When You Reach Me

by Rebecca Stead

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: allegiance, Amsterdam, conspiracy, despise, essential, gesture, hysteria, notify, oblivious, omen, physics, positive, principal, recite, repulsive, Shakespeare, stationery, swagger, tempest, torment

More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. We owe no **allegiance** to the outdated ideas of our political party.
   A. hatred
   B. money
   C. loyalty

2. We saw the Anne Frank House, the Rijksmuseum, and the Van Gogh Museum while we were in **Amsterdam**.
   A. the largest city of Belgium
   B. largest city of the Netherlands
   C. largest city of Turkey

3. She is inclined to believe **conspiracy** theories.
   A. unproven
   B. scientific
   C. secret plot

4. She **despises** his lifestyle.
   A. admires
   B. wants
   C. hates

5. Regular exercise is **essential** for maintaining good cardiovascular health.
   A. occasionally helpful
   B. absolutely necessary
   C. completely optional

6. She **gestured** toward the empty chair, inviting him to sit down.
   A. signaled with a body movement
   B. gradually moved closer
   C. pointed out with a comment

7. The worst legislation is passed when voters are whipped into a state of **hysteria**.
   A. uncontrollable emotion
   B. extreme anger
   C. complete confusion

8. The school will **notify** parents if the schedule changes.
   A. ignore
   B. punish
   C. inform

9. She's a happy girl--**oblivious** to most of the unhappiness around her.
   A. unaware of
   B. concerned with
   C. adding to

10. The appearance of Halley's comet in 1066, was seen by many as an **omen** that the Norman Conquest would be successful.
   A. a scientific explanation
   B. the cause (of an important event)
   C. a sign (of what would happen)

11. She became interested in **physics** after building a model rocket that launched using air pressure.
   A. study of living things
   B. science of matter and energy
   C. study of human cultures

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12. I'm **positive** our team will win on Friday.
    A. happy
    B. pretty sure
    C. certain

13. The **principal** reason for the delay was bad weather.
    A. final
    B. main
    C. stated

14. The children **recited** the Pledge of Allegiance.
    A. memorized
    B. said aloud
    C. listened to

15. She found the bully's rude behavior **repulsive**.
    A. deeply offensive
    B. warmly inviting
    C. calmly soothing

16. In the play *As You Like It* **Shakespeare** wrote "A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool."
    A. writer and humorist best known for his novels about Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn
    B. author widely regarded as the greatest in the English language
    C. author who depicted social injustice in such stories as *Oliver Twist*

17. She has beautiful **stationery** for writing notes.
    A. paper and envelopes
    B. handwriting
    C. choice of words

18. The cowboy **swaggered** into the saloon with his holster unstrapped.
    A. limped with difficulty
    B. walked confidently
    C. snuck

19. A **tempest** swept over the island.
    A. darkness
    B. fear
    C. storm

20. Bullies made his school days a constant **torment** he could not escape.
    A. severe suffering
    B. great enjoyment
    C. simple confusion

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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 *Mom wonders if that's a good* **omen**.

A. make someone want to do something
B. walk in an awkward, shuffling way
C. sign of something about to happen

2 *I had left my keys at school and waited two and a half hours at Belle's Market on* **Amsterdam** *Avenue for Mom to get home from work.*

A. measures of general intelligence
B. largest city of the Netherlands
C. fundamentalist Islamic militia

3 *When she finally got there, Mom hugged Belle and told her, "I owe you," like I was some* **repulsive** *burden instead of the person who had very helpfully unpacked three boxes of green bananas and scoured the refrigerated section for expired dairy items.*

A. very unpleasant or causing disgust
B. a tendency to think back on things
C. relating to surrounding conditions

4 *The Miranda warnings are* **essential**, *you know.*

A. not capable of being better understood through detailed examination
B. necessary or important or relating to the basic nature of something
C. clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate

5 *—and then there's* **Shakespeare**.

A. relating to a discipline and school of thought discussing the mystical aspect of Judaism and hidden meanings in Hebrew scripture
B. author widely regarded as the greatest in the English language and whose works include *Romeo and Juliet* and *Hamlet*
C. previously called Calcutta; influential city in East India; known for severe poverty, political activism, and cultural influence

6 *He invented the name Miranda, you know, for The* **Tempest**.

