

When the Legends Die

by Hal Borland

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: accustom, appropriate, baptism, bewilder, brash, convention, deception, deride, impersonal, lobbyist, penance, quiver, rein, rouse, scorn, solicitous, speculate, taut, wither, wry



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Actors and politicians are **accustomed** to less privacy than the rest of us.
 - A. used to
 - B. happy with
 - C. paid for
2. She **appropriated** my idea as her own.
 - A. built
 - B. bought
 - C. took
3. The baby's **baptism** took place at the local church on Sunday.
 - A. religious ceremony
 - B. first birthday party
 - C. doctor's appointment
4. I am trying to understand her, but I am **bewildered**.
 - A. confused
 - B. bored
 - C. distracted
5. His **brash** comments impressed some people but offended others.
 - A. quiet and careful
 - B. sad and lonely
 - C. bold and rude
6. In most countries, the **convention** is to shake the head to indicate "no", but in Bulgaria that indicates "yes".
 - A. movement
 - B. agreement
 - C. normal behavior
7. The con artist used clever **deception** to trick wealthy investors.
 - A. kindness
 - B. trickery
 - C. praise
8. She **derided** him as *hormone-ravaged*.
 - A. whispered about
 - B. sympathized with
 - C. made fun of
9. Hospitals can be **impersonal** places, despite the caring staff.
 - A. difficult to truly understand
 - B. lacking warmth or personal connection
 - C. highly efficient and organized
10. As a **lobbyist** for the pharmaceutical industry, she spent much of her time in Washington influencing healthcare policy.
 - A. elected senator
 - B. news columnist
 - C. paid policy persuader
11. As **penance** for lying, she apologized and spent the afternoon helping her sister.
 - A. act of making amends
 - B. plan for gaining praise
 - C. way of blaming others

12. Her hands began to quiver as she opened the envelope.
A. slightly shake
B. tightly grip
C. quickly move
13. She is committed to reining in excessive government infringement of personal freedom.
A. exposing
B. restraining
C. discovering
14. The smell of freshly brewed coffee roused her from her sleep.
A. interrupted
B. deepened
C. awakened
15. That coach scorns students who don't have natural ability.
A. disrespects
B. encourages
C. trains
16. She described him as humble, polite, and solicitous.
A. perceptive
B. smart
C. caring
17. We were speculating as to whether a president would have to resign after that kind of scandal.
A. hoping
B. thoughtfully guessing
C. demonstrating concern
18. The clothesline was taut between the two trees in the yard.
A. shiny
B. tight
C. noisy
19. Without water, the plants in the garden began to wither and die.
A. become dormant
B. dry out
C. grow stronger
20. Her wry comment made the bad news sound almost funny.
A. openly cheerful
B. dryly humorous
C. deeply serious

Vocabulary in Context

When the Legends Die

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 Scorn was in her eyes.
 - A. disrespect or reject as not good enough
 - B. not answer questions; or block progress
 - C. move from more general to more specific
- 2 She looked at him, **bewildered**.
 - A. confused
 - B. restored
 - C. collided
- 3 As his eyes **accustomed** themselves to the dimness, Blue Elk remembered his own boyhood and his grandmother's lodge.
 - A. used to (adapted to something, so it seems normal)
 - B. prepared food in a way that keeps it from spoiling
 - C. supported by providing money or other economic aid
- 4 Blue Elk says this boy's **baptismal** name is Thomas Black Bull, so he is probably George Black Bull's son.
 - A. relating to a Christian ceremony signifying spiritual cleansing and rebirth OR relating to a challenging experience that initiates or purifies
 - B. relating to practice or belief that is long-established or was previously long-established OR relating to stories passed down through generations
 - C. related to an economic system based on government ownership or control of all important companies -- with the ideal of equal benefits to all people
- 5 He swung into the saddle on the sorrel, a **conventional** saddle with a horn.
 - A. complete or total
 - B. able to challenge
 - C. normal or typical
- 6 His legs were **quivering**, his belly was drum-tight, his head was ringing, but he led it back to the chute.
 - A. to shake or tremble slightly
 - B. not working or not operating
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 7 Tom kept the rein **taut**, rode without trouble for several seconds.
 - A. relating to logical examination to improve understanding
 - B. pulled or drawn tight;
or: subjected to great tension
 - C. the state or degree of being pessimistic or disagreeable
- 8 When they had eaten, Red **appropriated** the herder's hat,
 - A. threw away
 - B. looked at
 - C. took
- 9 The preacher, a tired little **pinched-face** man in a shabby black suit, said the service by rote and read a short, **impersonal** prayer.
 - A. highly efficient and organized
 - B. lacking warmth or personal connection
 - C. difficult to truly understand
- 10 He **smiled, wryly**.
 - A. adequately (in a manner that provides enough -- often without being more than is needed)
 - B. humor -- often understated, sarcastic, or ironic -- often expressed by twisting the face
 - C. in a manner that relates to questions that cannot be answered with the scientific method
- 11 The doctor looked at him, **speculating**. "I'd think you'd want to settle down."
 - A. aka analyzing -- analyzing based upon a theory of psychiatry
 - B. guessing (thinking aloud)
 - C. making a decision or voicing an opinion by formal group vote

