

# The Mayor of Casterbridge

by Thomas Hardy

## Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

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### Contents & Printing Notes

Unlike our most popular resources, this one's auto-selected.  
Review before use, or edit the DOCX from 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.

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#### 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:** antagonist, consequence (2), countenance (2), discern, divine, effigy, forthwith, inquiry, magistrate, moreover, perceive (2), precede, scorn, signify, sundry, trifle, trifle with



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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

### The Mayor of Casterbridge

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

**Vocabulary Preview**  
**The Mayor of Casterbridge**  
by Thomas Hardy

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. In the book, *Harry Potter*, Voldemort is Harry's **antagonist**.
  - A. partner
  - B. friend
  - C. enemy
2. He was **burned in effigy** by the mob.
  - A. burned with tar and feathered
  - B. burned in a bath of hot water
  - C. a likeness that represented him was burned
3. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
  - A. result
  - B. unimportant part
  - C. important part
4. It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
  - A. unethical
  - B. important
  - C. harmful
5. Her **countenance** grew stern.
  - A. facial expression
  - B. a method of counting
  - C. voice
6. They **countenance** terrorism.
  - A. provide funds for
  - B. show favor for
  - C. discourage
7. In the novel, she sees through his friendly facade and **discerns** his evil intent.
  - A. understands
  - B. overcomes
  - C. avoids
8. She wouldn't talk about it, but I was able to **divine** that the project isn't going well.
  - A. figure out
  - B. state
  - C. share
9. The resolution calls upon the country to "cease hostilities **forthwith**."
  - A. immediately
  - B. carefully
  - C. publicly
10. The official **inquiry** has ended, but the press continues to ask questions.
  - A. story
  - B. statement
  - C. investigation
11. The **magistrate** set bail at \$10,000.
  - A. attorney
  - B. queen or king
  - C. judge
12. Many graduates have high college debt. **Moreover**, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
  - A. in contrast to that
  - B. in addition to that
  - C. as a result of that

13. Researchers **perceive** a clear pattern in how the disease spreads through families.
- A. carefully measure
  - B. view or understand
  - C. actively prevent
14. It's one thing to **perceive** something with the senses and another to understand its importance.
- A. become aware of
  - B. physically touch
  - C. clearly see
15. In English, most adjectives **precede** the noun they modify.
- A. follow
  - B. describe
  - C. go before
16. That coach **scorns** students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
  - B. encourages
  - C. trains
17. Her silence seemed to **signify** that she disagreed.
- A. indicate
  - B. delay
  - C. repeat
18. Power in the city is divided amongst the mayor, city council, and **sundry** city commissions.
- A. skillful
  - B. various
  - C. elected
19. Don't waste my time with **trifling** matters.
- A. other's
  - B. future
  - C. unimportant
20. The European Parliament refuses to be **trifled** with.
- A. treated without respect
  - B. argued with
  - C. negotiated with

# 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 But as they approached the village **sundry** distant shouts and rattles reached their ears from some elevated spot in that direction, as yet screened from view by foliage.
  - A. certain
  - B. various
  - C. outside
- 2 However, he gave way to her representations, and they entered the furmity booth **forthwith**.
  - A. immediately
  - B. a last name
  - C. well suited
- 3 He knew that she must have been somewhat excited to do this; **moreover**, she must have believed that there was some sort of binding force in the transaction.
  - A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
  - B. in addition to what has just been said
  - C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas
- 4 He went round to the door, and the housewife agreed to prepare him some breakfast for a **trifling** payment, which was done.
  - A. moving out of an interacting position; or stopping
  - B. canceling or annulling a formal ruling or contract
  - C. something of small importance; or a small quantity
- 5 You see what's to be done, and you hear what I say, and you know I'm not going to be **trifled with** any longer.
  - A. treated thoughtlessly or without respect
  - B. injury to muscles or tendons of the knee
  - C. limit light vibrations to a single plane
- 6 He **scorns** all tempting liquors; never touches nothing.
  - A. disrespects or rejects as not valuable enough
  - B. writes or exchanges written letters or emails
  - C. cancels or annuls a formal ruling or contract
- 7 Henchard **preceded** her through the door in the wall to the suddenly changed scene of the garden and flowers, and onward into the house.
  - A. wrongly understood
  - B. influenced opinion
  - C. went or was before
- 8 ...she said, glad that he had **divined** this without her being obliged to express it.
  - A. discovered (figured out)
  - B. translated
  - C. subtracted
- 9 In a few moments he could **discern** a female figure creeping in by the great north gap, or public gateway.
  - A. see something that is not obvious
  - B. made by taking on as one's own
  - C. a sensible view of a situation
- 10 ...there was room for wonder why she had **countenanced** deception at all,
  - A. left a place, job or position previously occupied
  - B. approved
  - C. exercised privileges to which one is not entitled
- 11 Lucetta's **countenance** lost its sparkle.
  - A. face
  - B. the best or most important
  - C. a secret agreement or plot

