

The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

by Frederick Douglass

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 from the Resources menu.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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: abolition, bind (2), bound (2), consequence (2), deceive, deemed, disposition, emancipated, inconsistent, infer, infernal, pious (2), resolve (2), sustain (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The long fight for **abolition** finally achieved its goal in the 19th century.
 - A. outlawing alcohol
 - B. ending slavery
 - C. regulating child labor
2. The treaty was meant to **bind** the two nations in peace forever.
 - A. join together
 - B. drive apart
 - C. wear down
3. We agreed to **binding** arbitration.
 - A. strenuous or difficult
 - B. constraining (must be obeyed)
 - C. intricate (complex)
4. The car broke down in an **east-bound** lane of the highway 10.
 - A. tied up (with much traffic)
 - B. coming from that direction
 - C. traveling (in that direction)
5. The suspect sat in the cell with her wrists **bound** by rope.
 - A. decorated
 - B. tied together
 - C. pulled upward
6. Her job prospects are hindered as a **consequence** of the conviction.
 - A. result
 - B. unimportant part
 - C. important part
7. It is the most **consequential** tax legislation in decades.
 - A. unethical
 - B. important
 - C. harmful
8. The fake article was written to attract attention and **deceive** readers.
 - A. entertain
 - B. attract
 - C. lie to or mislead
9. The chemical was deemed unsafe to use in children's products.
 - A. judged
 - B. manufactured
 - C. tested
10. We'll see if her cheerful **disposition** continues when she's tired and under stress.
 - A. team
 - B. generosity
 - C. personality
11. The new law **emancipated** thousands of laborers from forced servitude.
 - A. punished harshly
 - B. trained as servants
 - C. freed from bondage
12. His grades were **inconsistent**, ranging from A's to F's each term.
 - A. perfect
 - B. private
 - C. uneven

13. That **infernal** alarm clock kept going off every five minutes.
- A. annoying
 - B. expensive
 - C. antique
14. The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
- A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted
15. Benjamin Franklin's parents were **pious** Puritans.
- A. non-traditional
 - B. traditional
 - C. highly religious
16. I am tired of listening to the **pious** words of someone who is so cruel.
- A. evil
 - B. dishonest
 - C. self-righteous
17. I **resolved** to never drink again.
- A. was forced
 - B. was encouraged
 - C. firmly decided
18. She is testing my **resolve** to keep a good attitude.
- A. determination
 - B. ability
 - C. optimism
19. The donation will **sustain** our efforts to help the homeless.
- A. disrupt
 - B. finalize
 - C. support
20. She **sustained** a wound in the left arm, but she is expected to recover quickly.
- A. suffered
 - B. caused
 - C. supported

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 whisper that my master was my father, may or may not be true; and, true or false, it is of but little **consequence** to my purpose whilst the fact remains, in all its glaring odiousness, that slaveholders have ordained, and by law established, that the children of slave women shall in all cases follow the condition of their mothers;*
 - A. translates
 - B. importance or significance
 - C. sticks out
 - 2 *The very decided manner with which he spoke, and strove to impress his wife with the evil **consequences** of giving me instruction, served to convince me that he was deeply sensible of the truths he was uttering.*
 - A. results
 - B. memories
 - C. beliefs
 - 3 *She now stood fair for his **infernal** purpose.*
 - A. characteristic of hell
 - B. relating to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
 - C. strict, firm, or hard (not giving in, not giving way, or not giving up)
 - 4 *He did nothing reluctantly, no matter how disagreeable; always at his post, never **inconsistent**.*
 - A. the character or degree of bouncing back light (or more rarely: heat, sound, electromagnetic waves...)
 - B. igneous or sedimentary rock that changes due to pressure, heat, or chemical reactions (such as marble)
 - C. not the same in different parts or at different times
- or:
- not in agreement [with something else]
- 5 *When I went there, she was a **pious**, warm, and tender-hearted woman.*
 - A. highly intelligent
 - B. highly emotional
 - C. highly moral
 - 6 *It is said to have been drawn, several years before the present anti-slavery agitation began, by a northern Methodist preacher, who, while residing at the south, had an opportunity to see slaveholding morals, manners, and **piety**, with his own eyes.*
 - A. foolish belief (believing something is true when it is not)
 - B. inhumanity (cruelty or not hesitating to hurt others)
 - C. self-righteous belief (believing one is highly moral when it is not true)
 - 7 *In the same book, I met with one of Sheridan's mighty speeches on and in behalf of Catholic **emancipation**.*
 - A. "spiritually renew" in a Christian ceremony OR initiate or purify by a challenging experience
 - B. a sexually transmitted disease that, if treated early, can be completely cured with antibiotics
 - C. the act of being released from slavery or servitude; or (metaphorically) from social restraints
 - 8 *The reading of these documents enabled me to utter my thoughts, and to meet the arguments brought forward to **sustain** slavery;*
 - A. eliminate
 - B. end
 - C. support
 - 9 *The **appalling** defeat I then **sustained** returned to torment me.*
 - A. suffered
 - B. restored
 - C. followed
 - 10 *I **deemed** this knowledge of the utmost importance.*
 - A. believed
 - B. made
 - C. hid

