The Reptile Room

by Lemony Snicket

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: alcove, assortment, collide, devious, devise, entwined, generic, inquisitive, intimidate, laboratory, listless, oblivious, perish, preemptive, ridicule, solemn, species, specimen, therefore, venom



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	B
3	A
4	B
5	B
6	A
7	C
8	B
9	A
10	C
11	A
12	A
13	B
14	B
15	C
16	A
17	A
18	B
19	C
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. We shared an intimate dinner in one of the restaurant's **alcoves**.
   A. outdoor patios
   B. spacious rooms
   C. recessed or secluded spaces

2. An **assortment** of students gathered after school—some studying, others just chatting.
   A. small group
   B. variety
   C. large group

3. If the two cars **collide** at high speed, the damage will be severe.
   A. crash
   B. wait
   C. split

4. She is a **devious** opponent.
   A. widely respected
   B. deceitful and clever
   C. not very challenging

5. This may be our last chance to **devise** a compromise that will save the peace.
   A. consider
   B. create
   C. save

6. The economies are thoroughly **entwined**.
   A. connected
   B. strong
   C. weak

7. *Acetaminophen* is the **generic** form of the name brand drug, *Tylenol*.
   A. name-brand version
   B. a specific instance
   C. non-branded version

8. Her **inquisitive** nature led her to explore every corner of the old library.
   A. nervous
   B. curious
   C. forgetful

9. She was **intimidated** by the formality of her first board meeting.
   A. made fearful
   B. made welcome
   C. quite amused

10. She is working in the **laboratory**.
    A. manufacturing workplace
    B. repair workplace
    C. science workplace

11. She accepted her fate with **listless** resignation.
    A. unenergetic
    B. frustrated
    C. lonely

12. She's a happy girl--**oblivious** to most of the unhappiness around her.
    A. unaware of
    B. concerned with
    C. adding to

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13. We can work together or **perish** separately.
   A. work
   B. die
   C. fail

14. She **preempted** his expected betrayal by immediately telling everyone what happened in her own words.
   A. acted in a way that was not expected or typical of her
   B. acted before something undesired happens to prevent it from happening
   C. announced the truth in a clear and concise way

15. The other children **ridiculed** him for wearing mismatched socks to school.
   A. warmly praised
   B. completely ignored
   C. mocked or made fun of

16. Everyone was **solemn** at the funeral.
   A. serious and dignified
   B. teary eyed
   C. dressed in dark colors

17. It is thought that there are over 20,000 **species** of ants.
   A. different categories
   B. different nest types
   C. different diets

18. The collection includes **specimens** from all over the world.
   A. insects
   B. examples
   C. shells

19. We reduced locations where mosquito eggs can mature and **therefore** reduced the number of mosquitoes.
   A. in addition
   B. in spite of that
   C. for that reason

20. She tried to suck the **venom** out of the bite.
   A. white blood cells
   B. poison
   C. germs

Vocabulary in Context

The Reptile Room

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

1 *The Baudelaire parents had left behind an enormous fortune, which would go to the children when Violet came of age, and Count Olaf was so obsessed with getting his filthy hands on the money that he hatched a* devious *plan that gives me nightmares to this day.*

A. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired
B. deceitful (not honest and straightforward) -- often in a complicated, clever manner
C. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions

2 *"Yes, and I'm sure he's very sensitive about that, so don't* ridicule *him," Mr. Poe said, coughing again into his handkerchief.*

A. provide investment funds for something -- such as a business
B. ignore someone's wishes or cause inconvenience or discomfort
C. mock (make fun of); or the language or behavior that does so

3 *They saw a large oil painting of two snakes* entwined *together that hung on the wall.*

A. interconnected (not easily separated) or twisted together
B. viewed in a certain way so as to form a belief or opinion
C. promised, guaranteed, or indicated certainty of something

4 *Questions show an* inquisitive *mind.*

A. the quality or degree of the involvement of other people or things
B. interested in learning about things -- often asking many questions
C. not having the characteristic of bouncing back light/heat/sound...

