

The Thief

by Megan Whalen Turner

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: apprentice, chagrin, chasm, concur, condescending, contempt, disgruntled, earnest, exasperated, flaunt, guise, immortal, inquiry, optimistic, perfunctory, perplex, persist, salve, sulk, tedious



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

The Thief

by Megan Whalen Turner

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

Vocabulary Preview

The Thief

by Megan Whalen Turner

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Although she was still an **apprentice**, Clara already had a natural talent for woodworking and carved beautiful details into her projects.
 - A. employee with seniority
 - B. learner on the job
 - C. licensed professional
2. The state cut education funding, much to the **chagrin** of our school board.
 - A. ignorance
 - B. surprise
 - C. disappointment
3. We were stopped by an impassable **chasm**.
 - A. steep mountain
 - B. raging river
 - C. steep drop
4. She could not bring herself to **concur** publicly, but she honored her promise by not discussing her concerns.
 - A. criticize
 - B. agree
 - C. help
5. She tried to sound supportive, but her advice came across as **condescending**.
 - A. acting superior
 - B. harmful or unhelpful
 - C. sounding uninformed
6. He was **impolite**. She pretended not to notice except that she treated him with **contempt**.
 - A. great annoyance
 - B. lack of respect
 - C. impatience
7. Since the change, many **disgruntled** employees complain of worsening working conditions.
 - A. veteran
 - B. loyal
 - C. unhappy
8. She has a casual, go-with-the-flow personality and doesn't appreciate his **earnestness**.
 - A. frivolous attitude
 - B. seriousness
 - C. falseness
9. My little brother can be **exasperating**. He's always testing his boundaries.
 - A. very active
 - B. endearing (lovable)
 - C. greatly annoying
10. She **flaunts** her wealth.
 - A. shows off
 - B. hides
 - C. enjoys
11. Under the **guise** of friendship, she betrayed them.
 - A. outward appearance
 - B. close bond
 - C. hidden plan

12. She believes we have an **immortal** soul.
- A. conflicted
 - B. perfect in every way
 - C. lasting forever
13. The official **inquiry** has ended, but the press continues to ask questions.
- A. story
 - B. statement
 - C. investigation
14. She keeps telling me her chances of dying in a car accident are 1 in 150, but I keep telling her that's too **optimistic** if she drives after drinking.
- A. hopeful
 - B. gloomy
 - C. simplistic
15. Her **perfunctory** apology did little to ease my annoyance.
- A. sincere
 - B. superficial
 - C. written
16. I am **perplexed** by her sudden change of mind on this important issue.
- A. amused
 - B. annoyed
 - C. confused
17. We expect the conditions to **persist** into next year.
- A. grow worse
 - B. continue
 - C. go away
18. The **salve** also acts as a moisturizer.
- A. humidity
 - B. cream
 - C. nutrient
19. She **sulked** for the rest of the week when she learned she would not make the starting team.
- A. worked tirelessly to improve
 - B. was unhappy and unsociable
 - C. was angry and lashed out
20. I find it relaxing to wash the holiday dishes, but she finds it **tedious**.
- A. stressful
 - B. punishing
 - C. boring

Vocabulary in Context

The Thief

by Megan Whalen Turner

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 I wondered what he thought I was going to wear if he **persisted** in shredding my clothes.
 - A. disagreed
 - B. continued
 - C. stuck out
- 2 The magus looked over his shoulder and then sent the elder Useless up to his room to get a relief kit with bandages and little pots of **salve** in it.
 - A. to expression feelings or thoughts enthusiastically OR to squirt or give off (typically under pressure such as blood or leaking gas)
 - B. a cream or liquid put onto skin to make it feel better or heal

or:

