

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea

by Jules Verne

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

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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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, adorn, azure, continuous, denotes, enable, essence, flora, longitude, luminous, maritime, moreover, perish, phenomenon, phosphorescence, prodigious, refuge, specimen, strata, tranquil



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea

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

Vocabulary Preview
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea

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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. Flowers **adorned** all the tables.
 - A. decorated
 - B. obscured (hid)
 - C. grew under
3. The children painted the ocean an **azure** shade on the classroom mural.
 - A. dark red
 - B. pale yellow
 - C. bright blue
4. Alternating walk and rest was more beneficial than continuous walking for people with Type 2 diabetes.
 - A. occasional
 - B. scheduled
 - C. uninterrupted
5. In algebra, letters often **denote** unknown numbers in equations.
 - A. scatter
 - B. represent
 - C. confuse
6. Modern smartphones **enable** people to work from almost anywhere.
 - A. require
 - B. allow
 - C. remind
7. The **essence** of friendship is trust, even more than shared interests.
 - A. most common activity
 - B. least noticeable detail
 - C. most important quality
8. The book is about the **flora** and fauna of the region.
 - A. flowers
 - B. weather
 - C. plant life
9. For a long time, sailors could not accurately determine **longitude** at sea.
 - A. depth of water
 - B. east-west position
 - C. distance to shore
10. The snow was **luminous** from the moonlight.
 - A. soft and silent
 - B. wet and slushy
 - C. bright and glowing
11. The museum displayed maps from the town's **maritime** history.
 - A. related to deserts
 - B. related to the sea
 - C. related to music
12. Many graduates have high college debt. **Moreover**, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
 - A. in contrast to that
 - B. in addition to that
 - C. as a result of that

13. We can work together or **perish** separately.
- A. work
 - B. die
 - C. fail
14. The **phenomenon** was first noticed by Marie Curie.
- A. thing of interest
 - B. thing that is growing
 - C. thing that is hidden
15. Some deep-sea fish produce **phosphorescence** in dark waters.
- A. a loud crackling sound
 - B. a sharp icy chill
 - C. a faint natural glow
16. The young pianist showed **prodigious** talent at her very first recital.
- A. carefully practiced
 - B. barely noticeable
 - C. remarkably great
17. She took **refuge** from the sun under a beautiful oak tree.
- A. protection
 - B. shade
 - C. warmth
18. The collection includes **specimens** from all over the world.
- A. insects
 - B. examples
 - C. shells
19. She is investigating the rock **strata** to better understand the Antarctic ice sheet.
- A. layers
 - B. erosion
 - C. hardness
20. After the storm passed, the village returned to its **tranquil** evening routine.
- A. loudly chaotic
 - B. brightly colored
 - C. peacefully calm

Vocabulary in Context

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea

by Jules Verne

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 On April 13, 1867, with a smooth sea and a moderate breeze, the Scotia lay in **longitude** 15° 12' and latitude 45° 37'.

A. relating to logical examination of something to better understand it
B. a measure of east/west (relative to the Prime Meridian) on the earth
C. lack of interest; or the process of stopping interaction or interest

- 2 Indeed, from this moment on, any **maritime** casualty without an established cause was charged to the monster's account.

A. pessimism or unpleasantness
B. related to the sea or ships
C. arousing or inspiring again

- 3 In **essence**, the narwhale is armed with a sort of ivory sword, or lance, as certain naturalists have expressed it.

A. any of the military expeditions in the 11th to 13th centuries when Christian powers of Europe invaded Muslims in the Holy Land in the Middle East
B. one who believes in an economic system based on voluntary exchange in a competitive environment with private ownership of property and businesses
C. the defining or most important quality of something

or:

a extract that concentrates important qualities of something such as smell or taste

- 4 Moreover, the solution it proposed allowed for free play of the imagination.

A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
B. in addition to what has just been said
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas

- 5 Because it takes incalculable strength just to live in those deep **strata** and withstand their pressure.

A. layers

or:

levels, classes, or groups into which people or other things are divided

B. a process of urging or commanding someone to do something; or a document for that purpose
C. the belief that God created the universe, but that he doesn't interfere with how it runs

- 6 It made a full circle around the frigate—then doing fourteen knots—and wrapped us in sheets of electricity that were like **luminous** dust.

A. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired
B. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions
C. glowing or shining

(also used metaphorically to describe beauty or intelligence)

- 7 Gone are the days when Jonahs took **refuge** in the bellies of whales!

