**Reading Vocabulary**

**DIRECTIONS**

Choose the word that means the same, or about the same, as the underlined word. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

**SAMPLE A**

An *isolated* person is

<p>| | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>atrophied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>absurd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>sinister</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>alone</td>
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**1. Placidly means the same as**

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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>promptly</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>peacefully</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>precisely</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>perfectly</td>
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**2. Another word for *indignant* is**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>vulnerable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>embarrassed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>angry</td>
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<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>serene</td>
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**3. Something that is *legible* is**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>easy to read</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>difficult to read</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>impossible to read</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>boring to read</td>
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**4. Perturbed means**

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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>calm</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>remote</td>
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<td>H</td>
<td>distant</td>
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<td>J</td>
<td>upset</td>
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**5. Simultaneous events occur**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>at different times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>only in the evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>at the same time</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>in the same place</td>
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**6. Fury means**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>great fright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>anguish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>great anger</td>
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<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>monotony</td>
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**7. Something that is *omnipotent* is**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>all-powerful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>ominous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>primitive</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>without power</td>
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**8. Something that is *imperceptible* is**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>not easily believed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>not easily seen or felt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>not easily digested</td>
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<td>J</td>
<td>not easily corrected</td>
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**9. Frigid means**

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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>very strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>tropical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>balmy</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>very cold</td>
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**10. To *confound* is to**

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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>argue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>confuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>dedicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>despise</td>
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DIRECTIONS
Read the sentence in the box, then choose the answer in which the underlined word is used in the same way. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

SAMPLE B
Mrs Who wore enormous spectacles, twice as thick and twice as large as Meg’s, and she was sewing busily, with rapid jabbing stitches, on a sheet. Several other sheets lay on the dusty floor.

In which sentence does the word sheets mean the same thing as in the sentence above?

A How many sheets of construction paper do you need for your art project?
B Sheets of rain blowing across the highway made most cars pull over to the side of the road.
C When the mixture sheet the spoon, the candy has cooked long enough.
D Marcia packed sheets, pillows and towels for the camping trip.

11.
“We want nothing from you that you do without grace,” Mrs Whatsit said, “or without understanding.”

In which sentence does the word grace mean the same thing as in the sentence above?

A The pastor said grace before everyone began to eat at the church potluck supper.
B When Mr. Wilson could not pay back the loan, the bank gave him a grace period of three months.
C Grace and kindness were in Mrs. Ramsey’s eyes as she offered the shivering woman her coat.
D The ballet dancers moved with grace and beauty across the stage.

12.
Meg snatched Charles Wallace’s plate and threw it on the floor, so that the dinner splashed about and the plate broke into fragments.

In which sentence does the word plate mean the same thing as in the sentence above?

F “My mother had all her upper teeth out, and Pop got her a plate, but she won’t wear it.”
G The runner skidded into home plate in a cloud of dust.
H Jennie replaced the plate that had accidentally broken in the dishwasher.
J The policeman stopped Dad’s car because his license plate was missing.

13.
Mrs. Murray held her hands out and looked at them. They were long and strong and beautiful. She touched with the fingers of her right hand the broad gold band on the third finger of her left hand.

In which sentence does the word band mean the same thing as in the sentence above?

A If we band together, the king declared, we can save the kingdom.
B The marching band followed the fire engines in the Fourth of July parade.
C Molly dreamed of a diamond wedding band and a long white dress.
D The rubber band snapped, sending papers tumbling everywhere.

14.
“At first we got lots of letters... I think Mother still writes him every night. Every once in a while the postmistress makes some kind of crack about all her letters.”

In which sentence does the word crack mean the same thing as in the sentence above?