anything that eases pain or anxiety; or the act of doing such

- C. the act of hiding something by making it blend in with its surroundings; or hiding the truth; or something that hides or deceives
- 3 They weren't related to each other, but they were both **apprentices** of the magus.
 - A. injures the ligaments of a joint by stretching them too far (ligaments are the tough, fibrous bands that connect bones across joints)
 - B. person who learns a trade or skill through hands-on experience under a skilled worker; or (as a verb) performance of that kind of work
 - C. a means of control -- most commonly the straps attached to a bit in a horse's mouth that are used to control it OR restrains or controls
- 4 The magus was **disgruntled** that we hadn't made better time.
 - A. not made different; or shown to be different
 - B. not changed directly from a solid to a vapor
 - C. dissatisfied -- typically unhappy and annoyed
- 5 By that time I was too tired to be **optimistic**.
 - A. expecting the best; or focusing on the good part of things
 - B. in a manner of accepting something as true (without proof)
 - C. relating separately to the people or things just mentioned
- 6 I asked, **exasperated**.
 - A. said indirectly
 - B. came or arrived
 - C. greatly annoyed
- 7 The sores were already much better, and I **concurred** when he decided to leave them exposed to the air for the day, although I could see that it didn't matter if I concurred or not.
 - A. traded
 - B. agreed
 - C. copied
- 8 In front of me the mountains began **in earnest**.
 - A. seven wise men of ancient Greece
 - B. serious; or in a serious manner
 - C. real (genuine, true, or sincere)
- 9 The magus answered with another question, which Ambiadès answered patiently, obviously used to this response to his **inquiries**.
 - A. social events or ceremonies
 - B. reasons for doing something
 - C. questions or investigations

- 10 *The reign of Eddis supposedly arose out of one of the stories in which Hephestia rewarded a king named Hamiathes with a stone dipped in the water of **immortality**.*
- A. someone who disturbs or annoys
 - B. with or based on basic beliefs
 - C. eternal life (to live forever)
- 11 *How much smarter than a hammer can you be if you **flaunt** the proof of your crimes in a wineshop?*
- A. show off
 - B. disagree
 - C. subtract
- 12 *His voice dripped **condescension**.*
- A. a manner that treats others as inferiors
 - B. removal and examination of tissues or liquids from the living body to determine the existence or cause of a disease
 - C. someone who believes in Hinduism (the third most common religion--which has many gods and is associated with India)
- 13 *I retired **chagrined** from the field of contest.*
- A. prepared food in a way that keeps it from spoiling
 - B. supported by providing money or other economic aid
 - C. made to feel embarrassed, disappointed, or annoyed
- 14 *The Earth sometimes came in the **guise** of an old woman and brought him presents.*
- A. an outward appearance -- often one that hides the true nature of something
 - B. the act of again being in a working position; or the act of starting again
 - C. someone involved in challenging, arguing about, or fighting over something
- 15 *Donkeys would not have been so **tedious**.*
- A. sensible and careful
 - B. not demonstrative of
 - C. boring or monotonous
- 16 *I looked at the comb in my hand as if **perplexed**.*
- A. excessively excited
 - B. nervous or confused
 - C. confused or puzzled
- 17 *Ambiades **sulked** for most of the morning, and Sophos rode with his shoulders hunched, trying to ignore the tension in the air.*
- A. not limited or without boundaries
 - B. was overly unhappy and unsociable
 - C. not embarrassed or self-conscious
- 18 *Sometimes we walked along the edge of a **chasm** in which the water flowed; sometimes the chasm grew wider and shallower and we walked on the sand beside the river itself.*
- A. long eventful journey
 - B. a nerve or brain cell
 - C. a large gap or divide
- 19 *As I pushed, I muttered a **perfunctory** prayer to the god of thieves.*
- A. (adjective) designed to stop something OR (noun) something that stops something else
 - B. done without much interest or effort -- especially as when dispensing with a formality
 - C. related to intelligence -- such as requiring, appealing to, or possessing intelligence
- 20 *In the dark he hadn't been able to see the **contempt** on my face, but he could hear it in my voice.*
- A. frustration at being treated unfairly
 - B. disrespect and dislike
 - C. prejudice or unfair treatment

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

The Thief

by Megan Whalen Turner

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	persist	Used 4 times in this book.
2	B	salve	Used 5 times in this book.
3	B	apprentice	Used 13 times in this book.
4	C	disgruntled	Used 2 times in this book.
5	A	optimistic	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
6	C	exasperated	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
7	B	concur (<i>as in: I concur</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
8	B	earnest	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
9	C	inquiry	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
10	C	immortal	Used 9 times in this book.
11	A	flaunt	Used 2 times in this book.
12	A	condescending	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
13	C	chagrin	Used 2 times in this book.
14	A	guise	Used 3 times in this book.
15	C	tedious	Used 3 times in this book.
16	C	perplex	Used 3 times in this book.
17	B	sulk	Used 5 times in this book.
18	C	chasm	Used 4 times in this book.
19	B	perfunctory	Used 2 times in this book.
20	B	contempt (<i>as in: feels contempt towards her</i>)	Used 10 times in this book.