

Walkabout

by James Vance Marshall

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: appalling, bizarre, clarity, continuous, ebb, ebullient, foliage, gist, grandeur, inquisitive, jut, lethargic, luxuriant, monotonous, primeval, replenish, scorn, sequence, strata, vanquish



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She has scheduled a news conference to respond to the **appalling** accusations.
 - A. false
 - B. horrible
 - C. foolish
2. She won one of those **bizarre** contests designed by Guinness Book of World Records.
 - A. present in great quantity
 - B. exceedingly odd or unusual
 - C. critical (full of criticism)
3. The judge praised the witnesses for the **clarity** of their testimony.
 - A. briefness
 - B. courage
 - C. clearness
4. Alternating walk and rest was more beneficial than continuous walking for people with Type 2 diabetes.
 - A. occasional
 - B. scheduled
 - C. uninterrupted
5. After the incident, support for the policy **ebbed**.
 - A. increased
 - B. disappeared
 - C. declined
6. The **ebullient** crowd cheered and danced after the win.
 - A. cheerfully excited
 - B. quietly suspicious
 - C. deeply embarrassed
7. I like to rest my eyes by periodically looking up from the computer and gazing out the window at the **foliage**.
 - A. birds
 - B. plant leaves
 - C. clouds
8. It's a 300-page report, but the **gist** of it is that the plan won't work.
 - A. concern
 - B. problem
 - C. main point
9. The palace was famous for its **grandeur** and ornate decoration.
 - A. shabby plainness
 - B. majestic splendor
 - C. tiny size
10. Her **inquisitive** nature led her to explore every corner of the old library.
 - A. nervous
 - B. curious
 - C. forgetful
11. She tripped on a thick tree root that **jutted** out across the muddy path.
 - A. washed away
 - B. curled up
 - C. stuck out
12. Large lunches make me feel **lethargic** in the afternoon.
 - A. sluggish
 - B. upset
 - C. energetic

13. Beavers were hunted nearly to extinction for their **luxuriant** fur.
- A. thick and abundant
 - B. scarce (rare)
 - C. dark brown
14. The study indicates that traffic accidents from falling asleep increase on long, straight, **monotonous** roads.
- A. dark
 - B. narrow
 - C. boring
15. The area has been inhabited since **primeval** times.
- A. skillful
 - B. ancient
 - C. filled
16. After a hard workout, it's good to **replenish** the water and nutrients your body used up.
- A. consider
 - B. measure
 - C. replace
17. That coach **scorns** students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains
18. 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
19. She is investigating the rock **strata** to better understand the Antarctic ice sheet.
- A. layers
 - B. erosion
 - C. hardness
20. You need to **vanquish** those negative thoughts and think about good things.
- A. completely defeat
 - B. gently ease
 - C. gently persuade

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 She felt the tension **ebb** slowly out of him, the trembling die gradually away.
 - A. a large structure separate from a main structure or temporary
 - B. make something more attractive or interesting by adding to it
 - C. decline -- typically gradually as with the height of the tide
- 2 It opened wide its beak, and a **continuous** flow of grating, unmelodious notes shattered the calm of the gully.
 - 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
- 3 Looking down she could see her underwater-self with startling **clarity**; could even see the bruise on her hip -- where she'd crashed against the side of the plane -- standing out darkly against the white of her skin.
 - A. a collection of things on public display OR a detailed explanation or background of a specific topic
 - B. the process of assigning a value on or judging the worth of something; or the result of such a process
 - C. seen, expressed, or understood clearly; or a degree of transparency such as the quality of clear water
- 4 In the middle of the valley the undergrowth was thick; **luxuriant**.
 - A. characterized by growing well or being richly thick or abundant -- as of vegetation or hair

or (more rarely):

characterized by luxury (very comfortable or extravagant)