- 12 *There was a man dropped down dead yesterday, not so very many miles from here; and what wi' that, and this moist weather, 'tis scarce worth one's while to begin any work o' consequence to-day.*
- A. translates
  - B. importance
  - C. sticks out
- 13 *To satisfy his conscience somewhat Henchard repeated to himself that the lie which had retained for him the coveted treasure had not been deliberately told to that end, but had come from him as the last defiant word of a despair which took no thought of consequences.*
- A. results
  - B. battles
  - C. desires
- 14 *He planted on Donald an antagonistic glare that had begun as a smile.*
- A. without boundaries or limits
  - B. not good at making decisions
  - C. with opposition or hostility
- 15 *His usual habit was not to consider whether destiny were hard upon him or not—the shape of his ideals in cases of affliction being simply a moody "I am to suffer, I perceive."*
- A. not feeling or showing sympathy for another's suffering
  - B. view in a certain way so as to form a belief or opinion
  - C. suntanned; or reddish-brown or yellowish-brown in color
- 16 *When Elizabeth's head rose through the trap she perceived that the upper door was open,*
- A. saw (become aware of)
  - B. said indirectly
  - C. greatly annoyed
- 17 *He neither moved nor spoke, and waving her hand to him in utmost friendliness she signified to the flyman to drive up the street.*
- A. to indicate (to show or to mean)
  - B. lacking things most people enjoy
  - C. of the Netherlands or its people
- 18 *At the interview, when she offered him tea, he made it a point to launch a cautious inquiry if she knew Mr. Farfrae.*
- A. small quantity or indication
  - B. reason (for doing something)
  - C. question
- 19 *The magistrates consulted, and the second one said that the bench was of opinion that twelve feet nine inches from a man on his oath was admissible.*
- A. acts of interacting or getting interested again
  - B. general feelings of not being as good as others
  - C. judges or civil authorities who conduct a court
- 20 *A procession—a scandal—an effigy of me, and him!*
- A. measure of general intelligence
  - B. a firm decision to do something
  - C. a model or other representation

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

### The Mayor of Casterbridge

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	sundry	Used 5 times in this book.
2	A	forthwith	Used 5 times in this book.
3	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 11 times in this book.
4	C	trifle ( <i>as in: a trifling matter</i> )	Used 11 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
5	A	trifle with ( <i>as in: trifle with her affections</i> )	2 meanings in this book.
6	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
7	C	precede	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
8	A	divine ( <i>as in: divined through intuition</i> )	Used 6 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	discern	Used 13 times in this book.
10	B	countenance ( <i>as in: giving countenance</i> )	2 meanings in this book.
11	A	countenance ( <i>as in: a pleasant countenance</i> )	Used 16 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
12	B	consequence ( <i>as in: of little consequence</i> )	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
13	A	consequence ( <i>as in: a direct consequence of</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
14	C	antagonist ( <i>as in: the antagonist in the film</i> )	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
15	B	perceive ( <i>as in: perceive the system as unfair</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
16	A	perceive ( <i>as in: though blind, can perceive light</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
17	A	signify	Used 8 times in this book.
18	C	inquiry	High-utility academic word; used 23 times in this book.
19	C	magistrate	Used 15 times in this book.
20	C	effigy ( <i>as in: burned in effigy</i> )	Used 5 times in this book.