

Ethan Frome

by Edith Wharton

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: allude, constrained, constraint, contrast, despair (2), direct (2), enable, imply, indifferent, infer, junction, latent, perceptible, poignant, prudent, rouse, yield (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She didn't mention any names, but everyone knew she was **alluding** to the President.
 - A. being discouraging
 - B. indirectly referring
 - C. not talking
2. Congressional power is **constrained** by the court.
 - A. restricted
 - B. enforced
 - C. threatened
3. We want **constraints** on her power to spend taxpayer funds.
 - A. flexibility
 - B. limitations
 - C. increases
4. There was quite a **contrast** between the styles of the two teachers.
 - A. notable similarity
 - B. covering of all styles
 - C. notable difference
5. She rescued me from **despair**.
 - A. fear
 - B. poverty
 - C. hopelessness
6. Don't **despair**--help is on the way!
 - A. lose hope
 - B. be impatient
 - C. cry
7. She is easy to work with. She is **direct** in her communications and expectations.
 - A. straightforward
 - B. considerate
 - C. humble
8. The judge **directed** the jury to ignore the question.
 - A. asked
 - B. ordered
 - C. understood
9. Modern smartphones **enable** people to work from almost anywhere.
 - A. require
 - B. allow
 - C. remind
10. She **implied** that she would vote with us.
 - A. hinted
 - B. insisted
 - C. denied
11. She was **indifferent** to his anger.
 - A. without interest
 - B. with fear
 - C. with anger
12. The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
 - A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted

13. The accident happened at a busy junction downtown.
- A. an empty field
 - B. an intersection
 - C. a deep tunnel
14. A latent HPV infection reactivated when her immune system weakened with age.
- A. severe
 - B. inactive
 - C. common
15. She's walking with a barely perceptible limp.
- A. painful
 - B. new
 - C. noticeable
16. Have you read MLK's poignant "Letter from Birmingham Jail"?
- A. arousing deep emotion
 - B. logically compelling
 - C. long
17. Courage is dangerous without prudence.
- A. good sense
 - B. good purpose
 - C. good support
18. The smell of freshly brewed coffee roused her from her sleep.
- A. interrupted
 - B. deepened
 - C. awakened
19. The experiment yielded data that raised a new set of questions.
- A. produced
 - B. destroyed
 - C. slowed down
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 But one phrase stuck in my memory and served as the nucleus about which I grouped my subsequent **inferences**: "Guess he's been in Starkfield too many winters."
A. acts of taking something on as one's own
B. things concluded or guessed by reasoning
C. animals between one and two years of age
- 2 I had been told that Frome was poor, and that the saw-mill and the arid acres of his farm **yielded** scarcely enough to keep his household through the winter; but I had not supposed him to be in such want as Harmon's words implied, and I expressed my wonder.
A. produced
B. was attractive or desirable
C. not wanting to do something
- 3 He hesitated, and I had the impression that he felt himself about to **yield** to a stealing tide of inertia; then, "Thank you-I'll take it," he answered shortly.
A. select (on a computer screen)
B. give in
C. an involuntary vomiting spasm
- 4 I had been told that Frome was poor ... but I had not supposed him to be in such want as Harmon's words **implied**
A. suggested
B. not wanting to do something
C. was attractive or desirable
- 5 I hoped that this incident might set up some more **direct** communication between us.
A. open (talkative and unguarded)
B. the state or degree of being very large
C. meticulousness (care for small details)
- 6 He went about his task without knowing what force **directed** him, or whose hands and feet were fulfilling its orders. It was not till he led out the sorrel and backed him between the shafts of the sleigh that he once more became conscious of what he was doing.
A. helped make clear
B. commanded
C. thought carefully
- 7 Such tastes and acquirements in a man of his condition made the contrast more **poignant** between his outer situation and his inner needs
A. sharp or intense
B. able to be found
C. likely to change
- 8 At our next meeting he made no **allusion** to the book,
A. a nerve or brain cell
B. indirect reference
C. long eventful journey
- 9 "Straight to the **Junction**, by the shortest way," he answered, pointing up School House Hill with his whip.
A. particles emitted by nuclear decay
B. a place where things come together
C. a central open space in a building
- 10 The sight made him unhappy, and his unhappiness roused his **latent** fears.
A. relating to logical examination to improve understanding
B. potentially existing but not presently evident or active
C. the characteristic of tending to think back about things

- 11 *Now he thought she understood him, and feared; now he was sure she did not, and **despaired**.*
A. lost hope
B. grew angry
C. became thoughtful
- 12 *To-night the pressure of accumulated misgivings sent the scale drooping toward **despair**, and her indifference was the more chilling after the flush of joy into which she had plunged him by dismissing Denis Eady.*
A. annoyance
B. thoughtfulness
C. hopelessness
- 13 *As he lay there he could hear Mattie moving about in her room, and her candle, sending its small ray across the landing, drew a scarcely **perceptible** line of light under his door.*
A. the state of being awake
B. able to take on or adopt
C. capable of being noticed
- 14 *pride, and an instinctive **prudence**, kept him from resorting to this argument.*
A. good sense and caution
B. not easily set on fire
C. surrounding conditions
- 15 *After a moment Mattie seemed to be affected by the same sense of **constraint**.*
A. lacking experience or sophistication
B. something that limits something else
C. a Muslim religious teacher or leader
- 16 *Ethan tried to hide his joy under an air of exaggerated **indifference***
A. lack of interest
B. risky investment
C. chaotic disorder
- 17 *This plan had the advantage of **enabling** him to send Jotham to the Flats after dinner to meet Zenobia, while he himself took the lumber down to the village.*
A. being a sign of
B. making possible
C. moving downward
- 18 *Ethan **roused** himself with an effort and opened the door.*
A. beyond the permitted boundary or limit
B. explains something in a particular way
C. to awaken, make more active, or excite
- 19 *Zeena waited a moment, as if giving him time to feel the full force of the **contrast** between his own excitement and her composure.*
A. come to terms with
B. block or interfere
C. difference
- 20 *Her sombre violence **constrained** him: she seemed the embodied instrument of fate.*
A. restricted; or lacking spontaneity
B. not provided with investment funds
C. stopped (something from happening)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	infer	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
2	A	yield (<i>as in: will yield valuable data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	A	imply	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
5	A	direct (<i>as in: gave a direct answer</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	B	direct (<i>as in: direct a question; or direct a film</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	poignant	Used 2 times in this book.
8	B	allude	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
9	B	junction	Used 6 times in this book.
10	B	latent	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
11	A	despair (<i>as in: do not despair</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
12	C	despair (<i>as in: she felt despair</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
13	C	perceptible	Used 3 times in this book.
14	A	prudent	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
15	B	constraint	Used 3 times in this book.
16	A	indifferent	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
17	B	enable	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
18	C	rouse	Used 6 times in this book.
19	C	contrast (<i>as in: there is a contrast</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
20	A	constrained	Used 2 times in this book.