

The Odyssey

by Homer

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: brazen, bronze, exile, guile, heed, illustrious, immortal, impudent, invoke, manor, mentor, perish, plunder, rancor, rouse, vagabond, venerable, wrath, yield (2)



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

The Odyssey

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The **brazen** thief walked right into the store and stole a diamond necklace in broad daylight.
 - A. silent and smart
 - B. disguised
 - C. bold and improper
2. She approached the impressive **bronze** doors.
 - A. made of a high-quality wood
 - B. notably large and appearing heavy
 - C. made of a type of high-quality metal
3. Napoleon was forced into **exile** on the island of Elba.
 - A. apologizing
 - B. living elsewhere
 - C. hard labor
4. She had the **guile** to lie directly to his face.
 - A. necessity
 - B. cunning and deceit
 - C. ambition
5. 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
6. The **illustrious** scientist received another prestigious award for her research.
 - A. famous and admired
 - B. unknown and ordinary
 - C. controversial but rich
7. She believes we have an **immortal** soul.
 - A. conflicted
 - B. perfect in every way
 - C. lasting forever
8. Her **impudent** reply to the manager shocked everyone in the meeting.
 - A. thoughtfully kind
 - B. disrespectfully bold
 - C. extremely quiet
9. In the midst of the storm, the sailors began to **invoke** the ancient sea gods, hoping for their protection and a safe journey home.
 - A. sail towards
 - B. call upon
 - C. ignore completely
10. She inherited the **manor**, but seldom visits it.
 - A. castle
 - B. large house
 - C. palace
11. The famous professor **mentored** her during her years in graduate school.
 - A. graded essays by
 - B. personally advised
 - C. lectured to

12. We can work together or **perish** separately.
- A. work
 - B. die
 - C. fail
13. The pirates **plundered** small towns on that part of the coast.
- A. threatened
 - B. stole from
 - C. burned down
14. Even after years apart, the **rancor** between the brothers had not faded at all.
- A. warm affection
 - B. mild curiosity
 - C. deep bitterness
15. The smell of freshly brewed coffee **roused** her from her sleep.
- A. interrupted
 - B. deepened
 - C. awakened
16. After losing everything, he lived as a **vagabond** for nearly five years.
- A. wealthy landowner
 - B. wandering drifter
 - C. settled farmer
17. Many were surprised that a **venerable** institution like Bear Stearns could so rapidly go out of business.
- A. large and successful
 - B. long respected
 - C. popular
18. She fears the **wrath** of God.
- A. angry punishment
 - B. power
 - C. unpredictable moods
19. The experiment **yielded** data that raised a new set of questions.
- A. produced
 - B. destroyed
 - C. slowed down
20. After the scandal, she **yielded** to public pressure and resigned her position.
- A. added
 - B. gave in
 - C. produced

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 *Flashing down from Olympus' height she went to stand in Ithaka, before the **Manor**, just at the doorsill of the court.*
- A. lymph node -- one of many bean-sized organs that filter bacteria and other toxins from circulating white-blood-cell filled lymph fluid
 - B. a large house of a wealthy person
- or historically:
- the main house of a lord and the land around it that was worked by tenant farmers
- C. when what happens is very different than what might be expected; or when things are together that seem like they don't belong together
- 2 *But he is lost; he came to grief and **perished**, and there's no help for us in someone's hoping he still may come; that sun has long gone down.*
- A. examined in detail to better understand
 - B. died, was destroyed, or ceased to exist
 - C. moved into position to work; or started
- 3 *For now the lords of the islands, Doulikhion and Same, wooded Zakynthos, and rocky Ithaka's young lords as well, are here courting my mother; and they use our house as if it were a house to **plunder**.*
- A. persuade someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
 - B. to steal -- often after conquering the location with the goods
- or:
- the goods stolen
- C. to dominate harshly and unfairly OR to deny equal rights to others or make them suffer
- 4 *Have you heard what glory young Orestes won when he cut down that two-faced man, Aigisthos, for killing his **illustrious** father?*
- A. famous and admired; or worthy of admiration
 - B. the state or degree of being bad or harmful
 - C. able to be taken up or received into heaven
- 5 *There can be no pleasure so fair as giving **heed** to a great minstrel like ours, whose voice itself is pure delight.*
- 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
- 6 *Next to stand was **Mentor**, comrade in arms of the prince Odysseus, an old man now.*
- A. to gradually destroy or change the purpose of something -- such as a government, institution, or rule
 - B. someone who guides and advises another who is less experienced; or the act of providing such guidance
 - C. a beam, bracket, or other structure supported only on one side; or to support something in that manner
- 7 *The sea routes will **yield** their distances to his true son, Penelope's true son, - I doubt another's luck would hold so far.*
- A. give
 - B. stop (something from happening)
 - C. think deeply or carefully about
- 8 *Odysseus moved aside, **yielding** his couch, but from across the room Telemakhos checked him: "Friend, sit down; we'll find another chair in our own hut."*
- A. showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance
 - B. giving up
 - C. placing trust (in someone) by talking about private things