F The bat made contact with the ball with a loud crack and sent it flying over the bleachers.
G “One more crack out of you,” the teacher warned Stuart, “and you will go to the principal’s office.”
H The crack in the oak tabletop could not be repaired.
J No burglar can crack this safe.
DIRECTIONS
As you read each sentence, use the other words in the sentence to help you figure out what the underlined word means. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

SAMPLE C
It was a dark and stormy night. In her attic bedroom Margaret Murray, wrapped in an old quilt, sat on the foot of her bed and watched the trees tossing the in the frenzied lashing of the wind.
Frenzied means--
A sluggish  
B frantic  
C serene  
D frigid  

15. Calvin looked somber; then his enormous smile lit up his face again.
Somber means--
A gloomy  
B glad  
C giddy  
D graceful  

16. In her hands was a crystal ball into which she was gazing raptly. She did not appear to see the children. Raptly means--
F with triumph  
G with complete attention  
H with indignation  
J with fury  

17. ...they were looking into an untidy kitchen with a sink full of unwashed dishes. In front of the sink stood an unkempt woman with gray hair stringing about her face. 
Unkempt means--
A nondescript  
B spindly  
C neat  
D messy  

18. Then the voice was directed to Meg. “To you I leave my glasses, little blind-as-a-bat. But do not use them except as a last resort. Save them for the final moment of peril.” Peril means--
F adventure  
G excitement  
H danger  
J vision  

19. The man on the chair spoke directly into Meg’s mind, and now there was a distinct menace to the words. “I am not pleased,” he said to her. “I could very easily lose patience with you...”
Menace means--
A grace  
B frankness  
C threat  
D sarcasm  

20. She looked out of the column, and there was Charles Wallace in the cell, an alien expression distorting his face. 
Distorting means--
F clarifying  
G jeopardizing  
H illuminating  
J twisting out of shape
Reading Comprehension

DIRECTIONS
Read each passage, then read each question about the passage. Decide which is the best answer to the question. Circle the letter for the answer you have chosen.

SAMPLE

From chapter 1
Mrs Whatsit

In the kitchen a light was already on, and Charles Wallace was sitting at the table drinking milk and eating bread and jam. He looked very small and vulnerable sitting there alone in the big old-fashioned kitchen, a blond little boy in faded blue Dr. Dentons, his feet swinging a good six inches above the floor.

“Hi,” he said cheerfully. “I’ve been waiting for you.”...

“Why didn’t you come up to the attic?” Meg asked her brother, speaking as though he were at least her own age. “I’ve been scared stiff.”

“Too windy up in that attic of yours,” the little boy said, “I knew you’d be down. I put some milk on the stove for you. It ought to be hot by now.”

How did Charles Wallace always know about her? How could he always tell? He never knew – or seemed to care – what Dennys or Sandy were thinking. It was his mother’s mind, and Meg’s, that he probed with frightening accuracy.

1. Charles Wallace knew that Meg would come down to the kitchen because
   A he knew that she liked bread and jam.
   B he could hear her coming down the stairs.
   C the wind was blowing.
   D he always knew about her.

2. Which of the following items is not part of the author’s characterization of Charles Wallace?
   F He looked very small and vulnerable...
   G “Why didn’t you come up to the attic?” Meg asked...
   H It was his mother’s mind, and Meg’s, that he probed with frightening accuracy.
   J ...a blond little boy in faded blue Dr. Dentons...
From chapter 4
The Black Thing

The trees were lashed into a violent frenzy. Meg screamed and clutched at Calvin, and Mrs Which’s authoritative voice called out, “Quiet child!”

Did a shadow fall across the moon, or did the moon simply go out, extinguished as abruptly and completely as a candle? There was still the sound of leaves, a terrified, terrifying rushing. All light was gone. Darkness was complete. Suddenly the wind was gone, and all sound. Meg felt that Calvin was being torn from her. When she reached for him, her fingers touched nothing.

She screamed out, “Charles!” and whether it was to help him or for him to help her, she did not know. The word was flung back down her throat and she choked on it.

She was completely alone.

