

The Iceman Cometh

by Eugene O'Neill

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	
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: anarchist, apathy, assent, bourgeois, contempt, dejected, denounce, deride, fastidious, furtive, insistent, oblivious, paralysis, preoccupied, proletariat, reproach, scorn, sullen, taunt, vindictive



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	A
3	C
4	A
5	B
6	A
7	A
8	C
9	C
10	A
11	B
12	A
13	C
14	C
15	B
16	B
17	A
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 didn't call herself an **anarchist**, but she refused to follow rules she saw as unfair.
 - A. someone with anxiety
 - B. someone against authority
 - C. someone who gives advice
2. Until she learned to motivate herself, **apathy** led to bad grades.
 - A. lack of interest
 - B. lack of ability
 - C. distraction
3. The singer **assented** to the request for an encore.
 - A. declined or refused
 - B. dislike or resented
 - C. consented or agreed
4. She told the police officer that she was trying to awaken the sensibilities of her **bourgeois** neighbors.
 - A. conventional
 - B. irresponsible
 - C. foolish
5. He was impolite. She pretended not to notice except that she treated him with **contempt**.
 - A. great annoyance
 - B. lack of respect
 - C. impatience
6. After the argument, she sat alone at the table, slumped and **dejected**.
 - A. sad or disappointed
 - B. tired or hungry
 - C. confused or uncertain
7. She bravely stepped forward to **denounce** the corruption within her company.
 - A. openly condemn
 - B. warmly praise
 - C. quietly ignore
8. She **derided** him as *hormone-ravaged*.
 - A. whispered about
 - B. sympathized with
 - C. made fun of
9. She was **fastidious** about keeping her desk perfectly organized.
 - A. careless and disorganized
 - B. loud and outgoing
 - C. extremely attentive to detail
10. Later she said she was just trying to figure out whose phone it was, but she looked around **furtively** before she began reading my text messages.
 - A. nervously
 - B. eagerly
 - C. with curiosity
11. She made an **insistent** request for more time on the project.
 - A. shy and hesitant
 - B. firmly demanding
 - C. unclear and brief

12. She's a happy girl--**oblivious** to most of the unhappiness around her.
- A. unaware of
 - B. concerned with
 - C. adding to
13. She is **paralyzed** from the waist down.
- A. feeling a painful tingling
 - B. having muscle spasms
 - C. unable to move the body
14. Her mind was **preoccupied** with thoughts of the upcoming exam, making it hard for her to focus on the movie.
- A. unconcerned
 - B. bored
 - C. distracted
15. In Marxist theory, the **proletariat** sells its labor for wages.
- A. wealthy landowners
 - B. wage-earning workers
 - C. elected officials
16. Don't **reproach** yourself for things beyond your control.
- A. congratulate
 - B. criticize
 - C. accept honor for
17. That coach **scorns** students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains
18. A **sullen** crowd watched the execution.
- A. excited
 - B. unhappy
 - C. celebrating
19. They **taunted** her until she responded physically, and then they beat her up.
- A. followed
 - B. insulted
 - C. surrounded
20. She's not a **vindictive** person.
- A. easy-going
 - B. revengeful
 - C. driven

