

Pride and Prejudice

Chapters 16–27

by Jane Austen

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: consequence, esteem, impertinent, inconsistency, indignation, indulging, posterity, resignation, sensible, want

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–15 · A new neighbour at Netherfield Park

Section 2 · Chapters 16–27 · Mr. Wickham and the Netherfield ball

Section 3 · Chapters 28–45 · A visit to Hunsford Parsonage

Section 4 · Chapters 46–61 · News from home during the tour

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. As a judge, she was a woman of great **consequence** in the small town.

- A. importance and standing
- B. wealth and property
- C. charm and warmth

2. Years of honest work won him the **esteem** of the entire village.

- A. high regard
- B. deep loyalty
- C. close attention

3. The new clerk gave an **impertinent** reply to his employer's simple question.

- A. long and rambling
- B. quick and clever
- C. boldly disrespectful

4. The **inconsistency** in his stories made the detective doubt every word.

- A. a lack of steadiness
- B. a lack of clear detail
- C. a hint of exaggeration

5. When he saw the bully mocking the smaller boy, he felt a surge of **indignation**.

- A. sadness and pity
- B. fear and alarm
- C. anger at something unjust

6. On the quiet beach, she sat **indulging** a daydream about faraway places.

- A. quietly recording
- B. allowing oneself to enjoy
- C. trying hard to resist

7. The explorer kept a careful journal so that **posterity** would know of his voyage.

- A. the general public
- B. future generations
- C. his fellow explorers

8. With a sigh of **resignation**, she faced the long winter ahead.

- A. quiet dread
- B. calm acceptance
- C. mild boredom

9. She was **sensible** of the great kindness her neighbors had shown.

- A. keenly aware
- B. quietly proud
- C. somewhat wary

10. Years of drought left the whole village in **want**.

- A. constant fear
- B. deep isolation
- C. severe poverty

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

retail — recount; retell to others

living — a clergyman's salaried church post

disinterested — impartial; not moved by self-interest

romantic — governed by idealized notions of love rather than practical concerns; sentimental

entail — legal rule fixing an estate's line of inheritance

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	A
3	C
4	A
5	C
6	B
7	B
8	B
9	A
10	C

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “The world is blinded by his fortune and consequence, or frightened by his high and imposing manners, and sees him only as he chooses to be seen.”

As it is used in the passage, ‘consequence’ most nearly means...

- A. the results of his actions
- B. his forbidding manner
- C. high social standing

2 “We are each of an unsocial, taciturn disposition, unwilling to speak, unless we expect to say something that will amaze the whole room, and be handed down to posterity with all the eclat of a proverb.”

The speaker’s image of remarks ‘handed down to posterity’ is best described as...

- A. solemn hope for lasting fame
- B. playful, mock-grand exaggeration
- C. sincere praise of shared wit

3 “... Mr. Darcy would consider his addressing him without introduction as an impertinent freedom, rather than a compliment to his aunt ...”

According to the passage, Mr. Darcy would view being addressed without an introduction as...

- A. a pardonable social slip
- B. a rude, presumptuous liberty
- C. an amusing eccentricity

4 “This has been my motive, my fair cousin, and I flatter myself it will not sink me in your esteem.”

According to the passage, the speaker trusts that explaining his motive will not...

- A. delay her answer to his suit
- B. give offense to her family
- C. lower her regard for him

5 “I am very sensible of the honor of your proposals, but it is impossible for me to do otherwise than to decline them.”

As it is used in the passage, ‘sensible’ most nearly means...

- A. keenly aware
- B. quite practical
- C. very cautious

6 “Resignation to inevitable evils is the evil duty of us all; the peculiar duty of a young man who has been so fortunate as I have been in early preferment; and I trust I am resigned.”

The speaker’s elaborate talk of duty and ‘resignation’ makes him sound...

- A. self-important and pleased with his position
- B. worried about his new responsibilities
- C. quietly crushed by his recent setback

7 “... am I wrong, my dearest Jane, in indulging the hope of an event which will secure the happiness of so many?”

As it is used in the passage, ‘indulging’ most nearly means...

- A. allowing oneself to entertain
- B. carelessly exaggerating
- C. stubbornly insisting on

8 “Without thinking highly either of men or matrimony, marriage had always been her object; it was the only provision for well-educated young women of small fortune, and however uncertain of giving happiness, must be their pleasantest preservative from want.”

According to the passage, for well-educated young women of small fortune, marriage was...

- A. their one safeguard against poverty
- B. a duty owed to their families
- C. their surest route to high rank

9 “Elizabeth, to whom Jane very soon communicated the chief of all this, heard it in silent indignation. Her heart was divided between concern for her sister, and resentment against all others.”

As it is used in the passage, ‘indignation’ most nearly suggests that Elizabeth...

- A. felt embarrassed for her sister
- B. doubted the news could be true
- C. believed Jane had been wronged

10 “... every day confirms my belief of the inconsistency of all human characters, and of the little dependence that can be placed on the appearance of merit or sense.”

In the excerpt, Elizabeth expresses...

- A. amused delight in human folly
- B. disillusioned distrust of people
- C. weary indifference to others

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	C	Here 'consequence' is the period sense — weight and importance in society — not 'result'; the pairing with 'fortune' signals the social meaning.
2	B	
3	B	
4	C	
5	A	Not the everyday 'practical' sense: 'sensible of' means 'aware of', the standard polite formula for acknowledging an honor.
6	A	
7	A	
8	A	'Want' here is destitution, not desire; the sentence states the novel's economic thesis — for portionless gentlewomen, marriage was livelihood.
9	C	
10	B	

Teacher Context: Chapters 16–27

The militia officer Mr. Wickham charms Elizabeth with a damaging account of Darcy, and at the Netherfield ball Mr. Collins proposes to Elizabeth and is refused. Charlotte Lucas accepts him instead, Bingley's party quits Netherfield for London, and Jane follows in hope of renewing the acquaintance. Section runs to the close of Volume I.