

Pygmalion

by George Bernard Shaw

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

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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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: coax, consequence (2), conviction, cordial, deference, deprecate, dialect, disdain, enable, impetuous, infatuated, intimidate, malice, melancholy, nevertheless, relapse, remonstrate, resignation, resolute



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

Pygmalion

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Let's see if we can **coax** her into coming with us.
 - A. trick
 - B. gently persuade
 - C. drag forcefully
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. She stood up in class with total **conviction** and said, "I believe animals deserve to be treated kindly, no matter what."
 - A. raised voice
 - B. firm belief
 - C. shaky voice
5. The professor greeted each student **cordially** as they entered.
 - A. in a hurried manner
 - B. in a friendly manner
 - C. in a clumsy manner
6. Out of **deference** to the Hindu visitors, they did not serve beef.
 - A. open dislike
 - B. loud praise
 - C. polite respect
7. Critics continue to **deprecate** the film despite its strong box office success.
 - A. loudly praise
 - B. speak poorly of
 - C. carefully study
8. India has twenty-two officially recognized languages and thousands of **dialects**.
 - A. different ethnic groups
 - B. words shared by different languages
 - C. regional varieties of languages
9. She has nothing but **disdain** for the notion that common people can regulate their own lives better than she can.
 - A. lack of respect
 - B. humility
 - C. intense anger
10. Modern smartphones **enable** people to work from almost anywhere.
 - A. require
 - B. allow
 - C. remind
11. She made an **impetuous** purchase, buying the car without test-driving it first.
 - A. impulsive
 - B. cautious
 - C. wealthy

12. He was **infatuated** with the new singer and talked about her constantly.
- A. foolishly fascinated
 - B. openly annoyed
 - C. slightly informed
13. She was **intimidated** by the formality of her first board meeting.
- A. made fearful
 - B. made welcome
 - C. quite amused
14. Words can be like baseball bats when used **maliciously** against someone who is sensitive.
- A. carelessly
 - B. mockingly
 - C. evilly
15. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
- A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing
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. **Relapses** are common with major depressive disorder.
- A. returns to illness
 - B. lost work days
 - C. crying spells
18. The lawyers will **remonstrate** that we're starting without a written agreement, but we trust each other.
- A. promise
 - B. protest
 - C. explain
19. She was **resigned** to being embarrassed by her younger brother.
- A. putting a stop
 - B. resistant
 - C. with acceptance
20. Despite the criticism, she remained **resolute** in her decision to speak out.
- A. hopeful
 - B. determined and unwavering
 - C. out of touch with reality

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 His great ability as a phonetician (he was, I think, the best of them all at his job) would have entitled him to high official recognition, and perhaps **enabled** him to popularize his subject, but for his Satanic contempt for all academic dignitaries and persons in general who thought more of Greek than of phonetics.
A. got closer to
B. made possible
C. not satisfied
- 2 The future of phonetics rests probably with his pupils, who all swore by him; but nothing could bring the man himself into any sort of compliance with the university, to which he **nevertheless** clung by divine right in an intensely Oxonian way.
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)
- 3 General hubbub, mostly sympathetic to the flower girl, but **deprecating** her excessive sensibility.
A. removing or suppressing something considered obscene, immoral, or politically unacceptable
B. belittling or disapproving OR belittling (minimizing or diminishing the value of) oneself
C. persuading someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
- 4 THE FLOWER GIRL [subsiding into a brooding **melancholy** over her basket, and talking very low-spiritedly to herself] I'm a good girl, I am.
A. relating to the outside
B. a sad feeling or manner
C. about (but not exactly)
- 5 I am myself a student of Indian **dialects**;
A. measures of general intelligence
B. wedding ceremony and festivities
C. regional varieties of a language
- 6 He is, in fact, but for his years and size, rather like a very **impetuous** baby "taking notice" eagerly and loudly, and requiring almost as much watching to keep him out of unintended mischief.
A. impulsive (acting suddenly without much thought)
B. most important; or person that is most important
C. tending to have exceedingly unfavorable opinions
- 7 His manner varies from genial bullying when he is in a good humor to stormy petulance when anything goes wrong; but he is so entirely frank and void of **malice** that he remains likeable even in his least reasonable moments.
A. not adjusting a lens to create a clear image
B. the quality of lacking exactness or accuracy
C. the desire to hurt others or see them suffer
- 8 MRS. PEARCE [only half **resigned** to it] Very well, sir. It's for you to say.
A. to be or to become used to (adapted to and with an expectation of)
B. showed something -- such as demonstrated, expressed, or represented
C. acceptance of something undesired as unavoidable
- 9 The pathos of this deplorable figure, with its innocent vanity and **consequential** air, touches Pickering, who has already straightened himself in the presence of Mrs. Pearce.
A. disbelief
B. important
C. important
- 10 This makes him a standing puzzle to the huge number of uncultivated people who have been brought up in tasteless homes by commonplace or disagreeable parents, and to whom, **consequently**, literature, painting, sculpture, music, and affectionate personal relations come as modes of sex if they come at all.
A. resultantly (as a result)
B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas

