

Military–Industrial Complex Speech

by Dwight D. Eisenhower

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: acquisition, cease, compel, comprehend, conflict, diligent, duration, eminent, enable, enhance, essential, factor, grievous, imperative, persistent, principle, prosper, solemn, tenuous, ultimate



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Her primary focus is on the **acquisition** of money and the things it can buy.
 - A. getting
 - B. spending
 - C. fearing
2. The injunction requires that they **cease** all activity on the site.
 - A. stop
 - B. record
 - C. permit
3. Can we **compel** the witness to testify?
 - A. prevent
 - B. force
 - C. delay
4. Washington fails to **comprehend** the change in China's strategy.
 - A. fully understand
 - B. regard respectfully
 - C. respond adequately to
5. The Israeli–Palestinian **conflict** flared up again in Jerusalem.
 - A. agreement
 - B. border
 - C. struggle
6. A **diligent** detective investigates all clues.
 - A. lazy and careless
 - B. rude and dishonest
 - C. careful and hardworking
7. The **duration** of the flight from New York to London is about seven hours.
 - A. length of time
 - B. total cost
 - C. distance covered
8. Despite her **eminent** status in the art world, she remained humble and approachable.
 - A. respected and well-known
 - B. newly acquired
 - C. barely noticed
9. Modern smartphones **enable** people to work from almost anywhere.
 - A. require
 - B. allow
 - C. remind
10. The stunning victory over the Blue Devils **enhanced** the Bulldogs' image as title contenders.
 - A. damaged
 - B. questioned
 - C. improved
11. Regular exercise is **essential** for maintaining good cardiovascular health.
 - A. occasionally helpful
 - B. absolutely necessary
 - C. completely optional

12. In the second paragraph, the narrator's focus shifts from **factors** making her unhappy to identification of possible solutions to her unhappiness.
- A. things that are unfair
 - B. things (that influence an outcome)
 - C. examples of illnesses
13. It is a **grievous** offense against morality.
- A. serious
 - B. minor
 - C. foolish
14. It's becoming **imperative** that we get that national deficit under control.
- A. essential and urgent
 - B. a popular belief
 - C. an excuse for ignoring other problems
15. The **persistent** rain finally stopped after flooding streets for a full week.
- A. quickly ending
 - B. continuing steadily
 - C. suddenly starting
16. One guiding **principle** is that everyone should be treated fairly.
- A. rule or belief
 - B. complaint
 - C. answer or result
17. She is **prospering** in business.
- A. struggling
 - B. starting
 - C. doing well
18. Everyone was **solemn** at the funeral.
- A. serious and dignified
 - B. teary eyed
 - C. dressed in dark colors
19. The theory sounded impressive, but the evidence behind it was **tenuous**
- A. weak
 - B. detailed
 - C. groundbreaking
20. When everything was included, the **ultimate** cost was just over \$200.
- A. estimated
 - B. preliminary
 - C. final

