

Underworld

by Don DeLillo

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

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: accord (2), askew, dossier, function (3), parish, radiation, rancor, rapture (2), rigorous (2), sequence, simulate, theme (2), yield (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She dresses in **accordance** with the latest fashions.
 - A. opposition
 - B. keeping
 - C. ignorance
2. We support the Geneva **Accord**.
 - A. saying
 - B. agreement
 - C. people
3. The earthquake left our pictures hanging **askew**.
 - A. crooked
 - B. alone
 - C. covered in dust
4. I've studied her **dossier**.
 - A. face
 - B. file
 - C. body language
5. Scientist do not know all the **functions** that the nutrient performs.
 - A. mathematical calculations
 - B. natural activities
 - C. transitions in form
6. My brain does not **function** as well when I'm under stress.
 - A. work
 - B. feel
 - C. have fun
7. The program has a **built-in function** that does that with a single user request.
 - A. predictable value
 - B. computer code that performs a specific task
 - C. formula that describes a relationship between variables
8. Our **parish** raised funds to repair the old chapel's leaking roof and bell tower.
 - A. large city government
 - B. private school district
 - C. local church community
9. Geiger counters detect **radiation** released by unstable atoms.
 - A. magnetic forces
 - B. atomic particles
 - C. loud sound bursts
10. Even after years apart, the **rancor** between the brothers had not faded at all.
 - A. warm affection
 - B. mild curiosity
 - C. deep bitterness
11. She listened to her music in a state of **rapture**.
 - A. sleepiness
 - B. boredom
 - C. ecstasy
12. She believes the **Rapture** is coming soon.
 - A. belief of some Christian denominations in a second coming of Jesus
 - B. the completion of a long-term project
 - C. secret message with instructions

13. The scientist conducted a **rigorous** study to ensure the results were reliable.
- A. thorough
 - B. speedy
 - C. expensive
14. The teacher's **rigorous** enforcement of classroom rules ensured a disciplined learning environment.
- A. casual
 - B. strict
 - C. permissive
15. The **sequence** of events in the novel kept the readers engaged and eager to find out what happens next.
- A. brief summary
 - B. order or series
 - C. random collection
16. Our police are tested in conditions that **simulate** gunfire exchange with criminals in the presence of innocent bystanders.
- A. imitate
 - B. train
 - C. defend against
17. What is the **theme** of your essay?
- A. basic idea
 - B. grammatical voice
 - C. narrative point of view
18. My mood is uplifted when I hear the *Indiana Jones* theme music.
- A. instrumental
 - B. of an amusement park
 - C. primary melody
19. The experiment **yielded** data that raised a new set of questions.
- A. produced
 - B. destroyed
 - C. slowed down
20. After the scandal, she **yielded** to public pressure and resigned her position.
- A. added
 - B. gave in
 - C. produced

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 *And even with Jackie on one flank and Toots on the other—a couple of porkos who **function** as natural barriers—people keep pressing in, showing a sense of mission.*
 - A. someone who expresses disapproval
 - B. act (work as)
 - C. the act of recognizing difference
- 2 *His personal computer had a multimedia **function** that allowed him to look at a copy of the famous videotape showing a driver being shot by the Texas Highway Killer.*
 - A. the act of taking something on as one's own
 - B. computer code that performs a specific task
 - C. something that helps clarify or demonstrate
- 3 *I'm gonna keep on talking as long as I got a larynx that can **function**.*
 - A. work or operate
 - B. think carefully
 - C. strongly desire
- 4 *Hollow bodies coming in endless **sequence**.*
 - A. tell someone about something
 - B. arranged in a specific order
 - C. something repeated regularly
- 5 *Parish looked politely hopeful.*
 - A. someone who abandoned their religion or separated from others with whom they used to share firmly held beliefs
 - B. an artists performance of another artist's work that expresses the performer's feelings or ideas about the work
 - C. a local church community

