

The Merry Wives of Windsor

by William Shakespeare

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: acquaint, adieu, beguile, beseech, bestow, chaste, deceive, devise, dismay, disparage, ensconced, forbearance, grievous, heed, melancholy, mirth, notwithstanding, prosper, reprove, trifle



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	C
2	A
3	B
4	A
5	C
6	A
7	C
8	B
9	C
10	A
11	C
12	A
13	A
14	C
15	B
16	B
17	A
18	C
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. One of the objectives in my literature class is to **acquaint** my students with different cultures.
 - A. make surprised
 - B. make a list for
 - C. make familiar
2. We waved **adieu** to our friends at the train station.
 - A. goodbye
 - B. hello
 - C. greetings
3. She was **wined, dined, and beguiled** into signing the contract.
 - A. forced
 - B. tricked
 - C. encouraged
4. She closed the prayer by **beseeking** God to grant them wisdom and patience.
 - A. asking
 - B. demanding
 - C. instructing
5. Our organization **bestows** honors, awards, and sometimes cash prizes to promising writers.
 - A. shows
 - B. recommends
 - C. gives
6. Jacob remained **chaste** until he met his future spouse.
 - A. a virgin
 - B. disillusioned
 - C. unfaithful to anyone
7. The fake article was written to attract attention and **deceive** readers.
 - A. entertain
 - B. attract
 - C. lie to or mislead
8. This may be our last chance to **devise** a compromise that will save the peace.
 - A. consider
 - B. create
 - C. save
9. Hope was replaced by **dismay**.
 - A. satisfaction
 - B. faith
 - C. sorrow
10. The victors write the history and **disparage** their enemies.
 - A. criticize
 - B. defeat
 - C. erase from history
11. I found her **ensconced** in her new offices at the United Nations.
 - A. hiding
 - B. working hard
 - C. settled comfortably
12. I appreciate your **forbearance**.
 - A. patience or tolerance
 - B. financial loan
 - C. family concerns

13. It is a **grievous** offense against morality.
A. serious
B. minor
C. foolish
14. She didn't **heed** the storm warnings and got caught in the heavy rain.
A. pass through
B. tell others of
C. pay attention to
15. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
A. happy
B. sad
C. feel like singing
16. It was an evening of many stories and great **mirth**.
A. warm friendship
B. fun and laughter
C. fond memories
17. The budget was approved, **notwithstanding** the loud protests from the opposition.
A. in spite of
B. as a result of
C. in addition to
18. She is **prospering** in business.
A. struggling
B. starting
C. doing well
19. I don't want to spoil her, but I don't have the heart to **reprove** her.
A. criticize
B. compliment
C. instruct
20. Don't waste my time with **trifling** matters.
A. other's
B. future
C. unimportant

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 If Sir John Falstaff have committed **disparagements** unto you, I am of the church, and will be glad to do my benevolence to make atonements and compromises between you.
 - A. to criticize or make seem less important -- especially in a disrespectful or contemptuous manner
 - B. Christianity: the original 12 disciples (followers) chosen by Jesus Christ to preach his gospel
 - C. people who believe that God created the universe, but that he doesn't interfere with how it runs
- 2 Go; **adieu**.
 - A. goodbye
 - B. hello
 - C. greetings
- 3 **beguile** the rich and poor
 - A. to think of something as true or likely, even though it is not known with certainty
 - B. deceive
 - C. give authority, power, knowledge, or confidence to someone so they can do something
- 4 I **beseech** you, be not so **phlegmatic**.
 - A. to ask strongly or beg for something
 - B. move into position to work; or start
 - C. to spread to other parts of the body
- 5 Troth, sir, all is in His hands above; but **notwithstanding**, Master Fenton, I'll be sworn on a book she loves you.
 - A. used to show that something remains true even though something else seems to go against it
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 6 I was then frugal of my **mirth**:—Heaven forgive me!
 - A. restart (a fire)
 - B. fun and laughter
 - C. started (a fire)
- 7 O woman, if it were not for one **trifling** respect, I could come to such honour!
 - 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
- 8 Well, I will find you twenty lascivious turtles ere one **chaste** man.
 - A. not having sexual intercourse (ever, outside of marriage, or for a long time); or not involving sexual desire
 - B. a citizen of Rome between the founding of the city (753 BC) and the fall of the Western Roman Empire (476 AD)
 - C. able to be portrayed or created in a particular way OR able to be interpreted, translated, or extracted from
- 9 Farewell: Take **heed**; have open eye, for thieves do foot by night; Take heed, ere summer comes, or cuckoo birds do sing.
 - A. a non-doctor who assisted a women in childbirth
 - B. adjusted excessively or made up for excessively
 - C. pay close attention to; or do what is suggested
- 10 why art thou **melancholy**?
 - A. relating to the outside
 - B. sad
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 11 If I find her honest, I lose not my labour; if she be otherwise, 'tis labour well bestowed.
 - A. drew
 - B. quit
 - C. gave