- 9 *Telemakhos went on through to the storeroom of his father, a great vault where gold and bronze lay piled along with chests of clothes, and fragrant oil.*
 A. examine in detail to better understand
 B. appropriate in size, amount, or degree
 C. a metal made mostly of copper
- 10 *I'd be revenged for outrage on my insidious and brazen enemies.*
 A. to concentrate, look at; or the act of concentration
 B. make one's home in; or live in; or stay (in a place)
 C. bold and unrestrained by what others consider proper
- 11 *But in the eighth year, back from exile in Attika, Orestes killed the snake who killed his father.*
 A. (noun) something that is lighter and draws attention -- such as an area of a painting OR (verb) making something lighter -- such as an area of a painting
 B. to force someone to live outside of their homeland; or living in such a condition
 or more rarely: voluntary absence from a place someone would rather be
 C. recommend or require what should be done OR (of a medical doctor) give medical instructions -- such as writing that a patient should take antibiotics
- 12 *To this I said: 'But you, now:-you must tell me how I can trap this venerable sea-god.*
 A. relating to understanding or explaining something in a particular way
 B. respected (worthy of respect) -- typically because of age or position
 C. [of food] able to be prepared in a manner that keeps it from spoiling
- 13 *You gods know everything; now you can tell me: which of the immortals chained me here?*
 A. tiles designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
 B. instances of taking on or adopting of power or responsibility
 C. people who live forever OR people famous throughout history
- 14 *But anguish lies ahead; the god who thunders on the land prepares it, not to be shaken from your track, implacable, in rancor for the son whose eye you blinded.*
 A. measure of general intelligence
 B. a firm decision to do something
 C. deep and bitter anger or hatred
- 15 *Then said that sly and guileful man, Odysseus:*
 A. the degree to which something is able to change or is different
 B. cunning (shrewd, clever) and deceitful
 C. capable of being better understood through detailed examination
- 16 *In life there's nothing worse than knocking about the world, no bitterness we vagabonds are spared when the curst belly rages!*
 A. shows fear by positioning the body as though afraid of being hit
 B. a person who wanders from town to town with no fixed home or job
 C. degrades (decreases) the purity, quality, or status of something
- 17 *They are drunk, drunk on impudence, they might injure my guest-and how could I bear that?*
 A. an artists performance of another artist's work that expresses the performer's feelings or ideas about the work
 B. improperly bold or disrespectful -- especially toward someone who is older or considered to be of higher status
 C. soccer player who typically play in the middle third of the field and who assists with both defense and offense
- 18 *Now his heart foreknew the wrath to come, but he could not take flight, being by Athena bound there.*
 A. extreme anger
 B. determination
 C. use of reason
- 19 *He thundered out of bright Olympos down from above the cloudlands in reply --a rousing peal for Odysseus.*
 A. beyond the permitted boundary or limit
 B. explains something in a particular way
 C. to awaken, make more active, or excite
- 20 *Then Eumaios echoed him, and invoked the gods, and prayed that his great-minded master should return.*
 A. suppressed
 B. called upon
 C. condemned

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	manor	Used 11 times in this book.
2	B	perish	High-utility academic word; used 17 times in this book.
3	B	plunder	Used 18 times in this book.
4	A	illustrious	Used 6 times in this book.
5	C	heed	Used 10 times in this book.
6	B	mentor	High-utility academic word; used 21 times in this book.
7	A	yield (<i>as in: will yield valuable data</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
8	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
9	C	bronze (<i>as in: bronze won't corrode in salt water</i>)	Used 40 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
10	C	brazen	Used 14 times in this book.
11	B	exile	Used 12 times in this book.
12	B	venerable	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	C	immortal	Used 39 times in this book.
14	C	rancor	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
15	B	guile	Used 8 times in this book.
16	B	vagabond	Used 5 times in this book.
17	B	impudent	Used 4 times in this book.
18	A	wrath	Used 11 times in this book.
19	C	rouse	Used 14 times in this book.
20	B	invoke	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.