

Brave New World

Chapters 7–9

by Aldous Huxley

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: emaciated, incredulity, precipice, profane, reciprocated, remorseless, semblance, squalor, subterranean, tremulous

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–3 · A tour of the Hatchery

Section 2 · Chapters 4–6 · Bernard, Helmholtz, and Lenina in London

Section 3 · Chapters 7–9 · Arrival at the Savage Reservation

Section 4 · Chapters 10–12 · The Savage in the World State

Section 5 · Chapters 13–15 · Lenina's feelings for the Savage

Section 6 · Chapters 16–18 · John meets the World Controller

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. After weeks lost in the wilderness, the hikers looked **emaciated**.

- A. extremely thin and wasted
- B. sunburned and weary
- C. filthy and ragged

2. He stared at the magician in **incredulity**.

- A. boredom
- B. disbelief
- C. amusement

3. The climbers paused at the edge of a dizzying **precipice**.

- A. a steep cliff
- B. a narrow trail
- C. a rushing river

4. Critics said the developers **profaned** the sacred burial ground.

- A. disrespected something holy
- B. purchased it without permission
- C. studied it in great detail

5. He did me a favor, and I **reciprocated** the next day.

- A. returned the kindness
- B. expressed my thanks
- C. asked for more help

6. The **remorseless** judge ruled against every defendant.

- A. famous and well-respected
- B. merciless; without pity
- C. weary and distracted

7. After the storm, the town returned to some **semblance** of order.

- A. a distant memory
- B. a vague sense
- C. an outward form

8. The refugees were forced to live in utter **squalor**.

- A. fear and danger
- B. noise and chaos
- C. filth and misery

9. Engineers built a **subterranean** vault to protect the gold.

- A. massive
- B. underground
- C. fireproof

10. He held out the cup with a **tremulous** hand.

- A. stiff and clumsy
- B. slow and careful
- C. trembling and shaky

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

incarnadine — to turn crimson or blood-red (archaic, literary)

brave new world — a phrase from Shakespeare's *The Tempest* that John uses with wonder; here, brave means splendid or admirable, not courageous. The phrase later becomes increasingly ironic.

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	B
3	A
4	A
5	A
6	B
7	C
8	C
9	B
10	C

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “Her feeling was evidently reciprocated; the very back of the man, as he walked along before them, was hostile, sullenly contemptuous.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “reciprocated” most nearly suggests that the guide...

- A. hid his true feelings
- B. returned Lenina’s dislike
- C. ignored Lenina entirely

2 “‘But how can they live like this?’ she broke out in a voice of indignant incredulity.”

Which choice best describes Lenina’s attitude toward the way the Indians live?

- A. indignant disbelief
- B. morbid fascination
- C. angry resignation

3 “... rung after rung, with the tremulous caution of extreme old age.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the old man moves so slowly because...

- A. he is moving stealthily
- B. he distrusts the strangers
- C. his aged body trembles

4 “His body was bent and emaciated to the bone, almost fleshless.”

The description of the old man’s emaciated body primarily serves to...

- A. stress his lingering strength
- B. hint at a hidden illness
- C. show the toll of natural aging

5 “A sound of subterranean flute playing came up and was almost lost in the steady remorseless persistence of the drums.”

According to the passage, the subterranean flute playing comes from...

- A. the surrounding hills
- B. below the ground
- C. the village rooftops

6 “Hideously masked or painted out of all semblance of humanity ...”

The dancers’ masks, described in the excerpt, primarily function to...

- A. show a playful costume
- B. make them seem inhuman
- C. disguise their identities

7 “The squalor of that little house on the outskirts of the pueblo!”

Which choice best describes John’s attitude toward the house he grew up in?

- A. disgust at its filth
- B. fond nostalgia
- C. calm indifference

8 “A man can smile and smile and be a villain. Remorseless, treacherous, lecherous, kindless villain.”

In the excerpt, the villain is characterized above all as...

- A. incapable of pity
- B. tormented by guilt
- C. quick to forgive

9 “At the edge of the precipice he sat down. The moon was behind him; he looked down into the black shadow of the mesa, into the black shadow of death.”

The passage most strongly suggests that John, at the edge of the precipice, is...

- A. weighing a fatal leap
- B. admiring the moonlit view
- C. savoring his new manhood

10 “Dare to profane with his unworthiest hand that ... No, he didn’t.”

It can reasonably be inferred that John stops himself from touching Lenina because he...

- A. fears she may wake
- B. doubts his own feelings
- C. reveres her as sacred

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	A	
3	C	
4	C	Theme comprehension.
5	B	
6	B	
7	A	
8	A	John borrows these lines from 'Hamlet' to brand Pope a villain.
9	A	Event comprehension.
10	C	

Teacher Context: Chapters 7–9

At the Malpais Reservation, Bernard and Lenina witness a ritual and meet John and his mother Linda, an exile from the World State. John recounts his upbringing and his discovery of Shakespeare. Bernard secures Mustapha Mond's permission to bring John and Linda back to London. The break after Chapter 9 marks the return from the Reservation.