

Helpful Reading Strategies

Test Tips

- 1. read <u>all</u> directions carefully.
- 2. Be sure you understand the directions.
- 3. read <u>all</u> answer choices before choosing one.
- 4. Format changes may <u>not</u> signal a change in directions; don't be tricked.
- 5. Look for the key words in the directions.
- 6. Skip difficult items, and come back to them.
- 7. read back over your test to be sure you answered all questions.
- 8. if you aren't sure which answer is correct, take your best guess.

Reading Strategies

- ★ When reading comprehension is tested, the questions are testing your ability to read for details and to find meaning in the text.
- ★ When you are looking for the main idea of a selection, look at the first sentence, the last sentence, or the title.t hese usually provide a good clue as to the main idea.
- ★ When the directions say choose the "most important idea," or "the main problem," remember that there is probably more than one right answer. you need to look for the BeSt answer.
- ★ When you are trying to figure out a vocabulary word from context, replace the word with the answer and see if it fits.
- ★ Watch out for negatives. Some questions say, "which of the following is not true?". you are looking for the one that is wrong (false).
- ★ use context clues to figure out words or ideas you don't understand.
- ★ Word-meaning questions test your vocabulary and your ability to figure out unfamiliar words.

name: _____

UNIT ONE: READING

Lesson One: Vocabulary

Directions: Select the word that means the same or nearly the same as the underlined word.

- 1. her bedroom looked like an impending disaster.
 - a. near
 - B. huge
 - c. upsetting
 - D. approaching
- 2. the airplane <u>veered</u> sharply to the right to avoid hitting the trees.
 - a. deviated
 - B. turned
 - c. swerved
 - D. pitched
- 3. her songs convey a sense of sadness.
 - a. carry
 - B. move
 - c. keep
 - D. shift
- 4. the teacher said Blanche's idea was brilliant.
 - a. stupid
 - B. highly intelligent
 - c. glorious
 - D. splendid
- 5. gail's car starts sluggishly on cold winter mornings.
 - a. swiftly
 - B. alertly
 - c. slowly
 - D. energetically

read all directions carefully.

Date: _____



name: ______ Date: _____

Lesson One: Vocabulary (cont.)

Directions: choose the synonym for each underlined word.

- 6. to be <u>stubborn</u> is to be _____.
 - a. yielding
 - B. determined
 - c. tractable
 - D. reasonable
- 7. to smirk is to _____.
 - a. frown
 - B. cry
 - c. grin
 - D. stare
- 8. to be reluctant is to be _____.
 - a. disinclined
 - B. eager
 - c. disposed
 - D. inclined
- 9. to be acrimonious is to be _____.
 - a. sweet
 - B. pleasant
 - c. bitter
 - D. better
- 10. if your interest in something wanes, it _____.
 - a. decreases in intensity
 - B. increases in intensity
 - c. switches to something else
 - D. gets you into trouble
- 11. to be vermin is to be _____.
 - a. dead
 - B. cute
 - c. full of vitamins
 - D. disgusting

Be sure you understand the directions.



- 12. <u>ubiquitous</u> means _____.
 - a. always being absent
 - B. being everywhere at once
 - c. not showing up on time
 - D. always being right

name: _____

Lesson One: Vocabulary (cont.)

Directions: choose the antonym for each underlined word.

- 13. if you are not obtuse, then you are _____.
 - a. shrewd
 - B. expert
 - c. authentic
 - D. nimble
- 14. if you are not despondent, then you have _____.
 - a. love
 - B. courage
 - c. hope
 - D. intelligence
- 15. if you are not <u>antagonistic</u>, then you might be _____.
 - a. adverse
 - B. repugnant
 - c. false
 - D. agreeable
- 16. your classroom may be tumultuous, or it might be _____.
 - a. calm
 - B. loud
 - c. fragrant
 - D. hostile
- 17. you can either <u>acquiesce</u> to her demands, or you could _____ them.
 - a. agree with
 - B. go along with
 - c. encourage
 - D. thwart

Directions: choose the word that best completes each analogy. *Example:* open : (*is to*) close :: (*as*) up : (*is to*) down

- 18. slowly: gradually:: close:
 - a. near
- c. distance

B. far

D. here

When you are trying to figure out a vocabulary word from context, replace the word with the answer choices to see which one fits.

Date: _____



name: ______ Date: _____

Lesson One: Vocabulary (cont.)

19. whale : large :: guppy :

a. bigbigc. smallD. ocean

20. star: constellation:: ship:

a. steelb. fleetc. engined. train

21. apatosaurus : dinosaur :: Venus :

a. rocket c. planetarium

B. planet D. sun

22. tired: sleep:: hungry:

a. eatb. growc. learnd. study

23. one: three:: four:

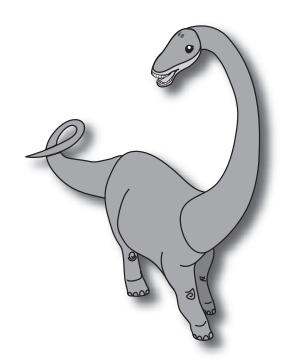
a. elevenb. sevenc. sixd. eight

24. he:his::i:

a. she c. her B. mine D. me

25. car : garage :: refrigerator :

a. drinkb. storec. eatd. kitchen



Directions: choose the answer that best explains what each of these phrases means.

- 26. "an apple a day keeps the doctor away."
 - a. apples smell, so the doctor won't come.
 - B. apples promote good health.
 - c. rely on home treatments for illnesses.
 - D. you'll never catch a cold.
- 27. "Saved by the bell"
 - a. you are on time.
 - B. you are free to go.
 - c. Sit down and get ready for class.
 - D. rescued just in time

name: _____

Lesson One: Vocabulary (cont.)

