

The Murders in the Rue Morgue

by Edgar Allan Poe

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: abstract, agitate, analytical, attain, coherent, contend, convey, corroborate, however (2), imply, infer, ingenuity, minute, motive, petulant, proficiency, profound (2), testimony



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	A
4	C
5	C
6	A
7	A
8	B
9	A
10	C
11	A
12	B
13	A
14	C
15	C
16	B
17	C
18	B
19	A
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 struggles with **abstract** reasoning.
 - A. pressured
 - B. theoretical
 - C. concrete
2. She gets **agitated** whenever the topic comes up.
 - A. calm and thoughtful
 - B. gloomy (sad)
 - C. emotionally disturbed
3. We have a numbers-tested, **analytical** approach to advertising.
 - A. logical and systematic
 - B. creative and artistic
 - C. loud and aggressive
4. They hope to **attain** effective law and order in the region before withdrawing troops.
 - A. openly oppose
 - B. carefully describe
 - C. successfully gain
5. Her argument is **coherent**.
 - A. unreasonable
 - B. fragmented
 - C. sensible and clear
6. Politicians have to **contend** with false attacks.
 - A. struggle
 - B. campaign
 - C. raise money
7. Please **convey** my gratitude for her hospitality.
 - A. express
 - B. accept
 - C. understand
8. A blood test **corroborated** the doctor's suspicion of diabetes.
 - A. disproved
 - B. supported
 - C. checked
9. 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
10. However safe we make it, there will always be risk.
 - A. on-the-other-hand
 - B. in addition
 - C. no matter how
11. She **implied** that she would vote with us.
 - A. hinted
 - B. insisted
 - C. denied

12. The meaning of the word can be inferred based on context clues.
- A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted
13. It's going to take a lot of **ingenuity**, but I think we can save the company.
- A. creativity
 - B. money
 - C. time
14. She thrives at sifting through that kind of **minute** detail.
- A. quickly eliminated
 - B. available from prior research
 - C. including even small considerations
15. A desire for religious freedom was their **motive** for leaving England.
- A. excuse
 - B. technique
 - C. reason
16. The **petulant** child threw his toys whenever he didn't get his way.
- A. cheerful
 - B. cranky
 - C. hungry
17. After months of practice, she gained enough **proficiency** in Spanish to hold a simple conversation.
- A. interest
 - B. permission
 - C. skill
18. She is a **profound** thinker.
- A. shallow
 - B. deep
 - C. quick
19. It was a **profound** spiritual experience that changed her life.
- A. intense
 - B. common
 - C. traditional
20. Before your **testimony**, they will have you solemnly swear to tell *the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth*.
- A. job interview
 - B. statements at a trial
 - C. confession

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 The mental features discoursed of as the **analytical**, are, in themselves, but little susceptible of analysis.
 - A. relating to logical examination to improve understanding
 - B. the state or degree of being pessimistic or disagreeable
 - C. related to the natural world (life, air, water, land...)
- 2 ...what is only complex is mistaken (a not unusual error) for what is **profound**.
 - A. foolish or showing ignorance of important circumstances
 - B. deep or far-reaching in intellect or insight
 - C. quick or efficient
- 3 ...my astonishment was **profound**.
 - A. of greatest intensity or emotional depth
 - B. without a tendency to be full of thought
 - C. lacking a tendency to be full of thought
- 4 To be less **abstract**—Let us suppose...
 - A. the characteristic of being excessively unhappy and unsociable
 - B. conceptual (dealing in concepts or ideas that are not associated with any specific instance)
 - C. having been granted the right to keep a job as long as desired
- 5 The best chess-player in Christendom may be little more than the best player of chess; but proficiency in whist **implies** capacity for success in all those more important undertakings where mind struggles with mind.
 - A. suggests (says indirectly)
 - B. is attractive or desirable
 - C. struggles or disagreements
- 6 When I say **proficiency**, I mean that perfection in the game which includes a comprehension of all the sources whence legitimate advantage may be derived.
 - A. snake
 - B. story
 - C. skill
- 7 He makes, in silence, a host of observations and **inferences**.
 - 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
- 8 The analytical power should not be confounded with ample **ingenuity**; for while the analyst is necessarily ingenious, the ingenious man is often remarkably incapable of analysis.
 - A. ability to solve problems in smart creative ways
 - B. the act, process, or instance of telling a story
 - C. a general feeling of not being as good as others
- 9 But of the character of his remarks at the periods in question an example will best **convey** the idea.
 - A. communicate or express
 - B. create dramatic change
 - C. mirror back (an image)
- 10 There are few persons who have not, at some period of their lives, amused themselves in retracing the steps by which particular conclusions of their own minds have been **attained**.
 - A. examined in detail to better understand
 - B. tension from opposing ideas or feelings
 - C. gained or reached something with effort
- 11 glancing, with a **petulant** expression
 - A. the degree to which something is able to change or is different
 - B. unreasonably annoyed or upset
 - C. not trustworthy, or improper, or attracting unwelcome attention