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 He is dressed in threadbare black clothes and his white shirt is frayed at collar and cuffs, but everything about him is **fastidiously** clean.
 - A. in a manner that surpasses others in status, ability, or possession of a notable characteristic
 - B. in a manner like a "rogue" (someone who doesn't behave like others; often dangerous or immoral)
 - C. showing an excessive concern for cleanliness
- 2 There is a foreign atmosphere about him, the stamp of an alien radical, a strong resemblance to the type **Anarchist** as portrayed, bomb in hand, in newspaper cartoons.
 - A. involvement in or the suggestion that someone was involved
 - B. someone who favors eliminating all government or authority
 - C. of Norway, Sweden, Denmark and sometimes Finland & Iceland
- 3 She wrote to **denounce** me and...
 - A. strongly criticize
 - B. to corrupt or seduce from virtue, duty, or allegiance OR excessive drinking, casual sex, and/or drug abuse while partying
 - C. remove or suppress anything considered obscene, immoral, or politically unacceptable OR a person who does such suppression
- 4 HOPE—(**preoccupied** with his own thoughts) Eh?
 - A. mirrored back (an image)
 - B. quoted (to make a point)
 - C. took up the attention of
- 5 They all laughingly **assent**.
 - A. to release from slavery or servitude; or (metaphorically) from social restraints
 - B. removing the favoring any side in a contest, war, disagreement, or other dispute
 - C. to express agreement -- especially with a statement or proposal to do something
- 6 Pearl and Margie exchange a **derisive** look.
 - A. tendency to be direct in a disagreeable, insensitive manner
 - B. the quality of believing oneself morally superior to others
 - C. mocking and disrespectful
- 7 PEARL—(**her face hard—scornfully**) Nuttin'.
 - A. in a disrespectful or rejecting manner
 - B. in a manner that is not easily noticed
 - C. with grace of movement and flexibility
- 8 A bitter mocking **contempt** creeps into his tone.
 - A. frustration at being treated unfairly
 - B. disrespect
 - C. prejudice or unfair treatment
- 9 Soon, leedle **proletarians**, ve vill have free picnic in the cool shade, ve vill eat hot dogs and trink free beer beneath the villow trees!
 - A. basketball position noted for a versatile player who can play inside and outside
 - B. a social class consisting of those who must work for wages to support themselves
 - C. the branch of physics concerned with the conversion of different forms of energy
- 10 It isn't the kind that lets itself off easy by encouraging some poor guy to go on kidding himself with a lie—the kind that leaves the poor slob worse off because it makes him feel guiltier than ever—the kind that makes his lying hopes nag at him and **reproach** him until he's a rotten skunk in his own eyes.
 - 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 slinks in **furtively**, as if he were escaping from someone.
 - A. while taking pains to avoid being observed
 - B. in a manner that provokes, excites, or stimulates -- especially controversy, sexual desire, or anger
 - C. in a straightforward manner (uncomplicated or simple -- perhaps also indicating openness and honesty)

- 12 *I remember her putting on her high-and-mighty free-woman stuff, saying you were still a slave to bourgeois morality and jealousy and you thought a woman you loved was a piece of private property you owned.*
A. typical of the middle class values
B. the act of protecting something or keeping it as it is
C. speaks with someone about something for the first time
- 13 LARRY--(stung--furiously) *Look out how you try to taunt me back into life, I warn you!*
A. treat in a manner that demonstrates a sense of superiority, but is supposed to seem kind OR the actions of a patron (to support someone or something; or to be a customer)
B. anger
C. American football: a defensive maneuver to swiftly tackle the quarterback by pursuing him with one or more defenders who normally remain behind the line of scrimmage
- 14 *They advance, their heads together, so interested in a discussion they are oblivious to everyone.*
A. unaware of
B. related to
C. very large
- 15 McGLOIN--(dejectedly) *Yes, once Bessie's relations get their hooks in him, it'll be as tough for us as if she wasn't gone.*
A. with low spirits (sadness, disappointment, hopelessness)
B. in a manner that gradually destroys an established order
C. in a careless manner -- especially with regard to a duty
- 16 *(While he is speaking the faces of the gang have lighted up vindictively, as if all at once they saw a chance to revenge themselves.)*
A. without concern for what others might think of oneself
B. with revenge or malice (desire to harm)
C. expressed in a manner that shows approval or agreement
- 17 *His manner is sullen, his face set in gloom.*
A. exactness or accuracy
B. unhappy and withdrawn
C. not easily identified
- 18 *But Lewis, his hand about to push the swinging doors open, hesitates, as though struck by a sudden paralysis of the will,*
A. theft; or the things stolen -- especially things of little value that are taken on a regular basis
B. an economic system that abolishes private ownership of property with the goal of a classless society
C. loss of the ability to move
- 19 *Rocky pushes the bottle toward him apathetically.*
A. with a lack of enthusiasm
B. in a good or beneficial manner
C. in a manner that is misleading
- 20 HUGO--(with uneasy insistence) *What's matter, Larry?*
A. promised to marry
B. demand or persist
C. restarts (a fire)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	fastidious	Used 4 times in this play.
2	B	anarchist	Used 9 times in this play.
3	A	denounce	Used 6 times in this play.
4	C	preoccupied	Used 6 times in this play.
5	C	assent	Used 8 times in this play.
6	C	deride	Used 9 times in this play.
7	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this play.
8	B	contempt (<i>as in: feels contempt towards her</i>)	Used 7 times in this play.
9	B	proletariat	Used 5 times in this play.
10	B	reproach	Used 6 times in this play.
11	A	furtive	Used 4 times in this play.
12	A	bourgeois	Used 9 times in this play.
13	B	taunt	Used 11 times in this play.
14	A	oblivious	Used 9 times in this play.
15	A	dejected	Used 5 times in this play.
16	B	vindictive	Used 9 times in this play.
17	B	sullen (<i>as in: a sullen mood</i>)	Used 10 times in this play.
18	C	paralysis	Used 13 times in this play.
19	A	apathy	Used 3 times in this play.
20	B	insistent	Used 8 times in this play.