

The Fountainhead

by Ayn Rand

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: altruism, competent, contemptible, contract (2), contrast (2), diffident, egotistical, establish (2), illustrate (2), insolent, integrity, proletariat, reproach, resignation (2), sacrilege



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She is known for her kindness, compassion, and altruism.
 - A. cheerfulness
 - B. selflessness
 - C. politeness
2. She is **competent** on both violin and piano.
 - A. below average
 - B. sufficiently capable
 - C. outstanding
3. She is a **contemptible** liar.
 - A. good (at pretending)
 - B. deserving no respect
 - C. unreliable
4. A lot of people get into trouble by signing **contracts** they don't understand.
 - A. written agreement with much small print
 - B. written agreements that is enforceable by law
 - C. written agreements with terms that are not specified
5. The cold made the aluminum rod **contract** more than the steel rod.
 - A. shorten
 - B. stick
 - C. stretch
6. **Contrast** typical underlying beliefs of pro-life and pro-choice supporters.
 - A. study
 - B. compare
 - C. describe
7. There was quite a **contrast** between the styles of the two teachers.
 - A. notable similarity
 - B. covering of all styles
 - C. notable difference
8. She is so **diffident**; I can't imagine her as president of the organization.
 - A. young
 - B. unassertive
 - C. argumentative
9. She has talent, but she is too **egotistical**.
 - A. nervous
 - B. inexperienced
 - C. conceited
10. Which word choice would help to **establish** a serious tone.
 - A. avoid
 - B. create
 - C. increase
11. The sixth paragraph (lines 67-68) is primarily concerned with **establishing** the contrast between men and masculine traits.
 - A. minimizing
 - B. exaggerating
 - C. showing

12. The example **illustrates** the belief.
- A. disproves
 - B. proves
 - C. makes clear
13. The assembly directions include **illustrations** to identify each part.
- A. drawings
 - B. coded stickers
 - C. descriptions
14. The **insolent** waiter rolled his eyes when the customer asked for more water.
- A. boldly disrespectful
 - B. kindly helpful
 - C. shyly quiet
15. Real **integrity** is doing the right thing when nobody's going to know whether you did it or not.
- A. sacrifice
 - B. morality
 - C. foolishness
16. In Marxist theory, the **proletariat** sells its labor for wages.
- A. wealthy landowners
 - B. wage-earning workers
 - C. elected officials
17. Don't **reproach** yourself for things beyond your control.
- A. congratulate
 - B. criticize
 - C. accept honor for
18. She said that if I don't **resign**, I will be fired.
- A. do better
 - B. quit
 - C. renew an agreement
19. She was **resigned** to being embarrassed by her younger brother.
- A. putting a stop
 - B. resistant
 - C. with acceptance
20. Many people considered it **sacrilege** to joke loudly inside the sacred temple.
- A. respect for old customs
 - B. fear of religious rules
 - C. disrespect for the sacred

