

Woodsong

by Gary Paulsen

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: abate, abound, agitate, alleviate, coherent, consequence, diffuse, distinct, duration, essential, gene, illustrate, indignant, mane, melancholy, novel, paradox, persist, primarily, sufficient



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Woodsong

by Gary Paulsen

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

Vocabulary Preview

Woodsong

by Gary Paulsen

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The pain **abated**.
 - A. increased
 - B. varied
 - C. decreased
2. Rumors **abound** about the new student in class.
 - A. are plentiful
 - B. are rare
 - C. gradually disappear
3. She gets **agitated** whenever the topic comes up.
 - A. calm and thoughtful
 - B. gloomy (sad)
 - C. emotionally disturbed
4. She wants to save the planet and **alleviate** poverty at the same time.
 - A. understand
 - B. eliminate
 - C. lessen
5. Her argument is **coherent**.
 - A. unreasonable
 - B. fragmented
 - C. sensible and clear
6. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
 - A. result
 - B. unimportant part
 - C. important part
7. She helped **diffuse** his ideas throughout the school.
 - A. improve
 - B. discourage
 - C. spread
8. Two **distinct** brain networks guide our judgments.
 - A. different
 - B. similar
 - C. identical
9. The **duration** of the flight from New York to London is about seven hours.
 - A. length of time
 - B. total cost
 - C. distance covered
10. Regular exercise is **essential** for maintaining good cardiovascular health.
 - A. occasionally helpful
 - B. absolutely necessary
 - C. completely optional
11. Half the **genes** come from the father and half from the mother.
 - A. advice
 - B. second cousins
 - C. DNA segments
12. The example **illustrates** the belief.
 - A. disproves
 - B. proves
 - C. makes clear

13. She was **indignant**, but she agreed to be searched when they accused her of shoplifting.
- A. annoyed at something unjust
 - B. surprised at the unexpected
 - C. defensive about being suspected
14. She brushed the horse's tangled mane until it flowed smoothly down its neck.
- A. long curved tail
 - B. thick neck hair
 - C. sharp pointed hoof
15. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
- A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing
16. It is a **novel** idea and just might work.
- A. original
 - B. important
 - C. valuable
17. Her life was a **paradox**: she was both incredibly private and a bestselling memoirist.
- A. something that seems self-contradictory
 - B. something that went as expected
 - C. something that is too short
18. We expect the conditions to **persist** into next year.
- A. grow worse
 - B. continue
 - C. go away
19. The second paragraph is **primarily** concerned with showing how the colleges are different.
- A. barely
 - B. mainly
 - C. secretly
20. Is there **sufficient** cause for a search warrant?
- A. adequate (enough)
 - B. clear or obvious
 - C. dangerous

Vocabulary in Context

Woodsong

by Gary Paulsen

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 Perhaps the greatest **paradox** about understanding "the woods" is that so many who enjoy it, or seem to enjoy it, spend most of their time trying to kill parts of it.
 - A. a situation or statement that seems to contradict itself but may still be true
 - B. something exclusive to (someone or some group) -- such as an activity or place
 - C. a rough substance that can be rubbed against something else to polish or clean
- 2 He was large and wolf-like, with a thick gray **mane** and a tail that curled over his back.
 - A. select (on a computer screen)
 - B. long coarse hair on an animal
 - C. exchange, convert, or pay off
- 3 It is **genetic**, so old a code or command that it has become part of what sled dogs are; the fiber of their very being.
 - A. something exclusive to (someone or some group) -- such as an activity or place
 - B. a rough substance that can be rubbed against something else to polish or clean
 - C. related to DNA sequences or units of heredity that influence biological traits
- 4 To **alleviate** the boredom we give the dogs large beef bones to chew and play with.
 - A. provide investment funds for something -- such as a business
 - B. ignore someone's wishes or cause inconvenience or discomfort
 - C. to lessen something that is bad -- especially to lessen pain
- 5 I brushed her head away, fearing infection, but she **persisted**.
 - A. disagreed
 - B. continued
 - C. stuck out
- 6 Primarily the difference between people and animals is that people use fire.
 - A. really
 - B. mainly
 - C. wisely
- 7 There is a happy song they sing when the moon is full on the snow and they are fed and there is a rain song, which is **melancholy**—they don't like rain very much—and there is a song they sing when you have been with them in the kennel and start to walk away, a come-back-and-don't-go-away sad song.
 - A. relating to the outside
 - B. a sad feeling or manner
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 8 I couldn't tell the number, maybe five or six; they kept moving in **agitation** and it was hard to pin them down, but they were clearly reluctant to let her go, although they were also clearly afraid of me and being close to me.
 - A. officially telling someone about something; or something that contains the message
 - B. formula (a mathematical expression that describe a relationship between variables)
 - C. the act of stirring up (emotionally or physically); or a state of emotional unrest
- 9 We live on the edge of wilderness and **consequently** the meat smell brings any number of visitors from the woods.
 - A. resultantly (as a result)
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 10 Skunks **abound**, and foxes and coyotes and wolves and weasels—all predators.
 - A. abundant or plentiful
 - B. are extremely rare
 - C. gradually disappear

