

Ben Hur

by Lew Wallace

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

Answer Key — Preview	2	teacher use / self-check only
Vocabulary Preview	3	

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: antagonist, consequence (2), cunning, derive, garnish, inquiry, interpose, interpret (2), moreover, narrator, peril, perish, recollect, salutation, shrewd, trifle, trifle with, vengeance



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

Ben Hur

by Lew Wallace

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

Vocabulary Preview

Ben Hur

by Lew Wallace

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. In the book, *Harry Potter*, Voldemort is Harry's **antagonist**.
 - A. partner
 - B. friend
 - C. enemy
2. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
 - A. result
 - B. unimportant part
 - C. important part
3. It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
 - A. unethical
 - B. important
 - C. harmful
4. The worst mix -- greedy, **cunning**, and without morals.
 - A. stupid and impatient
 - B. clever and deceitful
 - C. strong and cruel
5. I **derive** pleasure from my work.
 - A. refuse
 - B. obtain
 - C. ignore
6. She **garnished** the soup with parsley before serving it to her guests.
 - A. thickened
 - B. reheated
 - C. decorated
7. The official **inquiry** has ended, but the press continues to ask questions.
 - A. story
 - B. statement
 - C. investigation
8. They have **interposed** themselves on the side of our enemy.
 - A. been seen
 - B. hidden
 - C. inserted
9. She will stand to his left and **interpret** his speech into sign language.
 - A. refute (prove false)
 - B. elaborate upon
 - C. translate
10. How will a court **interpret** the word *careless* if there is a lawsuit?
 - A. understand
 - B. insist on
 - C. ignore
11. Many graduates have high college debt. **Moreover**, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
 - A. in contrast to that
 - B. in addition to that
 - C. as a result of that

12. One of the more popular narrators in movie history is Morgan Freeman. I especially liked him in *The Shawshank Redemption* where in addition to playing a major role, he narrated the film.
- A. producer who works closest with the actors
 - B. actor who talks directly to the audience
 - C. script writer
13. The journalist's investigation put her in great peril.
- A. fame
 - B. danger
 - C. weariness
14. We can work together or perish separately.
- A. work
 - B. die
 - C. fail
15. I don't recollect her name, but I'd recognize her.
- A. pronounce properly
 - B. spell properly
 - C. remember
16. Her warm smile and friendly salutation set the tone for the entire meeting.
- A. greeting
 - B. introduction
 - C. smile
17. She watched him with a shrewd eye.
- A. nearby
 - B. outside
 - C. smart
18. Don't waste my time with trifling matters.
- A. other's
 - B. future
 - C. unimportant
19. The European Parliament refuses to be trifled with.
- A. treated without respect
 - B. argued with
 - C. negotiated with
20. Her evolutionary benefit theory of vengeance is supported by studies showing that a person's desire for revenge increases when others see their mistreatment.
- A. fairness
 - B. status
 - C. revenge

Vocabulary in Context

Ben Hur

by Lew Wallace

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 My life, **consequently**, was ordered down to its least act, its last hour.
 - A. resultantly (as a result)
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 2 And what was of still greater **consequence** to the merchant, it would be to forego his career in the midst of amazing success, and yield himself voluntarily once more a slave.
 - A. translates
 - B. importance
 - C. sticks out
- 3 The descent into the valley of Hinnom was quite broken, **garnished** here and there with straggling wild olive-trees.
 - A. began fighting again
 - B. took on as one's own
 - C. decorated or adorned
- 4 To the Jew of that period, **moreover**, abode in caverns was a familiar idea, made so by every-day occurrences, and by what he heard of Sabbaths in the synagogues.
 - A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - B. in addition to what has just been said
 - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 5 In keeping with a custom **derived** from Abraham, the tent of the Bedawin yet shelters his horses and children alike.
 - A. hid
 - B. got
 - C. cut
- 6 The great events, such as blotted out nations and changed the mastery of the world, were **trifles** to them, if perchance they came to their knowledge.
 - A. struggles or disagreements
 - B. is attractive or desirable
 - C. things of small importance
- 7 For the first time, in conversation with me to-day, he **trifled with** our customs and God.
 - A. treated thoughtlessly or without respect
 - B. injury to muscles or tendons of the knee
 - C. limit light vibrations to a single plane
- 8 When the chazzan bore the Torah round, none kissed it with greater zest; when the sheliach read the text, none listened to the **interpreter** with more absolute faith; and none took away with them more of the elder's sermon, or gave it more thought afterwards.
 - A. people who criticize or condemn
 - B. someone who extensively damages
 - C. someone who translates language
- 9 Now, in those days there were lawyers in the cloisters of the Temple who disputed vehemently, saying the children of servants bound forever took the condition of their parents; but the Prince Hur was a man righteous in all things, and an **interpreter** of the law after the strictest sect, though not of them.
 - A. someone who explains or understands something in a particular way
 - B. someone or something that protects something or keeps it as it is
 - C. people who perform detailed examinations to improve understanding

