Reading For Comprehension Series
By Lee Ann Berg

Divergent
By Veronica Roth
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Divergent
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Teacher’s Guide

Please note: The number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word. (Word grade placement is per EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989.)

This book was read, and the questions were written from an e-book publication of this selection. Therefore pages numbers on which to find the questions are not available.
Chapter One

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)

*divergent* (__,) to differ in character, form, or in opinion; deviate  
*self-indulgent* (__,) to, for, or toward one’s self  
*reprimand* (9) a severe or formal reproof, blame, or censure for a fault  
*abnegation* (13) deny, renounce, surrender, relinquish  
*surly* (9) having a rude unfriendly disposition; morose, glum, sullen, sulky, gloomy  
*placid* (11) undisturbed, peaceful, tranquil, serene, calm  
*mania* (11) excessive enthusiasm  
*erudite* (13) scholarship, learning  
*amicity* (12) friendship, friendly relations  
*candor* (11+) frankness, outspokenness  
*antagonistic* (9+) active opposition or hostility  
*demeanor* (12) conduct, bearing  
*perplex* (5) confuse, to disturb mentally  
*resonating* (11) resounding, reverberate  
*exodus* (12) a mass departure; emigration

Comprehension Questions

1. **What does the word “divergent” mean?** It means to differ in character, form or in opinion. It means to deviate.

2. **After reading Chapter One of this book, to what genre does the book Divergent belong?** It would be considered science-fiction.

3. **To what faction did the girl’s family belong?** They belonged to Abnegation.

4. **What did Caleb do on the bus that showed one of his faction’s principles?** He gave his seat to a Candor man. Caleb showed selflessness.

5. **What did the factions of Candor and Abnegation value?** Candor valued honesty, Abnegation honored selflessness.

6. **For what did the Dauntless faction strive?** They strove to be daring and brave.

7. **Into what the five factions would the aptitude tests place the sixteen-year-olds?** The factions were Abnegation Candor, Erudite, Amity, and Dauntless.

8. **How did the member of the faction of Dauntless prove their daring on arriving to school each day?** They exited the bus they were riding while it was still moving.

9. **How did the girl feel about taking her aptitude test?** She was curious, anxious, nervous, and somewhat excited.

10. **How could one tell that a person belonged to the Dauntless faction by just looking at that person?** A Dauntless person would be pierced, tattooed and wearing black.
Chapter Two

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)

inconvenience (8) trouble or difficulty caused to one’s personal requirements or comfort
dictate (8) give an order or state dictatorially or authoritatively
supersede (12) take the place of a person or thing previously in control or use
preference (7) a greater liking for one thing over another
defy (6) openly refuse an order to obey
wrenches (6) sudden violent twists or pulls
obscuring (9) unknown, vague, not seen clearly
electrode (_) conductor through which electricity enters an object or substance
vial (9) small container usually made of glass
secreted (9) produced and discharged a substance
duress (12) threats or constraints used on someone to do something against their will
cringe (_) bend one’s head or body in fear or apprehension in a servile manner

Comprehension Questions

1. What rules were followed when taking the aptitude test? The test takers were not allowed to prepare in anyway, and they couldn’t be tested by someone from their parent faction.

2. How did Caleb act when he returned from the test? He was plaster pale, his palms were sweaty, and his fingers shook.

3. What tattoo did Beatrice Prior see on the Dauntless woman, and what did the woman say the tattoo signified? It was a hawk. And according to the woman it symbolized the sun in the ancient world.

4. How did the woman prepare Beatrice for the test? She attached an electrode to Beatrice’s and her own forehead. She then had Beatrice drink a vial of clear liquid.

5. What obstacle did Beatrice meet in her dreamlike state? She met a vicious dog which she had to control so it didn’t rip her and a young child apart.

6. Where did Beatrice find herself next, and what was her dilemma? She was on the bus where a man showed her a newspaper article about an apprehended murderer.