She had lost the protection of Calvin’s hand. Charles was nowhere, either to save or to turn to. She was alone in a fragment of nothingness. No light, no sound, no feeling. Where was her body? She tried to move in her panic, but there was nothing to move. Just as light and sound had vanished, she was gone too. The corporeal Meg simply was not.

Then she felt her limbs again. Her legs and arms were tingling faintly, as though they had been asleep. She blinked her eyes rapidly, but though she herself was somehow back, nothing else was. It was not as simple as darkness, or absence of light. Darkness has a tangible quality; it can be moved through and felt; in darkness you can bark your shins; the world of things still exits around you. She was lost in a horrifying void.

It was the same way with the silence. This was more than silence. A deaf person can feel vibrations. Here there was nothing to feel.

Suddenly she was aware of her heart beating rapidly within the cage of her ribs. Had it stopped before? What had made it start again? The tingling in her arms and legs grew stronger, and suddenly she felt movement. This movement, she felt, must be the turning of the earth, rotating on its axis, traveling its elliptic course about the sun. And this feeling of moving with the earth was somewhat like the feeling of being in the ocean, out in the ocean beyond this rising and falling of the breakers, lying on the moving water, pulsing gently with the swells, and feeling the gentle, inexorable tug of the moon.

1. Which of the following would be a good title for this passage?
   A “Moving with the Rotating Earth”
   B “A Trip to Nothingness and Back Again”
   C “The Disappearance of Charles and Calvin”
   D “Mrs Which’s Journey”

2. Which of the following is not a part of Meg’s experience in this passage?
   F She tried to move in her panic.
   G She began to feel her limbs again.
   H She clutched Charles’s hand frantically.
   J She felt the movement of the turning of the earth.

3. Chose the words that best describe the mood of this passage.
   A lasting numbness
   B wonderful excitement
   C intense sadness
   D terrifying emptiness

4. From the context, we can guess that the word “corporeal” in the sentence “The corporeal Meg simply was not” (fifth paragraph) means
   F physical
   G mental
   H remote
   J emotional
5. From this passage, you can infer that
   A  Mrs Which is trying to kill Meg.
   B  Mrs Which knows what is going to happen.
   C  Mrs Which separates Calvin from Meg and Charles.
   D  Mrs Which controls the moon.

6. Which one of the following lets you know that the events in this passage are fantasy?
   F  The wind blows the trees violently.
   G  Meg’s body totally disappears.
   H  Meg suddenly feels her heart beating.
   J  Meg feels alone and terrified.

7. Look at the sequence chart given below. Which of the following events belongs in box 3?
   A  The light of the moon disappears.
   B  Meg can no longer feel Calvin’s hand.
   C  She chokes when she tries to scream her brother’s name.
   D  The wind suddenly stops blowing.
Below them the town [Camazotz] was laid out in harsh angular patterns. The houses in the outskirts were all exactly alike, small square boxes painted gray. Each had a small, rectangular plot of lawn in front, with a straight line of dull-looking flowers edging the path to the door. Meg had a feeling that if she could count the flowers there would be exactly the same number for each house. In front of all the houses children were playing. Some were skipping rope, some were bouncing balls. Meg felt vaguely that something was wrong with their play. It seemed exactly like children playing around any housing development at home, and yet there was something different about it. She looked at Calvin, and saw that he, too, was puzzled.

“Look!” Charles Wallace said suddenly. “They’re skipping and bouncing in rhythm! Everyone’s doing it at exactly the same moment.”

This was so. As the skipping rope hit the pavement, so did the ball. As the rope curved over the head of the jumping child, the child with the ball caught the ball. Down came the ropes, down came the balls. Over and over again. Up. Down. All in rhythm. All identical. Like the houses. Like the paths. Like the flowers.

Then the doors of all the houses opened simultaneously, and out came women like a row of paper dolls. The print of their dresses was different, but they all gave the appearance of being the same. Each woman stood on the steps of her house. Each clapped. Each child with the ball caught the ball. Each child with the skipping rope folded the rope. Each child turned and walked into the house. The doors clicked shut behind them.