- 11 He **resolved** to put me out, as he said, to be broken; and, for this purpose, he let me for one year to a man named Edward Covey.
- A. promised
 - B. hesitated
 - C. decided
- 12 I did not allow myself a single word; but was **resolved**, if he laid the weight of his hand upon me, it should be blow for blow.
- A. determined
 - B. destined (forced by destiny)
 - C. angry
- 13 He would sometimes mount his horse, as if **bound** to St. Michael's, a distance of seven miles, and in half an hour afterwards you would see him coiled up in the corner of the wood-fence, watching every motion of the slaves.
- A. the state or degree of being able to be taken on as one's own
 - B. not trustworthy with secrets, and/or conspicuous or obtrusive
 - C. traveling (to a specific location)
- 14 She took a chair by me, washed the blood from my face, and, with a mother's tenderness, **bound** up my head, covering the wounded eye with a lean piece of fresh beef.
- A. the state or character of being bad or harmful
 - B. wrapped
 - C. an exceedingly small quantity or indication of
- 15 Every thing he possessed in the shape of learning or religion, he made conform to his **disposition** to deceive.
- A. strong ability
 - B. narrative (story)
 - C. inclination or desire
- 16 Every thing he possessed in the shape of learning or religion, he made conform to his disposition to **deceive**.
- A. tell (a story)
 - B. bad or harmful
 - C. lie or mislead
- 17 It is my opinion that thousands would escape from slavery, who now remain, but for the strong cords of affection that **bind** them to their friends.
- A. hold together (connect or unite) or wrap
 - B. the difference between tones of an image
 - C. without sympathy for another's suffering
- 18 They'll loudly talk of Christ's reward,
And **bind** his image with a cord,
- A. whip
 - B. tie up
 - C. copy
- 19 Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson took a deep and lively interest in our welfare. They proved themselves quite worthy of the name of **abolitionists**.
- A. things that disagree with themselves
 - B. reformers who favor abolishing slavery
 - C. Muslim religious teachers or leaders
- 20 Such being my conjectures, any one acquainted with the appearance of New Bedford may very readily **infer** how palpably I must have seen my mistake.
- A. take up or receive into heaven
 - B. conclude or guess by reasoning
 - C. hire, reserve, book, or occupy

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	consequence (<i>as in: of little consequence</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
2	A	consequence (<i>as in: a direct consequence of</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	A	infernal	Used 6 times in this book.
4	C	inconsistent	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
5	C	pious (<i>as in: a good, pious woman</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
6	C	pious (<i>as in: a pious hypocrite</i>)	Used 8 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
7	C	emancipated	Used 6 times in this book.
8	C	sustain (<i>as in: sustained by her faith</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	A	sustain (<i>as in: sustained wounds</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	A	deemed	Used 12 times in this book.
11	C	resolve (<i>as in: I resolved to stop drinking.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
12	A	resolve (<i>as in: Her resolve weakened.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
13	C	bound (<i>as in: south-bound lanes</i>)	High-utility academic word; 3 meanings in this book.
14	B	bound (<i>as in: bound together or bound by law</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
15	C	disposition (<i>as in: a kind disposition</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
16	C	deceive	Used 10 times in this book.
17	A	bind (<i>as in: bind hands, a wound, or a people</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
18	B	bind (<i>as in: a binding contract</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
19	B	abolition	Used 8 times in this book.
20	B	infer	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.