

The Collected Stories of Eudora Welty

by Eudora Welty

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: beckon, belligerent, commotion, congregation, contemplate, disparage, impudent, indelible, languid, luminous, minute (2), nevertheless, ravine, recital, recollect, reproach, revelation, serene, vivacious



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	A
3	A
4	B
5	C
6	A
7	B
8	C
9	B
10	C
11	C
12	C
13	B
14	B
15	A
16	C
17	B
18	A
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. The police officer **beckoned** me to come over.
A. considered asking
B. called
C. prohibited
2. She likes to make people lose their cool by starting **belligerent** political arguments.
A. hostile or combative
B. clever or intelligent
C. ridiculous or absurd
3. Her entrance created quite a **commotion**.
A. disturbance
B. outburst of laughter
C. accident
4. The **congregation** voted to approve appointment of the new minister.
A. people who agree
B. people who worship together
C. people who meet periodically
5. The philosopher **contemplated** the meaning of life, pondering the big questions of existence.
A. wrote about
B. read about
C. thought about
6. The victors write the history and **disparage** their enemies.
A. criticize
B. defeat
C. erase from history
7. Her **impudent** reply to the manager shocked everyone in the meeting.
A. thoughtfully kind
B. disrespectfully bold
C. extremely quiet
8. That teacher made an **indelible** impression on her students.
A. ordinary
B. confusing
C. lasting
9. She greeted us with a **languid** wave of the hand.
A. quick and sharp
B. slow and relaxed
C. stiff and formal
10. The snow was **luminous** from the moonlight.
A. soft and silent
B. wet and slushy
C. bright and glowing
11. Even a **minute** amount of lead can be harmful to children.
A. large
B. 60 seconds
C. tiny
12. She thrives at sifting through that kind of **minute** detail.
A. quickly eliminated
B. available from prior research
C. including even small considerations

13. She loves him. **Nevertheless**, she is determined to stop seeing him unless he stops drinking.
- A. also
 - B. despite that
 - C. in addition
14. I was afraid that if we climbed into the **ravine**, we might be caught in a flood before we could get out.
- A. a hole so deep the bottom cannot be seen
 - B. deep, narrow, steep-sided valley
 - C. a large, fast-moving river
15. At the poetry **recital**, she recited an original work.
- A. solo performance
 - B. writing workshop
 - C. open discussion
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 was leaning toward voting for her, but her stance on education policy was a **revelation** to me.
- A. something surprising and previously unknown
 - B. something that made a decision easy
 - C. something that reversed a previous decision
19. She remained **serene** even when he was yelling at her.
- A. unmoved
 - B. calm
 - C. aggressive
20. She's a **vivacious** high school senior who has captured the nations heart.
- A. kind and attractive
 - B. engaging and lively
 - C. smart and well-spoken

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 Yes'm, she kept her eyes on **what's that thing makes all the commotion?**
 - A. noisy disturbance
 - B. circular movement
 - C. size or dimension
- 2 Clyde snatched it roughly and with a grabbing **disparagement**.
 - A. the act of criticizing or making seem less important
 - B. the taking on or adoption of power or responsibility
 - C. the process of controlling (how something turns out)
- 3 I really don't **recollect** the faintest.
 - A. disagree
 - B. subtract
 - C. remember
- 4 "Mr. Fletcher and myself are as much in love as the day we married," said Mrs. Fletcher **belligerently** as Leota stuffed cotton into her ears.
 - A. with an attitude of one eager to fight
 - B. in a manner that is not easily noticed
 - C. in a disrespectful or rejecting manner
- 5 Every now and then, as though he perceived some **minute** thing, a sudden alert, tantalized look would creep over the little man's face, and he would gaze slowly around him, quite slyly.
 - A. awake
 - B. exact
 - C. small
- 6 He stared away as if he saw it **minutely**, as if he could see a lady in white take a flowered cover off the organ, which was set on a little slant in the shade, dust the keys, and start to pump and play.
 - A. in a manner that does not change
 - B. in a manner that deserves praise
 - C. in a detailed manner
- 7 With a **reproachful** look at him the woman reached up and took off her hat.
 - A. without boundaries or limits
 - B. critical (full of criticism)
 - C. not good at making decisions
- 8 Words which at first horrified Clytie poured in a full, light stream from her throat, which soon, **nevertheless**, felt strangely relaxed and rested.
 - 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)
- 9 Then he saw that he was on the edge of a **ravine** that fell away, a red erosion, and that this was indeed the road's end.
 - A. another battle with the same foe
 - B. deep, narrow, steep-sided valley
 - C. describing someone as antisocial
- 10 Bowman averted his head and saw the woman looking **serenely** back at the mule, with only satisfaction in her face.
 - A. in a pessimistic or disagreeable manner
 - B. in a manner that is calm and untroubled
 - C. enthusiastically or with great interest

