

Look Homeward, Angel

by Thomas Wolfe

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: abundant, complacent, conviction, debauchery, exult, gaunt, incessant, interminable, jargon, loam, luscious, malice, rhetoric, sensual, sensuous, servile, tranquil, tremulous, yield (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	C
3	B
4	A
5	B
6	B
7	B
8	B
9	A
10	A
11	C
12	C
13	A
14	A
15	B
16	C
17	C
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. The region has **abundant** natural resources, from oil to fresh water.
 - A. extremely scarce
 - B. highly disputed
 - C. widely available
2. This team could win State if they stay hungry instead of getting too **complacent**.
 - A. worried
 - B. distracted
 - C. satisfied
3. She stood up in class with total **conviction** and said, "I believe animals deserve to be treated kindly, no matter what."
 - A. raised voice
 - B. firm belief
 - C. shaky voice
4. The novel describes a night of **debauchery** that leaves the guests ashamed.
 - A. wild immoral behavior
 - B. quiet reflection
 - C. careful planning
5. They **exulted** in the victory.
 - A. finally rested
 - B. felt extreme happiness
 - C. sang
6. Don Quixote looked **gaunt** and tired.
 - A. very worried
 - B. very thin
 - C. very bored
7. Night and day we live with the **incessant** noise of the city.
 - A. loud
 - B. continuous
 - C. pleasant
8. The meeting felt **interminable** as the speaker droned on about minor details.
 - A. refreshingly brief
 - B. seemingly endless
 - C. surprisingly lively
9. The legal **jargon** in the contract was so complex that the client had to hire a lawyer to interpret it.
 - A. special vocabulary
 - B. complex ideas
 - C. underlying philosophy
10. Roses grow best in well-drained **loam** mixed with a bit of compost.
 - A. rich soil
 - B. old straw
 - C. fresh hay
11. The singer's **luscious** voice made even simple songs sound deeply emotional.
 - A. harshly grating
 - B. barely audible
 - C. richly appealing

12. Words can be like baseball bats when used **maliciously** against someone who is sensitive.
- A. carelessly
 - B. mockingly
 - C. evilly
13. Students analyzed the senator's **rhetoric** before writing their essays.
- A. persuasive language
 - B. family history
 - C. voting record
14. She enjoyed the **sensual** pleasure of the warm sun on her skin.
- A. pleasing the body's senses
 - B. exciting the mind's intellect
 - C. deep empathetic understanding
15. I made the bed with **sensuous** silk sheets.
- A. smooth to the touch
 - B. pleasing to touch
 - C. cool to the touch
16. The country has a **servile** press.
- A. irresponsible
 - B. aggressive
 - C. submissive
17. After the storm passed, the village returned to its **tranquil** evening routine.
- A. loudly chaotic
 - B. brightly colored
 - C. peacefully calm
18. She tried to sound confident, but her voice was **tremulous**.
- A. grating (rough)
 - B. frail (weak or soft)
 - C. quivering (shaky)
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 There was a droning **interminable** wait at a junction-town near the foot-hills.
 - A. relating to expert judgement of what is good and bad about something
 - B. seemingly endless; or long and unpleasant (often boring or annoying)
 - C. full of anger or unhappiness at having to accept something not liked
- 2 And that voice, flat, drawling, **complacent**, touched with sudden light a picture that had lain dead in him for twenty years.
 - A. unable to get closer to
 - B. not sensible or careful
 - C. unworried and satisfied
- 3 He thought of the **loamy** black earth with its sudden young light of flowers, of the beaded chill of beer, and of the plumtree's dropping blossoms.
 - A. rich
 - B. real
 - C. city
- 4 And he thought **lusciously** of mysterious and succulent food.
 - A. in a manner related to a mental illness most commonly associated with undeveloped social abilities, language, and other communication skills
 - B. calculated by the collection and interpretation of numerical data -- especially regarding life expectancy and other statistics use to calculate insurance premiums
 - C. richly appealing to the senses -- especially taste, smell, or appearance -- often used for delicious food, attractive appearance, or sensuous beauty
- 5 Since his childhood he had been the witness of his father's wildest **debauches**.
 - A. extreme indulgence in pleasures -- especially those considered immoral or harmful, such as drinking, partying, or other reckless behavior
 - B. a means of control -- most commonly the straps attached to a bit in a horse's mouth that are used to control it OR restrains or controls
 - C. injures the ligaments of a joint by stretching them too far (ligaments are the tough, fibrous bands that connect bones across joints)
- 6 Two little boys, twins, with straight very blond heads, and thin, mean faces, raced up and down the sidewalk before the house **incessantly** on tricycles.
 - A. thoughtfully
 - B. continuously
 - C. with anxiety
- 7 Steve hummed a monotonous, suggestive tune, and writhed **sensually**.
 - A. relating to pleasing the body's senses (in contrast to the intellect)
 - B. in a manner that is appropriate or related in size, amount, or degree
 - C. in a manner that is not sexually attractive, or persuasively tempting
- 8 He had a Dutch love of **abundance**: again and again he described the great stored barns, the groaning plenty of the Pennsylvanians.
 - A. sharpness or intenseness
 - B. conflict or disagreement
 - C. large amount or quantity
- 9 And in this pillage of the loaded shelves, he found himself wedged firmly into the grotesque pattern of Protestant fiction which **yields** the rewards of Dionysus to the loyal disciples of John Calvin, panting and praying in a breath, guarding the plumtree with the altar fires, outdoing the pagan harlot with the sanctified hussy.
 - A. gives or produces
 - B. complains or verbally attacks in a loud, excited way
 - C. formally gives up power, as of monarchs and emperors

