

The Grapes of Wrath

by John Steinbeck

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: apprehensive, baptism, belligerent, contract (2), cultivate, focus (2), grovel, implement, listless, migrant, parole, pauper, proprietor, protrude, squatter, sullen, technique, wizened



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	A
3	A
4	B
5	A
6	B
7	A
8	C
9	A
10	C
11	A
12	B
13	B
14	B
15	C
16	C
17	A
18	B
19	A
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 **apprehensive** about finals.
 - A. talkative
 - B. worried
 - C. unconcerned
2. The baby's **baptism** took place at the local church on Sunday.
 - A. religious ceremony
 - B. first birthday party
 - C. doctor's appointment
3. 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
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. Creativity can be **cultivated**.
 - A. useful
 - B. developed or grown
 - C. risky or dangerous
7. This week, I'm **focusing** on finishing my research paper.
 - A. concentrating
 - B. depending
 - C. getting help
8. The discussion brought into **focus** an important difference of opinion.
 - A. hiding
 - B. conflict
 - C. view
9. Hoping for forgiveness, he **groveled** instead of calmly admitting his mistake.
 - A. acted overly submissive
 - B. spoke with confidence
 - C. refused to apologize
10. She reached into the drawer and pulled out a strange-looking **implement** for peeling fruit.
 - A. instruction
 - B. ingredient
 - C. small tool
11. She accepted her fate with **listless** resignation.
 - A. unenergetic
 - B. frustrated
 - C. lonely
12. The crops won't be picked without **migrant** workers.
 - A. hard-working
 - B. from elsewhere
 - C. low-wage

13. She was imprisoned for life without the possibility of **parole**.
A. appeal to a higher court
B. early release from prison
C. transfer to a new prison
14. It is a story about a prince who changes places with a **pauper**.
A. palace visitor
B. poor person
C. wealthy person
15. After 40 years of greeting guests in person, the **proprietor** of the restaurant is retiring.
A. customer
B. employee
C. owner
16. She is operating to repair the muscle wall through which the hernia **protrudes**.
A. heals over
B. shrinks back
C. sticks out
17. In a few jurisdictions, **squatters** can gain legal title to property if they meet a series of requirements for a long enough period of time.
A. illegal tenants
B. thieves
C. needy people
18. A **sullen** crowd watched the execution.
A. excited
B. unhappy
C. celebrating
19. One **technique** I use for dealing with anger is to wait ten seconds before responding.
A. way of doing something
B. habit
C. solution to anger
20. Her grandmother's **wizened** hands held mine warmly.
A. smooth and youthful
B. puffy and swollen
C. shrunken from age

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 **Baptized** both of you in the irrigation ditch at once.
A. "spiritually renewed" in a Christian ceremony
B. made cleaner -- although not truly clean
C. punished by dunking under water
- 2 ... and the land was **cultivated**.
A. on a hill
B. prepared for growing crops
C. paved
- 3 The house cracked loudly as the cooler night air **contracted** the wood.
A. shrank
B. blew at
C. cooled
- 4 Well, this here fella's got a **contract** to pick them peaches or chop that cotton.
A. chore
B. legal agreement
C. plan
- 5 And the men in the seat were tired and angry and sad, for they had got eighteen dollars for every movable thing from the farm: the horses, the wagon, the **implements**, and all the furniture from the house.
A. instances of surrounding conditions
B. creates, starts, or sets in a place
C. small tools and other useful objects
- 6 And still the family stood about like dream walkers, their eyes **focused** panoramically, seeing no detail, but the whole dawn, the whole land, the whole texture of the country at once.
A. differed notably in brightness or tone
B. vaccinated (to protect from a disease)
C. adjusted (to see clearly)
- 7 His eyes **focused** down on Tom.
A. looked
B. thought carefully and made a judgment about
C. began speaking with someone about something
- 8 The old eyes turned **listlessly** to him.
A. with a lack of energy
B. with hope
C. with intense emotion
- 9 They take forty to bury Grampa an' we won't get to California--or else they'll bury him a **pauper**.
A. someone who visits a place
B. someone who is very poor
C. someone who has no family
- 10 The **proprietor** leaned forward in his chair, the better to see the ragged dirty man.
A. custodian
B. customer
C. owner of a business
- 11 At first the families were timid in the building and tumbling worlds, but gradually the **technique** of building worlds became their technique.
A. way of doing something
B. not easily set on fire
C. surrounding conditions
- 12 They were not farm men any more, but **migrant** men.
A. (people who) care for livestock on a ranch
B. (people who) move from one place to another
C. (people who) are unemployed

- 13 *And then the raids—the swoop of armed deputies on the **squatters'** camps.*
A. people who live in an unoccupied place without the legal right
B. people who rent their homes and furnishings
C. people who are poor
- 14 *Connie's eyes were **sullen**.*
A. showing an excited or happy mood
B. showing a gloomy or bad mood
C. appearing deep in thought
- 15 *Thomas looked **apprehensive**.*
A. sad
B. worried
C. confident
- 16 *And the preacher paced like a tiger, whipping the people with his voice, and they **groveled** and whined on the ground.*
A. showed submission or fear
B. thought -- possibly aloud
C. expelled or gotten rid of
- 17 *Al pointed to a big nail **protruding** from the flat casing.*
A. nailed into
B. that dropped
C. sticking out
- 18 *If they raised a stink, they'd get sent back for breakin' **parole**.*
A. laws that specify how people without regular homes or jobs should behave
B. things they promised to do in return for early release from imprisonment
C. other people's property
- 19 *"A fella got to eat," he began; and then, **belligerently**, "A fella got a right to eat."*
A. as though ready for a fight
B. in a manner that is not easily noticed
C. in a disrespectful or rejecting manner
- 20 *The **wizened** face looked in again.*
A. wise
B. timid or afraid
C. lean and wrinkled

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	baptism	Used 10 times in this book.
2	B	cultivate	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
3	A	contract (<i>as in: the metal contracted in the cold</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	B	contract (<i>as in: legal contract</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	C	implement (<i>as in: a small implement</i>)	Used 3 times in this book.
6	C	focus (<i>as in: bring into focus; or out of focus</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
7	A	focus (<i>as in: Turn your focus to question #2.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	A	listless	Used 6 times in this book.
9	B	pauper	Used 5 times in this book.
10	C	proprietor	Used 17 times in this book.
11	A	technique	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
12	B	migrant	Used 17 times in this book.
13	A	squatter	Used 11 times in this book.
14	B	sullen (<i>as in: a sullen mood</i>)	Used 22 times in this book.
15	B	apprehensive	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
16	A	grovel	Used 2 times in this book.
17	C	protrude	Used 7 times in this book.
18	B	parole (<i>as in: released on parole</i>)	Used 17 times in this book.
19	A	belligerent	Used 3 times in this book.
20	C	wizened	Used 8 times in this book.