

Master Harold...and the Boys

by Athol Fugard

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

Answer Key — Preview	2	teacher use / self-check only
Vocabulary Preview	3	

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: abolish, adamant, appalling, climax, daunt, desolate, despair (2), ebb, edify, fiasco, oppress, peasant, perpetual, perplex, petty, thesis, tirade, unobtrusive, vestige



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The dictator's first move was to **abolish** free speech and a free press.
 - A. restore
 - B. encourage
 - C. eliminate
2. The CEO was **adamant** that the company would not compromise on its commitment to sustainability, even if it meant sacrificing short-term profits.
 - A. willing to change a decision based on new information
 - B. uncertain or hesitant about a decision
 - C. determined not to change a decision
3. She has scheduled a news conference to respond to the **appalling** accusations.
 - A. false
 - B. horrible
 - C. foolish
4. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* reaches its climax when Harry enters the chamber of secrets.
 - A. most surprising part
 - B. most intense part
 - C. most thoughtful part
5. Obstacles don't **daunt** her.
 - A. anger
 - B. distract
 - C. discourage
6. She felt **desolate** when her boyfriend died in a car accident.
 - A. confused
 - B. miserable
 - C. emotional
7. She rescued me from **despair**.
 - A. fear
 - B. poverty
 - C. hopelessness
8. Don't **despair**--help is on the way!
 - A. lose hope
 - B. be impatient
 - C. cry
9. After the incident, support for the policy **ebbed**.
 - A. increased
 - B. disappeared
 - C. declined
10. She both entertains and **edifies** when she speaks.
 - A. puzzles listeners
 - B. teaches or instructs
 - C. learns from others
11. The production was a **fiasco**.
 - A. success
 - B. failure
 - C. challenge

12. My work environment is **oppressive**.
A. friendly
B. harsh and unfair
C. very important
13. In 1932 a **peasant** revolt in Su County, China stopped collection of the poppy tax.
A. city dweller
B. young person
C. poor farmer
14. He has a **perpetual** fear of forgetting important deadlines.
A. joyful
B. constant
C. secret
15. I am **perplexed** by her sudden change of mind on this important issue.
A. amused
B. annoyed
C. confused
16. She is the chief **petty officer** responsible for the review.
A. non-commissioned officer
B. an officer who complains about unworthy things
C. a police officer who focuses on misdemeanors
17. What is the **thesis** of your paper.
A. format
B. theory
C. grammatical voice
18. I'm growing tired of her **tirades**.
A. displays of angry criticism
B. displays of useless guilt
C. displays of paralyzing worry
19. She sat **unobtrusively** in the rear of the room.
A. without drawing attention
B. while shouting loudly
C. while crying softly
20. French territories and overseas departments exist as **vestiges** of the colonial empire.
A. remaining traces
B. extensions
C. defenders

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 I **oskillate** (*mispronounces oscillate*) between hope and **despair** for this world as well, Sam.
 - A. adjusts a lens to make an image clear
 - B. not creating disagreement or struggle
 - C. hopelessness
- 2 We **mustn't despair**.
 - A. give up hope
 - B. notable difference
 - C. come to terms with
- 3 An **intrepid** social reformer will not be **daunted** by the magnitude of the task he has undertaken.
 - A. gradually added or removed
 - B. limited or with boundaries
 - C. discouraged or intimidated
- 4 All **vestiges** of the feudal system with its oppression of the poor were abolished.
 - A. traces of something that was previously there
 - B. relative amounts
 - C. acts of betrayal
- 5 All vestiges of the feudal system with its **oppression** of the poor were abolished.
 - A. the best or most important
 - B. unfair treatment
 - C. a secret agreement or plot
- 6 All vestiges of the feudal system with its oppression of the poor were **abolished**.
 - A. translated
 - B. subtracted
 - C. eliminated
- 7 Not many intellectuals are prepared to shovel manure with the **peasants** and then go home and write a "little book" called *War and Peace*.
 - A. 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)
 - B. members of an artistic movement pioneered by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque that featured surfaces of geometrical planes to depict three-dimensional organic forms
 - 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
- 8 Somebody was always complaining about the food or my mother was having a fight with Micky Nash because she'd caught her with a **petty officer** in her room.
 - A. non-commissioned officer
 - B. lowering moral standards
 - C. changing or not reliable
- 9 You're on your bed trimming your toenails with a knife – not a very **edifying** sight – and as for me....
 - A. disagreeing
 - B. instructive
 - C. translating
- 10 Like everything else in my life, here comes another **fiasco**.
 - A. the act of taking something on as one's own
 - B. a complete failure
 - C. something that helps clarify or demonstrate
- 11 The principle of **perpetual** disappointment.
 - A. having the characteristics of a *monk* (often inclined toward self-denial)
 - B. continuing forever
 - C. about things beyond the physical world, such as existence, reality, or the soul

