

# The Odyssey

by Homer

## 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 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.

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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:** azure, bard, bestow, convey, copious, divine (2), filial, forbearance, hospitable, martial, nuptial, pensive, prudent, scarcity, scorn, vengeance, wrath, yield (2)



#### More Vocabulary Printables

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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

### The Odyssey

by Homer

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

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## Vocabulary Preview

### The Odyssey

by Homer

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

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

1. The children painted the ocean an **azure** shade on the classroom mural.
  - A. dark red
  - B. pale yellow
  - C. bright blue
2. He calls himself a **bard** from Brooklyn.
  - A. someone who protects the weak and delivers justice to those who are evil
  - B. someone who composes and shares poems about important events and people
  - C. someone who knows everything about everyone
3. Our organization **bestows** honors, awards, and sometimes cash prizes to promising writers.
  - A. shows
  - B. recommends
  - C. gives
4. Please **convey** my gratitude for her hospitality.
  - A. express
  - B. accept
  - C. understand
5. The chef served **copious** amounts of food at the wedding reception.
  - A. small in amount
  - B. rare and unusual
  - C. large in quantity
6. The King claimed a **divine** right.
  - A. perfect or wonderful
  - B. from birth
  - C. coming from God
7. She claimed she could **divine** a person's future by reading tea leaves at the bottom of a cup.
  - A. predict supernaturally
  - B. imagine vividly
  - C. remember clearly
8. She knew neither **filial** nor romantic love.
  - A. parent/child
  - B. friend/friend
  - C. owner/pet
9. I appreciate your **forbearance**.
  - A. patience or tolerance
  - B. financial loan
  - C. family concerns
10. The hotel staff was so **hospitable** that many guests returned year after year.
  - A. disbelief
  - B. important
  - C. friendly and welcoming
11. The army practiced **martial** drills before the inspection.
  - A. related to war
  - B. related to music
  - C. related to farming
12. After months of planning, the day of their **nuptials** finally arrived.
  - A. wedding
  - B. vacation
  - C. move

13. She paced back and forth in the hospital waiting room--looking **pensive**.  
A. thoughtfully quiet  
B. loudly cheerful  
C. wildly excited
14. Courage is dangerous without **prudence**.  
A. good sense  
B. good purpose  
C. good support
15. Work is **scarce** in the region.  
A. easily found  
B. extremely hard  
C. in short supply
16. That coach **scorns** students who don't have natural ability.  
A. disrespects  
B. encourages  
C. trains
17. Her evolutionary benefit theory of **vengeance** is supported by studies showing that a person's desire for revenge increases when others see their mistreatment.  
A. fairness  
B. status  
C. revenge
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

### The Odyssey

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

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

- 1 (Replied the Thunderer to the **martial** maid;) Deem not unjustly by my doom oppress'd, Of human race the wisest and the best
  - A. relating to war, the military, or fighting
  - B. mental activity of which one is self-aware
  - C. without involvement of anything in between
- 2 There, warm with **filial** love, the cause inquire That from his realm retards his god-like sire; Delivering early to the voice of fame The promise of a green immortal name.
  - A. relating to the relationship of children to their parents
  - B. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
  - C. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
- 3 While his fond soul these fancied triumphs swell'd, The stranger guest the royal youth beheld; Grieved that a visitant so long should wait Unmark'd, unhonour'd, at a monarch's gate; Instant he flew with **hospitable** haste, And the new friend with courteous air embraced.
  - A. disbelief
  - B. important
  - C. welcoming
- 4 Phemius, whose voice **divine** could sweetest sing
  - A. the quality of being sensible and careful
  - B. unable or difficult to meet and talk with
  - C. wonderful
- 5 In vision wrapp'd, the Hyperesian seer Uprose, and thus **divined** the vengeance near:
  - A. predicted (by magic)
  - B. deeply involved; or intermixed with complications or difficulties
  - C. not having expressed disapproval; or not having warned or advised
- 6 But of his wish'd return the care resign, Be future **vengeance** to the powers divine.
  - A. something that stands out
  - B. something made from parts
  - C. the act of taking revenge
- 7 If yet Ulysses views the light, **forbear**, Till the fleet hours restore the circling year.
  - A. refrain (hold back) from acting
  - B. the ability to take on or adopt
  - C. where attention is concentrated
- 8 Then let revenge your daring mind employ, By fraud or force the suitor train destroy, And starting into manhood, **scorn** the boy.
  - A. disrespect or reject as not good enough
  - B. not answer questions; or block progress
  - C. move from more general to more specific
- 9 There, wrapped in silent shade, **Pensive**, the rules the goddess gave he weigh'd; Stretch'd on the downy fleece, no rest he knows, And in his raptured soul the vision glows.
  - A. appearing deep in thought
  - B. not tending to find fault
  - C. able to be disagreed with
- 10 Scarce all my herds their luxury suffice; Scarce all my wine their midnight hours supplies.
  - A. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
  - B. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
  - C. in short supply OR barely or hardly (by a small margin)
- 11 Did not the sun, through heaven's wide **azure** roll'd, For three long years the royal fraud behold?
  - A. reporter
  - B. disorder
  - C. sky-blue

