

Beowulf

by Author Unknown

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: appease, avenge, conflict, endure (2), fugitive, hideous, hoard, kindred, lament, pinnacle, prudent, rouse, scorn, strife, tumult, valor, wrath, wrought (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

Beowulf

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. If I fail English because I didn't do my homework, there will be no **appeasing** my mother.
 - A. calming
 - B. talking with
 - C. hiding from
2. The hero set out to **avenge** the cruel treatment of his village by the bandits.
 - A. kindly forgive
 - B. quietly forget
 - C. take revenge for
3. The Israeli-Palestinian **conflict** flared up again in Jerusalem.
 - A. agreement
 - B. border
 - C. struggle
4. As a soldier, she was prepared to endure hardship and even to sacrifice her life for others.
 - A. risk
 - B. suffer through
 - C. cause
5. 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
6. The **fugitive** fled to Venezuela.
 - A. person on vacation
 - B. rebel
 - C. person running from the law
7. He had a **hideous** scar running from his forehead to his jaw.
 - A. barely noticeable
 - B. extremely ugly
 - C. perfectly healed
8. She has **hoarded** so many things, you can barely step into her apartment.
 - A. gathered & stored
 - B. stacked in piles
 - C. made a mess of
9. They became quick friends, finding in each other a **kindred** spirit.
 - A. lively
 - B. thoughtful
 - C. similar
10. We **lamented** our sad circumstances.
 - A. made worse
 - B. improved
 - C. expressed grief about
11. At the **pinnacle** of her success, she was earning over a million dollars a year.
 - A. beginning
 - B. highest point
 - C. end
12. Courage is dangerous without **prudence**.
 - A. good sense
 - B. good purpose
 - C. good support

13. The smell of freshly brewed coffee roused her from her sleep.
- A. interrupted
 - B. deepened
 - C. awakened
14. That coach scorns students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains
15. Civil strife tore the country apart for nearly a decade before reform began.
- A. joyful celebration
 - B. violent conflict
 - C. quiet agreement
16. I couldn't hear her over the tumult.
- A. loud disorderly noise
 - B. loud unpleasant music
 - C. loud machinery
17. She has served her country with valor.
- A. wisdom
 - B. enthusiasm
 - C. courage
18. She fears the wrath of God.
- A. angry punishment
 - B. power
 - C. unpredictable moods
19. She wore a hand-wrought silver bracelet.
- A. worked
 - B. size
 - C. encircling
20. The revolt wrought havoc through the region.
- A. caused
 - B. ended
 - C. complicated

Vocabulary in Context

Beowulf

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 *As a babe he drifted to the Danish shore in a vessel loaded with treasures; but no man was with him, and there was no token to show his **kindred** and race.*
 - A. a powerful stimulant drug that increases activity in the brain and nervous system -- often addictive
 - B. aka natural right -- a right that is naturally due because of human nature and the natural condition
 - C. similar in quality or character

or:

closely related -- such as family or things with shared origin
- 2 *his glorious gold-wrought banner*
 - A. worked
 - B. provided investment funds for something -- such as a business
 - C. wanting to do something; or made someone want to do something
- 3 *to tell of all the woe that Grendel has **wrought**,*
 - A. caused (made happen)
 - B. donated a portion of one's income to a church
 - C. returned to an undesirable previous condition
- 4 *...and the walls towered up high and majestic, ending in **pinnacles** and gables resembling the antlers of a stag.*
 - A. atones (demonstrates sorrow for a wrong either by doing something good in return for the wrong, or by accepting punishment)
 - B. pointed towers
 - C. removes or suppress anything considered obscene, immoral, or politically unacceptable OR people who does such suppression
- 5 *This affliction **endured** for twelve years,*
 - A. took on or adopted
 - B. previously created
 - C. continued
- 6 *So we **endured** the pain till King Hrethel died,*
 - A. stuck out, attracted more attention than desired, or imposed on others
 - B. suffered through
 - C. not persuaded to want something (often sex or love) through temptation
- 7 *By night the dire fiend visited it in search of prey, and in the morning his footsteps showed that his deadly enmity was not yet **appeased**, but that any effort to use the hall at night would bring down his fatal wrath on the careless sleepers.*
 - A. satisfied or pacified (made less angry or upset)
 - B. gave an opinion of what was wrong with something
 - C. controlled in advance (how something turned out)
- 8 *By night the dire fiend visited it in search of prey, and in the morning his footsteps showed that his deadly enmity was not yet appeased, but that any effort to use the hall at night would bring down his fatal **wrath** on the careless sleepers.*
 - A. extreme anger
 - B. determination
 - C. use of reason
- 9 *May the All-Father keep you safe in the **conflict**!*
 - A. include consideration of
 - B. make nervous or confused
 - C. struggle or disagreement

