

The Hound of the Baskervilles

by Arthur Conan Doyle

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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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: credulous, cunning, diabolical, direct (2), establish (2), however (2), hypothesis (2), infer, inquest, inquiry, melancholy, motive, narrative, presume, presumptuous, regent



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She is so **credulous** she believes everything she reads.
 - A. very skeptical
 - B. easily fooled
 - C. deeply thoughtful
2. The worst mix -- greedy, **cunning**, and without morals.
 - A. stupid and impatient
 - B. clever and deceitful
 - C. strong and cruel
3. She was frightened by the **diabolical** expression on his face.
 - A. angry
 - B. evil
 - C. crazy
4. She is easy to work with. She is **direct** in her communications and expectations.
 - A. straightforward
 - B. considerate
 - C. humble
5. The judge **directed** the jury to ignore the question.
 - A. asked
 - B. ordered
 - C. understood
6. Which word choice would help to **establish** a serious tone.
 - A. avoid
 - B. create
 - C. increase
7. The sixth paragraph (lines 67–68) is primarily concerned with **establishing** the contrast between men and masculine traits.
 - A. minimizing
 - B. exaggerating
 - C. showing
8. 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
9. **However** safe we make it, there will always be risk.
 - A. on-the-other-hand
 - B. in addition
 - C. no matter how
10. He **hypothesized** the existence of Pluto before its discovery.
 - A. fantasized
 - B. theorized
 - C. disbelieved
11. Her **hypothesis** was that the plants grew faster with classical music playing.
 - A. confirmed scientific fact
 - B. well-known principle
 - C. unproven proposed idea

12. The meaning of the word can be inferred based on context clues.
- A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted
13. A coroner's **inquest** determined that the death was from natural causes.
- A. formal investigation
 - B. vote
 - C. assistant
14. The official **inquiry** has ended, but the press continues to ask questions.
- A. story
 - B. statement
 - C. investigation
15. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
- A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing
16. A desire for religious freedom was their **motive** for leaving England.
- A. excuse
 - B. technique
 - C. reason
17. It's an interesting **narrative** about her first year in college.
- A. story
 - B. joke
 - C. theatrical play
18. The police's **presumption** of guilt against the suspect caused them to overlook important evidence.
- A. accusation
 - B. assumption
 - C. rumors
19. She does not like **presumptuous** employees.
- A. exercising unearned privileges
 - B. lacking in confidence
 - C. not willing to make decisions
20. While the young king was ill, his uncle served as **regent** to rule the kingdom.
- A. temporary substitute ruler
 - B. elected prime minister
 - C. royal court advisor

Vocabulary in Context

The Hound of the Baskervilles

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 C.H.' does stand for 'Charing Cross Hospital,' what further **inferences** may we draw?
 - A. acts of taking something on as one's own
 - B. things concluded or guessed by reasoning
 - C. animals between one and two years of age
- 2 So excited and alarmed was he that I was compelled to go down to the spot where the animal had been and look around for it. It was gone, **however**, and the incident appeared to make the worst impression upon his mind.
 - A. though (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 3 So I reasoned with myself in the morning, and I tell you the direction of my suspicions, **however** much the result may have shown that they were unfounded.
 - A. people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning
 - B. aka analysis -- psychiatric treatment; or a theory of psychiatric treatment
 - C. regardless of how
- 4 I checked and corroborated all the facts which were mentioned at the **inquest**.
 - A. formal investigation
 - B. basic rule or belief
 - C. the act of forgiving
- 5 The original hound was material enough to tug a man's throat out, and yet he was **diabolical** as well.
 - A. related to the spreading of a disease to another part of the body
 - B. evil; very bad; or cruel and clever (like something of the devil)
 - C. relating to a surface rather than to anything deep or penetrating
- 6 But we are bound to exhaust all other **hypotheses** before falling back upon this one.
 - A. constrains in some way -- such as ties up, requires, or obligates
 - B. explanations that are seemingly reasonable, but unproven
 - C. the quality of being insincere, pretended, or designed to impress
- 7 Supposing that anything happened to our young friend here--you will forgive the unpleasant **hypothesis**!
 - A. an agent that works against a bacterial infection that is typically contracted through a puncture wound with a dirty object
 - B. main character of Mark Twain's classic novel about Huck and Jim's journey down the Mississippi River to find freedom (1884)
 - C. something that may or may not happen, but is temporarily treated as though it will happen to investigate possible outcomes
- 8 Then, still keeping a hundred yards behind, we followed into Oxford Street and so down **Regent** Street.
 - A. someone appointed to a position of temporary or delegated authority -- such as a temporarily while the king or queen is too young, too sick, or away; or a member of a governing board
 - B. relating to an artistic movement pioneered by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque that featured surfaces of geometrical planes to depict three-dimensional organic forms
 - C. someone who walks slowly without definite direction OR someone who writes or talks without definite direction (changing subjects or rambling rather than in a purposeful direct way)
- 9 "We have **established** a most important fact by these questions, Watson," he continued in a low voice as we went upstairs together.
 - 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. learned or demonstrated

