

Three Cups of Tea

by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin

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: 9/11, adapt, alliance, appropriate, coax, formidable, hospitable, impoverish, infidel, initiative, jihad, literate, mullah, odyssey, opium, positive (2), refugee, republic, unsavory



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	C
3	A
4	B
5	B
6	C
7	C
8	C
9	C
10	B
11	B
12	C
13	A
14	A
15	A
16	C
17	A
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. Flying was different before **9/11**.
 - A. Pearl Harbor attack (9/11/2001)
 - B. Los Angeles riots (9/11/2001)
 - C. terrorist attacks (9/11/2001)
2. This passage is **adapted** from Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* ©1952.
 - A. copied
 - B. read
 - C. changed
3. She understands the shifting **alliances** in the Middle East.
 - A. associations formed to support common interests
 - B. sets of competing interests amongst neighbors
 - C. borders between countries
4. Congress **appropriated** additional funds for airport improvement.
 - A. raised through taxes
 - B. set aside
 - C. discussed spending
5. Let's see if we can **coax** her into coming with us.
 - A. trick
 - B. gently persuade
 - C. drag forcefully
6. The challenge is **formidable**.
 - A. trivial
 - B. understood
 - C. intimidating
7. The hotel staff was so **hospitable** that many guests returned year after year.
 - A. disbelief
 - B. important
 - C. friendly and welcoming
8. Bad investments **impoverished** the family within just a few years.
 - A. made rich
 - B. made famous
 - C. made poor
9. We will defeat the **infidels** in a holy war.
 - A. cowards
 - B. aggressors
 - C. unbelievers
10. She showed great **initiative** by organizing the project without being asked.
 - A. reluctant obedience
 - B. self-starting drive
 - C. lengthy hesitation
11. They urged a **jihad** against Jews and crusaders.
 - A. propaganda
 - B. holy war
 - C. economic boycott
12. If you're **literate** and can access the Internet, you can get answers to millions of questions.
 - A. curious
 - B. patient
 - C. able to read

13. He is a **mullah** from Iran.
- A. religious teacher
 - B. tribal leader
 - C. business person
14. He called the story *A Space Odyssey*.
- A. long, eventful journey
 - B. long, eventful war
 - C. eventful, love story
15. The illegal trade of **opium** has been a major source of conflict in some regions.
- A. a powerful narcotic
 - B. a powerful herbal remedy
 - C. a powerful cooking additive
16. I'm **positive** our team will win on Friday.
- A. happy
 - B. pretty sure
 - C. certain
17. Volunteering had a **positive** impact on the whole neighborhood.
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. harmful or damaging
 - C. minor and unnoticed
18. She was a Tutsi **refugee** from Rwanda.
- A. someone who fled their homeland
 - B. someone who suffered
 - C. someone who immigrated
19. A **republic** is a particular type of democracy.
- A. weak monarchy
 - B. representative government
 - C. oligarchy
20. I hate to talk about such an **unsavory** scandal.
- A. unpleasant
 - B. secretive
 - C. well-known

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 In this **impoverished** community of mud and stone huts, both Mortenson's life and the lives of northern Pakistan's children changed course.
A. caused something to move forward
B. not found, sought, or researched
C. poor
- 2 And his method of operation, hiring people with limited experience based on gut feelings, forging working **alliances** with necessarily unsavory characters, and, above all, winging it, while unsettling and unconventional, has moved mountains.
A. associations formed to support common interests
B. associations formed to support common interests
C. senses of isolation due to competing interests
- 3 Mouzafer was a Balti, the mountain people who populated the least **hospitable** high-altitude valleys in northern Pakistan.
A. disbelief
B. important
C. welcoming
- 4 He was **positive** it hadn't appeared on any map he'd ever studied of the Karakoram, and he'd studied dozens.
A. outside
B. various
C. certain
- 5 Mortenson marveled at the **positive** effects marriage had on his life.
A. good or beneficial
B. not representative
C. impossible to find
- 6 Dempsey was offered a tempting job—establishing a hospital for Palestinian **refugees** on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives—but the Mortensons decided it was time for their children to experience America.
A. people who fled their homeland
B. understandings or explanations
C. quiet voices; or a quiet voice
- 7 In most respects, Mortenson proved **adaptable** to American culture.
A. able to be taken up or received into heaven
B. the quality of not working or not operating
C. able to change to fit a different situation
- 8 Someone from Pakistan helping me become computer **literate** so I could help Pakistani kids get literate.
A. consistent or the same
B. not aware of something
C. able to read and write
- 9 Jerene Mortenson had been anxiously following her son's **odyssey** from her new home in River Falls, Wisconsin.
A. long eventful journey
B. a nerve or brain cell
C. thought or discussion
- 10 Finally, as Abdul wound down and bent over Ali with his hands cocked like weapons, Mortenson distinctly heard Abdul ask Ali if he was a Muslim or an **infidel**.
A. a drug that calms or puts to sleep; or describing something as calming
B. the reason for doing something; or the level of desire to do something
C. negative term for someone who does not believe in the "right" religion
- 11 There was the **unsavory** product other unscrupulous merchants might sell.
A. unpleasant or distasteful -- as from offensive morality or bad taste
B. secretive
C. well-known