- 11 *"It must be the real truth," says the waitress, sucking in her lower lip, her **luminous** eyes turning sadly, seeking the windows.*
- A. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired
 - B. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions
 - C. glowing or shining
- (also used metaphorically to describe beauty or intelligence)
- 12 *Joel sat quietly, waiting for the full **revelation** of the meetings.*
- A. something previously unknown; or making such a thing known
 - B. a large, elongated gland located behind the stomach that secretes digestive enzymes and insulin
 - C. of the philosophical & religious system based on the teachings of Laozi (also spelled Taoist)
- 13 *The poor souls that were not saved were darker and more pitiful than those that were, and still there was not any of the radiance he would have hoped to see in such a **congregation**.*
- A. the act, process, or instance of telling a story
 - B. people who worship together in the same building
 - C. a general feeling of not being as good as others
- 14 *"We ran away," said Phoebe **languidly**.*
- A. in a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
 - B. without much energy; or moving slowly or in a relaxed manner
 - C. always; or (said in exaggeration when meaning) almost always
- 15 *It was written not properly in ink but in **indelible** pencil, and so its message had not been washed away as it might have been.*
- A. a hollow muscular organ in the pelvic cavity of females which can hold a developing fetus
 - B. one who believes that knowledge is acquired primarily by reason rather than by experience
 - C. impossible to remove, forget, or erase -- can refer to physical marks or lasting memories
- 16 *He had an oddly cheerful look by this time, as if with strange and sad things to come his way his outlook became more **vivacious**.*
- A. the quality of feeling angry or unhappy about having to accept something not liked
 - B. having an engaging liveliness -- when said of a person, typically said of a female
 - C. an argument attributed to one's opponent that is weaker than their actual argument
- 17 *JUNE RECITAL Loch was in a tempest with his mother.*
- A. performance
 - B. storyteller
 - C. translation
- 18 *Miss Eckhart had made an exception of Virgie Rainey; she had first respected Virgie Rainey, and now fell humble before her **impudence**.*
- A. an artists performance of another artist's work that expresses the performer's feelings or ideas about the work
 - B. improperly bold or disrespectful -- especially toward someone who is older or considered to be of higher status
 - C. soccer player who typically play in the middle third of the field and who assists with both defense and offense
- 19 *Ladies waved and **beckoned** with their fans, conversation opened up.*
- A. showed something -- such as demonstrated, expressed, or represented
 - B. called (to come nearer by using a hand gesture)
 - C. provided evidence of something -- especially oral evidence in court
- 20 *For a space Mama opened her eyes and **contemplated** her screaming daughter as she would the sunset behind her.*
- A. restarted (a fire)
 - B. wrongly translates
 - C. consider or ponder

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	commotion	Used 11 times in this book.
2	A	disparage	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
3	C	recollect	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
4	A	belligerent	Used 4 times in this book.
5	C	minute (<i>as in: minute size</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.
6	C	minute (<i>as in: minute description</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
7	B	reproach	Used 10 times in this book.
8	B	nevertheless	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
9	B	ravine	Used 11 times in this book.
10	B	serene	Used 10 times in this book.
11	C	luminous	Used 11 times in this book.
12	A	revelation	Used 10 times in this book.
13	B	congregation (<i>as in: the congregation voted</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
14	B	languid	Used 9 times in this book.
15	C	indelible	Used 6 times in this book.
16	B	vivacious	Used 3 times in this book.
17	A	recital	Used 25 times in this book.
18	B	impudent	Used 3 times in this book.
19	B	beckon	Used 8 times in this book.
20	C	contemplate	Used 7 times in this book.