

My Antonia

by Willa Cather

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: anecdote, coax, contempt, cordial, countenance, cultivate, direct (2), disposition (2), docile, impetuous, indifferent, indignant, indolent, nevertheless, perplex, skeptical, solicitous, torment



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She is good at making a point in an interesting and memorable way with an **anecdote**.
 - A. short true story
 - B. long boring lecture
 - C. detailed research report
2. Let's see if we can **coax** her into coming with us.
 - A. trick
 - B. gently persuade
 - C. drag forcefully
3. He was impolite. She pretended not to notice except that she treated him with **contempt**.
 - A. great annoyance
 - B. lack of respect
 - C. impatience
4. The professor greeted each student **cordially** as they entered.
 - A. in a hurried manner
 - B. in a friendly manner
 - C. in a clumsy manner
5. Her **countenance** grew stern.
 - A. facial expression
 - B. a method of counting
 - C. voice
6. Creativity can be **cultivated**.
 - A. useful
 - B. developed or grown
 - C. risky or dangerous
7. I would like to speak **directly** to the manager.
 - A. formally
 - B. personally
 - C. when convenient
8. She is easy to work with. She is **direct** in her communications and expectations.
 - A. straightforward
 - B. considerate
 - C. humble
9. We'll see if her cheerful **disposition** continues when she's tired and under stress.
 - A. team
 - B. generosity
 - C. personality
10. The store is going to close forever. We have not decided on the **disposition** of the inventory.
 - A. discount rate
 - B. transferring of ownership
 - C. the process of counting
11. The sleddogs are **docile** and trainable.
 - A. easily led and managed
 - B. very strong and fast
 - C. smart and competitive
12. She made an **impetuous** purchase, buying the car without test-driving it first.
 - A. impulsive
 - B. cautious
 - C. wealthy

13. She was **indifferent** to his anger.
A. without interest
B. with fear
C. with anger
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. She is too **indolent** for med school.
A. calm
B. lazy
C. kind
16. She loves him. Nevertheless, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
A. also
B. despite that
C. in addition
17. I am **perplexed** by her sudden change of mind on this important issue.
A. amused
B. annoyed
C. confused
18. She is **skeptical** about the project.
A. doubtful
B. keeping silent
C. excited
19. She described him as humble, polite, and **solicitous**.
A. perceptive
B. smart
C. caring
20. Bullies made his school days a constant torment he could not escape.
A. severe suffering
B. great enjoyment
C. simple confusion

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 As for Jim, no disappointments have been severe enough to chill his naturally romantic and ardent **disposition**.
 - A. dreamlike state of altered consciousness
 - B. someone who is intolerant and prejudiced
 - C. inclination or desire
- 2 As the couple grew older, they quarrelled more and more often about the ultimate **disposition** of their 'property.'
 - A. tile designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
 - B. transferring of ownership
 - C. relating to an ancient city state on the north African coast
- 3 His fresh color and sandy hair and quick-changing blue eyes are those of a young man, and his sympathetic, **solicitous** interest in women is as youthful as it is Western and American.
 - A. full of strong desire for something
 - B. in a manner that takes on or adopts
 - C. showing care or concern for someone
- 4 "I can't see," he said **impetuously**, "why you have never written anything about Antonia."
 - A. impulsively (without much thought)
 - B. in the manner of a logical, systematic examination
 - C. in a manner that shows care or concern for someone
- 5 While Krajiek was translating for Mr. Shimerda, Antonia came up to me and held out her hand **coaxingly**.
 - A. in the manner of someone who consumes more than they should -- especially eating and drinking too much
 - B. in a manner that tries to obtain a result through gentle and careful effort -- often gently persuading
 - C. in a straightforward manner (uncomplicated or simple -- perhaps also indicating openness and honesty)
- 6 Nevertheless, that legend has stuck in my mind, and sunflower-bordered roads always seem to me the roads to freedom.
 - A. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 7 It seemed to me that he despised him for being so simple and **docile**.
 - A. easily led or managed -- perhaps submissive or well-behaved
 - B. tendency to be direct in a disagreeable, insensitive manner
 - C. the degree or quality of being exactly vertical or straight
- 8 Grandmother went on talking in her polite Virginia way, not admitting their stark need or her own remissness, until Jake arrived with the hamper, as if in **direct** answer to Mrs. Shimerda's reproaches.
 - A. clear, or straightforward
 - B. the state or degree of being very large
 - C. meticulousness (care for small details)
- 9 I worked at a commodious green-topped table placed **directly** in front of the west window which looked out over the prairie.
 - A. in a manner that is appropriate or related in size, amount, or degree
 - B. close
 - C. in a manner that is not sexually attractive, or persuasively tempting
- 10 It was as if I had let the old man in out of the **tormenting** winter, and were sitting there with him.
 - A. causing great mental or physical suffering
 - B. is most powerful, important, or noticeable
 - C. providing evidence that proves or supports
- 11 He seemed to find this case very **perplexing**,
 - A. treating as if of low worth
 - B. delaying until a later time
 - C. confusing due to complexity

12 *We rode slowly, with a pleasant sense of Sunday indolence.*

- A. not real
- B. laziness
- C. allowing

13 *He came down, not very cordially.*

- A. in a pleasing way
- B. in a friendly way
- C. in a skillful way

14 *Marek was strong, and Ambrosch worked him hard; but he could never teach him to cultivate corn, I remember.*

- A. cancel or annul a formal ruling or contract
- B. grow
- C. return to an undesirable previous condition

15 *'See that you don't forget to,' said Mrs. Harling sceptically, as she took up her crocheting again and sent the hook in and out with nimble fingers.*

- A. doubtful (that something is true or worthwhile)

or more rarely:

generally tending to doubt what others believe

B. in a manner that expresses personal artistic ideas or feelings while performing (or performing to) someone else's work

C. in a manner that changes the direction of a light wave (or other wave) by passing an opaque edge or narrow opening

16 *She seemed indifferent to her possessions,*

- A. without interest (unconcerned)
- B. likely to change
- C. able to be found

17 *I looked with contempt at the dark, silent little houses about me as I walked home, and thought of the stupid young men who were asleep in some of them.*

- A. frustration at being treated unfairly
- B. dislike and disrespect
- C. prejudice or unfair treatment

18 *Even for his classroom he had no platitudes, no stock of professorial anecdotes.*

- A. short, true stories
- B. sizes or dimensions
- C. outward appearances

19 *with a quite blissful expression of countenance.*

- A. face
- B. the best or most important
- C. a secret agreement or plot

20 *I was indignant.*

- A. angered at something unjust or wrong
- B. surprised as something unexpected
- C. accepted of something undesired as unavoidable

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	disposition (<i>as in: a kind disposition</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
2	B	disposition (<i>as in: disposition of the assets</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	C	solicitous	Used 3 times in this book.
4	A	impetuous (<i>as in: an impetuous decision</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
5	B	coax (<i>as in: coax her to join us</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
6	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
7	A	docile	Used 4 times in this book.
8	A	direct (<i>as in: gave a direct answer</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
9	B	direct (<i>as in: directly above; or buy direct</i>)	Used 8 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.
10	A	torment	Used 6 times in this book.
11	C	perplex	Used 5 times in this book.
12	B	indolent (<i>as in: she is naturally indolent</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
13	B	cordial (<i>as in: a cordial reception</i>)	Used 2 times in this book.
14	B	cultivate	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
15	A	skeptical	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
16	A	indifferent	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
17	B	contempt (<i>as in: feels contempt towards her</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
18	A	anecdote	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
19	A	countenance (<i>as in: a pleasant countenance</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
20	A	indignant	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.