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 You look like an insufferable **egotist**.
 - A. relating to properties of sound or hearing
 - B. something accepted as true (without proof)
 - C. someone who is conceited and self-centered
- 2 Keating thought with relief that there was nothing frightening about her; there was only a disquieting **contrast** between her words and the candid innocence of the manner she used to utter them; he did not know which to trust.
 - A. come to terms with
 - B. block or interfere
 - C. difference
- 3 Well, you see, one can make one's point best **by contrast**, by comparison.
 - A. beyond the permitted boundary or limit
 - B. in a comparison that shows differences
 - C. injured muscles or tendons in the back
- 4 The sketch lay on the Chinese artist's table, and the artist stepped aside **diffidently**, in silence.
 - A. following as a result of something
 - B. with hesitancy and unassertiveness
 - C. indiscriminately (non-selectively)
- 5 ...he signed the **contract**...
 - A. suntanned; or reddish-brown or yellowish-brown in color
 - B. legal agreement
 - C. view in a certain way so as to form a belief or opinion
- 6 It had merely become distasteful; not enough to force a decision; not enough to make him clench his fists; just enough to **contract** his nostrils.
 - A. make smaller
 - B. examine in detail to better understand
 - C. appropriate in size, amount, or degree
- 7 She had a capacity for action, a **competence** that clashed incongruously with her appearance.
 - A. allowed
 - B. ability
 - C. dangers
- 8 Our Mr. Parker's son is studying architecture and we had him draw us up a sketch, just a rough sketch to **illustrate** what we had in mind and to show the members of the board, because they couldn't have visualized the compromise we offered.
 - A. work or operate
 - B. think carefully
 - C. help make clear
- 9 He ran a series of **illustrated** articles on "The Churches of Our Childhood."
 - A. accompanied by drawings
 - B. not justified or explained as an understandable reaction to another action
 - C. related such that a change in one thing helps predict a change in another
- 10 You'd better not be **insolent**.
 - A. rudely disrespectful -- especially toward someone in authority
 - B. the characteristic of being excessively unhappy and unsociable
 - C. the condition of continuing or seeming to continue without end
- 11 The kindness was so great that it made their love seem small and mean, because only something **contemptible** could evoke such immensity of compassion.
 - A. the quality or degree of not being straightforward
 - B. deserving no respect (worthless or of bad quality)
 - C. aka analytic -- relating to a theory of psychiatry

- 12 *He said it without defiance, bitterness or **proletarian** arrogance; he said it as if it were a joke on him and—if one looked closely into his smile—on them.*
- A. the act of move something out of an interacting position; or the act of stopping
 - B. a social class consisting of those who must work for wages to support themselves
 - C. basketball position noted for a versatile player who can play inside and outside
- 13 *He hoped she would **resign**. He could not face the thought of having to fire her.*
- A. draw
 - B. quit (from her job)
 - C. rule
- 14 *Then he stood straight, but with a kind of quiet **resignation**,*
- A. the act of finding fault and telling others; or a description of faults
 - B. the process of thinking carefully and making a judgment about something
 - C. look of having accepted the need to endure (suffer through) something undesired
- 15 *he took it as an insult to his journalistic **integrity***
- A. support
 - B. honesty and other moral principles
 - C. evidence collection
- 16 *He stared at the flames, unblinking, to force himself into a complete obedience to an **established** truth.*
- 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. known
- 17 *He saw a nurse in white uniform walking down the hall—an emergency first-aid station had been **established** on the ground floor.*
- A. persuaded someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
 - B. created
 - C. not having a relationship whereby a change in one thing helps predict a change in another
- 18 *I remember: a **sacrilegious** church or some such object that gave the Bible brigade a howling spree.*
- A. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions
 - B. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired
 - C. disrespectful of something others consider important -- especially something sacred
- 19 *"I don't want you to make excuses for me." He said it simply, without **reproach**.*
- A. move into position to work; or start
 - B. criticism
 - C. to spread to other parts of the body
- 20 *Suppose I had never wished to take any money at all, but had set out in pure **altruism** to serve the people.*
- A. expectation that things will turn out badly
 - B. unselfish concern for others
 - C. taking advantage of unplanned circumstances

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	egotistical	Used 19 times in this book.
2	C	contrast (<i>as in: there is a contrast</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	B	contrast (<i>as in: contrast their writing styles</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	B	diffident	Used 7 times in this book.
5	B	contract (<i>as in: legal contract</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	A	contract (<i>as in: the metal contracted in the cold</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	B	competent	High-utility academic word; used 24 times in this book.
8	C	illustrate (<i>as in: as illustrated by this example</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	illustrate (<i>as in: an illustrated children's book</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
10	A	insolent	Used 26 times in this book.
11	B	contemptible	Used 8 times in this book.
12	B	proletariat	Used 9 times in this book.
13	B	resignation (<i>as in: submitted her resignation</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	C	resignation (<i>as in: accepted it with resignation</i>)	Used 20 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
15	B	integrity (<i>as in: a person of high integrity</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 28 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	C	sacrilege	Used 11 times in this book.
19	B	reproach	Used 24 times in this book.
20	B	altruism	Used 33 times in this book.