

The Awakening

by Kate Chopin

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	
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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: anecdote, antagonist, candid, capricious, contradict, deceive, despondent, endeavor, entreat, impetuous, impromptu, languid, malice, motive, persistence, recollect, reproach, sensuous, speculate, yield



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	C
3	A
4	B
5	A
6	C
7	C
8	C
9	B
10	A
11	B
12	B
13	C
14	C
15	C
16	C
17	B
18	B
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. She is good at making a point in an interesting and memorable way with an **anecdote**.
 - A. short true story
 - B. long boring lecture
 - C. detailed research report
2. In the book, *Harry Potter*, Voldemort is Harry's **antagonist**.
 - A. partner
 - B. friend
 - C. enemy
3. My **candid** opinion is that their team is much better than ours, but an upset isn't impossible.
 - A. honest
 - B. expert
 - C. tactful
4. The court overturned the ruling--describing it as having been made in a **capricious** manner.
 - A. biased
 - B. impulsive
 - C. harmful
5. Does the sentence **contradict** what is said in the previous paragraph?
 - A. disagree with
 - B. reinforce
 - C. expand upon
6. The fake article was written to attract attention and **deceive** readers.
 - A. entertain
 - B. attract
 - C. lie to or mislead
7. She felt **despondent** after weeks of trying without any success.
 - A. mildly curious
 - B. secretly amused
 - C. deeply discouraged
8. I will **endeavor** to finish by Friday.
 - A. not be able
 - B. promise
 - C. try
9. The students **entreated** the Chinese troops not to use force against peaceful demonstrations.
 - A. bribed (with gifts)
 - B. asked earnestly
 - C. threatened
10. She made an **impetuous** purchase, buying the car without test-driving it first.
 - A. impulsive
 - B. cautious
 - C. wealthy
11. The comedian's **impromptu** jokes had the audience laughing uncontrollably.
 - A. especially humorous and penetrating
 - B. made without advance preparation
 - C. pushing the envelope of what is acceptable
12. She greeted us with a **languid** wave of the hand.
 - A. quick and sharp
 - B. slow and relaxed
 - C. stiff and formal

13. Words can be like baseball bats when used **maliciously** against someone who is sensitive.
- A. carelessly
 - B. mockingly
 - C. evilly
14. A desire for religious freedom was their motive for leaving England.
- A. excuse
 - B. technique
 - C. reason
15. The **persistence** of the scientist in her research eventually led to a groundbreaking discovery.
- A. blind optimism
 - B. immediate success
 - C. continuing effort despite difficulties
16. I don't **recollect** her name, but I'd recognize her.
- A. pronounce properly
 - B. spell properly
 - C. remember
17. Don't **reproach** yourself for things beyond your control.
- A. congratulate
 - B. criticize
 - C. accept honor for
18. I made the bed with **sensuous** silk sheets.
- A. smooth to the touch
 - B. pleasing to touch
 - C. cool to the touch
19. We were **speculating** as to whether a president would have to resign after that kind of scandal.
- A. hoping
 - B. thoughtfully guessing
 - C. demonstrating concern
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 Her face was captivating by reason of a certain frankness of expression and a **contradictory** subtle play of features.
 - A. in disagreement
 - B. relative amount
 - C. dramatic change
- 2 He talked to her while he undressed, telling her **anecdotes** and bits of news and gossip that he had gathered during the day.
 - A. short, true stories
 - B. sizes or dimensions
 - C. outward appearances
- 3 Her "condition" was in no way apparent, and no one would have known a thing about it but for her **persistence** in making it the subject of conversation.
 - A. main character of Mark Twain's classic novel about Huck and Jim's journey down the Mississippi River to find freedom (1884)
 - B. a baseball pitcher who throws knuckleballs -- a pitch thrown with little spin (so that it moves in an unpredictable manner)
 - C. continuing or repeating behavior -- especially in spite of difficulties

or:

