

The Adventures of Augie March

by Saul Bellow

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

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: amorous, arbor, correspond, correspondence, establish (2), grievance, haughty, illustrate (2), melancholy, moreover, obstinate, repudiate, satire, sensual, shrewd, swindle, utopia, wrath



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She doesn't think of him in an **amorous** way.
 - A. logical or analytical
 - B. light-hearted
 - C. romantic or sexual
2. We are building an **arbor** in the back yard.
 - A. framework for plants
 - B. stone fire pit
 - C. raised flower bed
3. The bones in a bat's wing exactly **correspond** to those in a human forearm.
 - A. are equivalent
 - B. are opposite
 - C. are unrelated
4. I don't live in Los Angeles yet, but I joined the organization as a **corresponding** member.
 - A. visiting
 - B. founding
 - C. done from afar
5. Which word choice would help to establish a serious tone.
 - A. avoid
 - B. create
 - C. increase
6. The sixth paragraph (lines 67-68) is primarily concerned with **establishing** the contrast between men and masculine traits.
 - A. minimizing
 - B. exaggerating
 - C. showing
7. It is a long-standing **grievance**.
 - A. complaint
 - B. connection
 - C. agreement
8. She has that **haughty**, rich and entitled attitude.
 - A. wealthy
 - B. arrogant
 - C. optimistic
9. The example **illustrates** the belief.
 - A. disproves
 - B. proves
 - C. makes clear
10. The assembly directions include **illustrations** to identify each part.
 - A. drawings
 - B. coded stickers
 - C. descriptions
11. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
 - A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing

12. Many graduates have high college debt. Moreover, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
- A. in contrast to that
 - B. in addition to that
 - C. as a result of that
13. He is **obstinate** as a mule and refuses to change his mind.
- A. cheerful
 - B. stubborn
 - C. graceful
14. The election results were a clear **repudiation** of the incumbent's policies.
- A. approval
 - B. rejection
 - C. explanation
15. Through **satire**, the cartoon exposed how ridiculous the new policy looked in practice.
- A. literal description
 - B. factual reporting
 - C. humorous criticism
16. She enjoyed the **sensual** pleasure of the warm sun on her skin.
- A. pleasing the body's senses
 - B. exciting the mind's intellect
 - C. deep empathetic understanding
17. She watched him with a **shrewd** eye.
- A. nearby
 - B. outside
 - C. smart
18. Scammers often **swindle** people through fake phone calls.
- A. warn or protect
 - B. pay back fully
 - C. cheat or defraud
19. We thought we could create a **utopia**, but we failed because we overestimated human nature.
- A. an ideal place
 - B. constant innovation
 - C. a challenging journey
20. She fears the **wrath** of God.
- A. angry punishment
 - B. power
 - C. unpredictable moods

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 Simon was a blond boy with big cheekbones and wide gray eyes and had the arms of a cricketer--I go by the **illustrations**; we never played anything but softball.
A. drawings or photographs
B. positively charged ions
C. proposed or actual laws
- 2 It's as follows: In the world of today your individual man has to be willing to **illustrate** a more and more narrow and restricted point of existence.
A. work or operate
B. think carefully
C. help make clear
- 3 Not that I can see my big, gentle, dilapidated, scrubbing, and lugging mother as a fugitive of immense beauty from such classy **wrath**, or our father as a marble-legged Olympian.
A. extreme anger
B. determination
C. use of reason
- 4 Grandma had arranged this with Sylvester's father, whom she knew from the old people's **arbor** in the park.
A. a framework that supports climbing plants; or a shady rest area made by such a framework or by trees and shrubs
B. an artists performance of another artist's work that expresses the performer's feelings or ideas about the work
C. soccer player who typically play in the middle third of the field and who assists with both defense and offense
- 5 And he was very **shrewd**, his sister said.
A. exact
B. awake
C. smart
- 6 But he was all the same a little dubious and haunted, his black eyes in the long joke-austerity of his head often very **melancholy**.
A. relating to the outside
B. a sad feeling or manner
C. about (but not exactly)
- 7 Later, when I wised up and was debeatified, I was more **sensual**.
A. relating to pleasing the body's senses
B. exciting the mind's intellectual vigor
C. a deep sense of empathetic understanding
- 8 I never **repudiated** her that much or tried to strike the old influence, such as it had become, out of her hands.
A. thought carefully
B. strongly rejected
C. guided or managed
- 9 Nevertheless he kept thinking how, in spite of the time, he could carry it off, and didn't merely brood, but discussed, **obstinately**, how it could be done.
A. in an artificial manner to make an impression
B. stubbornly unyielding to the wishes of others
C. to almost be so, but not so strictly speaking
- 10 I took closer interest in his **swindles** than when I had been not much more than house-boy and the Einhorn business was too vast for me to understand.
A. gives an opinion of what is wrong with something
B. interferes in other people's affairs or business
C. tricks or cheats someone -- usually to get money