- 12 *As the river has found the only possible way through this ferociously formidable knot of mountains, there is no alternative but to follow it.*
 A. the quality of disagreeing
 B. the quality of being Dutch
 C. intimidating or impressive
- 13 *Opium, arms, and carpets were the town's lifeblood, and the men he'd met since arriving seemed as shabby and disreputable as his cheap hotel.*
 A. a powerful narcotic
 B. a powerful herbal remedy
 C. a powerful cooking additive
- 14 *Today was Juma, or Friday, the day mullahs unleashed their most fiery sermons to mosques packed with excitable young men.*
 A. Muslim religious teachers
 B. things that disagree with themselves
 C. things that are made or manufactured
- 15 *When it was clear all the school projects would be completed ahead of time, Mortenson launched an ambitious array of new initiatives.*
 A. things that disagree with themselves
 B. things that were started or proposed
 C. things that are made or manufactured
- 16 *One had to water a plant before it could be coaxed to grow; children had to survive long enough to benefit from school.*
 A. did not vote OR did not drink alcohol OR (more rarely) did not do something else
 B. tried to obtain a result through gentle and careful effort -- often gently persuaded
 C. thought of something as true or likely, even though it was not known with certainty
- 17 *But some of them seem to exist only to teach militant jihad.*
 A. popular art movement of late 19th century French painters who used dabs of color to give an impression of their subject rather than a photographic-like depiction
 B. a holy war waged by Muslims against infidels; or any relentless battle for a belief
 or more rarely: a holy struggle or striving by a Muslim for a moral, spiritual, or political goal
 C. the process of replacing what was used up OR the process of restoring to a previous condition OR (more rarely) materials that replaced what was used up
- 18 *And soon Mary Bono, with an intelligence as unsettling as her looks, was being talked of as a rising star in the Republican party.*
 A. relating to a Christian ceremony signifying spiritual cleansing and rebirth OR relating to a challenging experience that initiates or purifies
 B. of a system of government in which a majority of citizens elect representatives to make laws; or someone in favor of such a form of government
 C. of an organism in the early stages of development prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting OR of anything in an early stage of development
- 19 *The man flipped through a notebook that listed miscellaneous military appropriations.*
 A. battles fought successfully
 B. money budgeted for a particular use
 C. battles fought unsuccessfully
- 20 *The response was so overwhelmingly positive that it salved the wounds of the death threats he'd received soon after 9/11.*
 A. Edith Wharton's Pulitzer Prize winning novel that sympathetically criticizes New York's upper class of the 1870s
 B. historically important U.S. Supreme Court case that decided Congress had no power to prohibit slavery in the territories
 C. September 11, 2001; when suicide bombers hijacked US airliners and used them as missiles to kill about 3,000 people

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	impoverish	Used 10 times in this book.
2	A	alliance	Used 10 times in this book.
3	C	hospitable	Used 11 times in this book.
4	C	positive (<i>as in: I'm absolutely positive!</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
5	A	positive (<i>as in: had a positive effect</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	A	refugee	Used 35 times in this book.
7	C	adapt (<i>as in: adapted to the new rules</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
8	C	literate	Used 4 times in this book.
9	A	odyssey (<i>as in: her odyssey from Mexico to Texas</i>)	Used 8 times in this book.
10	C	infidel	Used 20 times in this book.
11	A	unsavory	Used 4 times in this book.
12	C	formidable	Used 8 times in this book.
13	A	opium	Used 12 times in this book.
14	A	mullah	Used 48 times in this book.
15	B	initiative	Used 6 times in this book.
16	B	coax (<i>as in: coax her to join us</i>)	Used 7 times in this book.
17	B	jihad	Used 5 times in this book.
18	B	republic (<i>as in: the country is a republic</i>)	Used 9 times in this book.
19	B	appropriate (<i>as in: Congress will appropriate funds</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	C	9/11	Used 14 times in this book.