

Death of a Salesman

by Arthur Miller

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

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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: accommodate, agitate, anemia, candid, contradict, correspondence, earnest, feasible, incredulous, indignant, initiative, mortgage, ominous, providence, regent, resolve, revolution, somber, trepidation, yield



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. They had to **accommodate** various interests to get a majority.
 - A. adjust to
 - B. force
 - C. understand
2. She gets **agitated** whenever the topic comes up.
 - A. calm and thoughtful
 - B. gloomy (sad)
 - C. emotionally disturbed
3. My mother is careful about how she eats because she is **anemic**.
 - A. with too few red blood cells
 - B. with too much cholesterol
 - C. with blood pressure too high
4. My **candid** opinion is that their team is much better than ours, but an upset isn't impossible.
 - A. honest
 - B. expert
 - C. tactful
5. Does the sentence **contradict** what is said in the previous paragraph?
 - A. disagree with
 - B. reinforce
 - C. expand upon
6. I don't live in Los Angeles yet, but I joined the organization as a **corresponding** member.
 - A. visiting
 - B. founding
 - C. done from afar
7. She has a casual, go-with-the-flow personality and doesn't appreciate his **earnestness**.
 - A. frivolous attitude
 - B. seriousness
 - C. falseness
8. The goal is good, but the plan doesn't seem very **feasible**.
 - A. profitable
 - B. practical
 - C. impressive
9. At first, she was **incredulous**--thinking the report was in error.
 - A. worried
 - B. confused
 - C. without belief
10. She was **indignant**, but she agreed to be searched when they accused her of shoplifting.
 - A. annoyed at something unjust
 - B. surprised at the unexpected
 - C. defensive about being suspected
11. She showed great **initiative** by organizing the project without being asked.
 - A. reluctant obedience
 - B. self-starting drive
 - C. lengthy hesitation

12. The site has a **mortgage** payment calculator that calculates the loan payment based on the interest rate and length of the loan.
- A. unsecured loan
 - B. real estate loan
 - C. credit card loan
13. With the clouds looking so ominous, I'm afraid there will be a bad storm.
- A. threatening
 - B. huge
 - C. fast-moving
14. By some stroke of **providence**, the rain stopped just as the wedding began.
- A. careful human planning
 - B. fortunate divine timing
 - C. stubborn bad luck
15. While the young king was ill, his uncle served as **regent** to rule the kingdom.
- A. temporary substitute ruler
 - B. elected prime minister
 - C. royal court advisor
16. She is testing my **resolve** to keep a good attitude.
- A. determination
 - B. ability
 - C. optimism
17. The computer **revolution** disrupted the job market.
- A. war
 - B. circular movement
 - C. dramatic change
18. This was the period when she painted with **somber** colors.
- A. especially bright
 - B. lacking brightness
 - C. varied shades of orange
19. I'm feeling something between normal **trepidation** and excessive test anxiety.
- A. confidence
 - B. nervousness
 - C. sleepiness
20. After the scandal, she **yielded** to public pressure and resigned her position.
- A. added
 - B. gave in
 - C. produced