A. something giving protection or comfort -- especially a safe place
B. a ceiling designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
C. a person (often a writer or artist) living an unconventional life

- 8 Ned Land put in, his tone **denoting** reservations.

A. overly unhappy and unsociable
B. stand for or symbolize literally; or be a sign or indicator of
C. drawing pictures to accompany

- 9 This sudden illumination of our cabin **enabled** me to examine its tiniest details.

A. got closer to
B. made possible
C. not satisfied

- 10 *This man was certainly the most wonderful physical **specimen** I had ever encountered.*
 A. the act of taking something on as one's own
 B. an example regarded as typical of its class
 C. something that helps clarify or demonstrate
- 11 *I'll spare you the innumerable hypotheses with which we've tried to explain this inexplicable **phenomenon**, whose secret is yours alone.*
 A. something that happened and is considered extraordinary
 B. something that was once small, but is getting very large
 C. something important that is hard to see or sense
- 12 *Some thirty pictures by the masters, uniformly framed and separated by gleaming panoplies of arms, **adorned** walls on which were stretched tapestries of austere design.*
 A. decorated
 B. disagreed
 C. postponed
- 13 *It's the most **tranquil** of the seas; its currents are wide and slow—moving, its tides moderate, its rainfall abundant.*
 A. sensible and careful
 B. sincerity (realness)
 C. calm and undisturbed
- 14 *But after all, as Conseil noted, we enjoyed complete freedom, we were daintily and **abundantly** fed.*
 A. not done on purpose
 B. with polite respect
 C. with great quantity
- 15 *When the device is operating, this gas becomes luminous and gives off a **continuous** whitish light.*
 A. the state of being capable of thought, self-reflection, and will
 B. pertaining to the working together of different religious groups
 C. continuing in time or space without interruption or irregularity
- 16 *Conseil and I were soon dressed in these diving suits, as were Captain Nemo and one of his companions—a herculean type who must have been **prodigiously** strong.*
 A. in a way that suppresses (prevents something or decreases its development)
 B. a trance-like state of focused concentration and heightened suggestibility
 C. enormously; or with a magnitude or degree that is far beyond what is usual
- 17 *There our nets brought up some fine fish samples: dolphinfish with **azure** fins, gold tails, and flesh that's unrivaled in the entire world, wrasse from the genus *Hologymnosus* that were nearly denuded of scales but exquisite in flavor, knifejaws with bony beaks, yellowish albacore that were as tasty as bonito, all fish worth classifying in the ship's pantry.*
 A. reporter
 B. disorder
 C. sky-blue
- 18 *Braving the ice banks of the South Pole, the coral of Oceania, the cannibals of the Pacific, only to **perish** wretchedly in a train wreck!*
 A. move into position to work; or start
 B. die, be destroyed, or cease to exist
 C. to spread to other parts of the body
- 19 *How many new specimens of underwater **flora** and **fauna** I marveled at beneath the light of our electric beacon!*
 A. difference
 B. thigh bone
 C. plant life
- 20 *Soon Jidda faded into the shadows of evening, and the Nautilus went back beneath the mildly **phosphorescent** waters.*
 A. the degree to which a performance of or to someone else's work lends itself to the expression of personal artistic ideas or feelings by the performer
 B. the quality or degree of being straightforward or clear (sometimes indicating that truth is not worded carefully to spare feelings or gain advantage)
 C. giving a dim glowing light

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	longitude	Used 41 times in this book.
2	B	maritime	Used 7 times in this book.
3	C	essence	Used 25 times in this book.
4	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 15 times in this book.
5	A	strata	Used 41 times in this book.
6	C	luminous	Used 16 times in this book.
7	A	refuge	Used 17 times in this book.
8	B	denotes	Used 6 times in this book.
9	B	enable	High-utility academic word; used 16 times in this book.
10	B	specimen	Used 40 times in this book.
11	A	phenomenon	High-utility academic word; used 24 times in this book.
12	A	adorn	Used 19 times in this book.
13	C	tranquil	Used 17 times in this book.
14	C	abundant	High-utility academic word; used 15 times in this book.
15	C	continuous	Used 13 times in this book.
16	C	prodigious	Used 21 times in this book.
17	C	azure	Used 11 times in this book.
18	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 21 times in this book.
19	C	flora	Used 10 times in this book.
20	C	phosphorescence	Used 22 times in this book.