7. What did the man with the newspaper ask Beatrice? He asked if Beatrice knew the man in the article, and though she thought she did know the man, Beatrice lied.
Chapter Three

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)

- **pang of guilt**  (_)  a sudden sharp pain of remorse
- **inconclusive**  (_)  not leading to a conclusion or cause; not removing doubt
- **simulation**  (11)  pretend to have an emotion; to imitate the appearance of
- **eliminates**  (8)  completely or entirely remove; get rid of
- **scenario**  (_)  a possible sequence of events leading to a supposed consequence
- **linear faction**  (10)  a serious of events moving along toward a consequence without side events that could hamper that consequence
- **precariously**  (11)  dangerously likely to fall or collapse
- **renovation**  (10)  the act of rebuilding or fixing something to make it appear as it once had or make it better than before

Comprehension Questions

1. What kind of look did Tori have on her face when Beatrice returned to consciousness? There was a strange look on her face, and Beatrice thought Tori must think Beatrice was a terrible person. And she felt she must have failed the test.

2. What would happen if Beatrice failed the test? She would become factionless.

3. What made being factionless so terrible? Her mother told her if you were factionless, you would be alone, divorced from society. This meant living on the streets in poverty and discomfort. There would be no purpose or reason to live.

4. When the test showed that Beatrice could be either a member of Abnegation, Erudite, or Dauntless, what did Tori tell Beatrice she was? She told Beatrice she was a Divergent.

5. Why did Tori tell Beatrice not to share the knowledge of her test? Tori said Divergence was extremely dangerous.

6. What did Beatrice realize about the Choosing Ceremony? If she chose a different faction than Abnegation, it meant that she would be forsaking her family forever.

7. What did the factionless man tell Beatrice? He first asked for some food, and at the end of their interaction he told her to choose wisely.
Student’s Guide
Chapter One

Vocabulary

divergent  
self-indulgent  
reprimand  
abnegation  
surl  
placid  
mania  
erudite

amity  
candor  
antagonistic  
demeanor  
perplex  
resonating  
exodus

Comprehension Questions

1. What does the word “divergent” mean?

2. After reading Chapter One of this book, to what genre does the book *Divergent* belong?

3. To what faction did the girl’s family belong?

4. What did Caleb do on the bus that showed one of his faction’s principles?

5. What did the factions of Candor and Abnegation value?

6. For what did the Dauntless faction strive?

7. Into what the five factions would the aptitude tests place the sixteen-year-olds?

8. How did the member of the faction of Dauntless prove their daring on arriving to school each day?

9. How did the girl feel about taking her aptitude test?

10. How could one tell that a person belonged to the Dauntless faction by just looking at that person?
Chapter Two

Vocabulary

inconvenience          obscurring
dictate               electrode
supersede             vial
preference            secreted
defy                  duress
wrenches              cringe

Comprehension Questions

1. What rules were followed when taking the aptitude test?

2. How did Caleb act when he returned from the test?

3. What tattoo did Beatrice Prior see on the Dauntless woman, and what did the woman say the tattoo signified?

4. How did the woman prepare Beatrice for the test?

5. What obstacle did Beatrice meet in her dreamlike state?

6. Where did Beatrice find herself next, and what was her dilemma?

7. What did the man with the newspaper ask Beatrice?
Chapter Three

Vocabulary

pang of guilt
inconclusive
simulation
eliminates
scenario
linear faction
precariously
renovation

Comprehension Questions

1. What kind of look did Tori have on her face when Beatrice returned to consciousness?

2. What would happen if Beatrice failed the test?

3. What made being factionless so terrible?

4. When the test showed that Beatrice could be either a member of Abnegation, the Erudite, or Dauntless, what did Tori tell Beatrice she was?

