

Steppenwolf

by Hermann Hesse

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: attain, bourgeois, contrary to, despair (2), enmity, fleeting, ignominious, immortal, lament, melancholy, on the contrary, pious, posterity, repugnant, revere, scorn, superfluous, wretched, yearn



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. They hope to **attain** effective law and order in the region before withdrawing troops.
 - A. openly oppose
 - B. carefully describe
 - C. successfully gain
2. She told the police officer that she was trying to awaken the sensibilities of her **bourgeois** neighbors.
 - A. conventional
 - B. irresponsible
 - C. foolish
3. We will not allow members to act **contrary** to our code of ethics.
 - A. without understanding
 - B. prior to creating
 - C. in opposition to
4. I will not pay you for the work. **On the contrary**, I may sue you for damages.
 - A. not only that (strengthening denial of payment)
 - B. in spite of that (even though not paying)
 - C. regardless of that (unrelated to not paying)
5. She rescued me from **despair**.
 - A. fear
 - B. poverty
 - C. hopelessness
6. Don't **despair**--help is on the way!
 - A. lose hope
 - B. be impatient
 - C. cry
7. She harbors no **enmity** towards her ex-husband.
 - A. love
 - B. disrespect
 - C. hatred
8. Youth is **fleeting**.
 - A. short-lived
 - B. reckless
 - C. troubled
9. The incident led to her **ignominious** departure from political office.
 - A. quick
 - B. disgraceful
 - C. eventual
10. She believes we have an **immortal** soul.
 - A. conflicted
 - B. perfect in every way
 - C. lasting forever
11. We **lamented** our sad circumstances.
 - A. made worse
 - B. improved
 - C. expressed grief about
12. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
 - A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing

13. Benjamin Franklin's parents were **pious** Puritans.
- A. non-traditional
 - B. traditional
 - C. highly religious
14. She recorded her family history for **posterity**, hoping her great-grandchildren would one day read it.
- A. personal amusement
 - B. future generations
 - C. academic records
15. His **repugnant** behavior at the party made everyone want to go home early.
- A. warmly welcomed
 - B. highly amusing
 - C. deeply offensive
16. She **reveres** nature and all that is natural.
- A. dislikes and avoids
 - B. deeply respects
 - C. thoroughly enjoys
17. That coach **scorns** students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains
18. Everyone liked the idea. The arguments I prepared to support it were **superfluous**.
- A. appreciated
 - B. important
 - C. unnecessary
19. The photograph showed poor people in a **wretched** village in East Africa.
- A. irresponsible
 - B. in terrible condition
 - C. foolish or thoughtless
20. I **yearn** for more independence.
- A. fear
 - B. desire
 - C. work

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 I remember an instance of this in the last days he was here, if I can call a mere **fleeting** glance he gave me an example of what I mean.
 - A. lasting a short time
 - B. sensible and careful
 - C. not demonstrative of
- 2 With this I have gone far ahead and, **contrary to** my actual plan and intention, already conveyed what Haller essentially meant to me; whereas my original aim was to uncover his picture by degrees while telling the course of my gradual acquaintance with him.
 - A. decisive defeat
 - B. produce or show
 - C. in opposition to
- 3 **On the contrary**, it was often exceedingly painful, often almost intolerable.
 - A. an expression used to intensify denial of an idea
 - B. an expression used to introduce a creative idea
 - C. an expression used to introduce a statement that might be thought impolite
- 4 That day, too, however, he came back in the evening, sad, and **wretched** as usual.
 - A. not easily identified
 - B. miserable or very bad
 - C. exactness or accuracy
- 5 It was **repugnant** to me, and yet ten times preferable to all the academic music of the day.
 - A. related to
 - B. very large
 - C. disgusting
- 6 In him the man and the wolf did not go the same way together, but were in continual and deadly **enmity**.
 - A. battle
 - B. memory
 - C. hatred
- 7 For every strong man **attains** to that which a genuine impulse bids him seek.
 - A. says (or makes a sound) with the voice
 - B. controls (how something will turn out)
 - C. gains or reaches something with effort
- 8 As thousands of his like do, he found consolation and support, and not merely the **melancholy** play of youthful fancy, in the idea that the way to death was open to him at any moment.
 - A. relating to the outside
 - B. a sad feeling or manner
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 9 Besides this, he was secretly and persistently attracted to the little **bourgeois** world, to those quiet and respectable homes with tidy gardens ... and their whole modest air of order and comfort.
 - A. typical of the middle class
 - B. the act of protecting something or keeping it as it is
 - C. speaks with someone about something for the first time
- 10 I had already experienced it several times, and always in periods of utmost **despair**.
 - A. adjusts a lens to make an image clear
 - B. not creating disagreement or struggle
 - C. distress (at not knowing how to improve a bad situation)
- 11 Although during the few days of waiting I never **despaired** of my friend keeping her word, this did not prevent my being in a state of acute suspense when the day arrived.
 - A. lost hope
 - B. disagreed
 - C. stuck out