or in some places including Louisiana: a jurisdiction of government like a county
- 6 *We ordered coffee and watched the game and Parish sat in a thoughtful knot, arms and legs crossed, body twisted toward the window, **yielding** to the power of our differences.*
 - A. showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance
 - B. giving in, giving up, or giving way (easily moved or soft)
 - C. placing trust (in someone) by talking about private things
- 7 *The windows **yield** a strong broad desert and enormous sky.*
 - A. produce or give
 - B. stop (something from happening)
 - C. think deeply or carefully about
- 8 *Brian believed I was safely encased, solid, with a house and family folded around me, surer than he was, older but also physically superior, physically fit, a man of hardier stuff, this was his own stated **theme**—a man who keeps his counsel.*
 - A. recurring idea
 - B. excessively examine in an attempt to better understand
 - C. to understand or explain something in a particular way
- 9 *Because it was the **theme** music on an old radio show.*
 - A. treat in a manner that demonstrates a sense of superiority, but is supposed to seem kind OR the actions of a patron (to support someone or something; or to be a customer)
 - B. (verb) to intentionally anger, challenge, or upset someone -- especially by mocking them or hurling insults OR (noun) an insult or other action intended to anger, challenge, or upset someone
 - C. music that is most repeated

- 10 *Listen to this, she wears an armband, you won't believe this—they had **Apartheid Simulation Day** at her school.*
A. something that is not real, but is made to imitate or behave like something that is
B. connected by blood or marriage; or a plant or animal related by origin or grouping
C. relating to the south Asian Muslim republic that is the fifth most populous country
- 11 *The **Rapture** is approaching.*
A. second coming of Jesus
B. a deal where the accused pleads guilty to a lesser crime in return for a lighter punishment or dropped charges
C. suggest (say indirectly) OR something suggested indirectly; or something that can be concluded; or a result
- 12 *Brian went into a state of body **rapture** over a lime sherbet Chevrolet, a '57 Bel Air convertible with white upholstery.*
A. confusion
B. boredom
C. ecstasy (extreme happiness)
- 13 *And it forced us to develop the logic and **rigor** that would lead to systematic investigations of reality, to science, art, music, mathematics.*
A. difficult (thorough and careful)
B. the ability to take on or adopt
C. calculating or judging too high
- 14 *His stern measures as Director were given an odd legitimacy by his personal life, the **rigor** of his insistent celibacy.*
A. the act of recognizing difference
B. strictness (when enforcing rules)
C. purpose, job, or natural activity
- 15 *Well, she was unloved in the deeper senses of the word but that was fine, she'd had enough love of the deeper types, painful and ever echoing, the **rancorous** marriages that make it hard for you to earn a dependable solitude.*
A. the state or degree of being very large
B. the quality of relating to intelligence
C. showing deep and bitter anger or hatred
- 16 *They sent manned aircraft through **radiation** clouds.*
A. a central open space in a building
B. particles emitted by nuclear decay that can make people sick
C. something quoted (to make a point)
- 17 *It was as if a science-fiction force had entered the house and made some things **askew** while sparing others.*
A. not straight; or not right
B. opposed to "globalization"
C. rain, snow, hail, or sleet
- 18 *Edgar had many enemies-for-life and the way to deal with such people was to compile massive **dossiers**.*
A. highly educated people interested in learning and exploring ideas -- sometimes while ignoring practical considerations
B. a collection of papers containing detailed information about a particular person or subject -- often a person's record
C. believers in the religious movement started by Joseph Smith, especially the beliefs and practices of Latter-day Saints
- 19 *It's like work that's paid for **according** to the number of units turned out.*
A. idiom meaning "won the day"
B. in proportion to (depending upon)
C. U.S. history: pre-Civil War period
- 20 *Not banned by international **accord**?*
A. main road
B. agreement
C. complaint

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	function (as in: <i>Its main function is to...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
2	B	function (as in: <i>Amazon's new search function</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
3	A	function (as in: <i>can't function well without sleep</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
4	B	sequence	Used 14 times in this book.
5	C	parish	Used 16 times in this book.
6	B	yield (as in: <i>yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	yield (as in: <i>will yield valuable data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	A	theme (as in: <i>theme of the novel</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	C	theme (as in: <i>musical theme</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
10	A	simulate	High-utility academic word; used 12 times in this book.
11	A	rapture (as in: <i>awaiting the Rapture</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
12	C	rapture (as in: <i>listened with rapture</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
13	A	rigorous (as in: <i>we follow a rigorous procedure</i>)	Used 7 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
14	B	rigorous (as in: <i>rigorous enforcement</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
15	C	rancor	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
16	B	radiation (as in: <i>nuclear radiation</i>)	Used 17 times in this book.
17	A	askew	Used 5 times in this book.
18	B	dossier	Used 6 times in this book.
19	B	accord (as in: <i>according to, or in accord with</i>)	Used 21 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
20	B	accord (as in: <i>reached an accord</i>)	2 meanings in this book.