

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

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
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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: conscience, consequence (2), conspicuous, dismal, however (2), incantation, indifferent, inquest, melancholy, nevertheless, notwithstanding, ostentatious, perceptible, trifle, trifle with, vagrant, yield (2)



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. I will vote as my **conscience** demands.
 - A. sense of right and wrong
 - B. memory of past events
 - C. fear of public ridicule
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 is the most **conspicuous** person on the President's cabinet, often appearing on television.
 - A. easy to notice
 - B. hard to trust
 - C. quick to argue
5. When she graduated from college the job market was **dismal**.
 - A. especially good
 - B. promising but unusual
 - C. terrible or depressing
6. I hope to take the ACT just once. However, I will take it early, so there is time to study and take it again if my scores aren't high enough.
 - A. but
 - B. also
 - C. and
7. **However** we get there, the main thing is to be absolutely sure we're not late.
 - A. whatever way
 - B. even if in a non-standard manner
 - C. to whatever degree
8. Harry Potter said the incantation, "*expecto patronum*" as he focuses on a happy memory to summon protection from dark magic.
 - A. common saying
 - B. magic words
 - C. foreign phrase
9. She was **indifferent** to his anger.
 - A. without interest
 - B. with fear
 - C. with anger
10. A coroner's **inquest** determined that the death was from natural causes.
 - A. formal investigation
 - B. vote
 - C. assistant
11. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
 - A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing

12. She loves him. **Nevertheless**, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
- A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition
13. The budget was approved, **notwithstanding** the loud protests from the opposition.
- A. in spite of
 - B. as a result of
 - C. in addition to
14. She arrived in an **ostentatious** stretch limo.
- A. expensive
 - B. long
 - C. showy
15. She's walking with a barely **perceptible** limp.
- A. painful
 - B. new
 - C. noticeable
16. Don't waste my time with **trifling** matters.
- A. other's
 - B. future
 - C. unimportant
17. The European Parliament refuses to be **trifled with**.
- A. treated without respect
 - B. argued with
 - C. negotiated with
18. Police used to be allowed to use their discretion in deciding whether to arrest any **vagrant**.
- A. person who used recreational drugs
 - B. impoverished person without a home or job
 - C. someone who is visiting from out-of-town
19. The experiment **yielded** data that raised a new set of questions.
- A. produced
 - B. destroyed
 - C. slowed down
20. After the scandal, she **yielded** to public pressure and resigned her position.
- A. added
 - B. gave in
 - C. produced

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 Every time I let him off, my **conscience** does hurt me so, and every time I hit him my old heart most breaks.
 - A. feeling or appraisal of having personally behaved in a morally right or wrong manner
 - B. a complex carbohydrate that is the chief constituent of all plant tissues and fibers
 - C. not planning to kill a person, but then intentionally killing in the heat of passion
- 2 all gladness left him and a deep **melancholy** settled down upon his spirit.
 - A. relating to the outside
 - B. sadness
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 3 Presently a **vagrant** poodle dog came idling along, sad at heart, lazy with the summer softness and the quiet, weary of captivity, sighing for change.
 - A. deserving no respect (worthless or of bad quality)
 - B. someone who is poor and has no regular home or job
 - C. the quality or degree of not being straightforward
- 4 grew weary at last, and then **indifferent** and absent-minded.
 - A. without interest
 - B. likely to change
 - C. able to be found
- 5 But she fled up-stairs, **nevertheless**, with Sid and Mary at her heels.
 - 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)
- 6 yielded up the pewter medal which he had worn with **ostentation** for months.
 - A. a power plant that produces energy by splitting atoms
 - B. an unsettled state of mind (nervous or uncomfortable)
 - C. an action intended to attract notice and impress others
- 7 Everything was **dismally** still.
 - A. in a manner that uses a scale where each step is a multiple of the prior step rather than a fixed addition to it
 - B. in the manner of something that is commonly repeated or obvious, yet treated as though insightful or instructive
 - C. depressingly
- 8 By and by, out of the stillness, little, scarcely **perceptible** noises began to emphasize themselves.
 - A. the state of being awake
 - B. able to take on or adopt
 - C. noticeable
- 9 They buried the shingle close to the wall, with some dismal ceremonies and **incantations**, and the fetters that bound their tongues were considered to be locked and the key thrown away.
 - A. surgical interruptions of nerve tracts to and from the frontal lobe of the brain
 - B. combinations of words believed to have a magical effect when they are said aloud
 - C. the branch of physics concerned with the conversion of different forms of energy
- 10 It seemed to Tom that his schoolmates never would get done holding **inquests** on dead cats, and thus keeping his trouble present to his mind.
 - A. formal investigations
 - B. things that stand out
 - C. shows or demonstrates
- 11 Yet **notwithstanding** all this, the boy grew more and more melancholy and pale and dejected.
 - A. used to show that something remains true even though something else seems to go against it
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)

- 12 ...at a point where the Mississippi River was a **trifle** over a mile wide,
 A. leave a place, job or position previously occupied
 B. someone (or something) taking the place of another
 C. little (of small quantity or importance)
- 13 The thing failed this time, however, so the boys shouldered their tools and went away feeling that they had not **trifled with** fortune, but had fulfilled all the requirements that belong to the business of treasure-hunting.
 A. treated thoughtlessly or without respect
 B. injury to muscles or tendons of the knee
 C. limit light vibrations to a single plane
- 14 Huck started sorrowfully away, and Tom stood looking after him, with a strong desire tugging at his heart to **yield** his pride and go along too.
 A. select (on a computer screen)
 B. give up
 C. an involuntary vomiting spasm
- 15 Yet shame I not to bear an o'er-full heart,
 Nor blush to turn behind my tearful eyes;
 'Tis from no stranger land I now must part,
 'Tis to no strangers left I **yield** these sighs.
 A. give
 B. stop (something from happening)
 C. think deeply or carefully about
- 16 **Consequently** it was an extremely satisfactory one.
 A. resultantly (as a result)
 B. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 17 The place was grandly lighted, and everybody that was of any **consequence** in the village was there.
 A. translates
 B. importance
 C. sticks out
- 18 He had only thought it was not the treasure, **however**—he had not known that it wasn't—and so the suggestion of a captured bundle was too much for his self-possession.
 A. in whatever way
 B. starts fighting
 C. starts (a fire)
- 19 Their speed was slow, **however**, because pitfalls were somewhat common, and had to be guarded against.
 A. a word used to connect contrasting ideas as when using *though, in spite of that, in contrast, nevertheless*, etc.
 B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 C. therefore (for that reason)
- 20 **Profound** silence; silence so deep that even their breathings were **conspicuous** in the hush.
 A. attracting attention by being easily heard
 B. the quality or degree of being in a crosswise direction (at a right angle to the long axis)
 C. relating to an acute intestinal infection caused by ingestion of contaminated water or food

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	conscience	Used 15 times in this book.
2	B	melancholy	Used 14 times in this book.
3	B	vagrant	Used 4 times in this book.
4	A	indifferent	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
5	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
6	C	ostentatious	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
7	C	dismal	Used 12 times in this book.
8	C	perceptible	Used 4 times in this book.
9	B	incantation	Used 5 times in this book.
10	A	inquest	Used 5 times in this book.
11	A	notwithstanding	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
12	C	trifle (<i>as in: a trifling matter</i>)	Used 14 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
13	A	trifle with (<i>as in: trifle with her affections</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
15	A	yield (<i>as in: will yield valuable data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
18	A	however (<i>as in: However you do it, get it done!</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
19	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	A	conspicuous	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.