 - B. 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
 - C. the quality or degree of being straightforward or clear (sometimes indicating that truth is not worded carefully to spare feelings or gain advantage)
- 5 They rose in a low escarpment, an outcrop of granite and quartz, **jutting** abruptly out of the level plain.
 - A. expressed strong hatred or loathing for
 - B. expresses strong hatred or loathing for
 - C. to stick out; or a part that sticks out
- 6 As it was the sun was setting as they clambered on to the rim of the hills, and saw the country to southward stretching away in front of them, bathed in golden light: a magnificent panorama: a scene of **primeval** desolation: mile after hundred mile of desert, sand and scrub.
 - A. certain
 - B. ancient
 - C. outside
- 7 The boy was young -- certainly no older than she was; he was unarmed, and his attitude was more **inquisitive** than threatening; more puzzled than hostile.
 - A. the quality or degree of the involvement of other people or things
 - B. interested in learning about things -- often asking many questions
 - C. not having the characteristic of bouncing back light/heat/sound...
- 8 Brother and sister were products of the highest **strata** of humanity's evolution.
 - 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
- 9 The idea of being manhandled by a naked black boy **appalled** her: struck at the root of one of the basic principles of her civilized code.
 - A. with an unadjusted lens so the image isn't clear
 - B. shocked by how terrible or horrible something is
 - C. gave an opinion of what was wrong with something

- 10 *Beneath the thick, closely-woven **foliage** the shade was deep: a striking contrast to the glare of the bush.*
- shadows
 - plant leaves
 - clouds
- 11 *He looked at the children critically; but there was in his appraisal no suggestion of **scorn**.*
- disrespect or reject as not good enough
 - not answer questions; or block progress
 - move from more general to more specific
- 12 *It was a symbolic combat he danced; a combat in which he was both victor and **vanquished**; a combat between life and death.*
- completely defeated
 - excessively excited
 - nervous or confused
- 13 *His feet he pulled proudly up in a high-kicking march of victory — an **ebullient**, primitive goose-step.*
- happy and energetic
 - not straightforward
 - not done on purpose
- 14 *He had been too tired the night before to take notice of their camp site — it had been simply a place to go to sleep in; but now, the scenery's **bizarre grandeur** caught his imagination.*
- the quality of disagreeing
 - exceedingly odd or unusual
 - able to meet and talk with
- 15 *He had been too tired the night before to take notice of their camp site — it had been simply a place to go to sleep in; but now, the scenery's **bizarre grandeur** caught his imagination.*
- interaction or interest
 - impressive magnificence
 - a drawing or photograph
- 16 *Half-way through the afternoon, as they were crossing a **monotonous** belt of scrub, there came a diversion: as welcome as it was unexpected.*
- increasingly more frightening and/or dangerous
 - interesting and/or stimulating
 - lacking in variety and/or boring
- 17 *Peter and Mary tidied up the camp, **replenished** the fire, cooked the last of the yarrowa and offered the bush boy a share —but he wouldn't eat.*
- encouraged growth or excitement, or caused something to happen
 - ignored someone's wishes or caused inconvenience or discomfort
 - replaced what was used up; or restored to a previous condition
- 18 *But a little before noon he came — if only for a moment — out of his **lethargy**.*
- lack of energy; or (often in historic literature) a state of sleep
 - not appropriate or not properly related in size, amount, or degree
 - the quality or degree of the involvement of other people or things
- 19 *Soon their column too was broken into a **sequence** of irregular puffs.*
- tell someone about something
 - arranged in a specific order
 - something repeated regularly
- 20 *Quite suddenly Mary got the **gist** of what she was saying.*
- the act of taking something on as one's own
 - something that helps clarify or demonstrate
 - the main point(s) of a more detailed matter

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	ebb	Used 3 times in this book.
2	C	continuous	Used 2 times in this book.
3	C	clarity	Used 2 times in this book.
4	A	luxuriant	Used 3 times in this book.
5	C	jut	Used 2 times in this book.
6	B	primeval	Used 3 times in this book.
7	B	inquisitive	Used 3 times in this book.
8	A	strata	Used 4 times in this book.
9	B	appalling	Used 4 times in this book.
10	B	foliage	Used 6 times in this book.
11	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
12	A	vanquish	Used 3 times in this book.
13	A	ebullient	Used 2 times in this book.
14	B	bizarre (<i>as in: is bizarre</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
15	B	grandeur	Used 2 times in this book.
16	C	monotonous	Used 2 times in this book.
17	C	replenish	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
18	A	lethargic	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
19	B	sequence	Used 2 times in this book.
20	C	gist	Used 2 times in this book.