

June Recital

by Eudora Welty

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

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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: agitate, apprehensive, arbitrary, beckon, belligerent, capricious, chord, conceit, crucial, despise, earnest, formidable, inconsistent, indignant, infernal, obelisk, recital, signify, torment, yield



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	B
3	A
4	B
5	A
6	B
7	A
8	B
9	B
10	C
11	B
12	C
13	C
14	A
15	A
16	B
17	A
18	A
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 gets **agitated** whenever the topic comes up.
 - A. calm and thoughtful
 - B. gloomy (sad)
 - C. emotionally disturbed
2. She is **apprehensive** about finals.
 - A. talkative
 - B. worried
 - C. unconcerned
3. The rules felt **arbitrary**, changing from one day to the next without clear explanation.
 - A. impulsive
 - B. strict
 - C. cruel
4. The police officer **beckoned** me to come over.
 - A. considered asking
 - B. called
 - C. prohibited
5. She likes to make people lose their cool by starting **belligerent** political arguments.
 - A. hostile or combative
 - B. clever or intelligent
 - C. ridiculous or absurd
6. The court overturned the ruling--describing it as having been made in a **capricious** manner.
 - A. biased
 - B. impulsive
 - C. harmful
7. The guitarist strummed a complex **chord**, its rich harmony filling the room.
 - A. three or more notes that blend harmoniously
 - B. a single, sustained musical tone
 - C. a repeated rhythmic pattern
8. Her **conceit** showed in the way she interrupted others and assumed she was always the smartest person in the room.
 - A. ignorance
 - B. arrogance
 - C. encouragement
9. The information is **crucial** to making a good decision.
 - A. helpful
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
10. She **despises** his lifestyle.
 - A. admires
 - B. wants
 - C. hates
11. She has a casual, go-with-the-flow personality and doesn't appreciate his **earnestness**.
 - A. frivolous attitude
 - B. seriousness
 - C. falseness

12. The challenge is formidable.
- A. trivial
 - B. understood
 - C. intimidating
13. His grades were inconsistent, ranging from A's to F's each term.
- A. perfect
 - B. private
 - C. uneven
14. 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
15. That infernal alarm clock kept going off every five minutes.
- A. annoying
 - B. expensive
 - C. antique
16. The ancient Egyptians erected obelisks as symbols of the sun god Ra, and many of these impressive structures still stand today.
- A. circular stone structures used for astronomical observations
 - B. stone pillars with a pyramidal tops
 - C. life-like statutes made of stone
17. At the poetry recital, she recited an original work.
- A. solo performance
 - B. writing workshop
 - C. open discussion
18. Her silence seemed to signify that she disagreed.
- A. indicate
 - B. delay
 - C. repeat
19. Bullies made his school days a constant torment he could not escape.
- A. severe suffering
 - B. great enjoyment
 - C. simple confusion
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 At last he sighed, stretched his toes—so clean he **despised** the very sight of his feet—and brought himself up on his elbow to the window.
 - A. not good at concentrating on one thing
 - B. adjusted a lens to make an image clear
 - C. disliked strongly and looked down upon
- 2 When he saw the door prized open—the stretched screen billowing from being too freely leaned against—and let the people in, Loch felt the old **indignation** rise up.
 - A. anger or annoyance at something unjust or wrong
 - B. surprise as something unexpected
 - C. acceptance of something undesired as unavoidable
- 3 That was the **conceited** thing girls and women would try.
 - A. not judged in a negative way
 - B. excessively proud of oneself
 - C. calculated or judged too low
- 4 But he could not tell what it was—a small brown wooden box, shaped like the **Obelisk**.
 - A. a type of vocal music that originated in African-American churches in the United States
 - B. a stone pillar with a pyramidal top erected as a monument to remember a person or event
 - C. related to the smallest part of any material that cannot be broken up by chemical means
- 5 Yet in the shade of the vacant house, though all looked still, there was **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. the act of stirring up (emotionally or physically); or a state of emotional unrest
- 6 But with Fir Elise the third time, her uncritical self of the **crucial** present, this Wednesday afternoon, slowly came forward—as if called on.
 - A. natural
 - B. very important
 - C. more than is needed
- 7 They went on Mondays and Thursdays at 3:30 and 4:00 and after school was out and up until the **recital**, at 9:30 and 10:00 in the morning.
 - A. performance
 - B. storyteller
 - C. translation
- 8 So punctual and so **formidable** was Miss Eckhart that all the little girls passed, one going and one coming, through the beaded curtains mincing like strangers.
 - A. the quality of disagreeing
 - B. the quality of being Dutch
 - C. intimidating or impressive
- 9 Beaded curtains in the doorway stirred and clicked now and then during a lesson, as if someone were coming, but it **signified** no more than the idle clicking redbirds made in the free outdoors, if it was not time for a pupil.
 - A. to indicate (to show or to mean)
 - B. lacking things most people enjoy
 - C. of the Netherlands or its people
- 10 It sounded worse than the **infernal** regions.
 - A. very bad; or very annoying; or characteristic of hell or the underworld
 - B. relating to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
 - C. strict, firm, or hard (not giving in, not giving way, or not giving up)
- 11 You could see **torment** in her regard of the fly.
 - A. to cause or to experience great mental or physical suffering
 - B. provide investment funds for something -- such as a business
 - C. point to differences between; or compare to show differences

