

Pudd'nhead Wilson

by Mark Twain

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: benefactor, consequence (2), contrast (2), cordial, diligent, endure (2), lament, minute (2), motive, ornery, pauper, profound, resolve (2), slander, trifle



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Oprah Winfrey is often praised for overcoming diversity to become a **benefactor** to others.
 - A. helper or supporter
 - B. inspiration or example
 - C. taxpayer
2. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
 - A. result
 - B. unimportant part
 - C. important part
3. It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
 - A. unethical
 - B. important
 - C. harmful
4. **Contrast** typical underlying beliefs of pro-life and pro-choice supporters.
 - A. study
 - B. compare
 - C. describe
5. There was quite a **contrast** between the styles of the two teachers.
 - A. notable similarity
 - B. covering of all styles
 - C. notable difference
6. The professor greeted each student **cordially** as they entered.
 - A. in a hurried manner
 - B. in a friendly manner
 - C. in a clumsy manner
7. A **diligent** detective investigates all clues.
 - A. lazy and careless
 - B. rude and dishonest
 - C. careful and hardworking
8. As a soldier, she was prepared to **endure** hardship and even to sacrifice her life for others.
 - A. risk
 - B. suffer through
 - C. cause
9. Over the years, the stories my grandmother told me have **endured** as a source of wisdom in my life.
 - A. stopped acting
 - B. brought suffering
 - C. continued to exist
10. We **lamented** our sad circumstances.
 - A. made worse
 - B. improved
 - C. expressed grief about
11. Even a **minute** amount of lead can be harmful to children.
 - A. large
 - B. 60 seconds
 - C. tiny
12. She thrives at sifting through that kind of **minute** detail.
 - A. quickly eliminated
 - B. available from prior research
 - C. including even small considerations

13. A desire for religious freedom was their motive for leaving England.
- A. excuse
 - B. technique
 - C. reason
14. He is too ornery to celebrate his birthday.
- A. bad-tempered
 - B. old
 - C. ill
15. It is a story about a prince who changes places with a pauper.
- A. palace visitor
 - B. poor person
 - C. wealthy person
16. It was a profound spiritual experience that changed her life.
- A. intense
 - B. common
 - C. traditional
17. I resolved to never drink again.
- A. was forced
 - B. was encouraged
 - C. firmly decided
18. She is testing my resolve to keep a good attitude.
- A. determination
 - B. ability
 - C. optimism
19. Check your sources or you could be sued for slander.
- A. selling a product that is not suitable for its purpose
 - B. hurting someone's reputation by lying
 - C. injuring others with outdated scientific information
20. Don't waste my time with trifling matters.
- A. other's
 - B. future
 - C. unimportant

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 *Whoever has lived long enough to find out what life is, knows how deep a debt of gratitude we owe to Adam, the first great **benefactor** of our race.*
 - A. someone who helps a person or organization -- especially financially
 - B. relating to logical examination of something to better understand it
 - C. lack of interest; or the process of stopping interaction or interest
- 2 *A **profound** terror had taken possession of her.*
 - A. of greatest intensity or emotional depth
 - B. without a tendency to be full of thought
 - C. lacking a tendency to be full of thought
- 3 *She gathered up her baby once more; but when her eye fell upon its miserably short little gray tow-linen shirt and noted the **contrast** between its pauper shabbiness and her own volcanic eruption of infernal splendors, her mother-heart was touched, and she was ashamed.*
 - A. come to terms with
 - B. block or interfere
 - C. notable difference
- 4 *Yet her feeling was moderate indeed when **contrasted** with Rowena's.*
 - A. very surprised -- often too surprised to know what to say or do
 - B. pointed to differences between; or compared to show differences
 - C. legally ordered to provide documents, or to appear as a witness
- 5 *Blame dat man, he worries me wid dem **ornery** glasses o' his'n; I b'lieve he's a witch.*
 - A. easily annoyed and quick to complain and argue
 - B. a document granting permission to do something
 - C. the state or character of being bad or harmful
- 6 *Roxy had no home now; so she **resolved** to go around and say good-bye to her friends and then clear out and see the world--*
 - A. changed
 - B. adapted
 - C. definitely decided
- 7 *He was loath to withdraw his faith from the twins, and was **resolved** not to do it on the present indecisive evidence; but--well, he would think, and then decide how to act.*
 - A. determined (having firm intent)
 - B. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
 - C. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
- 8 *Judge Driscoll could be a freethinker and still hold his place in society because he was the person of most **consequence** to the community, and therefore could venture to go his own way and follow out his own notions.*
 - A. translates
 - B. importance
 - C. sticks out
- 9 *None of them had ever seen a person bearing a title of nobility before, and none had been expecting to see one now, **consequently** the title came upon them as a kind of pile-driving surprise and caught them unprepared.*
 - A. resultantly (as a result)
 - B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 10 *His estates were confiscated, his personal property seized, and there we were, in Germany, strangers, friendless, and in fact **paupers**.*
 - A. things that don't change
 - B. people who are very poor
 - C. rejections or criticisms

