

Oedipus the King

by Sophocles

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 from 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: abhor, avenge, banish, consort (2), deemed, defile, felon, flout, goad, grievous, heed, infamy, insolent, lament, perish, recompense, spurn, surmise, zeal



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	C
3	C
4	A
5	A
6	A
7	C
8	B
9	A
10	B
11	A
12	C
13	C
14	A
15	C
16	B
17	A
18	B
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. However much we **abhor** it, we must be prepared for war.
 - A. avoid
 - B. don't expect
 - C. hate
2. The hero set out to **avenge** the cruel treatment of his village by the bandits.
 - A. kindly forgive
 - B. quietly forget
 - C. take revenge for
3. I tried to **banish** the thought from my mind.
 - A. understand
 - B. collect
 - C. send away
4. She **consorts** with gang members and criminals.
 - A. associates
 - B. fights
 - C. avoids company
5. As a king **consort**, his only constitutional duty was to help create an heir.
 - A. spouse of a reigning monarch
 - B. a formal agreement releasing someone from an obligation
 - C. poetry: two successive lines of verse; usually rhymed
6. The chemical was **deemed** unsafe to use in children's products.
 - A. judged
 - B. manufactured
 - C. tested
7. Vandals **defiled** the ancient temple by spray-painting the walls.
 - A. carefully restored
 - B. secretly explored
 - C. spoiled the purity of
8. It's difficult for **ex-felons** to find work.
 - A. people who lost their jobs
 - B. people convicted of serious crimes
 - C. people with unpopular opinions
9. Don't get caught **flouting** the rules.
 - A. ignoring
 - B. complaining about
 - C. questioning
10. She tried to **goad** the candidate into saying something extreme.
 - A. poke with a stick
 - B. provoke
 - C. prevent
11. It is a **grievous** offense against morality.
 - A. serious
 - B. minor
 - C. foolish
12. She didn't **heed** the storm warnings and got caught in the heavy rain.
 - A. pass through
 - B. tell others of
 - C. pay attention to

13. a date which will live in infamy
- A. fame for something good
 - B. fame for something exciting
 - C. fame for something bad
14. The insolent waiter rolled his eyes when the customer asked for more water.
- A. boldly disrespectful
 - B. kindly helpful
 - C. shyly quiet
15. We lamented our sad circumstances.
- A. made worse
 - B. improved
 - C. expressed grief about
16. We can work together or perish separately.
- A. work
 - B. die
 - C. fail
17. The criminal was ordered to pay recompense to his victims as part of his sentence.
- A. compensation for loss
 - B. a penalty fine
 - C. an apology
18. She spurned both major parties in the last election.
- A. joined
 - B. rejected
 - C. founded
19. Sophia surmised that Isabella had spread the rumor.
- A. learned
 - B. spread the news
 - C. formed an opinion
20. We need someone with both zeal and ability.
- A. enthusiasm
 - B. patience
 - C. honesty