continuing or prolonged existence of something
- 4 The sun was low in the west, and the breeze soft and **languorous** that came up from the south, charged with the seductive odor of the sea.
 - A. lacking a reason for doing something
 - B. slow, relaxed, or with little energy
 - C. inconspicuousness or trustworthiness
- 5 The touch of the sea is **sensuous**, enfolding the body in its soft, close embrace.
 - A. the state or degree of having found a condition or substance to be present
 - B. relating to pleasure from the body's senses rather than from the intellect
 - C. most extreme as in final, best, worst, most important, or most fundamental
- 6 "Granted; as many as you like," he returned, glancing down into her eyes that were full of thoughtfulness and some **speculation**.
 - A. ruling on a point of Islamic law that is given by a recognized authority
 - B. guessing or theorizing
 - C. cash or an asset (something of value) that is easily converted into cash
- 7 curtains which draped the windows, and which puffed, floated, and flapped at the **capricious** will of a stiff breeze
 - A. the quality of disagreeing
 - B. unpredictable
 - C. able to meet and talk with
- 8 She was dragging a chair in and out of her room, and at intervals objecting to the crying of a baby, which a nurse in the adjoining cottage was **endeavoring** to put to sleep.
 - A. working or operating
 - B. believing or judging
 - C. trying or attempting
- 9 He walked between them, whether with **malicious** or mischievous intent was not wholly clear, even to himself.
 - A. exceedingly important, serious, or dangerous
 - B. designed to be useful; or capable of working
 - C. the intention or desire to see others suffer

- 10 *He did not mind the entreaty, but the tone with its delicate note of pathos was like a reproach.*
A. move into position to work; or start
B. a criticism; or to express criticism
C. to spread to other parts of the body
- 11 *he asked again, this time fondly, with a note of entreaty.*
A. untied or released
B. pleading or attempt at persuasion
C. easily set on fire
- 12 *I don't understand your motive for silence and mystery, never saying a word to me about it this morning.*
A. small quantity or indication
B. the sacred writings of Islam
C. reason (for doing something)
- 13 *The street, the children, the fruit vender, the flowers growing there under her eyes, were all part and parcel of an alien world which had suddenly become antagonistic.*
A. without boundaries or limits
B. not good at making decisions
C. with opposition or hostility
- 14 *It moved her with recollections.*
A. restores
B. thoughts
C. memories
- 15 *He was a dark-browed, good-looking youngster of nineteen, greatly resembling his mother, but with ten times her impetuosity.*
A. impulsiveness (the trait of acting suddenly without much thought)
B. a ceiling designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
C. a person (often a writer or artist) living an unconventional life
- 16 *The candor of Mrs. Pontellier's admission greatly pleased Mademoiselle Reisz.*
A. honesty and directness
B. lacks adequate funding
C. lowers moral standards
- 17 *If Mrs. Pontellier should call upon you, play for her that Impromptu of Chopin's, my favorite.*
A. result or predictable value
B. without advance preparation
C. the highest-ranking manager
- 18 *Yet there were other days when she listened, was led on and deceived by fresh promises which her youth held out to her.*
A. told (a story)
B. began fighting
C. lied or misled
- 19 *If she replied to it in a serious spirit it would still leave in his mind the impression that she had in a susceptible moment yielded to his influence.*
A. with rises and falls in pitch
B. gave in, gave way, or gave up
C. embarrassed or self-conscious
- 20 *Despondency had come upon her there in the wakeful night, and had never lifted.*
A. sticks out
B. bends down
C. depression

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	contradict	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
2	A	anecdote	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
3	C	persistence	Used 4 times in this book.
4	B	languid	Used 5 times in this book.
5	B	sensuous	Used 5 times in this book.
6	B	speculate (<i>as in: don't know, but I'll speculate</i>)	Used 5 times in this book.
7	B	capricious	Used 4 times in this book.
8	C	endeavor	Used 7 times in this book.
9	C	malice	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
10	B	reproach	Used 7 times in this book.
11	B	entreat	Used 15 times in this book.
12	C	motive (<i>as in: What is her motive?</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
13	C	antagonist (<i>as in: the antagonist in the film</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
14	C	recollect	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
15	A	impetuous (<i>as in: an impetuous decision</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
16	A	candid (<i>as in: your candid opinion</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
17	B	impromptu	Used 7 times in this book.
18	C	deceive	Used 5 times in this book.
19	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
20	C	despondent	Used 7 times in this book.