

Pride and Prejudice

Chapters 28–45

by Jane Austen

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: apprehension, ardently, coarseness, commendation, discharged, diversion, elopement, fortitude, magistrate, trifle

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. She felt a wave of **apprehension** before the results were read aloud.

- A. anxious dread
- B. sudden confusion
- C. restless impatience

2. She spoke **ardently** about the cause she believed in.

- A. with careful logic
- B. with intense passion
- C. with great effort

3. The **coarseness** of his language embarrassed everyone at the table.

- A. a thick accent
- B. excessive loudness
- C. crude vulgarity

4. At the ceremony, each volunteer received a **commendation**.

- A. a list of new duties
- B. a small cash reward
- C. a note of praise

5. He finally **discharged** the loan he had taken years ago.

- A. paid off completely
- B. increased sharply
- C. canceled entirely

6. The board games were a welcome **diversion** after dinner.

- A. a minor interruption
- B. a form of amusement
- C. a source of confusion

7. Her parents were stunned to learn of the couple's **elopement**.

- A. a sudden engagement
- B. a lengthy separation
- C. a secret runaway marriage

8. She faced months of treatment with remarkable **fortitude**.

- A. courage in hard times
- B. great good luck
- C. sharp intelligence

9. Every complaint in the village went before the **magistrate**.

- A. a local judge or official
- B. a wealthy landowner
- C. a respected religious leader

10. It is unwise to **trifle** with someone so easily offended.

- A. to waste time on
- B. to treat playfully, not seriously
- C. to argue openly with

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

condescension — gracious notice bestowed by a social superior

spleen — here (older sense), low spirits, irritable ill humor, or melancholy

entailed — restricted by law to pass to a particular heir

preferment — advancement to a church office

prepossession — an opinion formed in advance; prejudice

compliance — eagerness to please; obliging manner

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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 "... and Sir William, to Elizabeth's high diversion, was stationed in the doorway, in earnest contemplation of the greatness before him, and constantly bowing whenever Miss de Bourgh looked that way."

As used in the passage, 'diversion' most nearly suggests that Elizabeth found the bowing...

- A. distracting
- B. embarrassing
- C. comical

2 "... Elizabeth suspected herself to be the first creature who had ever dared to trifle with so much dignified impertinence."

It can reasonably be inferred from Elizabeth's daring to 'trifle' with Lady Catherine that...

- A. visitors often answer Lady Catherine carelessly
- B. Lady Catherine is always treated with deference
- C. Lady Catherine welcomes playful teasing

3 "... though this great lady was not in commission of the peace of the county, she was a most active magistrate in her own parish ... whenever any of the cottagers were disposed to be quarrelsome, discontented, or too poor, she sallied forth into the village to settle their differences, silence their complaints, and scold them into harmony and plenty."

Which choice best describes the narrator's attitude toward Lady Catherine as a 'magistrate'?

- A. mockery of her self-made authority
- B. sincere admiration for her charity
- C. anger at her abuse of legal power

4 "In vain I have struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you."

In context, the word 'ardently' emphasizes...

- A. the secrecy of his admiration
- B. the long duration of his struggle
- C. the intensity of Darcy's feelings

5 "Be not alarmed, madam, on receiving this letter, by the apprehension of its containing any repetition of those sentiments or renewal of those offers which were last night so disgusting to you."

As used in the passage, the word 'apprehension' most nearly means...

- A. polite hesitation
- B. fearful expectation
- C. full understanding

6 "... he so far recommended himself to Georgiana ... that she was persuaded to believe herself in love, and to consent to an elopement."

The passage most strongly suggests that the planned elopement was...

- A. the natural result of mutual love
- B. Georgiana's own long-held wish
- C. Wickham's deliberate contrivance

7 "... he never cared three straws about her—who could about such a nasty little freckled thing?"

Elizabeth was shocked to think that, however incapable of such coarseness of expression herself, the coarseness of the sentiment was little other than her own breast had harbored ...

Elizabeth's response to the coarseness of Lydia's words characterizes Elizabeth as...

- A. honest in judging her own feelings
- B. eager to excuse her own conduct
- C. proud of her refined manners

8 "The commendation bestowed on him by Mrs. Reynolds was of no trifling nature. What praise is more valuable than the praise of an intelligent servant?"

The narrator most likely follows the 'commendation' with a question in order to...

- A. to show why such praise counts heavily
- B. to turn attention to the other servants
- C. to question Mrs. Reynolds's honesty

9 "That he was surprised by the connection was evident; he sustained it, however, with fortitude, and so far from going away, turned his back with them, and entered into conversation with Mr. Gardiner."

In the passage, Darcy's sustaining the introduction 'with fortitude' characterizes him as...

- A. composed despite real discomfort
- B. genuinely delighted by the meeting
- C. too proud to conceal his displeasure

10 "... on his quitting Derbyshire, he had left many debts behind him, which Mr. Darcy afterwards discharged."

According to the passage, after Wickham left Derbyshire, Mr. Darcy...

- A. made Wickham's debts publicly known
- B. paid off the debts Wickham left
- C. collected the money Wickham owed him

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	C	
2	B	'Dignified impertinence' is deliberately backwards — Lady Catherine's rudeness wears an air of high dignity; Elizabeth is the first to treat it as fair game for play.
3	A	Lady Catherine holds no actual office — 'not in commission of the peace' — so 'magistrate' is the narrator's joke about her self-appointed rule of the parish.
4	C	Students often confuse 'ardently' (with passionate warmth) with 'arduously' (with great effort); Darcy's 'struggled' makes the wrong reading tempting.
5	B	
6	C	
7	A	This turns only on the excerpt's contrast between saying and feeling.
8	A	
9	A	'Fortitude' is half-playful — a heroic word for surviving an introduction — but the key rests on its plain sense: bearing something unwelcome well.
10	B	Here 'discharged' takes its financial sense — Darcy paid the debts himself — not the more familiar 'dismissed' or 'released'.

Teacher Context: Chapters 28–45

Elizabeth visits the newly married Charlotte at Hunsford, where Lady Catherine de Bourgh and her nephew Mr. Darcy are often in company. Darcy proposes, is angrily refused, and defends himself in a letter that overturns Elizabeth's view of both him and Wickham. Touring Derbyshire with the Gardiners she visits Pemberley and meets a changed Darcy. Section runs to the close of Volume II.