- 12 Upon reaching the first landing, heard two voices in loud and angry **contention**--the one a gruff voice, the other much shriller--a very strange voice.
- argument
 - translates
 - bends down
- 13 Is nervous, and was apprehensive of the consequences of **agitation**.
- officially telling someone about something; or something that contains the message
 - formula (a mathematical expression that describe a relationship between variables)
 - the act of stirring up (emotionally or physically); or a state of emotional unrest
- 14 The police are confounded by the seeming absence of **motive**--not for the murder itself--but for the atrocity of the murder.
- small quantity or indication
 - the sacred writings of Islam
 - reason (for doing something)
- 15 Let me now advert ... to what was peculiar in that **testimony**.
- an atom that has acquired an electrical charge by the loss or gain of an electron
 - a statement at a trial or hearing
 - an organ attached to the wall of the uterus to nourish the fetus during pregnancy
- 16 Getting upon the sacking of the bedstead, I looked over the head-board **minutely** at the second casement.
- in a manner that does not change
 - in a manner that deserves praise
 - carefully
- 17 It would have been **corroborative** of this idea of motive.
- inconspicuousness or trustworthiness
 - supporting
 - lacking a reason for doing something
- 18 **incoherent** in its words
- related to the change of a light wave (or other wave) when it passes an opaque edge or narrow opening
 - related to a scale where each step is a multiple of the prior step rather than a fixed addition to it
 - not logically consistent
- 19 He had been accustomed, **however**, to quiet the creature, even in its fiercest moods, by the use of a whip, and to this he now resorted.
- a word used to connect contrasting ideas as when using *though, in spite of that, in contrast, nevertheless*, etc.
 - in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - therefore (for that reason)
- 20 This **functionary**, **however** well disposed to my friend, could not altogether conceal his chagrin at the turn which affairs had taken, and was fain to indulge in a sarcasm or two, about the propriety of every person minding his own business.
- people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning
 - aka analysis -- psychiatric treatment; or a theory of psychiatric treatment
 - regardless of how

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	analytical	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
2	B	profound (<i>as in: profound idea</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
3	A	profound (<i>as in: profound sadness</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
4	B	abstract (<i>as in: abstract thought</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
5	A	imply	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
6	C	proficiency	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
7	B	infer	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
8	A	ingenuity	Used 4 times in this book.
9	A	convey (<i>as in: convey her thoughts</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
10	C	attain	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
11	B	petulant	Used 2 times in this book.
12	A	contend (<i>as in: She contended with it</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
13	C	agitate	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
14	C	motive (<i>as in: What is her motive?</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
15	B	testimony	Used 10 times in this book.
16	C	minute (<i>as in: minute description</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	corroborate	Used 6 times in this book.
18	C	coherent	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
19	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
20	C	however (<i>as in: However much she tried...</i>)	3 meanings in this book.