- 11 *The holy passion of Friendship is of so sweet and steady and loyal and **enduring** a nature that it will last through a whole lifetime, if not asked to lend money.*
- A. lying or misleading
 - B. influencing opinion
 - C. lasting (continue to exist)
- 12 *She couldn't **endure** the thought of it.*
- A. call -- typically to come nearer by using a hand gesture or a nod
 - B. bear (suffer through; or put up with something difficult or unpleasant)
 - C. communication through gestures and body movements (without words)
- 13 *Wilson got out his Calendar, by request, and read a passage or two from it, which the twins praised quite **cordially**.*
- A. in a pleasing way
 - B. in a friendly way
 - C. in a skillful way
- 14 *You see what an effect your heedless speech has had; you ought to have been more considerate than to blurt out such a cruel piece of **slander** as that.*
- A. a rough calculation or guess of a value, quantity, or extent of something
 - B. lie in such a way as to damage the reputation of another; or the lies told
 - C. surgically interrupt nerve tracts to and from the frontal lobe of the brain
- 15 *His joy collapsed utterly, and he turned away and moped toward the door moaning and **lamenting** over the bitterness of his luck.*
- A. stopping a battle or fight
 - B. changing through evolution
 - C. expressing grief or regret
- 16 *Wilson showed a **trifle** of irritation when he replied...*
- A. leave a place, job or position previously occupied
 - B. someone (or something) taking the place of another
 - C. a small amount
- 17 *If the **motive** had been robbery, the girl might answer; but there wasn't any girl that would want to take this old man's life for revenge.*
- A. small quantity or indication
 - B. the sacred writings of Islam
 - C. reason (for doing something)
- 18 *For with all his tireless **diligence** he had discovered no sign or trace of the...*
- A. restarted (a fire)
 - B. calm state of mind
 - C. hard work and care
- 19 *Again the jury made **minute** examinations, and again reported: "We find them to be exactly identical, your honor."*
- A. having the characteristics of a *monk* (often inclined toward self-denial)
 - B. the quality of holding something back or holding others down through oppression
 - C. careful and detailed
- 20 *The foreman answered: "TO THE MINUTEST DETAIL!"*
- A. smartest
 - B. show off
 - C. smallest

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	benefactor	Used 4 times in this book.
2	A	profound (<i>as in: profound sadness</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
3	C	contrast (<i>as in: there is a contrast</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	B	contrast (<i>as in: contrast their writing styles</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	A	ornery (<i>as in: is ornery when she first wakes up</i>)	Used 7 times in this book.
6	C	resolve (<i>as in: I resolved to stop drinking.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	resolve (<i>as in: Her resolve weakened.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	Used 6 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	pauper	Used 6 times in this book.
11	C	endure (<i>as in: endure through the ages</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
12	B	endure (<i>as in: endured the pain</i>)	Used 6 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
13	B	cordial (<i>as in: a cordial reception</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
14	B	slander	Used 4 times in this book.
15	C	lament	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
16	C	trifle (<i>as in: a trifling matter</i>)	Used 11 times in this book.
17	C	motive (<i>as in: What is her motive?</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
18	C	diligent (<i>as in: she is diligent</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
19	C	minute (<i>as in: minute description</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.
20	C	minute (<i>as in: minute size</i>)	3 meanings in this book.