- 11 *I knew later I had been lucky with her, that she had tried not to be dry with me, or **satirical**, and done it mercifully.*
- A. full of anger or unhappiness at having to accept something not liked
 - B. relating to expert judgement of what is good and bad about something
 - C. a way of making fun of people or ideas -- often through exaggeration
- 12 *The only way I could conceive, in my blood-loaded, picturesque **amorousness**.*
- A. good or beneficial
 - B. not representative
 - C. romantic or sexual
- 13 *And, **moreover**, though I was still in love with her, my attitude toward her wasn't what it had been.*
- A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - B. in addition to what has just been said
 - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 14 *To develop from crippled girl into crippled woman, in the family, in the house, such staleness and hardship --that's what it makes for, darkness, saturninity, oversat **grievance**.*
- A. complaint
 - B. main road
 - C. hard work
- 15 *The spirit I found him in was the Chanticleer spirit, by which I refer to male piercingness, sharpness, knotted hard muscle and blood in the comb, jerky, flaunty, **haughty** and bright, with luxurious slither of feathers.*
- A. absolute
 - B. arrogant
 - C. pleasing
- 16 *Here what had to be **established** was whether I was qualified in pocket to mix with the sons of established fathers.*
- A. accepted someone's membership though a special procedure such as a ceremony and/or period of instruction and/or test
 - B. examined an issue, got opinions by asking specific questions; and/or asked people for political support individually
 - C. determined (figured out)
- 17 *Mama wasn't any longer right off the kitchen but **established** in almost an apartment with a Gulistan on the floor and drapes on the window.*
- A. persuaded someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
 - B. settled
 - C. not having a relationship whereby a change in one thing helps predict a change in another
- 18 *To accept any help from Kayo she must, I thought, be in bad condition; and so she was, though talkative and of false alertness and sharpness--false because it didn't **correspond** to the expression of her eyes.*
- A. connect or fit together by being equivalent, proportionate, or matched
 - B. to stick out, attract more attention than desired, or impose on others
 - C. speak in a manner that does not clearly express an opinion or decision
- 19 *And the Old Man--he did **correspondence** courses in philosophy at a bunch of universities, it was his hobby, and was forever writing out assignments--he took to me too, though he didn't approve of my leniency.*
- A. small kitchens
 - B. leaps or jumps
 - C. done from afar
- 20 *I see I met those writers in the big book of **utopias** at a peculiar time.*
- A. imaginary places considered to be perfect or ideal
 - B. light seen after bouncing off a surface to another
 - C. inexperience, innocence, or lack of sophistication

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	illustrate (<i>as in: an illustrated children's book</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
2	C	illustrate (<i>as in: as illustrated by this example</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	A	wrath	Used 15 times in this book.
4	A	arbor (<i>as in: shaded arbor</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
5	C	shrewd	Used 16 times in this book.
6	B	melancholy	Used 18 times in this book.
7	A	sensual	Used 10 times in this book.
8	B	repudiate	Used 4 times in this book.
9	B	obstinate	Used 14 times in this book.
10	C	swindle	Used 12 times in this book.
11	C	satire (<i>as in: wrote a satire</i>)	Used 7 times in this book.
12	C	amorous	Used 5 times in this book.
13	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 10 times in this book.
14	A	grievance	Used 8 times in this book.
15	B	haughty	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
16	C	establish (<i>as in: establish that there is a need</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	establish (<i>as in: establish a positive tone</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
18	A	correspond (<i>as in: corresponding time period</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
19	C	correspondence (<i>as in: a correspondence course</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
20	A	utopia	Used 4 times in this book.