour of a place
 - B. to examine closely and officially
 - C. to make repairs to something
9. We had to **plod** home through the deep, wet snow.
 - A. to march in a proud, stiff way
 - B. to wander without a clear path
 - C. to walk with slow, heavy steps
10. Crowds were **protesting** outside city hall all afternoon.
 - A. publicly objecting to something
 - B. gathering to hear a speech
 - C. waiting in a long line

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

make amends — make up for a wrong

picking up the slack — doing her share of the work

keep a low profile — avoid drawing attention

Rembrandt — famous painter of long ago

Picasso — world-famous painter

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	C
4	A
5	A
6	A
7	B
8	B
9	C
10	A

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 *"In the flicker of time it takes a snake's tongue to taste the air, he could taste revenge."*

As used in the passage, the word 'flicker' most nearly means...

- A. a flash of bright light
- B. a very brief moment
- C. a soft, wavering glow

6 *"One by one, I shove pictures through the window crack. They crumple and tear."*

Ivan keeps shoving pictures out even as they crumple. It can be inferred that he...

- A. feels a desperate need to get them out
- B. is angry and wants to ruin them
- C. wants to keep them hidden away

2 *"I don't want them to end up in the gift store, selling for twenty dollars apiece (twenty-five with frame)."*

According to the passage, Ivan fears the gift store would sell the pictures for...

- A. twenty dollars for the frame alone
- B. twenty dollars for each one
- C. twenty dollars for the whole set

7 *"I screech and bellow. I beat and beat and beat my chest. Bob hides under Not-Tag, his paws over his ears. I'm angry, at last. I have someone to protect."*

In the passage, Ivan who screeches and bellows is characterized as...

- A. scared of the sudden noise
- B. playful and showing off
- C. fierce and ready to protect

3 *"I watch Ruby plod around the ring in endless circles, going nowhere."*

From the way Ruby plods around the ring, it can reasonably be inferred that she is...

- A. excited to perform her act
- B. worn out and discouraged
- C. nervous around new visitors

8 *"He answers it, red-faced and sweating. 'What the —' he demands. He glares at me."*

When Mack glares at Ivan, it can reasonably be inferred that Mack...

- A. blames Ivan for his trouble
- B. is frightened of Ivan
- C. is proud of the Ivan's success

4 *"They pause to watch two sleepy-eyed cats, huge and striped, dozing in long grass."*

According to the passage, the two huge striped cats are...

- A. sleeping lightly in the grass
- B. prowling through the tall grass
- C. watching the people walk by

9 *"More people with signs come today. They want Ruby to be free. ... Mack says they're protesting the wrong guy."*

When Mack says they are protesting 'the wrong guy,' it can be inferred that Mack...

- A. thinks he is being unfairly blamed
- B. is happy the signs bring crowds
- C. agrees that Ruby should go free

5 *"I gaze at the elephants, and then I look over at Ruby, small and alone."*

As used in the passage, the word 'gaze' most nearly means...

- A. to glance at quickly
- B. to peek at shyly
- C. to look at steadily

10 *"A tall man with a clipboard and pencil comes to visit. He says he is here to inspect the property."*

According to the passage, the tall man says he has come to...

- A. buy the place from its owner
- B. make repairs around the place
- C. look the place over closely

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	Students may know 'flicker' as a wavering light; here it means a very brief instant of time.
2	B	
3	B	
4	A	
5	C	
6	A	
7	C	
8	A	The unnamed 'he' is Mack, fielding the first call about the billboard.
9	A	
10	C	

Teacher Context: “the story” – “check marks” (vignettes 74–109)

Ivan hatches and secretly carries out a plan, painting many small sheets that together form a message, and Julia helps reveal it, turning Ivan into a local celebrity 'ape artist' who draws media attention. Break falls just before the public campaign for Ruby swells.