- 12 *And he was known as a hostile, silent man at the chutes, on the street, in the hotel lobbies.*
A. pauses to change how something is done -- often while reducing the use of resources
B. dies or suffers due to upholding principle; or people who have suffered such a fate
C. someone who is paid to influence legislation through persuasion of public officials
- 13 *A first-year man, brash in his ignorance, might ask, "What year did Black win the championship?"*
A. the quality or degree of straightness, or absence of anything in between
B. made by humans -- often to replace something that can be found in nature
C. bold or self-confident in a manner that seems disrespectful or tasteless
- 14 *She was the most skillful of the nurses, the most solicitous and helpful, the most friendly.*
A. full of strong desire for something
B. in a manner that takes on or adopts
C. showing care or concern for someone
- 15 *He reined the horse around*
A. mirrored back (an image)
B. forced (the horse) in a direction by pulling on straps that are attached to the bit in its mouth
C. quoted (to make a point)
- 16 *The mountains stood in deceptive ranks, scattered but looking like successive ranges, each with its own degree of shadow and distance.*
A. very large
B. misleading
C. changeable
- 17 *Tom awakened, roused by his own voice and the howling, and after a moment he knew he had been dreaming.*
A. beyond the permitted boundary or limit
B. explains something in a particular way
C. to awaken, make more active, or excite
- 18 *He laughed at that, a snorting laugh of derision.*
A. related to or causing dramatic change; of a supporter of the change
B. a series of regularly spaced columns -- typically covered by a roof
C. treatment as inferior and unworthy of respect
- 19 *He could see Meo's garden patch, weedy but still with the mark of Meo's hand upon it, withering in the searing heat.*
A. unwrapping
B. drying out
C. connecting
- 20 *He sewed to the end of the sinew and drew another strand from his mouth, remembering the penance trip up the mountain.*
A. an act that shows sorrow for wrongdoing -- such as expressing regret, asking for forgiveness, or trying to make up for the harm done
B. to expression feelings or thoughts enthusiastically OR to squirt or give off (typically under pressure such as blood or leaking gas)
C. the act of hiding something by making it blend in with its surroundings; or hiding the truth; or something that hides or deceives

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
2	A	bewilder	Used 3 times in this book.
3	A	accustom	Used 3 times in this book.
4	A	baptism	Used 9 times in this book.
5	C	convention (<i>as in: conventional behavior</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
6	A	quiver	Used 9 times in this book.
7	B	taut	Used 4 times in this book.
8	C	appropriate (<i>as in: appropriate from their culture</i>)	High-utility academic word
9	B	impersonal	Used 3 times in this book.
10	B	wry	Used 6 times in this book.
11	B	speculate (<i>as in: don't know, but I'll speculate</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
12	C	lobbyist	Used 2 times in this book.
13	C	brash (<i>as in: brash behavior</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
14	C	solicitous	Used 2 times in this book.
15	B	rein (<i>as in: to rein in their activities</i>)	Used 63 times in this book.
16	B	deception	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
17	C	rouse	Used 8 times in this book.
18	C	deride	Used 3 times in this book.
19	B	wither (<i>as in: wither on the vine</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
20	A	penance	Used 2 times in this book.