

An Ideal Husband

by Oscar Wilde

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

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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: affectation, allude, conceit, consequence (2), fraud, indignant, infamous, loathe, morbid, opera, paradox, pessimistic, philanthropy, scrupulous, susceptible, swindle, tedious, trivial, yield



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. His British accent turned out to be an **affectation** he picked up in college.
 - A. honest trait
 - B. fake mannerism
 - C. old hobby
2. She didn't mention any names, but everyone knew she was **alluding** to the President.
 - A. being discouraging
 - B. indirectly referring
 - C. not talking
3. Her **conceit** showed in the way she interrupted others and assumed she was always the smartest person in the room.
 - A. ignorance
 - B. arrogance
 - C. encouragement
4. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
 - A. result
 - B. unimportant part
 - C. important part
5. It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
 - A. unethical
 - B. important
 - C. harmful
6. The company was shut down after investigators uncovered a massive tax **fraud** scheme.
 - A. deception to get something illegally
 - B. foolish
 - C. unsuccessful
7. 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
8. She mentioned Nixon's **infamous** firing of the Attorney General.
 - A. famous (for something clever)
 - B. famous (for something bad)
 - C. famous (for something daring)
9. I **loathe** that man. He ruined my life.
 - A. fear
 - B. avoid
 - C. hate
10. Her story included all the **morbid** details.
 - A. vivid
 - B. disturbing
 - C. cheerful
11. We're going to the **opera** this evening.
 - A. musical theater performance
 - B. outdoor sporting event
 - C. casual dinner gathering

12. 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
13. Her outlook on the future was quite **pessimistic**, as she worried about the economy and the environment.
- A. expecting that things will turn out well
 - B. expecting that things will turn out badly
 - C. having no expectation of how things will turn out
14. The billionaire's **philanthropy** supported hospitals around the world.
- A. selfish hoarding
 - B. charitable giving
 - C. loud boasting
15. Lenders trust her as a **scrupulous** property inspector.
- A. fast and cheap
 - B. honest and careful
 - C. loud and rude
16. She is not **susceptible** to emotional arguments that are not supported statistically.
- A. good at performing
 - B. easily influenced by
 - C. likely to get sick
17. Scammers often **swindle** people through fake phone calls.
- A. warn or protect
 - B. pay back fully
 - C. cheat or defraud
18. I find it relaxing to wash the holiday dishes, but she finds it **tedious**.
- A. stressful
 - B. punishing
 - C. boring
19. I have heard only **trivial** objections.
- A. convincing
 - B. exaggerated
 - C. unimportant
20. After the scandal, she **yielded** to public pressure and resigned her position.
- A. added
 - B. gave in
 - C. produced

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 How very **trivial** of him!
A. not sincere
B. intentional
C. unimportant
- 2 Optimism begins in a broad grin, and **Pessimism** ends with blue spectacles.
A. taking advantage of unplanned circumstances
B. expectation that things will turn out badly
C. the belief that slavery should be abolished
- 3 And **philanthropy** seems to me to have become simply the refuge of people who wish to annoy their fellow-creatures.
A. opinion of what is good and bad about something
B. helping others
C. the majority denomination of Islam (almost 90%)
- 4 I hear she went to the **Opera** on Monday night,
A. a classical music play in which most of the dialogue is sung
B. a person with or something related to an eating disorder in which overeating is followed by guilt and unhealthy attempts at correction -- especially self-induced vomiting
C. the act of forcing into an undesired activity or situation -- such as legally sentencing someone to punishment OR the act of finding guilty -- especially in court
- 5 that is **morbid** of you
A. vivid
B. showing an unhealthy interest
C. cheerful
- 6 What I don't like are **tedious**, practical people.
A. sensible and careful
B. not demonstrative of
C. boring
- 7 This Argentine scheme is a commonplace Stock Exchange **swindle**.
A. to concentrate, look at; or the act of concentration
B. make one's home in; or live in; or stay (in a place)
C. tricking or cheating someone -- usually to get money
- 8 The affair to which you **allude** was no more than a speculation.
A. select (on a computer screen)
B. to make an indirect reference
C. consume or destroy completely
- 9 Years ago you did a clever, **unscrupulous** thing; it turned out a great success.
A. disbelief
B. unethical
C. important
- 10 Think of their **loathsome** joy, of the delight they would have in dragging you down,
A. not aware of something
B. consistent or the same
C. disgusting or very bad
- 11 And I found him most **susceptible**,—susceptible to reason, I mean.
A. the quality of feeling angry or unhappy about having to accept something not liked
B. easily influenced or harmed

or:

capable of being treated in a particular way

C. an argument attributed to one's opponent that is weaker than their actual argument

- 12 *I tell you that there are terrible temptations that it requires strength, strength and courage, to yield to.*
A. select (on a computer screen)
B. give in, give way, or give up
C. an involuntary vomiting spasm
- 13 *with mock indignation*
A. anger or annoyance at something unjust or wrong
B. surprise as something unexpected
C. acceptance of something undesired as unavoidable
- 14 *They call it being conceited.*
A. not judged in a negative way
B. excessively proud of oneself
C. calculated or judged too low
- 15 *It really is of no consequence, Lady Chiltern.*
A. translates
B. importance
C. sticks out
- 16 *He always seems to think that he is addressing the House, and consequently whenever he discusses the state of the agricultural labourer, or the Welsh Church, or something quite improper of that kind, I am obliged to send all the servants out of the room.*
A. resultantly (as a result)
B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 17 *It is because your husband is himself fraudulent and dishonest that we pair so well together.*
A. intentionally dishonest to trick people
B. thoughtlessly foolish
C. carelessly unsuccessful
- 18 *That is a paradox, sir.*
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
- 19 *She is a vile, an infamous thing!*
A. lacking a reason for doing something
B. having an exceedingly bad reputation
C. inconspicuousness or trustworthiness
- 20 *I hate this affectation of youth, sir.*
A. a particular way of seeing or thinking about things
B. behaving in an artificial way to make an impression
C. collection of star systems held together by gravity

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	trivial	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this play.
2	B	pessimistic	Used 5 times in this play.
3	B	philanthropy	Used 2 times in this play.
4	A	opera	Used 5 times in this play.
5	B	morbid (<i>as in: a morbid curiosity</i>)	Used 4 times in this play.
6	C	tedious	Used 7 times in this play.
7	C	swindle	Used 3 times in this play.
8	B	allude	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
9	B	scrupulous	Used 3 times in this play.
10	C	loathe	Used 3 times in this play.
11	B	susceptible	Used 3 times in this play.
12	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
13	A	indignant	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this play.
14	B	conceit (<i>as in: confident, but not conceited</i>)	Used 4 times in this play.
15	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	2 meanings in this play.
16	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
17	A	fraud	Used 6 times in this play.
18	A	paradox	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this play.
19	B	infamous	Used 5 times in this play.
20	B	affectation	Used 3 times in this play.