

The Time Machine

by H. G. Wells

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: abundant, anecdote, attain, bronze, convey, discord (2), fluctuate, infer, nevertheless, obscure (2), paradox, plausible, profound, resolve, scarcity, species, speculate, utopia



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The region has **abundant** natural resources, from oil to fresh water.
 - A. extremely scarce
 - B. highly disputed
 - C. widely available
2. She is good at making a point in an interesting and memorable way with an **anecdote**.
 - A. short true story
 - B. long boring lecture
 - C. detailed research report
3. They hope to **attain** effective law and order in the region before withdrawing troops.
 - A. openly oppose
 - B. carefully describe
 - C. successfully gain
4. She approached the impressive **bronze** doors.
 - A. made of a high-quality wood
 - B. notably large and appearing heavy
 - C. made of a type of high-quality metal
5. Please **convey** my gratitude for her hospitality.
 - A. express
 - B. accept
 - C. understand
6. There is too much **discord** in their home.
 - A. conflict
 - B. loud noise
 - C. uncritical agreement
7. She heard the **discordant** clanging of pots in the kitchen.
 - A. unpleasant sound
 - B. attractive sound
 - C. loud sound
8. The stock market **fluctuates**.
 - A. frustrates people
 - B. alternately increases and decreases
 - C. rises in the long run
9. The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
 - A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted
10. She loves him. **Nevertheless**, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
 - A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition
11. Our view was **obscured** by the smoke.
 - A. enhanced
 - B. blocked
 - C. made frightening
12. The jungle became **obscure** as the sun set.
 - A. scary
 - B. dark or dingy
 - C. cold

13. Her life was a **paradox**: she was both incredibly private and a bestselling memoirist.
- A. something that seems self-contradictory
 - B. something that went as expected
 - C. something that is too short
14. Her theory was neat, **plausible**, and wrong.
- A. reasonable
 - B. praiseworthy
 - C. foolish
15. It was a **profound** spiritual experience that changed her life.
- A. intense
 - B. common
 - C. traditional
16. I **resolved** to never drink again.
- A. was forced
 - B. was encouraged
 - C. firmly decided
17. Work is **scarce** in the region.
- A. easily found
 - B. extremely hard
 - C. in short supply
18. It is thought that there are over 20,000 **species** of ants.
- A. different categories
 - B. different nest types
 - C. different diets
19. We were **speculating** as to whether a president would have to resign after that kind of scandal.
- A. hoping
 - B. thoughtfully guessing
 - C. demonstrating concern
20. We thought we could create a **utopia**, but we failed because we overestimated human nature.
- A. an ideal place
 - B. constant innovation
 - C. a challenging journey

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 There was some **speculation** at the dinner-table about the Time Traveller's absence, and I suggested time travelling, in a half-jocular spirit.
 - A. ruling on a point of Islamic law that is given by a recognized authority
 - B. thought or theorizing
 - C. cash or an asset (something of value) that is easily converted into cash
- 2 the 'ingenious **paradox and trick**' we had witnessed that day week
 - A. a situation that is surprising or seems impossible because parts of it seem to contradict each other
 - B. something exclusive to (someone or some group) -- such as an activity or place
 - C. a rough substance that can be rubbed against something else to polish or clean
- 3 The Journalist tried to relieve the tension by telling **anecdotes** of Hettie Potter.
 - A. short, true stories
 - B. sizes or dimensions
 - C. outward appearances
- 4 At first I **scarce** thought of stopping, scarce thought of anything but these new sensations.
 - A. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
 - B. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
 - C. in short supply OR barely or hardly (by a small margin)
- 5 What strange developments of humanity, what wonderful advances upon our rudimentary civilization, I thought, might not appear when I came to look nearly into the dim elusive world that raced and **fluctuated** before my eyes!
 - A. a non-doctor who assisted a women in childbirth
 - B. alternately increased and decreased in quantity
 - C. not found guilty or forced into a bad situation
- 6 Nevertheless, the general effect was extremely rich and picturesque.
 - A. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 7 I had some considerable difficulty in **conveying** my meaning.
 - A. expressing
 - B. treating as if of low worth
 - C. delaying until a later time
- 8 The ideal of preventive medicine was **attained**.
 - A. examined in detail to better understand
 - B. tension from opposing ideas or feelings
 - C. gained or reached something with effort
- 9 a **profound** sense of desertion and despair
 - A. intense
 - B. without a tendency to be full of thought
 - C. lacking a tendency to be full of thought
- 10 It was, as I think I have said, of **bronze**.
 - A. examine in detail to better understand
 - B. appropriate in size, amount, or degree
 - C. a brownish metal
- 11 It took no very great mental effort to **infer** that my Time Machine was inside that pedestal.
 - A. take up or receive into heaven
 - B. conclude or guess by reasoning
 - C. hire, reserve, book, or occupy
- 12 Plainly, this second **species** of Man was subterranean.
 - A. a similar group of animals or plants
 - B. the quality of exactness or accuracy
 - C. the gain of advantage from something

- 13 The notion was so **plausible** that I at once accepted it, and went on to assume the how of this splitting of the human species.
- A. apparently reasonable, but unproven
 - B. in a manner that takes on or adopts
 - C. full of strong desire for something
- 14 I had no convenient cicerone in the pattern of the **Utopian** books.
- A. related to an imaginary place thought to be perfect or ideal
 - B. tile designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
 - C. the state of not being in danger of suffering from something
- 15 I shivered violently, and shouted again--rather **discordantly**.
- A. unpleasantly (with a harsh sound)
 - B. exactly or accurately
 - C. completely or totally
- 16 I, for my own part, cannot think that these latter days of weak experiment, fragmentary theory, and mutual **discord** are indeed man's culminating time!
- A. disagreement
 - B. characterized by narrower parallel folds when closed and wider when open
 - C. design based on alphabetic letters; or adding such a design to something
- 17 Weena I had **resolved** to bring with me to our own time.
- A. changed
 - B. adapted
 - C. definitely decided
- 18 I hesitated, and then, as I looked round me, I saw that the dust was less **abundant** and its surface less even.
- A. able to be disagreed with
 - B. not tending to find fault
 - C. present in great quantity
- 19 At last, more than thirty million years hence, the huge red-hot dome of the sun had come to **obscure** nearly a tenth part of the darkling heavens.
- A. think carefully and make a judgment about something again
 - B. block from view
 - C. to promise, guarantee, or indicate certainty of something
- 20 In another moment the pale stars alone were visible. All else was rayless **obscurity**. The sky was absolutely black.
- A. the ability to be taken up or received into heaven
 - B. darkness
 - C. the state or character of being good or beneficial

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	speculate (<i>as in: don't know, but I'll speculate</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
2	A	paradox	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
3	A	anecdote	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
4	C	scarcity	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
5	B	fluctuate	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
6	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
7	A	convey (<i>as in: convey her thoughts</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
8	C	attain	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
9	A	profound (<i>as in: profound sadness</i>)	Used 7 times in this book.
10	C	bronze (<i>as in: bronze won't corrode in salt water</i>)	Used 19 times in this book.
11	B	infer	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
12	A	species	Used 6 times in this book.
13	A	plausible	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
14	A	utopia	Used 2 times in this book.
15	A	discord (<i>as in: discordant music</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
16	A	discord (<i>as in: discord amongst the group</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
17	C	resolve (<i>as in: I resolved to stop drinking.</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
18	C	abundant	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
19	B	obscure (<i>as in: it obscured my view</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	B	obscure (<i>as in: was obscure, but now bright</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.