

The Other Wes Moore

by Wes Moore

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: affluent, apartheid, apathy, assume (2), contemporary (2), decisive (2), dynamic, dynamics, engage, engaged, establish (2), focus (2), however (2), mentor



More Vocabulary Printables

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(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	C
3	A
4	B
5	A
6	A
7	B
8	A
9	A
10	C
11	A
12	B
13	A
14	B
15	C
16	A
17	C
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. Although she doesn't earn much money, she was raised in an **affluent** household.
 - A. wealthy
 - B. poor
 - C. middle-class
2. Nelson Mandela fought against **apartheid** and became a symbol of justice and equality.
 - A. a legal system that give equal rights to all citizens
 - B. a tradition that celebrates cultural differences
 - C. a system that unfairly treats people of a different race
3. Until she learned to motivate herself, **apathy** led to bad grades.
 - A. lack of interest
 - B. lack of ability
 - C. distraction
4. The detective had no concrete evidence, but he began to **assume** the suspect was hiding something based on his evasive answers.
 - A. wonder if
 - B. believe
 - C. prove
5. She thinks the aliens can **assume** human form.
 - A. take on
 - B. sense
 - C. believe
6. We're visiting the Museum of Contemporary Art.
 - A. belonging to the present time
 - B. deserving contemplation
 - C. using contrasting colors
7. The composer Salieri was **contemporary** with Mozart.
 - A. of similar talent
 - B. of the same time
 - C. often in disagreement
8. Tonight, they play the **decisive** game seven of the series.
 - A. determining an outcome
 - B. hardest so far
 - C. most watched
9. We need a **decisive** leader who can act quickly without losing time in consultation.
 - A. unhesitating
 - B. intelligent
 - C. popular
10. She is a **dynamic** candidate.
 - A. careful and quiet
 - B. polite and reserved
 - C. energetic and enthusiastic
11. She is a specialist in fluid **dynamics**.
 - A. the interaction of all the forces influencing a system
 - B. limitations; or things that limit action or motion
 - C. things that are explosive or highly flammable

12. At the time, she was engaged in a research project at Stanford.
- A. a candidate
 - B. involved
 - C. promised to marry
13. They knew each other for three years before they became engaged.
- A. in an agreement to marry
 - B. angry at each other
 - C. co-workers
14. Which word choice would help to establish a serious tone.
- A. avoid
 - B. create
 - C. increase
15. The sixth paragraph (lines 67–68) is primarily concerned with establishing the contrast between men and masculine traits.
- A. minimizing
 - B. exaggerating
 - C. showing
16. This week, I'm focusing on finishing my research paper.
- A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help
17. The discussion brought into focus an important difference of opinion.
- A. hiding
 - B. conflict
 - C. view
18. 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
19. 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
20. The famous professor mentored her during her years in graduate school.
- A. graded essays by
 - B. personally advised
 - C. lectured to

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 book is broken up into eight chapters, corresponding to eight years that had a **decisive** impact on our respective lives.
 - A. determining an outcome
 - B. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions
 - C. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired
- 2 Their **decisive** movements showed they knew exactly where to go and what they were looking for.
 - A. ability to make quick decisions
 - B. made by humans -- often to replace something that can be found in nature
 - C. the quality or degree of straightness, or absence of anything in between
- 3 Despite the quick **engagement**, they waited two years to get married, by which time Joy was a junior and Bill a recent graduate looking for work.
 - A. agreement to marry
 - B. person, organization, or anything with a separate existence
 - C. the process or result of learning, discovering, or deciding
- 4 I have fought battles I should not have **engaged** in, and walked away from causes that needed and deserved a champion.
 - A. studying
 - B. been involved
 - C. promised to marry
- 5 Marriage brought the sobering realities of life 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)
- 6 When I returned to the States, I interned in Washington, D.C., **focusing** on homeland security issues.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. making someone want to do something
 - C. stopping (something from happening)
- 7 But his face was unshaven, his clothes disheveled, his name unfamiliar, his address not in an **affluent** area.
 - A. people who are, or the condition of being, wealthy
 - B. aka analytic -- relating to a theory of psychiatry
 - C. the trait of being difficult to meet and talk with
- 8 Fear and **apathy** had become the new norm in what had once been a close-knit community.
 - A. lack of interest and enthusiasm
 - B. poor ability to make a decision
 - C. non-traditional or non-standard
- 9 One Sunday, they entered Mount Horeb Church in St. James Parish and were immediately impressed by the young, **dynamic** pastor, Josiah Thomas.
 - A. able to be translated
 - B. exactness or accuracy
 - C. energetic and enthusiastic
- 10 But even that **dynamic** wasn't unique; the same thing was happening in Wes's neighborhood, where Hopkins was the driving force of change, aimed at improving the quality of life for students and faculty.
 - A. interaction of forces influencing a system
 - B. an electronic component that acts like a one-way valve
 - C. any substance that tends to increase the flow of urine
- 11 The man who **mentored**— and clothed—my grandfather followed his dreams and made history.
 - A. not disagreed with
 - B. provided guidance to someone less experienced
 - C. worked or operated

