

Antony and Cleopatra

by William Shakespeare

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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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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: adieu, amity, amorous, beseech, cunning, discredit, ebb, endure (2), entreat, forbearance, heed, lament, malice, peril, perish, repent, reprove, scarcity, serpent



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	A
3	C
4	A
5	B
6	C
7	C
8	B
9	C
10	B
11	A
12	C
13	C
14	C
15	B
16	B
17	B
18	A
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. We waved **adieu** to our friends at the train station.
 - A. goodbye
 - B. hello
 - C. greetings
2. John Adams was asked to create a "treaty of peace, **amity** and commerce."
 - A. a state of friendly relations
 - B. a state where everyone profits financially
 - C. a state where those in disagreement are separated
3. She doesn't think of him in an **amorous** way.
 - A. logical or analytical
 - B. light-hearted
 - C. romantic or sexual
4. She closed the prayer by **beseeking** God to grant them wisdom and patience.
 - A. asking
 - B. demanding
 - C. instructing
5. The worst mix -- **greedy, cunning,** and without morals.
 - A. stupid and impatient
 - B. clever and deceitful
 - C. strong and cruel
6. Russian TV is famous for inventing stories to **discredit** those who disagree with Russian interests.
 - A. anger
 - B. convince
 - C. damage the reputation of
7. After the incident, support for the policy **ebbed**.
 - A. increased
 - B. disappeared
 - C. declined
8. As a soldier, she was prepared to endure hardship and even to sacrifice her life for others.
 - A. risk
 - B. suffer through
 - C. cause
9. Over the years, the stories my grandmother told me have **endured** as a source of wisdom in my life.
 - A. stopped acting
 - B. brought suffering
 - C. continued to exist
10. The students **entreated** the Chinese troops not to use force against peaceful demonstrations.
 - A. bribed (with gifts)
 - B. asked earnestly
 - C. threatened
11. I appreciate your **forbearance**.
 - A. patience or tolerance
 - B. financial loan
 - C. family concerns
12. She didn't **heed** the storm warnings and got caught in the heavy rain.
 - A. pass through
 - B. tell others of
 - C. pay attention to

13. We lamented our sad circumstances.
- A. made worse
 - B. improved
 - C. expressed grief about
14. Words can be like baseball bats when used maliciously against someone who is sensitive.
- A. carelessly
 - B. mockingly
 - C. evilly
15. The journalist's investigation put her in great peril.
- A. fame
 - B. danger
 - C. weariness
16. We can work together or perish separately.
- A. work
 - B. die
 - C. fail
17. She said the U.S. should repent for the sins of fossil fuels.
- A. reimburse
 - B. apologize
 - C. suffer
18. I don't want to spoil her, but I don't have the heart to reprove her.
- A. criticize
 - B. compliment
 - C. instruct
19. Work is scarce in the region.
- A. easily found
 - B. extremely hard
 - C. in short supply
20. What does the serpent represent in the Garden of Eden?
- A. fig leaf
 - B. snake
 - C. apple

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 Nay, hear them, Antony: Fulvia perchance is angry; or who knows If the **scarce**-bearded Caesar have not sent His powerful mandate to you: 'Do this or this; Take in that kingdom and enfranchise that; Perform't, or else we damn thee.'
 - A. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
 - B. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
 - C. in short supply OR barely or hardly (by a small margin)
- 2 Forbear me.
 - A. stop (prevent from acting)
 - B. the ability to take on or adopt
 - C. where attention is concentrated
- 3 O sir, you had then left unseen a wonderful piece of work; which not to have been blest withal would have **discredited** your travel.
 - A. was abundant or plentiful
 - B. expelled or gotten rid of
 - C. damaged the reputation of
- 4 The business she hath broached in the state Cannot **endure** my absence.
 - A. differ; or change
 - B. influence opinion
 - C. survive (continue to exist in)
- 5 Mine eyes did sicken at the sight, and could not **endure** a further view.
 - A. call -- typically to come nearer by using a hand gesture or a nod
 - B. suffer through
 - C. communication through gestures and body movements (without words)
- 6 I pr'ythee, turn aside and weep for her; Then bid **adieu** to me, and say the tears Belong to Egypt: good now, play one scene Of excellent dissembling; and let it look Like perfect honour.
 - A. goodbye
 - B. hello
 - C. greetings
- 7 I should have known no less: It hath been taught us from the primal state That he which is was wish'd until he were; And the **ebb'd** man, ne'er lov'd till ne'er worth love, Comes dear'd by being lack'd.
 - A. encouraged growth or excitement, or caused something to happen
 - B. ignored someone's wishes or caused inconvenience or discomfort
 - C. declined -- typically gradually as with the height of the tide
- 8 –Now I feed myself With most delicious poison:—think on me, That am with Phoebus' **amorous** pinches black, And wrinkled deep in time?
 - A. logical or analytical
 - B. comprehensive
 - C. romantic or sexual
- 9 I earnestly **beseech**,-- Touch you the sourest points with sweetest terms,
 - A. ask strongly
 - B. move into position to work; or start
 - C. to spread to other parts of the body
- 10 your **reproof** were well deserv'd
 - A. criticism
 - B. main road
 - C. hard work

