

Brave New World

Chapters 13–15

by Aldous Huxley

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: abstemious, contemptuously, exasperation, impudent, indignation, ingratiating, moribund, reproach, sacrilege, senility

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. The aging actor lived an **abstemious** life, far from his wild younger days.

- A. moderate, not self-indulgent
- B. lonely and withdrawn
- C. quiet and uneventful

2. He **contemptuously** tossed the cheap gift aside without a word.

- A. in a careless rush
- B. with scorn and disdain
- C. with weary boredom

3. With a sigh of **exasperation**, she slammed the broken printer shut.

- A. nervous worry
- B. bitter regret
- C. intense frustration

4. The **impudent** student rolled his eyes at the principal.

- A. anxious and fidgety
- B. rudely bold and disrespectful
- C. tired and distracted

5. She rose to her feet in **indignation** when the judge ignored the evidence.

- A. anger at an injustice
- B. a flash of envy
- C. a sudden wave of panic

6. The new clerk gave his boss an **ingratiating** smile every morning.

- A. meant to win favor
- B. warm and friendly
- C. shy and nervous

7. The **moribund** patient could barely lift his hand to wave goodbye.

- A. heavily sedated and drowsy
- B. worn out and exhausted
- C. at the point of death

8. There was **reproach** in her voice when she asked why I had lied.

- A. disapproval and disappointment
- B. simple, honest curiosity
- C. tired but gentle patience

9. Smoking inside the ancient temple struck the worshippers as **sacrilege**.

- A. a thoughtless mistake
- B. a violation of the sacred
- C. an act of plain rudeness

10. **Senility** had stolen so many of his memories that he no longer knew the year.

- A. a sudden brain injury
- B. a deep, lasting grief
- C. the mental decline of old age

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY
1	A
2	B
3	C
4	B
5	A
6	A
7	C
8	A
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 “But how many?” asked Fanny, shrugging her shoulders contemptuously.”

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

- A. is impatient with Lenina
- B. scorns Lenina’s reply
- C. doubts Lenina’s honesty

2 “Then why on earth didn’t you say so?” she cried, and so intense was her exasperation that she drove her sharp nails into the skin of his wrist.”

Which choice best describes Lenina’s attitude toward John in the passage?

- A. a sudden fear of him
- B. lingering sadness over him
- C. intense frustration with him

3 “The strongest oaths are straw to the fire i’ the blood. Be more abstemious, or else ...”

The lines the Savage recites to himself primarily function to...

- A. mourn a lost love
- B. mock a strict moral code
- C. steel himself against desire

4 “John! ventured a small ingratiating voice from the bathroom.”

Which choice best describes the manner of the voice calling “John!” from the bathroom?

- A. an attempt to win him over
- B. a show of wounded pride
- C. a burst of fresh anger

5 “Impudent strumpet, impudent strumpet, impudent strumpet.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the Savage beats out this phrase because he...

- A. rages at her shameless boldness
- B. mocks her in playful teasing
- C. begs her to come back to him

6 “At the foot of every bed, confronting its moribund occupant, was a television box.”

The television box facing each patient primarily functions to...

- A. explain how patients pass time
- B. show the comfort given to patients
- C. contrast distraction with dying

7 “At forty-four, Linda seemed, by contrast, a monster of flaccid and distorted senility.”

It can reasonably be inferred that Linda’s appearance horrifies the children because...

- A. they have never seen old age
- B. she is older than anyone alive
- C. she dresses unlike the patients

8 “The Savage’s voice was trembling with indignation.”

Which choice best describes the Savage’s attitude as he confronts the nurse over the children?

- A. weary resignation
- B. outrage at an injustice
- C. nervous fear of her

9 “I’ll teach you; I’ll make you be free whether you want to or not. ... For a moment the khaki mob was silent, petrified, at the spectacle of this wanton sacrilege, with amazement and horror.”

The passage most strongly suggests that the crowd is horrified because they...

- A. treat the soma as sacred
- B. resent losing free rations
- C. fear the Savage’s violence

10 “... ‘My friends, my friends!’ said the Voice so pathetically, with a note of such infinitely tender reproach that, behind their gas masks, even the policemen’s eyes were momentarily dimmed with tears ...”

The Voice’s tone of “tender reproach” primarily functions to...

- A. rally them to keep fighting
- B. soothe the rioters into calm
- C. warn them of harsh punishment

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	C	
3	C	The Tempest line withholds the word's sense; here 'abstemious' means restrained, especially in appetite or desire.
4	A	
5	A	Event comprehension. He hurls the phrase after Lenina's attempt to seduce him.
6	C	
7	A	Theme comprehension. In the World State citizens are kept youthful, so these children have never encountered aging.
8	B	
9	A	Event comprehension. The sacrilege is the Savage hurling the society's soma out the window.
10	B	

Teacher Context: Chapters 13–15

Lenina's infatuation with John ends in a violent rejection. As Linda dies, John's grief boils over at the conditioned indifference around him, and he tries to free a group of Delta workers from their soma ration, igniting a riot that brings in the police. John, Bernard, and Helmholtz are taken away.