- 12 *Love and confidence had changed of a sudden to hate and deadly enmity and the neighbors saw me go with pitying **scorn**.*
A. disrespect or reject as not good enough
B. not answer questions; or block progress
C. move from more general to more specific
- 13 *Let suicide be as stupid, cowardly, shabby as you please, call it an infamous and **ignominious** escape; still, any escape, even the most ignominious, from this treadmill of suffering was the only thing to wish for.*
A. the state or degree of being very large
B. deserving or bringing disgrace or shame
C. the quality of relating to intelligence
- 14 *In my **lamentable** state I was half-thankful for the cordiality with which he threw himself on me.*
A. intentional
B. not sincere
C. regrettable
- 15 *I don't grudge all those lonely persons their mute music, whether it's **Yearning** or the Magic Flute or Valencia.*
A. changing to fit a different situation
B. strongly desiring; or a strong desire
C. charging (with having broken the law)
- 16 *...the heroic and the beautiful, and the **reverence** for the great poets or for the saints...*
A. interfere (in another's affairs or business); or handle (something that shouldn't be handled)
B. deep respect and admiration
C. separate two things to prevent passage of something such as heat, cold, noise, or electricity
- 17 *You mean a name, and fame with **posterity**?*
A. not thinking carefully
B. all future generations
C. lacks adequate funding
- 18 *The **pious** call it the kingdom of God.*
A. not able to be translated
B. able to be disagreed with
C. religious
- 19 *I saw myself as a dead-weary pilgrim, dragging myself across the desert of the other world, laden with the many **superfluous** books I had written, and all the articles and essays; followed by the army of composers who had had the type to set up, by the army of readers who had had it all to swallow.*
A. the quality of being sensible and careful
B. without purpose, job, or natural activity
C. more than is needed, desired, or required
- 20 *Yes, with Mozart and the **immortals**.*
A. tiles designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
B. instances of taking on or adopting of power or responsibility
C. people of enduring fame

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	fleeting	Used 10 times in this book.
2	C	contrary to (<i>as in: contrary to</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
3	A	on the contrary (<i>as in: on the contrary</i>)	Used 11 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.
4	B	wretched	Used 10 times in this book.
5	C	repugnant	Used 6 times in this book.
6	C	enmity	Used 7 times in this book.
7	C	attain	High-utility academic word; used 15 times in this book.
8	B	melancholy	Used 10 times in this book.
9	A	bourgeois	Used 51 times in this book.
10	C	despair (<i>as in: she felt despair</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	A	despair (<i>as in: do not despair</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
12	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
13	B	ignominious	Used 4 times in this book.
14	C	lament	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
15	B	yearn	Used 11 times in this book.
16	B	revere	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
17	B	posterity	Used 4 times in this book.
18	C	pious (<i>as in: a good, pious woman</i>)	Used 7 times in this book.
19	C	superfluous	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
20	C	immortal	Used 25 times in this book.