

Wonder

Parts 2–3

by R. J. Palacio

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: accommodate, catastrophe, celestial, exasperated, exotic, gauge, meticulously, mutations, noble, recessive

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Part 1 · August introduces himself and his family

Section 2 · Parts 2–3 · Via tells her side of the story

Section 3 · Part 4 · Jack tells his side of the friendship

Section 4 · Parts 5–6 · Justin and August return to the story

Section 5 · Parts 7–8 · Miranda and the story's final part

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

Wonder

Parts 2-3

by R. J. Palacio

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The new gym was built to **accommodate** hundreds of students at once.

- A. to keep watch over
- B. to make room for
- C. to give orders to

2. Everyone still talks about the **catastrophe** that struck our town that summer.

- A. a strange mystery
- B. a terrible disaster
- C. a minor mix-up

3. Through the telescope we studied the moon and other **celestial** objects.

- A. relating to the sky or space
- B. ancient and very rare
- C. glowing with bright light

4. By the tenth interruption, the teacher looked completely **exasperated**.

- A. confused and uncertain
- B. tired and worn out
- C. very frustrated and annoyed

5. The market sold **exotic** fruits I had never seen before.

- A. strange and foreign
- B. brightly colored
- C. freshly picked

6. It was hard to **gauge** how deep the river was just by looking.

- A. to remember clearly
- B. to estimate or judge
- C. to explain in words

7. She **meticulously** labeled every jar in the kitchen cupboard.

- A. in a careful, exact way
- B. in a quiet, secret way
- C. in a cheerful, happy way

8. Over millions of years, tiny **mutations** can change how a species looks.

- A. signs of illness
- B. copies of cells
- C. changes in genes

9. Returning the lost wallet was a **noble** thing to do.

- A. honorable and unselfish
- B. brave and daring
- C. wise and clever

10. In science class we learned how a **recessive** gene passes from parents to children.

- A. one that controls eye color only
- B. one found in every living cell
- C. one hidden by a dominant gene

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

Tu es meu tudo — Portuguese for 'you are my everything'; Grans's secret words telling Via she is her favorite, her whole world

Via's concern about treating August as "normal" — she worries that the family's efforts to treat him like any other child may keep him from understanding how differently others see him

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Wonder

Parts 2-3

by R. J. Palacio

#	KEY
1	B
2	B
3	A
4	C
5	A
6	B
7	A
8	C
9	A
10	C

Vocabulary in Context

Wonder

Parts 2-3

by R. J. Palacio

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “August is the Sun. Me and Mom and Dad are planets orbiting the Sun. The rest of our family and friends are asteroids and comets floating around the planets orbiting the Sun. The only celestial body that doesn’t orbit August the Sun is Daisy the dog ...”

As it is used in the passage, the word “celestial” most nearly suggests the family members are...

- A. holy and divine
- B. objects in space
- C. cold and distant

2 “This isn’t me being noble, by the way: it’s just the way I know it is.”

The passage most strongly suggests that, in saying this, Via...

- A. doesn’t see herself as selfless
- B. wants to be praised
- C. is quietly bragging

3 “They bulge outward because his eye cavities are too shallow to accommodate them.”

According to the passage, why do August’s eyes bulge outward?

- A. he was burned long ago
- B. his eyelids hang too low
- C. his sockets cannot hold them

4 “Does August see himself as he might have looked without that single gene that caused the catastrophe of his face?”

It can reasonably be inferred that Via sees the gene’s effect on August’s face as...

- A. a temporary setback
- B. a strange mystery
- C. a terrible disaster

5 “He looks better now, no doubt about that, but the signs we used to gauge his moods are all gone.”

It can reasonably be inferred that Via now finds it harder to...

- A. help August sleep
- B. tell how August feels
- C. make August laugh

6 “I’ve seen Auggie brushing his hair in the bathroom mirror. He meticulously tries to get every hair in place.”

Which statement is best supported by the passage?

- A. he barely looks at his hair
- B. he is proud of his looks
- C. he fixes every hair with care

7 “Of course she has a MetroCard! answered Dad, fully exasperated.”

The passage most strongly suggests that Dad is...

- A. out of patience with Mom’s worry
- B. afraid for Via’s safety
- C. angry that Via talked back

8 “Not one person in the exotic mix of my family gene pool has ever shown any obvious signs of having what August has.”

Which statement is best supported by the passage?

- A. Via’s family is odd and scary
- B. Via’s family has far-flung roots
- C. Via’s family is rich and glam

9 “Sometimes these mutations occur during pregnancy. Sometimes they’re inherited from one parent carrying the dominant gene.”

According to the passage, mutations are best understood as...

- A. changes in a person’s genes
- B. germs caught while sick
- C. traits passed on unchanged

10 “Geneticists use these Punnett squares to determine inheritance, recessive and dominant genes, probabilities and chance.”

As it is used in the passage, a “recessive” gene is one that...

- A. stays hidden behind a dominant gene
- B. only appears in older people
- C. always controls how you look

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Wonder
Parts 2-3
by R. J. Palacio

#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	A	Character comprehension.
3	C	
4	C	
5	B	
6	C	
7	A	Character comprehension.
8	B	
9	A	
10	A	The key relies on the genetics chapter, not the excerpt alone: a recessive gene shows only when paired with another.

Teacher Context: Parts 2-3

Narration shifts to August's older sister Via, who reflects on how the family revolves around him and on her own start at a new high school, then to Summer, a classmate who chooses to sit with August. Both retell overlapping events from new viewpoints. These two short parts are grouped as the book's first pair of alternate narrators and to balance section length.