- 11 To hold you in perpetual **amity**, To make you brothers, and to knit your hearts With an unslipping knot, take Antony Octavia to his wife; whose beauty claims No worse a husband than the best of men; Whose virtue and whose general graces speak That which none else can utter.
- a state of friendly relations
 - aka analyst -- psychiatrist
 - something taken on or adopted
- 12 and kindly creatures Turn all to serpents!
- copies
 - snakes
 - enters
- 13 Most meet That first we come to words; and therefore have we Our written purposes before us sent; Which, if thou hast consider'd, let us know If 'twill tie up thy discontented sword, And carry back to Sicily much tall youth That else must **perish** here.
- move into position to work; or start
 - die, be destroyed, or cease to exist
 - to spread to other parts of the body
- 14 Repent that e'er thy tongue Hath so betray'd thine act: being done unknown, I should have found it afterwards well done; But must condemn it now.
- mark important text; or the text that is marked
 - to express or feel regret for having done wrong
 - give an opinion of what is wrong with something
- 15 Take heed you fall not.
- a non-doctor who assisted a women in childbirth
 - adjusted excessively or made up for excessively
 - pay close attention to; or do what is suggested
- 16 Promise, And in our name, what she requires; add more, From thine invention, offers: women are not In their best fortunes strong; but want will perjure The ne'er-touch'd vestal: try thy **cunning**, Thyreus; Make thine own edict for thy pains, which we Will answer as a law.
- related to the natural world (life, air, water, land...)
 - good at achieving goals through cleverness and deception
 - relating to logical examination to improve understanding
- 17 fight **maliciously**
- in a manner that makes someone excited about getting something
 - in a brave manner -- especially when adventurous or determined
 - with a desire to see others suffer
- 18 let me lament, with tears
- gradually add or remove
 - make or cause to become
 - expressing grief or regret
- 19 This is my treasurer: let him speak, my lord, Upon his **peril**, that I have reserv'd To myself nothing.
- useful
 - danger
 - allows
- 20 Good queen, let us **entreat** you.
- stop fighting
 - ask earnestly
 - make possible

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	scarcity	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
2	A	forbearance	Used 6 times in this play.
3	C	discredit	Used 2 times in this play.
4	C	endure (<i>as in: endure through the ages</i>)	2 meanings in this play.
5	B	endure (<i>as in: endured the pain</i>)	2 meanings in this play.
6	A	adieu	Used 8 times in this play.
7	C	ebb	Used 2 times in this play.
8	C	amorous	Used 3 times in this play.
9	A	beseech	Used 5 times in this play.
10	A	reprove	Used 2 times in this play.
11	A	amity	Used 3 times in this play.
12	B	serpent	Used 7 times in this play.
13	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
14	B	repent	Used 4 times in this play.
15	C	heed	Used 2 times in this play.
16	B	cunning (<i>as in: a cunning thief</i>)	Used 4 times in this play.
17	C	malice	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
18	C	lament	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this play.
19	B	peril	Used 3 times in this play.
20	B	entreat	Used 7 times in this play.