5 *I love snakes, all kinds, and I circle the globe looking for different kinds to study here in my* laboratory*!*

A. soccer: a foul kick taken from 12 yards in front of the goal and defended only by the goalkeeper who cannot advance beyond the goal line until the shot is taken
B. an index of all main words in a book or body of work along with the immediate contexts where each word is found and/or an indication of where to find the context
C. a workplace where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals (also used figuratively) OR (as an adjective) related to such a place

6 *Is there someone who will come and take care of the children while you are out collecting* specimens*?*

A. males, females, or various trans categories
B. examples regarded as typical of their class
C. jobs, reservations, bookings, or activities

7 *"He doesn't seem* intimidating *at all," Klaus interrupted.*

A. making fearful
B. briefly seeing
C. avoiding waste

8 *Klaus had chosen a room with a cozy* alcove *in it—the word "alcove" here means "a very, very small nook just perfect for sitting and reading."*

A. a room leading to a larger or more important room
B. extensive plain without trees (associated with eastern Russia and Siberia)
C. a recessed or secluded space -- such as in a room or garden

9 *There were also* assorted *toys for the Incredibly Deadly Viper so the two of them could play together whenever they wanted, within reason.*

A. not capable of being suffered through (or put up with)
B. a collection containing a variety of a sort of a thing
C. the degree to which something can be solved or settled

10 *"Tojoo," Sunny said* solemnly*, and the siblings looked at one another glumly.*

A. with seriousness and dignity
B. in a manner that finds fault
C. in a manner that is not good

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11 *They sat around the table where they had eaten cake on their first morning at the house, and picked* listlessly *at their food.*

A. with a lack of energy and normal enthusiasm
B. in a manner that stops or hinders something
C. in a manner involving only one part or side

12 *Do you three know what the word* 'preempt' *means?*

A. surprise -- often so much so that one doesn't know what to say or do
B. done before something undesired happens to prevent it from happening
C. an appropriate size, amount, or degree in relation to something else

13 *Because it is a new* species, *there's no way I can prove I discovered it.*

A. a similar group of animals or plants
B. the quality of exactness or accuracy
C. the gain of advantage from something

14 *All afternoon, the three children had sat and worried in the Reptile Room, under the mocking stare of Stephano and the* oblivious*—the word "oblivious" here means "not aware that Stephano was really Count Olaf and thus being in a great deal of danger"—chatter of Uncle Monty.*

A. unaware of
B. related to
C. very large

15 *Sunny shrieked, in a* generic *cry of frustration, and pounded her little fist on the floor.*

A. name-brand version
B. a specific instance
C. applicable to an entire class or group rather than to a specific thing; or a non-branded version of something such as a medication or grocery

16 *Her shoulder still aching from the car* collision, *Violet turned the brass handle of the door and walked inside.*

A. the crashing of things with violent impact; or coming together into conflict
B. microorganisms (living creatures so small it takes a microscope to see them)
C. the smallest part of any material that cannot be broken up by chemical means

17 *I think Stephano took the* venom *and injected it into Uncle Monty.*

A. an unborn child (or other unborn or unhatched vertebrate)
B. poison (from the snake)
C. highest caste of Hindu society; or a member of that caste

18 *You and I know, of course, that Mr. Poe was panicking over Sunny and the Incredibly Deadly Viper, but all Violet knew was that whatever ruse her siblings had* devised *was still working.*

A. not provided with investment funds
B. came up with (invented or created)
C. stopped (something from happening)

19 *Previously, however, you told us you knew nothing of snakes, and* therefore *couldn't have been involved in Dr. Montgomery's death.*

A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
B. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
C. for that reason

20 *The snakes, and indeed everything in the Reptile Room, were the last reminders the Baudelaires had of the few happy days they'd spent there at the house—the few happy days they'd had since their parents had* perished.

A. examined in detail to better understand
B. died, was destroyed, or ceased to exist
C. moved into position to work; or started

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	devious *(as in: a devious plan)*	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
2	C	ridicule	Used 3 times in this book.
3	A	entwined	Used 3 times in this book.
4	B	inquisitive	Used 2 times in this book.
5	C	laboratory	Used 5 times in this book.
6	B	specimen	Used 6 times in this book.
7	A	intimidate	Used 2 times in this book.
8	C	alcove	Used 4 times in this book.
9	B	assortment	Used 3 times in this book.
10	A	solemn	Used 2 times in this book.
11	A	listless	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	B	preemptive	Used 2 times in this book.
13	A	species	Used 3 times in this book.
14	A	oblivious	Used 2 times in this book.
15	C	generic	Used 2 times in this book.
16	A	collide	Used 2 times in this book.
17	B	venom *(as in: snake venom)*	Used 13 times in this book.
18	B	devise *(as in: devise a plan)*	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
19	C	therefore	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
20	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.

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