

Dracula

Chapters 10–13

by Bram Stoker

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: acrid, avarice, emanate, fortitude, obsequious, pedantry, presage, prostration, stertorous, surmises

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 1–4 · Jonathan Harker's journey to Transylvania

Section 2 · Chapters 5–9 · Mina and Lucy by the sea

Section 3 · Chapters 10–13 · Lucy's mysterious illness

Section 4 · Chapters 14–18 · Mina reads Jonathan's foreign journal

Section 5 · Chapters 19–23 · The search for the Count's lairs

Section 6 · Chapters 24–27 · The pursuit to Transylvania

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. An **acrid** smell of burnt toast filled the entire kitchen.

- A. sharp and bitter
- B. faint and stale
- C. damp and musty

2. Critics said that the banker's **avarice** knew no limits.

- A. reckless ambition
- B. stubborn pride
- C. extreme greed for wealth

3. A faint glow seemed to **emanate** from the old lantern.

- A. to reflect back
- B. to flow outward
- C. to fade away

4. It took great **fortitude** to keep working after losing everything in the fire.

- A. courage facing hardship
- B. good fortune
- C. clever planning

5. His **obsequious** manner toward the manager annoyed all of his coworkers.

- A. overly eager to please
- B. cold and standoffish
- C. boastful and self-important

6. The professor's **pedantry** wore on his students over the long term.

- A. quick temper
- B. nitpicking over rules
- C. loud boasting

7. A sudden chill in the air struck him as a **presage** of disaster.

- A. a distant memory
- B. a direct cause
- C. a warning sign of trouble

8. After days without sleep, the soldier finally reached a state of **prostration**.

- A. restless boredom
- B. utter exhaustion
- C. nervous excitement

9. The exhausted hiker's **stertorous** breathing echoed through the small tent.

- A. quick and shallow
- B. deep and slow
- C. harsh and labored

10. She offered a few **surmises** about what might have caused the sudden power outage.

- A. tentative guesses
- B. detailed explanations
- C. strong complaints

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

husbandman — an old-fashioned word for a farmer, especially one who grows crops

King Laugh — Van Helsing's name for laughter as a powerful, unexpected force that relieves sorrow and strain

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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 “Nothing is too small. I counsel you, put down in record even your doubts and surmises.”

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘surmises’ most nearly means...

- A. tentative guesses
- B. careful observations
- C. nagging suspicions

2 “... the strong young manhood which seemed to emanate from him, his eyes gleamed.”

The author most likely describes strength as seeming to ‘emanate from’ Arthur in order to...

- A. mark him as a strong blood donor
- B. show grief has sapped his strength
- C. suggest he is close to collapse

3 “... she was full of a happy vivacity, but I could see evidences of the absolute prostration which she had undergone.”

It can reasonably be inferred that, despite Lucy’s cheerful manner, she...

- A. had been utterly drained by her ordeal
- B. had never truly been seriously ill
- C. was no longer in any real danger

4 “A presage of horror! What on earth do you mean?”

Which choice best describes Lucy’s attitude toward sleep in the passage?

- A. mild, ordinary reluctance
- B. longing for its peaceful rest
- C. dread of an approaching horror

5 “... of sherry was on the table half full, but there was a queer, acrid smell about.”

Which detail best supports the conclusion that the servants had been drugged?

- A. the sherry decanter left half full
- B. the sharp, biting smell in the air
- C. the servants’ deep, heavy breathing

6 “... left him a fortune which to people of our modest bringing up is wealth beyond the dream of avarice ...”

It can reasonably be inferred that the fortune Jonathan inherited is...

- A. a small but welcome sum
- B. a vast, almost limitless fortune
- C. a disappointing inheritance

7 “Lucy was breathing somewhat stertorously, and her face was at its worst, for the open mouth showed the pale gums.”

The passage most strongly suggests that Lucy’s ‘stertorous’ breathing is a sign that she...

- A. is resting peacefully at last
- B. is slowly regaining her strength
- C. is gravely weak and declining

8 “Come, my dear old fellow, summon all your fortitude. It will be best and easiest for her.”

Seward’s urging Arthur to ‘summon all your fortitude’ primarily functions to...

- A. distract him from his sorrow
- B. praise his courage as a donor
- C. steel him to face Lucy’s death

9 “... the urbane undertaker proved that his staff was afflicted, or blessed, with something of his own obsequious suavity.”

In the passage, the undertaker’s staff is characterized as...

- A. dignified and quietly restrained
- B. fawning and over-eager to please
- C. solemn and strictly businesslike

10 “... you can’t go on for some years teaching etiquette and decorum to other girls without the pedantry of it biting into yourself a bit.”

In context, the word ‘pedantry’ emphasizes the way teaching etiquette has left Mina...

- A. fussily preoccupied with proper form
- B. weary of correcting other people
- C. nostalgic for her teaching years

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	A	
2	A	Event comprehension. Van Helsing's gleaming eyes show he has spotted a strong blood donor in Arthur.
3	A	
4	C	
5	B	Event comprehension. The 'acrid smell' is the laudanum used to drug the servants.
6	B	'Beyond the dream of avarice' means more than even a greedy person could imagine.
7	C	
8	C	Event comprehension.
9	B	
10	A	

Teacher Context: Chapters 10–13

Lucy's health collapses; Dr. Seward calls in his old teacher Van Helsing, and a series of blood transfusions only briefly revives her. Despite their efforts the crisis deepens and the household is struck by tragedy. The break falls before the strange events that follow her funeral.