- 10 *She was as lithe and yielding to his sustaining hand as a willow rod—she was bird-swift, more elusive in repose than the dancing water-motes upon her face.*
- showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance
 - giving in, giving up, or giving way (easily moved or soft)
 - placing trust (in someone) by talking about private things
- 11 *There were two beds; he exulted in his unaccustomed occupancy of an entire mattress, dreaming of the day of manlike privacy.*
- considered (for affect on a result or outcome)
 - felt or expressed extreme happiness or elation
 - held together (connected or united) or wrapped
- 12 *But, in spite of this gauntness, she did not look hard-featured or raw-boned.*
- not having the characteristic of or relating to bouncing back light/heat/sound...
 - very thin and bony -- often from hunger or as though having been worn to the bone
 - able to qualify for regular payments that permit having an income without working
- 13 *This starched and well brushed world of Sunday morning Presbyterianism, with its sober decency, its sense of restraint, its suggestion of quiet wealth, solid position, ordered ritual, seclusive establishment, moved him deeply with its tranquillity.*
- small quantity or indication
 - reason (for doing something)
 - peace and quiet; or calmness
- 14 *He hated the jargon of the profession, which she had picked up somewhere long before, and which she used constantly with such satisfaction—smacking her lips as she spoke of "transients," or of "drumming up trade."*
- specialized vocabulary
 - mirror back (an image)
 - create dramatic change
- 15 *"Doctor," said Harry Tugman with servile medicine-man respect, "what do you charge to operate?"*
- relating to practice or belief that is long-established or was previously long-established OR relating to stories passed down through generations
 - related to an economic system based on government ownership or control of all important companies -- with the ideal of equal benefits to all people
 - too eager to serve or obey others -- often in a way that seems overly submissive, weak, or lacking self-respect
- or:
- related to low-status tasks
- 16 *"Would you like some cold pork, son?" said Coker, with his yellow malicious grin.*
- exceedingly important, serious, or dangerous
 - designed to be useful; or capable of working
 - the intention or desire to see others suffer
- 17 *At this moment Gant strode in out of the dusk, carrying a mottled package of pork chops, and muttering rhetorically to himself.*
- in a manner that uses words to make a point
 - in a manner that stops or hinders something
 - in a manner involving only one part or side
- 18 *She had very thick black hair, straight and oily, and very black eyes, giving a heavy sensuousness to her face.*
- the state or degree of having found a condition or substance to be present
 - relating to pleasure from the body's senses rather than from the intellect
 - most extreme as in final, best, worst, most important, or most fundamental
- 19 *Eliza waved to him and smiled tremulously; she turned back into the house sniffing, with wet eyes.*
- not capable of being found
 - in a bad or harmful manner
 - with quivering (shakiness)
- 20 *All his convictions in family affairs had been previously signed with her approval.*
- not working or not operating
 - a strong, firmly held belief
 - calculates or judges too low

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	interminable	Used 17 times in this book.
2	C	complacent	High-utility academic word; used 13 times in this book.
3	A	loam	Used 8 times in this book.
4	C	luscious	Used 8 times in this book.
5	A	debauchery	Used 8 times in this book.
6	B	incessant	Used 21 times in this book.
7	A	sensual	Used 22 times in this book.
8	C	abundant	High-utility academic word; used 21 times in this book.
9	A	yield (<i>as in: will yield valuable data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	B	exult	Used 25 times in this book.
12	B	gaunt	Used 24 times in this book.
13	C	tranquil	Used 17 times in this book.
14	A	jargon	Used 11 times in this book.
15	C	servile	Used 9 times in this book.
16	C	malice	High-utility academic word; used 12 times in this book.
17	A	rhetoric	High-utility academic word; used 12 times in this book.
18	B	sensuous	Used 11 times in this book.
19	C	tremulous	Used 18 times in this book.
20	B	conviction (<i>as in: spoke with conviction</i>)	Used 19 times in this book.