- 12 *My wars, the copious theme of every tongue, To you your fathers have recorded long.*  
 A. able to accept as true (without proof)  
 B. able to be protected or kept unchanged  
 C. abundant (large in quantity or number)
- 13 *Whene'er his influence Jove vouchsafes to shower, To bless the natal and the nuptial hour; From the great sire transmissive to the race, The boon devolving gives distinguish'd grace.*  
 A. of or relating to a wedding  
 B. not attractive or desirable  
 C. orbiting Earth once per day
- 14 *Ranged on the banks, beneath our equal oars White curl the waves, and the vex'd ocean roars Then, steering backward from the Pharian isle, We gain the stream of Jove-descended Nile; There quit the ships, and on the destined shore With ritual hecatombs the gods adore; Their wrath atoned, to Agamemnon's name A cenotaph I raise of deathless fame.*  
 A. extreme anger  
 B. determination  
 C. use of reason
- 15 *Selected from my stores, of matchless price, An urn shall recompense your prudent choice; By Vulcan's art, the verge with gold enchased.*  
 A. sensible and careful  
 B. not demonstrative of  
 C. sincerity (realness)
- 16 *Two plenteous fountains the whole prospect crown'd This through the gardens leads its streams around Visits each plant, and waters all the ground; While that in pipes beneath the palace flows, And thence its current on the town bestows: To various use their various streams they bring, The people one, and one supplies the king.*  
 A. draws  
 B. quits  
 C. gives
- 17 *Suppliant to her, since first he chose to pray, Why not herself did she conduct the way, And with her handmaids to our court convey?*  
 A. communicate or express  
 B. create dramatic change  
 C. mirror back (an image)
- 18 *The bard a herald guides; the gazing throng Pay low obeisance as he moves along: Beneath a sculptur'd arch he sits enthroned, The peers encircling form an awful round.*  
 A. of the American Indian civilization of Yucatan and Belize and Guatemala that reached its peak between AD 300 and 900  
 B. someone who composes and recites or sings poems about important events and people; or (as a proper noun) Shakespeare  
 C. a hole or dropoff so deep the bottom cannot be seen -- often used figuratively to imply a frightening bottomless pit
- 19 *They went; but as they entering saw the queen Of size enormous, and terrific mien (Not yielding to some bulky mountain's height), A sudden horror struck their aching sight.*  
 A. showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance  
 B. giving in, giving up, or giving way (easily moved or soft)  
 C. placing trust (in someone) by talking about private things
- 20 *Say, could one city yield a troop so fair?*  
 A. produce or give  
 B. stop (something from happening)  
 C. think deeply or carefully about

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

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| #  | KEY | WORD                                             | NOTE                                                    |
|----|-----|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | A   | martial                                          | Used 38 times in this book.                             |
| 2  | A   | filial                                           | Used 18 times in this book.                             |
| 3  | C   | hospitable                                       | Used 43 times in this book.                             |
| 4  | C   | divine ( <i>as in: to forgive is divine</i> )    | Used 103 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.   |
| 5  | A   | divine ( <i>as in: divined from tea leaves</i> ) | Used 4 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.     |
| 6  | C   | vengeance ( <i>as in: vengeance is mine</i> )    | Used 56 times in this book.                             |
| 7  | A   | forbearance                                      | Used 26 times in this book.                             |
| 8  | A   | scorn                                            | High-utility academic word; used 30 times in this book. |
| 9  | A   | pensive                                          | Used 38 times in this book.                             |
| 10 | C   | scarcity                                         | High-utility academic word; used 28 times in this book. |
| 11 | C   | azure                                            | Used 23 times in this book.                             |
| 12 | C   | copious                                          | High-utility academic word; used 28 times in this book. |
| 13 | A   | nuptial                                          | Used 23 times in this book.                             |
| 14 | A   | wrath                                            | Used 38 times in this book.                             |
| 15 | A   | prudent                                          | High-utility academic word; used 26 times in this book. |
| 16 | C   | bestow                                           | Used 41 times in this book.                             |
| 17 | A   | convey ( <i>as in: convey her thoughts</i> )     | High-utility academic word; used 33 times in this book. |
| 18 | B   | bard ( <i>as in: written by the bard</i> )       | Used 18 times in this book.                             |
| 19 | B   | yield ( <i>as in: yield to pressure</i> )        | High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.    |
| 20 | A   | yield ( <i>as in: will yield valuable data</i> ) | High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.    |