

The Whipping Boy

by Sid Fleischman

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 from 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: abrupt, assume, balk, bewilder, bound, contemplate, contrast, distinct, genuine, haughty, indicate, indifferent, oblige, obliged, plunder, ponder, rein, rogue, trace, trifle



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

The Whipping Boy

by Sid Fleischman

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

Vocabulary Preview

The Whipping Boy

by Sid Fleischman

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

- The weather changed **abruptly** at about noon.
 - for the better
 - gradually
 - suddenly
- She thinks the aliens can **assume** human form.
 - take on
 - sense
 - believe
- She **balked** when she saw the price tag on the jacket—it was way more than she expected.
 - admired or praised something
 - hesitated or refused to do something
 - calculated or compared something
- I am trying to understand her, but I am **bewildered**.
 - confused
 - bored
 - distracted
- The car broke down in an east-bound lane of the highway 10.
 - tied up (with much traffic)
 - coming from that direction
 - traveling (in that direction)
- The philosopher **contemplated** the meaning of life, pondering the big questions of existence.
 - wrote about
 - read about
 - thought about
- There was quite a **contrast** between the styles of the two teachers.
 - notable similarity
 - covering of all styles
 - notable difference
- Two **distinct** brain networks guide our judgments.
 - different
 - similar
 - identical
- She has a **genuine** interest in each of her students.
 - sincere (real)
 - fake
 - generous (giving)
- She has that **haughty**, rich and entitled attitude.
 - wealthy
 - arrogant
 - optimistic
- She did not **indicate** which candidate she supports.
 - hide or disguise
 - decide
 - express or show
- She was **indifferent** to his anger.
 - without interest
 - with fear
 - with anger

13. I didn't want to help, but I felt obliged because of our family connections.
- A. required to
 - B. interested
 - C. sad
14. I'd be obliged if you could help me lift this.
- A. surprised
 - B. grateful
 - C. paying
15. The pirates plundered small towns on that part of the coast.
- A. threatened
 - B. stole from
 - C. burned down
16. We pondered our fate.
- A. thought about
 - B. feared for
 - C. actively changed
17. She is committed to reining in excessive government infringement of personal freedom.
- A. exposing
 - B. restraining
 - C. discovering
18. The computer programmer went rogue and started leaking classified files without permission.
- A. untrustworthy
 - B. exhausted
 - C. unconcerned
19. She used her finger to trace a route on the map.
- A. find an indication of
 - B. follow
 - C. hide
20. Don't waste my time with trifling matters.
- A. other's
 - B. future
 - C. unimportant

Vocabulary in Context

The Whipping Boy

by Sid Fleischman

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 *Jemmy, who was **obliged** to be close at hand for the daily lessons, reckoned that freedom was now close at hand.*
 - A. required
 - B. interested
 - C. busy
- 2 *If you'd be kind enough to point us toward the river, I'd be ever so much **obliged**.*
 - A. smarter
 - B. grateful
 - C. happy
- 3 *A prince would make a fine catch for these **rogues**.*
 - A. dishonorable people
 - B. strong people
 - C. sneaky people
- 4 *This **haughty** prince didn't have the sense of a gnat.*
 - A. optimistic
 - B. arrogant
 - C. wealthy
- 5 *I will not be exchanged for such a **trifle**.*
 - A. large amount
 - B. measured amount
 - C. small amount
- 6 *Hold-Your-Nose Billy's red eyebrows shot up in **bewildered** surprise.*
 - A. confused
 - B. amused
 - C. terrified
- 7 *Jemmy sat on the bed straw beside the prince and **contemplated** his breakfast.*
 - A. ate
 - B. made
 - C. considered
- 8 *Jemmy **assumed** a princely air of indifference.*
 - A. took on
 - B. noticed
 - C. abandoned
- 9 *Jemmy assumed a princely air of **indifference**.*
 - A. lack of concern
 - B. being in charge
 - C. asking for things
- 10 *Only my crown will convince Papa that you are the **genuine** villain.*
 - A. real
 - B. imposter
 - C. evil
- 11 *The prince **pondered** this for a moment. He nodded. "Then I forgive you."*
 - A. thought carefully about
 - B. looked in a book about
 - C. discussed in detail about
- 12 *Aye, enough **plunder** to burden us directly to the gallows, eh?*
 - A. good food
 - B. stolen goods
 - C. nice things

- 13 "Rein in your beast," he whispered stiffly.
- A. release
 - B. restrain
 - C. follow
- 14 Then he indicated the two highwaymen.
- A. moved to or towards
 - B. attracted by calling
 - C. pointed to or nodded toward
- 15 Approaching the waterside fairgrounds, he saw prisoners in chains being marched aboard a convict ship. It lay in sharp contrast to the festive stalls and banners of the fair.
- A. similarity
 - B. compatibility
 - C. difference
- 16 He had no doubt that Hold-Your-Nose Billy would trace him and the prince to the fair.
- A. lose on the way
 - B. track or follow
 - C. tempt or invite
- 17 Jemmy leaped the mud and was in. But the prince balked. "It's black as night in there!"
- A. fell
 - B. stopped
 - C. slipped
- 18 In the hollowness of the sewer there came a soft scurring of feet, and then a distinct squeaking sound.
- A. clear
 - B. soft
 - C. loud
- 19 Jemmy made an abrupt turn, pulling the prince deeper into the main sewer.
- A. planned
 - B. expected
 - C. sudden
- 20 It was a convict ship bound for a speck of an island in distant waters.
- A. looking
 - B. lost
 - C. heading

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

The Whipping Boy

by Sid Fleischman

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	oblige (<i>as in: I am obliged by law.</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
2	B	obliged (<i>as in: I'm much obliged for your kindness</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
3	A	rogue	Used 2 times in this book.
4	B	haughty	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
5	C	trifle (<i>as in: a trifling matter</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
6	A	bewilder	Used about 14 times per 10 books in our high school library.
7	C	contemplate	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	A	assume (<i>as in: She assumed a false identity</i>)	High-utility academic word
9	A	indifferent	High-utility academic word
10	A	genuine	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
11	A	ponder	Used about 13 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	B	plunder	Used 2 times in this book.
13	B	rein (<i>as in: to rein in their activities</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
14	C	indicate	High-utility academic word
15	C	contrast (<i>as in: there is a contrast</i>)	High-utility academic word
16	B	trace (<i>as in: traced a path</i>)	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
17	B	balk	Used 2 times in this book.
18	A	distinct	High-utility academic word
19	C	abrupt (<i>as in: an abrupt change</i>)	Used about 25 times per 10 books in our high school library.
20	C	bound (<i>as in: south-bound lanes</i>)	High-utility academic word