- 10 *Great deeds of **valour** wrought I in my youth.*
- exceedingly powerful bomb whose energy comes from the splitting of atoms
 - a long race that is shorter than the typical long race of about 26 miles
 - exceptional or heroic courage when facing danger -- especially in battle
- 11 *Thus, Hrothgar, ancient king, all my friends urged me, Warriors and **prudent** thanes, that I should seek thee, Since they themselves had known my might in battle.*
- sensible and careful
 - not demonstrative of
 - sincerity (realness)
- 12 *Send thou to Hygelac, if **strife** shall take me, That best of byrnies which my breast guardeth, Brightest of war-weeds, the work of Smith Weland, Left me by Hrethel.*
- thing that affects a result or outcome
 - violent conflict or angry disagreement
 - job, reservation, booking, or activity
- 13 *Hunferth, King Hrothgar's orator and speech-maker, from his official post at Hrothgar's feet watched Beowulf with **scornful** and jealous eyes.*
- full of strong disrespect or rejection
 - able to accept as true (without proof)
 - able to be protected or kept unchanged
- 14 *From the fen-fastnesses, by marshy tracts, through mists and swamp-born fogs, the **hideous** monster made his way to the house he hated so bitterly.*
- the characteristic of demonstrating something
 - extremely ugly, offensive, and/or frightening
 - the quality of not being sensible and careful
- 15 *The news was brought to King Hrothgar, who bitterly **lamented** the loss of his wisest and dearest counsellor, and bade them call Beowulf to him, since he alone could help in this extremity.*
- was abundant or plentiful
 - thought -- possibly aloud
 - expressed grief or regret
- 16 *I have **avenged** the crime, the death of the Danish folk, As it behoved me.*
- concentrated
 - not fighting
 - took revenge
- 17 *The **tumultuous** rejoicing lasted till darkness settled on the land,*
- noisy and unrestrained
 - of a guitar or other musical instrument: not using electricity to amplify sound
 - relating to the smallest amount of a chemical substance that can exist by itself
- 18 *They compelled the unhappy **fugitive** whose theft had begun the trouble to act as their guide, and thus they marched to the lonely spot where the dragon's barrow stood close to the sea-shore.*
- the state or degree of agreeing or approving
 - the state of doing something unintentionally
 - someone hiding from law enforcement officers
- 19 *The youthful warrior tried in vain to **rouse** the courage of his companions: they trembled, and would not move.*
- beyond the permitted boundary or limit
 - explains something in a particular way
 - to awaken, make more active, or excite
- 20 *Thereupon Wiglaf entered the barrow, and was dazed by the bewildering **hoard** of costly treasures.*
- gathers something valuable and stores it
 - the difference between tones of an image
 - hold together (connect or unite) or wrap

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	kindred	Used 7 times in this book.
2	A	wrought (<i>as in: wrought iron</i>)	Used 16 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
3	A	wrought (<i>as in: the damage she has wrought</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
4	B	pinnacle	Used 2 times in this book.
5	C	endure (<i>as in: endure through the ages</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
6	B	endure (<i>as in: endured the pain</i>)	Used 9 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	appease	Used 2 times in this book.
8	A	wrath	Used 9 times in this book.
9	C	conflict	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
10	C	valor	Used 9 times in this book.
11	A	prudent	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
12	B	strife	Used 8 times in this book.
13	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
14	B	hideous	Used 6 times in this book.
15	C	lament	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
16	C	avenge	Used 9 times in this book.
17	A	tumult (<i>as in: couldn't hear over the tumult</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
18	C	fugitive (<i>as in: she is a fugitive</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
19	C	rouse	Used 7 times in this book.
20	A	hoard	Used 8 times in this book.