12 *Before some caprice of Virgie's, her spirit drooped its head.*

- A. someone who expresses disapproval
- B. impulsiveness or unpredictability
- C. purpose, job, or natural activity

13 *She showed no repentance, such as Cassie felt, for her inconsistencies.*

- A. small paper forms made to lists the amount of money and each check being deposited into a bank account
- B. sculptures or other things made of the brownish metal with the same name -- such as third place medals
- C. not the same in different parts or at different times

or:

not in agreement [with something else]

14 *Mr. Voight before so very long—it happened during a sojourn home of Mr. MacLain, she remembered—was transferred to travel another seven states ending the problem; and yet Mr. Voight had done something that amounted to more than going naked under his robe and calling alarm like a turkey gobbler, it was more belligerent; and the least describable thing of all had been a look on his face; that was strange.*

- A. hostile (the attitude of one eager to fight); or one already engaged in a fight or war
- B. related to intelligence -- such as requiring, appealing to, or possessing intelligence
- C. (adjective) designed to stop something OR (noun) something that stops something else

15 *When she came in she took her seat and put her foot earnestly up on Mr. Sissum's stool like any other lady in Morgana and he spoke to her very nicely.*

- A. in a self-aware manner
- B. sincerely or seriously
- C. finally; or in the end

16 *Miss Eckhart tried all those things and was strict to the last in the way she gave all her love to Virgie Rainey and none to anybody else, the way she was strict in music; and for Miss Eckhart love was just as arbitrary and one-sided as music teaching.*

- A. based on chance or impulse
- B. able to meet and talk with
- C. the quality of disagreeing

17 *The quartet, with four dresses in view at one time and in close conjunction, pushing one another, made Miss Eckhart especially apprehensive.*

- A. not representative
- B. nervous or worried
- C. impossible to find

18 *Then there was only the quartet, and with the last chord—sudden disintegration itself—laughter and teasing broke loose.*

- A. a combination of three or more notes that blend harmoniously when sounded together; or figuratively to express harmonious blending or clashing
- B. fear, or anticipate with worry (commonly only seen in the forms "apprehensive" and "apprehension," but seen in this form in classic literature)
- C. to expression feelings or thoughts enthusiastically OR to squirt or give off (typically under pressure such as blood or leaking gas)

19 *Ladies waved and beckoned with their fans, conversation opened up.*

- A. showed something -- such as demonstrated, expressed, or represented
- B. called (to come nearer by using a hand gesture)
- C. provided evidence of something -- especially oral evidence in court

20 *It ran perfectly through her head, vanishing as it went, one line yielding to the next, like a torch race.*

- A. showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance
- B. giving way
- C. placing trust (in someone) by talking about private things

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	despise	Used 4 times in this story.
2	A	indignant	High-utility academic word
3	B	conceit (<i>as in: confident, but not conceited</i>)	Used 2 times in this story.
4	B	obelisk	Used 7 times in this story.
5	C	agitate	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this story.
6	B	crucial	High-utility academic word
7	A	recital	Used 21 times in this story.
8	C	formidable	Used 2 times in this story.
9	A	signify	Used 2 times in this story.
10	A	infernal	Used 3 times in this story.
11	A	torment	Used 2 times in this story.
12	B	capricious	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
13	C	inconsistent	High-utility academic word
14	A	belligerent	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	B	earnest	High-utility academic word
16	A	arbitrary	High-utility academic word
17	B	apprehensive	High-utility academic word
18	A	chord (<i>as in: piano chord</i>)	Used 2 times in this story.
19	B	beckon	Used 2 times in this story.
20	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this story.