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 *Wherefore he fled from what he **deemed** his father's house and in his flight he encountered and unwillingly slew his father Laius.*
 - A. believed or judged
 - B. wrongly understood
 - C. not disagreed with
- 2 *Children were born to them and Thebes prospered under his rule, but again a **grievous** plague fell upon the city.*
 - A. very serious; or very bad
 - B. not tending to find fault
 - C. not able to be translated
- 3 *What means this reek of incense everywhere, And everywhere **laments** and litanies?*
 - A. changes through evolution
 - B. gradually adds or removes
 - C. expresses grief or regret
- 4 *My **zeal** in your behalf ye cannot doubt; Ruthless indeed were I and obdurate If such petitioners as you I spurned.*
 - A. active interest and enthusiasm
 - B. made by taking on as one's own
 - C. relating to the chest (thorax)
- 5 *My **zeal** in your behalf ye cannot doubt; Ruthless indeed were I and obdurate If such petitioners as you I spurned.*
 - A. not wanting to do something
 - B. rejected as not good enough
 - C. not having gotten closer to
- 6 *CREON **Banishment**, or the shedding blood for blood.*
 - A. way of doing something
 - B. not easily set on fire
 - C. to expel or get rid of
- 7 *CREON So 'twas **surmised**, but none was found to avenge His murder mid the trouble that ensued.*
 - A. (verb) drew pictures to accompany OR (adjective) accompanied by pictures
 - B. not justified or explained as an understandable reaction to another action
 - C. to guess something is true or form an opinion based on incomplete evidence
- 8 *CREON So 'twas **surmised**, but none was found to **avenge** His murder mid the trouble that ensued.*
 - A. take on or adopt
 - B. make more varied
 - C. take revenge for
- 9 *If in the days of old when we nigh had **perished**, ye drave From our land the fiery plague, be near us now and defend us!*
 - A. examined in detail to better understand
 - B. died, was destroyed, or ceased to exist
 - C. moved into position to work; or started
- 10 *Thee too I call with golden-snooded hair, Whose name our land doth bear, Bacchus to whom thy Maenads Evoke shout; Come with thy bright torch, rout, Blithe god whom we adore, The god whom gods **abhor**.*
 - A. tell (a story)
 - B. lie or mislead
 - C. hate or detest
- 11 *But if an alien from a foreign land Be known to any as the murderer, Let him who knows speak out, and he shall have **Due recompense** from me and thanks to boot.*
 - A. compensate for a loss; or pay a reward
 - B. examine in detail to better understand
 - C. appropriate in size, amount, or degree

- 12 For this is our **defilement**, so the god Hath lately shown to me by oracles.
- someone who exposes wrongdoing within an organization
 - an expert in the branch of geology that studies rocks
 - the act of spoiling the beauty or purity of something
- 13 OEDIPUS And who could stay his choler when he heard How **insolently** thou dost flout the State?
- with rude disrespect
 - with great annoyance
 - in a wasteful manner
- 14 OEDIPUS And who could stay his choler when he heard How insolently thou dost **flout** the State?
- openly disregard
 - take on or adopt
 - make more varied
- 15 TEIRESIAS Thou, **goad**ing me against my will to speak.
- suggesting indirectly
 - provoking or prodding
 - taking on or adopting
- 16 TEIRESIAS I say thou livest with thy nearest kin In **infamy**, unwitting in thy shame.
- the process or result of learning, discovering, or deciding
 - person, organization, or anything with a separate existence
 - famous for something that is bad; or an extremely bad event
- 17 And as thy **consort** queen she shares the throne?
- royal spouse
 - an overwhelming amount; or to overwhelm -- especially said of water
 - to show something -- such as to demonstrate, express, or represent
- 18 Good for thy **consort** and the royal house.
- royal spouse
 - a ceiling designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
 - a person (often a writer or artist) living an unconventional life
- 19 O Zeus, reveal thy might, King, if thou'rt named aright Omnipotent, all-seeing, as of old; For Laius is forgot; His weird, men **heed** it not; Apollo is forsook and faith grows cold.
- a non-doctor who assisted a women in childbirth
 - adjusted excessively or made up for excessively
 - pay close attention to; or do what is suggested
- 20 Thus branded as a **felon** by myself, How had I dared to look you in the face?
- an expert in the branch of geology that studies rocks
 - someone legally convicted of a felony (serious crime)
 - a lens that limits light vibrations to a single plane

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	deemed	Used 6 times in this book.
2	A	grievous	Used 5 times in this book.
3	C	lament	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
4	A	zeal	Used 5 times in this book.
5	B	spurn	Used 2 times in this book.
6	C	banish	Used 9 times in this book.
7	C	surmise	Used 4 times in this book.
8	C	avenge	Used 5 times in this book.
9	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
10	C	abhor	Used 6 times in this book.
11	A	recompense	Used 2 times in this book.
12	C	defile	Used 4 times in this book.
13	A	insolent	Used 4 times in this book.
14	A	flout	Used 2 times in this book.
15	B	goad	Used 5 times in this book.
16	C	infamy	Used 2 times in this book.
17	A	consort (<i>as in: consort together</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
18	A	consort (<i>as in: consort to the queen</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
19	C	heed	Used 3 times in this book.
20	B	felon	Used 2 times in this book.