- 28. "raining cats and dogs"
 - a. to hurt someone's feelings
 - B. it is raining very hard.
 - c. raining lightly
 - D. cats and dogs are falling out of trees.
- 29. "afraid of one's own shadow"
 - a. Very easily frightened
 - B. the shadow is chasing one.
 - c. you are so frightened that your shadow disappears.
 - D. a very courageous person
- 30. "Skating on thin ice"
 - a. Skating where it is very dangerous
 - B. Quit while you are ahead.
 - c. Stop doing what you are doing.
 - D. you are risking disapproval.

Word-meaning questions test your vocabulary and your ability to figure out unfamiliar words.

Date: _____



Directions: choose the correct literary term for each definition.

- a story that contains humor and ends happily is a(n) _____.
 - a. conflicted plot
- c. essay

B. comedy

- D. tragedy
- 32. Words that create strong mental pictures
 - a. imagery
- c. onomatopoeia
- B. hyperbole
- D. simile
- 33. the main idea in a piece of literature
 - a. plot

c. point of view

B. theme

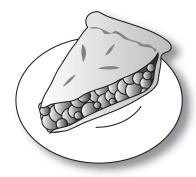
- D. characters
- 34. alliteration is when
 - a. a word is greatly exaggerated.
 - B. two or more words have the same ending sound.
 - c. a word imitates the sound it represents.
 - D. two or more words have the same beginning sound.

Lesson One: Vocabulary (cont.)

- 35. the plot is
 - a. the main idea of the story.
 - B. the bad guy in the story.
 - c. the sequence of events in the story.
 - D. the characters in the story.

Directions: choose the sentence in which the underlined word has the same meaning as in the example sentence.

- 36. "Please line up single file," our teacher said.
 - a. the nine judges, dressed in black robes, filed in.
 - B. the prisoner used a file to cut the metal bars of his cell.
 - c. the cook has a large <u>file</u> of recipes.
 - D. i <u>filed</u> all the messages that were on his desk.
- 37. this bonus means that we can take a trip to california.
 - a. the telephone is a means of communication.
 - B. that symbol means "no smoking."
 - c. My brother glenn is very mean about money.
 - D. the neighbors are living beyond their <u>means</u>.
- 38. the crowd <u>pressed</u> me into a corner of the elevator.
 - a. he runs a <u>press</u> at the paper.
 - B. the <u>pressed</u> grapes made good juice.
 - $c\,.$ $\,$ celine $\,\underline{pressed}$ the doorbell so hard that it broke.
 - D. he <u>pressed</u> his horse to run faster.
- 39. thousands of teenagers jammed into the coliseum.
 - a. i jammed my finger in the car door.
 - B. the musicians <u>jammed</u> for a while after the concert.
 - $c\,.$ $\,\,$ the kids $\,\,\underline{\text{jammed}}$ the dance floor when the band began to play.
 - D. Doug is in a jam because he didn't study for the test.
- 40. i admit it; i ate the last bit of pie.
 - a. Did you like that comedy bit?
 - B. Bobby picked up a bit of string from the floor.
 - c . the horse did not like the $\ \underline{\text{bit}}$ in its mouth.
 - D. She was a bit sleepy.



_____ Date: _____ name: ____

Lesson One: Vocabulary (cont.)

Directions: choose the correct word to fill in the blank.

- 41. Sally was under the _____ that she had won the contest.
 - allusion a.

c. delusion

B. illusion

institution D.

42. their _____ was slow and careful.

descent a.

dissent

B. decent D. dissident

43. Shirley is a(n) _____ young woman.

adventuresome

c. venturous

B. adventurous D. venturesome

44. Mr. Martin made a(n) _____ lapse in judgment.

egregious a.

c . D. exceptional

outstanding B.

tragic

45. _____ the size of golf balls fell on our new car.

a. hill С. hail

B. hale D. hayle

46. Dustin was _____ when Darlene took his toy.

indigenous a.

С. indigent

B. indignant

indignity D.

47. amanda looked _____ clean for a change.

respectably a.

c. respectfully

respectively B.

respectability D.

48. all our efforts to bring the author to our school were _____.

repulsed a.

C. repelled

B. rebuffed D. recoiled

49. _____ pants were hanging on the backs of the chairs.

there a.

С. they're

they are B.

D. their

50. clydesdales are a _____ breed of horse.

hardy a.

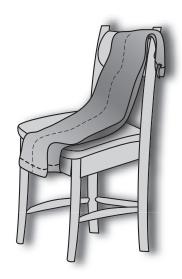
C. heady

handy D.

D. hardly

if you aren't sure which answer is correct, take your best guess.





name: ______ Date: _____

Lesson One: Vocabulary (cont.)

Directions: choose the word that could take the place of the underlined word in each sentence.

- 51. Barbara's toddler was a real <u>nuisance</u> at the play.
 - a. cutey

- c. naughty
- B. annoyance
- D. offensive
- 52. the <u>factitious</u> laughter for the sitcom was so annoying.
 - a. playful

c. artificial

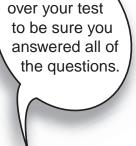
B. amusing

- D. snide
- 53. if you would only call when you are late, it would <u>mitigate</u> his worry.
 - a. delay

c. lessen

B. increase

- D. expand
- 54. Vultures are <u>rapacious</u> eaters.
 - a. voracious
- c. rowdy
- B. disgusting
- D. selfish
- 55. her daughter's temerity with animals worries my friend.
 - a. kindness
- c. gentleness
- B. boldness
- D. aggression



read back



Review

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