- 11 *The first time you see a bear in the kennel it is a **novelty**, but when the same ones are there day after day, you wind up naming some of them (old Notch-Ear, Billy-Jo, etc.) There gets to be a too relaxed attitude.*
- A. the quality of being new and original
 - B. lacking or not based on basic beliefs
 - C. not bouncing back light/heat/sound...
- 12 *Looking back on it I don't remember having one **coherent** thought when it was happening.*
- A. not relating to practice or belief that is long-established or was previously long-established
 - B. relating to a residential area located near the outer edge of a city where it isn't as crowded
 - C. sensible and clear; or describing parts as fitting together in a consistent or pleasing manner
- 13 *They can indeed be mean, but they are wonderfully self-**sufficient** and fun to have around even if it takes about thirty of their small eggs to make a decent omelet.*
- A. adequate (enough -- often without being more than is needed)
 - B. in a manner of taking on or adopting power or responsibility
 - C. producing a stream of atomic particles through nuclear decay
- 14 *The light came from within it, a cold-glowing green light with yellow edges that **diffused** the shape, making it change and grow as I watched.*
- A. concentrated, look at, or paid attention to
 - B. began speaking with someone about something
 - C. mixed in; or spread; or softened; or calmed
- 15 *Moose are large, and **essentially** insane with an almost pathological hatred of the dogs, the sled, the musher, trees, trains, cars, and everything else as near as I can figure.*
- A. with an orientation that is straight up and down (90 degrees relative to the floor)
 - B. basically (in all important respects; or relating to the basic nature of something)
 - C. in a manner that is extremely unpleasant, disgusting, dislikable, or worthy of hate
- 16 *One unforgettable incident with the electric' fence **illustrates** his persistence.*
- A. strongly desires
 - B. lies or misleads
 - C. helps make clear
- 17 *We **hunkered** in for the duration.*
- A. the time during which something continues
 - B. a particular understanding or explanation
 - C. meticulousness (care about small details)
- 18 *As I watch he turns to look up at me—he is very **distinct** and I can see the wrinkles in the fabric of his coat, my own reflection in his glasses—he turns to look at me and begins to speak in a low voice about federal educational grants.*
- A. clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate
 - B. not capable of being better understood through detailed examination
 - C. unbelieving; or having difficulty accepting something so unexpected
- 19 *I have not rested well and the hallucinations start about midnight and I have the same man in the trench coat on the sled for a time, talking to me about educational grants, until I tell him to shut up and leave and he becomes **indignant**.*
- A. angered or annoyed at something unjust or wrong
 - B. surprised as something unexpected
 - C. accepted of something undesired as unavoidable
- 20 *The wind **abates**, the sun comes out, the trail across is flat—frozen seawater—and the dogs are well rested.*
- A. draws pictures to accompany
 - B. treats harshly and unfairly
 - C. reduces amount or intensity

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Woodsong

by Gary Paulsen

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	paradox	High-utility academic word
2	B	mane	Used 3 times in this book.
3	C	gene (<i>as in: the gene impacts eye color</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
4	C	alleviate	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
5	B	persist	Used 4 times in this book.
6	B	primarily	High-utility academic word
7	B	melancholy	Used 2 times in this book.
8	C	agitate	High-utility academic word
9	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
10	A	abound	Used 2 times in this book.
11	A	novel (<i>as in: a novel situation</i>)	High-utility academic word
12	C	coherent	High-utility academic word
13	A	sufficient	High-utility academic word
14	C	diffuse	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	B	essential	High-utility academic word
16	C	illustrate (<i>as in: as illustrated by this example</i>)	High-utility academic word
17	A	duration	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	A	distinct	High-utility academic word
19	A	indignant	High-utility academic word
20	C	abate	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.