- 12 *Sir John, there's one Master Brook below would fain speak with you and be acquainted with you:*
 A. not having taken power or responsibility
 B. compensated for a loss; or paid a reward
 C. get to know (get familiar with)
- 13 *good Sir John, as you have one eye upon my follies, as you hear them unfolded, turn another into the register of your own, that I may pass with a reproof the easier,*
 A. criticism
 B. main road
 C. hard work
- 14 *Forbear; here's company.*
 A. stop (refrain or hold back) from acting
 B. the ability to take on or adopt
 C. where attention is concentrated
- 15 *[Sings] To shallow rivers, to whose falls— Heaven prosper the right*
 A. restore
 B. examine
 C. do well
- 16 *Boys of art, I have deceived you both; I have directed you to wrong places; your hearts are mighty, your skins are whole, and let burnt sack be the issue.*
 A. told (a story)
 B. began fighting
 C. lied or misled
- 17 *She shall not see me; I will ensconce me behind the arras.*
 A. extremely embarrass (decrease dignity, self-respect, or pride)
 B. stimulates; or reflects brilliant light in a flickering manner
 C. settled comfortably; or hidden or safely settled in a location
- 18 *No, she shall not dismay me.*
 A. make someone want to do something
 B. walk in an awkward, shuffling way
 C. sadness, disappointment, or worry
- 19 *Good hearts, devise something: any extremity rather than a mischief.*
 A. stop (something from happening)
 B. come up with (invent or create)
 C. think deeply or carefully about
- 20 *I will tell you: he beat me grievously in the shape of a woman; for in the shape of man, Master Brook, I fear not Goliath with a weaver's beam, because I know also life is a shuttle.*
 A. very serious; or very bad; or causing grief
 B. in a manner that stops or hinders something
 C. in a manner involving only one part or side

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	disparage	High-utility academic word
2	A	adieu	Used 8 times in this play.
3	B	beguile	Used 3 times in this play.
4	A	beseech	Used 4 times in this play.
5	A	notwithstanding	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this play.
6	B	mirth	Used 3 times in this play.
7	C	trifle (<i>as in: a trifling matter</i>)	Used 3 times in this play.
8	A	chaste (<i>as in: remained chaste</i>)	Used 3 times in this play.
9	C	heed	Used 2 times in this play.
10	B	melancholy	Used 5 times in this play.
11	C	bestow	Used 4 times in this play.
12	C	acquaint	Used 6 times in this play.
13	A	reprove	Used 2 times in this play.
14	A	forbearance	Used 2 times in this play.
15	C	prosper	Used 3 times in this play.
16	C	deceive	Used 6 times in this play.
17	C	ensconced	Used 2 times in this play.
18	C	dismay	Used 2 times in this play.
19	B	devise (<i>as in: devise a plan</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this play.
20	A	grievous	Used 2 times in this play.