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 LINDA [*hearing WILLY outside the bedroom, calls with some **trepidation***]:
 - A. a last name
 - B. nervousness
 - C. well suited
- 2 You're too **accommodating**, dear.
 - A. helpful
 - B. heating beyond the temperature where state normally changes
 - C. making one's home in; or living in; or staying (in a place)
- 3 WILLY [*with pity and **resolve***]: I'll see him in the morning; I'll have a nice talk with him. I'll get him a job selling.
 - A. firmness of purpose
 - B. wrongly translating
 - C. difficult situation
- 4 Why am I always being **contradicted**?
 - A. disagreed
 - B. separated
 - C. satisfied
- 5 BIFF [*with rising **agitation***]:
 - A. officially telling someone about something; or something that contains the message
 - B. formula (a mathematical expression that describe a relationship between variables)
 - C. anxiety or upset
- 6 Coach'll probably congratulate you on your **initiative**!
 - A. the state of not being relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
 - B. determining what should be done and doing it without instruction
 - C. someone who is not civilized or not moral OR an offensive term for a person who does not believe in a preferred religion
- 7 WILLY: Well, I got on the road, and I went north to **Providence**.
 - A. a particular way of seeing or thinking about things
 - B. resulting from God's intervention or plan; or lucky
 - C. collection of star systems held together by gravity
- 8 And then Boston—Boston is the cradle of the **Revolution**.
 - A. in disagreement
 - B. relative amount
 - C. the American war for independence from Great Britain
- 9 He is younger than BIFF, **earnest** and loyal, a worried boy.
 - A. impossible to find
 - B. sincere or excessively serious
 - C. good or beneficial
- 10 What're you lookin' so **anemic** about, Bernard?
 - A. worn out (lacking vitality)
 - B. having the characteristic of or relating to bouncing back light/heat/sound...
 - C. the degree or quality of showing the wearing effects of overwork or suffering
- 11 He's got **Regents** next week.
 - A. someone appointed to a position of temporary or delegated authority -- such as a temporarily while the king or queen is too young, too sick, or away; or a member of a governing board
 - B. organisms in the early stages of growth prior to birth, hatching, or sprouting; in humans organisms during the first eight weeks of development (prior to the fetal stage)
 - C. used historically or possibly in relation to a very poor country: people of low income, education, and social standing -- especially those who raise crops or livestock

- 12 *I got a **feasible** idea.*
A. not easily identified
B. possible or practical
C. able to be translated
- 13 *But that includes the last payment on the **mortgage**.*
A. to concentrate, look at; or the act of concentration
B. real estate loan
C. enter another's property without right or permission
- 14 [**Incredulously**] *Don't you realize what today is?*
A. in a manner that influences reason or general desire to do something
B. in a manner that intentionally angers, challenges, or upsets someone
C. with disbelief
- 15 *After high school he took so many **correspondence** courses.*
A. small kitchens
B. leaps or jumps
C. done from afar (by mailing letters, reports, etc.)
- 16 *Willy, do you want to talk **candidly**?*
A. with honesty and directness
B. in a strongly biased manner
C. in a manner that challenges
- 17 *She rises **ominously** and quietly and moves toward HAPPY, who backs up into the kitchen, afraid.*
A. threatening or suggestive of evil or bad things to come
B. in a manner that serves to help explain or demonstrate something
C. in a manner that tests someone or something for a period of time
- 18 BEN [**yielding**]: *That's a point, William.*
A. showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance
B. giving in
C. placing trust (in someone) by talking about private things
- 19 [**Indignantly**] *You can't see nothing out here!*
A. with anger or annoyance at something unjust
B. with surprise as something unexpected
C. with acceptance of something undesired as unavoidable
- 20 CHARLEY and BERNARD, **somberly** dressed, appear and knock on the kitchen door.
A. completely or totally
B. in dark, cheerless colors
C. exactly or accurately

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	trepidation	Used 2 times in this play.
2	A	accommodate (<i>as in: moved to accommodate her</i>)	High-utility academic word
3	A	resolve (<i>as in: Her resolve weakened.</i>)	High-utility academic word
4	A	contradict	High-utility academic word
5	C	agitate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
6	B	initiative	Used 2 times in this play.
7	B	providence (<i>as in: divine providence</i>)	Used 5 times in this play.
8	C	revolution (<i>as in: the computer revolution</i>)	High-utility academic word
9	B	earnest	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
10	A	anemia	Used 2 times in this play.
11	A	regent	Used 2 times in this play.
12	B	feasible	High-utility academic word
13	B	mortgage	Used 2 times in this play.
14	C	incredulous	Used about 9 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	C	correspondence (<i>as in: a correspondence course</i>)	Used 2 times in this play.
16	A	candid (<i>as in: your candid opinion</i>)	High-utility academic word
17	A	ominous	Used about 9 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word
19	A	indignant	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this play.
20	B	somber (<i>as in: somber colors</i>)	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library