- 10 *The laborers paused, sat up, wrung the water from their hands, and returned the salutation.*
 A. a greeting -- such as "Hi", "Dear John:", or "Ladies and Gentlemen"
- or:
- the act of greeting
- B. a small hole or a series of small holes such as are used to make it easy to tear a piece of paper along a specific line
- C. a highly educated person interested in learning and exploring ideas -- sometimes while ignoring practical considerations
- 11 *"To hear what may be passing," interposed another.*
 A. (verb) drew pictures to accompany OR (adjective) accompanied by pictures
 B. not justified or explained as an understandable reaction to another action
 C. to insert between other elements; or to interrupt or stop action by others
- 12 *An expression of pain knit the dark face of the monarch, as if his mind were swept by a harrowing recollection.*
 A. battle
 B. result
 C. memory
- 13 *But he fell into musing, and to her repeated inquiries only said, "He is much changed, and I shall have nothing more to do with him."*
 A. social events or ceremonies
 B. reasons for doing something
 C. questions or investigations
- 14 *If he were not dead, where would his vengeance stop?*
 A. something that stands out
 B. something made from parts
 C. the act of taking revenge
- 15 *The noble Quintus is shrewd.*
 A. exact
 B. awake
 C. smart
- 16 *By its help the weak sometimes thrive, when the strong perish.*
 A. move into position to work; or start
 B. die, be destroyed, or cease to exist
 C. to spread to other parts of the body
- 17 *With a cunning twinkle of the eyes, he took the money, and gave the party in exchange a leaf of papyrus.*
 A. related to the natural world (life, air, water, land...)
 B. good at achieving goals through cleverness and deception
 C. relating to logical examination to improve understanding
- 18 *Messala, on the perilous edge of the goal, heard, but dared not look to see what the awakening portended.*
 A. stuck out
 B. dangerous
 C. bent down
- 19 *The temptation was strong; and, half yielding, he chanced to look down at his late antagonist lying still, with white upturned face, so like himself.*
 A. someone who changes something (upon review)
 B. someone who takes something on as their own
 C. someone who offers opposition or is hostile
- 20 *What the story was the reader can arrive at with sufficient certainty when told that the narrator was one of the men who had held torches for the commandant of the Tower of Antonia when, down in cell VI.*
 A. translation
 B. storyteller
 C. quiet voice

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

Ben Hur
by Lew Wallace

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
2	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
3	C	garnish (<i>as in: garnished with parsley</i>)	Used 6 times in this book.
4	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 10 times in this book.
5	B	derive	High-utility academic word; used 18 times in this book.
6	C	trifle (<i>as in: a trifling matter</i>)	Used 8 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	trifle with (<i>as in: trifle with her affections</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
8	C	interpret (<i>as in: interpret Spanish to English</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	interpret (<i>as in: her interpretation of the data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	A	salutation	Used 15 times in this book.
11	C	interpose	Used 6 times in this book.
12	C	recollect	High-utility academic word; used 23 times in this book.
13	C	inquiry	High-utility academic word; used 19 times in this book.
14	C	vengeance (<i>as in: vengeance is mine</i>)	Used 24 times in this book.
15	C	shrewd	Used 25 times in this book.
16	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 13 times in this book.
17	B	cunning (<i>as in: a cunning thief</i>)	Used 20 times in this book.
18	B	peril	Used 15 times in this book.
19	C	antagonist (<i>as in: the antagonist in the film</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
20	B	narrator	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.