- 12 (**appalled**) *You mean don't dance?*
 A. with an unadjusted lens so the image isn't clear
 B. shocked by how terrible or horrible something is
 C. gave an opinion of what was wrong with something
- 13 (**adamant**) *No*
 A. the characteristic of demonstrating something
 B. the quality of not being sensible and careful
 C. determined not to change a decision or belief
- 14 *He keeps up his tirade as... But what really makes me bitter is that I allow you chaps a little freedom in here – when business is bad and what do you do with it?*
 A. speech of angry criticism
 B. something that stands out
 C. something made from parts
- 15 *And then finally, your imagination also left out the climax of the evening when the dancing is finished, the judges have stopped whispering among themselves and the Master of Ceremonies collects their score cards and goes onto the stage to announce the winners.*
 A. treat something in an educated, intellectual way -- often excluding emotional or practical considerations
 B. the most exciting or important part of a story, musical piece, or other thing that has a series of events
 C. "spiritually renew" (a person) in a Christian ceremony OR initiate or purify by a challenging experience
- 16 *To put my thesis in a nutshell: the war-dance has been replaced by the waltz.*
 A. the state or degree of being able to be taken on as one's own
 B. theory
 C. not trustworthy with secrets, and/or conspicuous or obtrusive
- 17 (**perplexed**) *Why? What did I say?*
 A. excessively excited
 B. nervous or confused
 C. confused or puzzled
- 18 A **desolate** *Hally doesn't move.*
 A. make different; or show difference
 B. sad or miserable--and often lonely
 C. to cause something to move forward
- 19 (SAM and WILLIE *work away as unobtrusively as possible.*)
 A. in a manner that fits in so as not to attract much attention or disturb
 B. in a manner based on speech sounds (rather than on dictionary spelling)
 C. in a continuing manner -- especially despite difficulties or opposition
- 20 (*his violence ebbing away into defeat as quickly as it flooded*) *You're right.*
 A. making uncomfortable (weighing heavily on the senses or spirit)
 B. supporting a beam, bracket, or other structure on only one side
 C. declining

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	despair (<i>as in: she felt despair</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
2	A	despair (<i>as in: do not despair</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
3	C	daunt	Used 2 times in this play.
4	A	vestige	Used 3 times in this play.
5	B	oppress (<i>as in: oppressive government</i>)	Used 2 times in this play.
6	C	abolish	Used 3 times in this play.
7	C	peasant	Used 2 times in this play.
8	A	petty (<i>as in: petty officer</i>)	High-utility academic word
9	B	edify	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
10	B	fiasco	Used about once per 10 books in our high school library
11	B	perpetual	High-utility academic word
12	B	appalling	Used 2 times in this play.
13	C	adamant	Used 2 times in this play.
14	A	tirade	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	B	climax (<i>as in: climax of the story</i>)	Used 3 times in this play.
16	B	thesis (<i>as in: the thesis of her editorial</i>)	High-utility academic word
17	C	perplex	Used about 8 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	B	desolate (<i>as in: felt desolate</i>)	High-utility academic word
19	A	unobtrusive	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
20	C	ebb	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.