- 10 I have **established** a right of way through the centre of old Middleton's park, slap across it, sir, within a hundred yards of his own front door.
- 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
- 11 No, sir; I have **made inquiry** all over the hotel, but I can hear no word of it.
- A. small quantity or indication
 - B. reason (for doing something)
 - C. investigation and questions
- 12 When a crisis comes, as it will do, I will **direct** how you shall act.
- A. to think of something as true or likely, even though it is not known with certainty
 - B. instruct
 - C. give authority, power, knowledge, or confidence to someone so they can do something
- 13 We had arranged no plan of campaign, but the baronet is a man to whom the most **direct** way is always the most natural.
- A. straightforward (uncomplicated)
 - B. the state or degree of being very large
 - C. meticulousness (care for small details)
- 14 To his eyes all seemed beautiful, but to me a tinge of **melancholy** lay upon the country-side
- A. relating to the outside
 - B. sadness
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 15 You will, I am sure, excuse my **presumption**
- A. exercise of social privileges to which one might not be entitled
 - B. the act of protecting something or keeping it as it is
 - C. a serious and highly contagious type of lung infection
- 16 ...**presuming** that all our conjectures are correct --
- A. adding fuel or stirring a fire to make it burn hotter; or making feelings stronger
 - B. assuming
 - C. speaking in an ambiguous manner that does not clearly express an opinion or decision
- 17 It is extraordinary how **credulous** the peasants are about here!
- A. clear, straightforward, or to the point
 - B. gullible (being too willing to believe)
 - C. the state or degree of being very large
- 18 So far as the Barrymores go we have found the **motive** of their actions, and that has cleared up the situation very much.
- A. small quantity or indication
 - B. the sacred writings of Islam
 - C. reason (for doing something)
- 19 I shall soon be in the position of being able to put into a single connected **narrative** one of the most singular and sensational crimes of modern times.
- A. story
 - B. snake
 - C. skill
- 20 You perceive the devilish **cunning** of it, for really it would be almost impossible to make a case against the real murderer.
- A. related to the natural world (life, air, water, land...)
 - B. cleverness
 - C. relating to logical examination to improve understanding

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	infer	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
2	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	C	however (<i>as in: However much she tried...</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
4	A	inquest	Used 5 times in this book.
5	B	diabolical	Used 3 times in this book.
6	B	hypothesis (<i>as in: a study to test her hypothesis</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	C	hypothesis (<i>as in: assume as a working hypothesis</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
8	A	regent	Used 8 times in this book.
9	C	establish (<i>as in: establish that there is a need</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	B	establish (<i>as in: establish a positive tone</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
11	C	inquiry	High-utility academic word; used 13 times in this book.
12	B	direct (<i>as in: direct a question; or direct a film</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
13	A	direct (<i>as in: gave a direct answer</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
14	B	melancholy	Used 10 times in this book.
15	A	presumptuous (<i>as in: she is presumptuous</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
16	B	presume (<i>as in: presumption of innocence</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	credulous	Used 2 times in this book.
18	C	motive (<i>as in: What is her motive?</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
19	A	narrative (<i>as in: Narrative of the Life of...</i>)	Used 9 times in this book.
20	B	cunning (<i>as in: a cunning thief</i>)	Used 8 times in this book.