

A Good Man is Hard to Find AND OTHER STORIES

by Flannery O'Connor

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 from the Resources menu.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

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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: afflict, amble, baptism, displace, foreboding, impudent, indifferent, indignant, jaunty, junction, jut, liable, minute (2), obligation, ominous, revere, scrutiny, solemn, sulk



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She has been **afflicted** with migraines since childhood.
 - A. worried about
 - B. surprised by
 - C. made to suffer
2. I often see them **amble** along the beach at sunset.
 - A. jog
 - B. power walk
 - C. walk leisurely
3. The baby's **baptism** took place at the local church on Sunday.
 - A. religious ceremony
 - B. first birthday party
 - C. doctor's appointment
4. Many people were **displaced** by the hurricane.
 - A. forced to move
 - B. put to work
 - C. injured
5. She felt a sense of **foreboding** as she approached the abandoned house.
 - A. memory of past joy
 - B. dread of what's coming
 - C. wave of sudden relief
6. Her **impudent** reply to the manager shocked everyone in the meeting.
 - A. thoughtfully kind
 - B. disrespectfully bold
 - C. extremely quiet
7. She was **indifferent** to his anger.
 - A. without interest
 - B. with fear
 - C. with anger
8. 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
9. He walked down the street with a **jaunty** stride, whistling a tune.
 - A. slow and weary
 - B. lively and cheerful
 - C. stiff and formal
10. The accident happened at a busy **junction** downtown.
 - A. an empty field
 - B. an intersection
 - C. a deep tunnel
11. She tripped on a thick tree root that **jutted** out across the muddy path.
 - A. washed away
 - B. curled up
 - C. stuck out
12. She's not **liable** to forget something that important.
 - A. the state or degree of being less than zero
 - B. the state or degree of being bad or harmful
 - C. likely

13. Even a minute amount of lead can be harmful to children.
- A. large
 - B. 60 seconds
 - C. tiny
14. She thrives at sifting through that kind of minute detail.
- A. quickly eliminated
 - B. available from prior research
 - C. including even small considerations
15. I have a family obligation Saturday afternoon.
- A. emergency
 - B. duty
 - C. meeting
16. With the clouds looking so ominous, I'm afraid there will be a bad storm.
- A. threatening
 - B. huge
 - C. fast-moving
17. She reveres nature and all that is natural.
- A. dislikes and avoids
 - B. deeply respects
 - C. thoroughly enjoys
18. The new policy faced scrutiny from independent reviewers.
- A. strong support
 - B. quick approval
 - C. careful examination
19. Everyone was solemn at the funeral.
- A. serious and dignified
 - B. teary eyed
 - C. dressed in dark colors
20. She sulked for the rest of the week when she learned she would not make the starting team.
- A. worked tirelessly to improve
 - B. was unhappy and unsociable
 - C. was angry and lashed out

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 Bobby Lee and Hiram came **ambling** back from the woods.
 - A. telling (a story)
 - B. causing suffering
 - C. walking leisurely
- 2 They stood close together, waiting; their faces were **solemn** but expectant and every eye was on him.
 - A. very serious--possibly dignified
 - B. indicating approval or agreement
 - C. able to be taken on as one's own
- 3 "Bevel," he said in a loud **jaunty** voice.
 - A. with the involvement of other people or things
 - B. appearing cheerful, lively, and self-confident
 - C. the state or degree of being greater than zero
- 4 "Listen," Mrs. Connin said, "have you ever been **Baptized**, Bevel?"
 - A. "spiritually renewed" in a Christian ceremony OR initiated or purified by a challenging experience
 - B. expressed personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing (or performing to) someone else's work
 - C. directed energy from a negative (unacceptable) impulse or urge into a positive or acceptable action
- 5 "Of your **affliction**," Mrs. Connin said icily.
 - A. worry or concern about what will happen
 - B. the study of the origin of the universe
 - C. something that causes ongoing suffering
- 6 He gave one low cry of pain and **indignation**.
 - A. anger or annoyance at something unjust or wrong
 - B. surprise as something unexpected
 - C. acceptance of something undesired as unavoidable
- 7 She **scrutinized** a chair across the room and then headed for it, putting her feet carefully one before the other.
 - A. mirrored back (an image)
 - B. quoted (to make a point)
 - C. looked at very carefully
- 8 Then Susan said, "How?" in an **indifferent** tone and she knew that she had them.
 - A. without interest
 - B. likely to change
 - C. able to be found
- 9 They would have to leave the house at four to get to the railroad **junction** by five-thirty.
 - A. particles emitted by nuclear decay
 - B. a place where things come together
 - C. a central open space in a building
- 10 The man across the aisle from them was spread out over two seats, his feet propped on the window and his head **jutting** into the aisle.
 - A. expressed strong hatred or loathing for
 - B. expresses strong hatred or loathing for
 - C. to stick out; or a part that sticks out
- 11 "An old man," the boy said and had a sudden **foreboding** that he was not going to enjoy the day.
 - A. considering (the affect on a result or outcome)
 - B. a feeling that something bad is going to happen
 - C. moving to a worse or less prestigious situation