- 12 *The Dutch Reformed Church, born in the Netherlands during the Reformation, had spread throughout Europe and around the world, and even eventually became the official religion of apartheid South Africa.*
- A. a legal system that give equal rights to all citizens
 - B. a tradition that celebrates cultural differences
 - C. a system that unfairly treats people of a different race
- 13 *The deeper bruise, however, Mary could do nothing about.*
- 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)
- 14 *If I find anything out, I will tell you, and I will cooperate however I can, but right now I don't need to be questioned like I did something wrong.*
- A. in whatever way
 - B. starts fighting
 - C. starts (a fire)
- 15 *As we stared at the markups on the wall, admiring the work of some of our contemporaries, Shea reached over his shoulder, pulled the backpack in front of him, and slowly unzipped it.*
- A. dreamlike states of altered consciousness
 - B. people of about the same age
 - C. works of fiction depicting a bleak future
- 16 *The plaid suits with large collars, the bushy mustaches and overdue haircuts, and the thick knotted ties were all obviously stylish back when he went to Oxford but looked a little funny through contemporary eyes.*
- A. belonging to the present time
 - B. aka analytic -- relating to a theory of psychiatry
 - C. deserving no respect (worthless or of bad quality)
- 17 *"Ma, isn't it crazy that you just had a baby, and we just had a baby, and there is someone else at the table pregnant—" Tony cut himself off and assumed a surprised expression, as if he couldn't believe he'd let the news slip out.*
- A. took on (an appearance)
 - B. influenced opinion
 - C. wrongly translated
- 18 *The reporter warned those watching that they should be assumed to be "armed and very dangerous."*
- A. caused something to move forward
 - B. accepted as true (without proof)
 - C. not found, sought, or researched
- 19 *When these townships were established, Afrikaners, or whites of Dutch ancestry, made up 9 percent of the population.*
- 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. created
- 20 *By establishing himself as the protagonist of his own story, he inspired me and countless other young people to see ourselves as capable of taking control of our own destinies, and to realize how each decision we make determines the course of our life stories.*
- A. to gradually take something like control, property, or rights from another
 - B. setting in place
 - C. sticking out, attracting more attention than desired, or imposing on others

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	decisive (<i>as in: a decisive defeat</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
2	A	decisive (<i>as in: a decisive decision maker</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
3	A	engaged (<i>as in: engaged and then married</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
4	B	engage (<i>as in: engage in conversation</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
6	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	affluent	Used 6 times in this book.
8	A	apathy	Used 6 times in this book.
9	C	dynamic (<i>as in: a dynamic personality</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	A	dynamics (<i>as in: the system dynamic</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	B	mentor	High-utility academic word; used 11 times in this book.
12	C	apartheid	Used 9 times in this book.
13	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
14	A	however (<i>as in: However you do it, get it done!</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
15	B	contemporary (<i>as in: they are contemporaries</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	A	contemporary (<i>as in: contemporary design</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	A	assume (<i>as in: She assumed a false identity</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	B	assume (<i>as in: I assume it's true</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
19	C	establish (<i>as in: establish that there is a need</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	B	establish (<i>as in: establish a positive tone</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.