5. Why did Tori tell Beatrice not to share the knowledge of her test?

6. What did Beatrice realize about the Choosing Ceremony?

7. What did the factionless man tell Beatrice?
Student’s Workbook
Chapter One

Vocabulary

placid
amity
candor
exodus

Comprehension Questions

1. To what faction did the girl’s family belong?

2. What did Caleb do on the bus that showed one of his faction’s principles?

3. What did the factions of Candor and Abnegation value?

4. For what, did the faction Dauntless strive?

5. How did the member of the faction of Dauntless prove their daring on arriving to school each day?

6. How did the girl feel about taking her aptitude test?

7. How could one tell that a person belonged to the Dauntless faction by just looking at that person?
Chapter Two

Vocabulary

dictate ________________________________

supersede ______________________________

obscuring _______________________________

secreted ________________________________

duress ________________________________

Comprehension Questions

1. What rules were followed when taking the aptitude test? ________________________________

2. How did Caleb act when he returned from the test? ________________________________

3. What tattoo did Beatrice Prior see on the Dauntless woman, and what did the woman say the tattoo signified? ________________________________

4. How did the woman prepare Beatrice for the test? ________________________________

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6. Where did Beatrice find herself next, and what was her dilemma? ________________________________

7. What did the man with the newspaper ask Beatrice? ________________________________
Chapter Three

Vocabulary

simulation ________________________________
eliminates ________________________________
precariously ________________________________
renovation ________________________________

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1. What kind of look did Tori have on her face when Beatrice returned to consciousness?

2. What would happen if Beatrice failed the test?

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5. Why did Tori tell Beatrice not to share the knowledge of her test?

6. What did Beatrice realize about the Choosing Ceremony?

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Workbook Answer Key

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amity (12) friendship, friendly relations

candor (11+) frankness, outspokenness

exodus (12) a mass departure; emigration

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7. What did the factionless man tell Beatrice? He first asked for some food, and at the end of their interaction he told her to choose wisely.
Key Questions
Divergent

Answer these questions in sentences. Name ______________________________

1. How could one tell that a person belonged to the Dauntless faction by just looking at that person? Ch. 1

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

2. What made being factionless so terrible? Ch. 3

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

3. When Marcus said the ceremony was their culture's way of letting each teenage child choose his or her destiny, what idea came to Beatrice? Chapter 5

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

4. What “bomb-shell” information did Eric tell the Dauntless initiates? Ch. 7

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

5. When did a Dauntless combat end? Ch. 9

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

6. What did Four suggest to Tris that might help her win fights? Ch. 11

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Questions Key
**Divergent**

Answer these questions in sentences.  

1. How could one tell that a person belonged to the Dauntless faction by just looking at that person? Ch. 1

   A Dauntless person would be pierced, tattooed and wearing black.

2. What made being factionless so terrible? Ch. 3

   Her mother told her if you were factionless, you would be alone, divorced from society. This meant living on the streets in poverty and discomfort. There would be no purpose or reason to live.

3. When Marcus said the ceremony was their culture's way of letting each teenage child choose his or her destiny, what idea came to Beatrice? Ch. 5

   It occurred to her that each teenager had only five predetermined ways to choose their destiny.

4. What “bomb-shell” information did Eric tell the Dauntless initiates? Ch. 7

   Only ten initiates would become members of Dauntless. There were eleven born Dauntless initiates who will probably be picked for membership. The rest of the newbies would become factionless.

5. When did a Dauntless combat end? Ch. 9

   When one of the combatants was unable to fight or one of them would concede.

6. What did Four suggest to Tris that might help her win fights? Ch. 11

   She should attack first and get in a few good hits. He noted that she was extremely fast and that could work to her advantage.
Vocabulary Worksheet

Name _______________________

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the included word list.

1. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

2. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

3. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

4. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

5. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

6. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

7. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

8. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

9. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

10. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________
Comprehension Worksheet

Name__________________________

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

4. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

5. __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
Vocabulary and Comprehension Worksheet

Name _______________________

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the word list.

1. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

2. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

3. __________________________ Meaning: ____________________________________________

Answer three comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. ____________________________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________________________