- 12 He justified what he was going to do on the grounds that it is sometimes necessary to teach a child a lesson he won't forget, particularly when the child is always reasserting his position with some new **impudence**.
- A. an artist's performance of another artist's work that expresses the performer's feelings or ideas about the work
 - B. improperly bold or disrespectful -- especially toward someone who is older or considered to be of higher status
 - C. soccer player who typically plays in the middle third of the field and who assists with both defense and offense
- 13 The child crashed through the woods, making the fallen leaves sound **ominous** under her feet.
- A. threatening (suggestive of, or foreshadowing bad things to come)
 - B. huge
 - C. comforting
- 14 "Yer leg," he said **reverently**.
- A. in a manner that is not appropriate or different than would be expected in size, amount, or degree
 - B. with feelings of deep respect and admiration -- sometimes with a mixture of wonder and awe or fear
 - C. with nervousness or discomfort felt by someone due to concern about what others will think of them
- 15 The **Displaced Person** The peacock was following Mrs. Shortley up the road to the hill where she meant to stand.
- A. forced to move
 - B. began fighting
 - C. not translated
- 16 "You **liable to hear most anything**," the old man remarked, leaning forward as if he were about to walk off but holding himself suspended.
- A. devices that convert light into electricity
 - B. temperature scale used in most of the world
 - C. likely to; or maybe going to; or subject to
- 17 Mrs. Shortley observed it **minutely** for half a second.
- A. in a manner that does not change
 - B. in a manner that deserves praise
 - C. carefully
- 18 His attention was fixed on the cock who was taking **minute** steps backward, his head against the spread tail.
- A. awake
 - B. exact
 - C. small
- 19 She watched as he came out of the barn and motioned to **Sulk**, who was coming around the back of the lot.
- A. technical: center or concentration
 - B. to be overly unhappy and unsociable
 - C. dislike strongly and look down upon
- 20 "Mr. Guizac," she said, "I can barely meet my **obligations** now."
- A. copies
 - B. a duty
 - C. snakes

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	amble	Used 5 times in this book.
2	A	solemn	Used 3 times in this book.
3	B	jaunty	Used 2 times in this book.
4	A	baptism	Used 9 times in this book.
5	C	afflict	Used 6 times in this book.
6	A	indignant	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
7	C	scrutiny	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
8	A	indifferent	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
9	B	junction	Used 5 times in this book.
10	C	jut	Used 3 times in this book.
11	B	foreboding	Used 2 times in this book.
12	B	impudent	Used 3 times in this book.
13	A	ominous	Used 3 times in this book.
14	B	revere	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
15	A	displace	Used 27 times in this book.
16	C	liable (<i>as in: she is liable to</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
17	C	minute (<i>as in: minute description</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
18	C	minute (<i>as in: minute size</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
19	B	sulk	Used 9 times in this book.
20	B	obligation	Used 8 times in this book.