A. a long and determined effort for a cause that is passionately believed to be important
B. to dominate harshly and unfairly OR to deny equal rights to others or make them suffer
C. a violent commotion or disturbance -- especially a violent storm or emotional outburst

7 *Some of the categories are harder to figure out, like "things you* **recite**" *(poetry, the Pledge of Allegiance) or "things you squeeze" (a tube of toothpaste, someone's hand).*

A. recommend or require what should be done OR (of a medical doctor) give medical instructions -- such as writing that a patient should take antibiotics
B. to say or read something aloud -- especially something previously memorized such as a poem

or:

to say in detail -- especially a list of things
C. fear, or anticipate with worry (commonly only seen in the forms "apprehensive" and "apprehension," but seen in this form in classic literature)

8 *Some of the categories are harder to figure out, like "things you recite" (poetry, the Pledge of* **Allegiance**) *or "things you squeeze" (a tube of toothpaste, someone's hand).*

A. thought
B. payment
C. loyalty

9 *This is more like* **physics**.

A. lacking things most people enjoy
B. the science of matter and energy
C. referring to any rocky mountains

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10 *I sat next to Alice Evans, who never complained about anything, and Annemarie sat next to Jay Stringer, who was* oblivious *to the world when he was reading, but Colin sat next to Julia.*

A. unaware of
B. related to
C. very large

11 *And I* despise *the smell of pickles.*

A. to be overly unhappy and unsociable
B. technical: center or concentration
C. dislike strongly and look down upon

12 *Annemarie* gestured *me over.*

A. a movement or signal of the body used to communicate; or to make such a movement
B. change a letter from lower to upper case -- especially the first letter of words
C. rock which has been created from layers of sediment laying on top of one another

13 *Jimmy* swaggered *over to the phone with a huge smile on his face.*

A. held together (connected or united) or wrapped
B. walked or behaved in a highly confident manner
C. considered (for affect on a result or outcome)

14 *Somehow we became so completely* hysterical *that we were still having what Mom calls fits of helpless laughter when we got to school.*

A. exceedingly funny (resulting in uncontrollable laughter); or exhibiting excessive, uncontrollable emotion
B. when what happens is very different than what might be expected; or when things seem incongruous together
C. marked by a colonnade (series of regularly spaced columns) surrounding a building or enclosing a courtyard

15 *So we went into Gold's* Stationery *and bought Jimmy a greeting card.*

A. paper and envelopes for writing letters
B. expresses strong hatred or loathing for
C. expressed strong hatred or loathing for

16 Torment, *yes.*

A. to cause or to experience great mental or physical suffering
B. provide investment funds for something -- such as a business
C. point to differences between; or compare to show differences

17 *Louisa thought that McDonald's was a giant* conspiracy *against the health of all Americans.*

A. the best or most important
B. harsh and unfair treatment
C. a secret agreement or plot

18 *Remember the morning you waited for him in the lobby until you were absolutely,* positively *going to be late, and then you rang his doorbell, and it turned out he'd gone to school without you?*

A. without regret
B. with hard work
C. with certainty

19 *We can use the* principal's *office for a few minutes so that you can brief me about whatever allegations have been made.*

A. serving to help explain or demonstrate something
B. most important; or person that is most important
C. the state or degree of criticism or disagreement

20 *But of course you can't speak with Mr. Heilbroner himself until his parents have been* notified.

A. not judged in a negative way
B. found, sought, or researched
C. told someone about something

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	omen	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
2	B	Amsterdam	Used 11 times in this book.
3	A	repulsive *(as in: she found him repulsive)*	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	B	essential	High-utility academic word
5	B	Shakespeare *(as in: William Shakespeare)*	Used about 8 times per 10 books in our high school library.
6	C	tempest	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
7	B	recite	Used about 17 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	C	allegiance	Used about 5 times per 10 books in our high school library.
9	B	physics	Used 2 times in this book.
10	A	oblivious	Used 2 times in this book.
11	C	despise	Used about 13 times per 10 books in our high school library.
12	A	gesture *(as in: gestured towards her)*	Used 4 times in this book.
13	B	swagger	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
14	A	hysteria	Used about 13 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	A	stationery	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
16	A	torment	Used about 13 times per 10 books in our high school library.
17	C	conspiracy	Used about 8 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	C	positive *(as in: I'm absolutely positive!)*	Used about 19 times per 10 books in our high school library.
19	B	principal	Used 2 times in this book.
20	C	notify	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.

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