- 11 PICKERING [*in good-humored remonstrance*] Does it occur to you, Higgins, that the girl has some feelings?
- A. someone who expresses disapproval
 - B. arguing in protest
 - C. the act of recognizing difference
- 12 *Pickering*: if we listen to this man another minute, we shall have no convictions left.
- A. not working or not operating
 - B. a strong, firmly held belief
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 13 He gets out of her way **deferentially** and apologizes.
- A. not done on purpose
 - B. in a specific order
 - C. with polite respect
- 14 He takes off his hat to Mrs. Pearce, who **disdains** the salutation and goes out.
- A. ignores (as though not worthy of her notice)
 - B. grammatically changes verb form depending upon context
 - C. settles (something so it no longer requires attention)
- 15 HIGGINS [*relapsing into gloom*] Lord forbid!
- A. returning to an undesirable previous condition
 - B. thinking carefully and making a judgment about
 - C. moving back and forth; or being unsure or weak
- 16 MRS. HIGGINS [**cordially**] Quite right: I'm very glad indeed to see you.
- A. in a pleasing way
 - B. in a friendly way
 - C. in a skillful way
- 17 Freddy bows and sits down in the Elizabethan chair, **infatuated**.
- A. deeply but often foolishly in love with or obsessed with someone or something
 - B. having the characteristic of or relating to bouncing back light/heat/sound...
 - C. suffering from too few red blood cells
- or (less commonly): lacking vitality
- 18 We're all **intimidated**.
- A. fearful or threatened
 - B. gained advantage from
 - C. marked important text
- 19 [*He makes resolutely for the door*]
- A. in a strongly biased manner
 - B. with firm purpose
 - C. in a morally correct manner
- 20 But I haven't forgot what you said a minute ago; and I won't be **coaxed** round as if I was a baby or a puppy.
- A. did not vote OR did not drink alcohol OR (more rarely) did not do something else
 - B. tried to obtain a result through gentle and careful effort -- often gently persuaded
 - C. thought of something as true or likely, even though it was not known with certainty

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	enable	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this play.
2	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this play.
3	B	deprecate	Used 3 times in this play.
4	B	melancholy	Used 3 times in this play.
5	C	dialect	Used 9 times in this play.
6	A	impetuous (<i>as in: an impetuous decision</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
7	C	malice	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
8	C	resignation (<i>as in: accepted it with resignation</i>)	Used 4 times in this play.
9	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	2 meanings in this play.
10	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this play.
11	B	remonstrate	Used 3 times in this play.
12	B	conviction (<i>as in: spoke with conviction</i>)	Used 3 times in this play.
13	C	deference	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this play.
14	A	disdain	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this play.
15	A	relapse	Used 3 times in this play.
16	B	cordial (<i>as in: a cordial reception</i>)	Used 2 times in this play.
17	A	infatuated	Used 3 times in this play.
18	A	intimidate	Used 6 times in this play.
19	B	resolute	Used 7 times in this play.
20	B	coax (<i>as in: coax her to join us</i>)	Used 7 times in this play.