

Wonder

Part 4

by R. J. Palacio

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: empathy, fringe, glaring, hypocrite, impressionable, protocol, retrospect, stringent, sympathetic, warranted

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

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Reading novels can help build **empathy**.
 - A. sharing others' feelings
 - B. staying calm under stress
 - C. remembering many facts
2. We camped at the **fringe** of the forest.
 - A. the thickest part
 - B. the outer edge
 - C. the highest point
3. My brother kept **glaring** at me across the table.
 - A. staring in surprise
 - B. staring in wonder
 - C. staring angrily
4. No one trusts a **hypocrite** for very long.
 - A. a person who fakes their beliefs
 - B. a person who brags a lot
 - C. a person who is easily fooled
5. New students can be quite **impressionable**.
 - A. highly ambitious
 - B. easily distracted
 - C. easily influenced
6. Astronauts must follow **protocol** before every launch.
 - A. a set procedure
 - B. a long countdown
 - C. a healthy diet
7. In **retrospect**, I wish I had spoken up sooner.
 - A. a burst of pride
 - B. a look back at the past
 - C. a moment of doubt
8. The gym has **stringent** rules about safety.
 - A. strict and demanding
 - B. old and familiar
 - C. long and detailed
9. The nurse was **sympathetic** when I broke my arm.
 - A. cheerful and talkative
 - B. caring and understanding
 - C. calm and patient
10. Her worry was **warranted** after the strange phone call.
 - A. noticeable
 - B. temporary
 - C. justified

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

what is essential is invisible to the eye — the qualities that matter most in a person cannot be seen or judged from outward appearance

ANSWER KEY

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

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

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

1 "... the sister was glaring at me like she was going to kill me."

As it is used in the passage, the word "glaring" most nearly suggests that the sister felt...

- A. mild curiosity about Jack
- B. sudden fear of Jack
- C. fierce anger toward Jack

2 "I honestly thought both my boys were more sympathetic than that."

The passage most strongly suggests that, by not being "sympathetic," Jamie and Jack failed to...

- A. imagine how August felt
- B. invite August over
- C. remember August's name

3 "Although I think hitting a child would be valid grounds for expulsion in other schools, I agree such extreme measures aren't warranted here."

In context, the word "warranted" emphasizes that Mrs. Albans thinks expelling Jack would not be...

- A. a public decision
- B. a lasting punishment
- C. a justified response

4 "In retrospect, ... I think it may have been too much to ask of our children to be able to process all that."

It can reasonably be inferred that, speaking "in retrospect," Mrs. Albans is now...

- A. rethinking a past decision
- B. making an immediate demand
- C. predicting a future problem

5 "We think the transition to middle school is hard enough without having to place greater burdens or hardships on these young, impressionable minds."

Which statement about the children is best supported by Mrs. Albans's use of "impressionable"?

- A. They are poorly behaved.
- B. They are easily influenced.
- C. They are unusually gifted.

6 "... this child was not held to the same stringent application standards (i.e. interview) that the rest of the incoming middle-school students were."

As it is used in the passage, the word "stringent" most nearly means...

- A. strict and demanding
- B. fair and balanced
- C. brief and simple

7 "We felt that this slight break in protocol was warranted but in no way prejudicial—in one way or another—to the application review."

According to Mr. Tushman, the "break in protocol" he allowed was...

- A. interviewing August at his home
- B. skipping the interview entirely
- C. changing August's test scores

8 "In fact, I thought it would teach them a thing or two about empathy, and friendship, and loyalty. As it turns out, Jack Will didn't need to learn any of these virtues—he already had them in abundance."

Which detail best supports the idea that Jack already understood "empathy"?

- A. he feared August at first
- B. he copied August's homework
- C. he defended and befriended August

9 "They weren't at Julian's table, but they were near him, like on the fringe of popularity."

According to the passage, sitting "on the fringe of popularity" means Luca and Isaiah were...

- A. avoiding the other students
- B. near the popular group's edge
- C. fully part of the popular group

10 "Okay, I'm a total hypocrite. I know."

It can reasonably be inferred that Jack calls himself a "hypocrite" because he...

- A. forgot to introduce August
- B. avoided August himself at first
- C. argued with Summer at lunch

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	C	
2	A	Event comprehension.
3	C	The verb 'warranted' here means 'justified,' not 'warned.'
4	A	
5	B	
6	A	
7	A	Event comprehension.
8	C	Character comprehension.
9	B	'Fringe' is figurative here—social position, not a physical edge.
10	B	Character comprehension.

Teacher Context: Part 4

Jack Will narrates his side of his friendship with August, including how it began and the fallout from a comment August overheard at Halloween. The part follows their falling-out and eventual repair. Part Four stands alone for its length and its single sustained narrator.