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 Three days from now, after half a century in the service of our country, I shall lay down the responsibilities of office as, in traditional and **solemn** ceremony, the authority of the Presidency is vested in my successor.
A. very serious--possibly dignified
B. indicating approval or agreement
C. able to be taken on as one's own
- 2 Our people expect their President and the Congress to find **essential** agreement on issues of great moment, the wise resolution of which will better shape the future of the Nation.
A. not capable of being better understood through detailed examination
B. necessary or important or relating to the basic nature of something
C. clear, easily noticed, and/or identifiable as different or separate
- 3 My own relations with the Congress, which began on a remote and **tenuous** basis when, long ago, a member of the Senate appointed me to West Point, have since ranged to the intimate during the war and immediate post-war period, and, finally, to the mutually interdependent during these past eight years.
A. weak, flimsy, or uncertain
B. the quality of disagreeing
C. able to meet and talk with
- 4 Understandably proud of this pre-**eminence**, we yet realize that America's leadership and prestige depend, not merely upon our unmatched material progress, riches and military strength, but on how we use our power in the interests of world peace and human betterment.
A. famous, respected, or important within a particular field or profession
B. the act of finding fault and telling others; or a description of faults
C. the process of thinking carefully and making a judgment about something
- 5 Throughout America's adventure in free government, our basic purposes have been to keep the peace; to foster progress in human achievement, and to **enhance** liberty, dignity and integrity among people and among nations.
A. gain advantage from
B. influence or effect
C. increase or improve
- 6 Any failure traceable to arrogance, or our lack of **comprehension** or readiness to sacrifice would inflict upon us grievous hurt both at home and abroad.
A. the understanding of something
B. a change; or a changed version
C. a type of small portable radio
- 7 Any failure traceable to arrogance, or our lack of comprehension or readiness to sacrifice would inflict upon us **grievous** hurt both at home and abroad.
A. very serious; or very bad
B. not tending to find fault
C. not able to be translated
- 8 Progress toward these noble goals is **persistently** threatened by the conflict now engulfing the world.
A. in a manner that shows bad taste (crude, offensive, or unsophisticated)
B. in a continuing manner -- especially despite difficulties or opposition
C. in a manner based on speech sounds (rather than on dictionary spelling)
- 9 Progress toward these noble goals is persistently threatened by the **conflict** now engulfing the world.
A. include consideration of
B. make nervous or confused
C. struggle or disagreement
- 10 Unhappily the danger it poses promises to be of indefinite **duration**.
A. the time during which something continues
B. a particular understanding or explanation
C. meticulousness (care about small details)

- 11 To meet it successfully, there is called for, not so much the emotional and transitory sacrifices of crisis, but rather those which **enable** us to carry forward steadily, surely, and without complaint the burdens of a prolonged and complex struggle—with liberty the stake.
- A. stop fighting
 - B. make possible
 - C. grant a favor
- 12 But now we can no longer risk emergency improvisation of national defense; we have been **compelled** to create a permanent armaments industry of vast proportions.
- A. fruit cooked with sugar (like jam)
 - B. forced; or (more rarely) convinced
 - C. didn't trust or have confidence in
- 13 We recognize the **imperative** need for this development.
- A. essential and urgent
 - B. not demonstrative of
 - C. sincerity (realness)
- 14 In the councils of government, we must guard against the **acquisition** of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex.
- A. obtaining; or possession
 - B. social event or ceremony
 - C. a positively charged ion
- 15 Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may **prosper** together.
- A. restore
 - B. examine
 - C. do well
- 16 Another **factor** in maintaining balance involves the element of time.
- A. job, reservation, booking, or activity
 - B. thing that affects a result or outcome
 - C. something that is made or manufactured
- 17 Steady progress toward our **ultimate** goal has been made.
- A. the state or degree of having found a condition or substance to be present
 - B. related to a chronic mental disorder that leads to violent social behavior
 - C. most extreme as in final, best, worst, most important, or most fundamental
- 18 As a private citizen, I shall never **cease** to do what little I can to help the world advance along that road.
- A. stop or discontinue
 - B. influence or effect
 - C. gain advantage from
- 19 May we be ever unswerving in devotion to **principle**, confident but humble with power, diligent in pursuit of the Nation's great goals.
- A. basic rule or belief
 - B. the act of forgiving
 - C. narrow water passage
- 20 May we be ever unswerving in devotion to principle, confident but humble with power, **diligent** in pursuit of the Nation's great goals.
- A. impossible to find
 - B. good or beneficial
 - C. hard work and care

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	solemn	Used about 17 times per 10 books in our high school library.
2	B	essential	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.
3	A	tenuous	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	A	eminent	High-utility academic word
5	C	enhance	High-utility academic word
6	A	comprehend	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.
7	A	grievous	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	B	persistent	High-utility academic word
9	C	conflict	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.
10	A	duration	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
11	B	enable	High-utility academic word
12	B	compel	Used 2 times in this speech.
13	A	imperative	Used 2 times in this speech.
14	A	acquisition	High-utility academic word
15	C	prosper	Used about 3 times per 10 books in our high school library.
16	B	factor (<i>as in: It was the deciding factor.</i>)	High-utility academic word
17	C	ultimate	High-utility academic word
18	A	cease	High-utility academic word
19	A	principle	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this speech.
20	C	diligent (<i>as in: she is diligent</i>)	High-utility academic word