8. What is most unusual about the children’s play?
   F They are all bouncing balls.
   G They are skipping and bouncing in the same rhythm.
   H They are playing in front of their houses.
   J They are all skipping rope.

9. The only thing that is not exactly alike in the scene that the children observe is
   A the design of the flower gardens.
   B the size of the front lawns.
   C the print of the women’s dresses.
   D the color of the houses.

10. Based on this passage, what can you predict the children will find as they walk further into the town?
   F The town will look like a normal town.
   G They will get lost and need to ask for directions.
   H People will stare at them and wonder why strange children are in the town.
   J Buildings, people, and people’s actions will all be the same.
11. The graphic organizer below shows the features of the strange town of Camazotz. Which of the following headings belongs in the space marked “X”?
   A  The Women of the Town
   B  The Flowers in the Yards
   C  The Toys of the Children
   D  The Layout of the Town

12. Which of the following statements belongs in the space marked “Y”?
   F  The doors clicks shut behind them.
   G  Each house has exactly the same number of flowers.
   H  The print of their dresses is different.
   J  They are skipping and bouncing in rhythm.

---

**The Houses of the Town**
- All are exactly alike.
- All are small square boxes.
- Each has a small rectangular plot of lawn in front.
- A straight line of dull-looking flowers edged the path to the door.

**The Children of the Town**
- Some are skipping rope.
- Some are bouncing balls
- Y
  - Each child with a ball catches the ball.
  - Each child with a skipping rope folds the rope.

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Camazotz

X
- They come out like a row of paper dolls.
- All wear printed dresses.
- Each stands on the steps of her house.
- Each claps.
From chapter 12
The Foolish and the Weak

Mr. Murray was running across the lawn, Mrs. Murray running toward him, and they were in each other’s arms, and then there was a tremendous happy jumble of arms and legs and hugging, the older Murrays and Meg and Charles Wallace and the twins, and Calvin grinning by them until Meg reached out and pulled him in and Mrs. Murray gave him a special hug all of his own. They were talking and laughing all at once, when they were startled by a crash, and Fortinbras, who could bear being left out of the happiness not one second longer, catapulted his sleek black body right through the screened door to the kitchen. He dashed across the lawn to join in the joy, and almost knocked them all over with the exuberance of his greeting.

Meg knew all at once that Mrs Whatsit, Mrs Who, and Mrs Which must be near, because all through her she felt a flooding of joy and love that was even greater and deeper than the joy and love which were already there.

She stopped laughing and listened, and Charles listened too. “Hush.”

Then there was a whirring, and Mrs Whatsit, Mrs Who, and Mrs Which were standing in front of them, and the joy and love were so tangible that Meg felt that if she only knew where to reach she could touch it with her bare hands.

Mrs Whatsit said breathlessly, “Oh my darlings, I’m sorry we don’t have time to say goodbye to you properly. You see, we have to – .”

But they never learned what it was that Mrs Whatsit, Mrs Who, and Mrs Which had to do, for there was a gust of wind, and they were gone.

13. Which is the best title for this selection?
A “A Happy Homecoming”
B “Goodbye to Magic”
C “Fortinbras Joins the Family”
D “The Appearance of Mrs Whatsit, Mrs Who, and Mrs Which”

14. Meg knows that Mrs Whatsit, Mrs Who, and Mrs Which are near because
F her father has finally come home.
G Charles Wallace tells her that they are near.
H she feels a flooding of love and joy.
J she hears a whirring sound.

15. Although Mrs Whatsit does not finish telling what she, Mrs Who, and Mrs Which have to do, the best prediction is
A they have to bring joy and love to other people who are troubled.
B they have to steal more sheets.
C they have to return to the haunted house.
D they have to remain invisible.