

The Portrait of a Lady – Volume 1

by Henry James

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, allude, benevolent, conviction, copious, correspond, cultivate, discredit, fastidious, indolent, indulge, minute (2), moreover, odious, refute, specimen, superficial, tact, vulgar



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

The Portrait of a Lady – Volume 1

by Henry James

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

Vocabulary Preview
The Portrait of a Lady – Volume 1

by Henry James

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. She didn't mention any names, but everyone knew she was **alluding** to the President.
 - A. being discouraging
 - B. indirectly referring
 - C. not talking
3. She thinks of herself as a **benevolent** dictator.
 - A. ruthless
 - B. kind
 - C. calm
4. She stood up in class with total conviction and said, "I believe animals deserve to be treated kindly, no matter what."
 - A. raised voice
 - B. firm belief
 - C. shaky voice
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 bones in a bat's wing exactly **correspond** to those in a human forearm.
 - A. are equivalent
 - B. are opposite
 - C. are unrelated
7. Creativity can be **cultivated**.
 - A. useful
 - B. developed or grown
 - C. risky or dangerous
8. Russian TV is famous for inventing stories to **discredit** those who disagree with Russian interests.
 - A. anger
 - B. convince
 - C. damage the reputation of
9. She was **fastidious** about keeping her desk perfectly organized.
 - A. careless and disorganized
 - B. loud and outgoing
 - C. extremely attentive to detail
10. She is too **indolent** for med school.
 - A. calm
 - B. lazy
 - C. kind
11. I **indulge** my taste for sweets more than is good for me.
 - A. give in to
 - B. hold back from
 - C. complain about

12. Even a minute amount of lead can be harmful to children.
- A. large
 - B. 60 seconds
 - C. tiny
13. She thrives at sifting through that kind of minute detail.
- A. quickly eliminated
 - B. available from prior research
 - C. including even small considerations
14. Many graduates have high college debt. Moreover, too many of them haven't found good-paying jobs.
- A. in contrast to that
 - B. in addition to that
 - C. as a result of that
15. The poll tax was designed as a particularly odious violation of civil rights.
- A. extremely devious
 - B. harmful and hidden
 - C. extremely dislikable
16. He refuted the argument.
- A. avoided
 - B. complained about
 - C. argued against
17. The collection includes specimens from all over the world.
- A. insects
 - B. examples
 - C. shells
18. Her thinking was superficial.
- A. deep
 - B. shallow
 - C. creative
19. She means well, but she lacks tact.
- A. a plan
 - B. sensitivity
 - C. ability
20. His vulgar jokes embarrassed everyone at the formal dinner party.
- A. stale
 - B. crude
 - C. clever

Vocabulary in Context
The Portrait of a Lady – Volume 1

by Henry James

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 There was the danger of the noted "thinness"—which was to be averted, tooth and nail, by **cultivation** of the lively.
A. a power plant that produces energy by splitting atoms
B. development, growth, or preparation for growing crops
C. an unsettled state of mind (nervous or uncomfortable)
- 2 We thought at first that the sister mentioned might be the sister of the clerk; but the subsequent mention of a niece seems to prove that the **allusion** is to one of my aunts.
A. a nerve or brain cell
B. an indirect reference
C. long eventful journey
- 3 The old man placed his two hands on her shoulders, looked at her a moment with extreme **benevolence** and then gallantly kissed her.
A. long eventful journey
B. kindness and goodwill
C. a nerve or brain cell
- 4 What degree of alarm this young person took need not be exactly measured; she instantly rose, however, with a blush which was not a **refutation**.
A. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18
B. found a condition or substance to be present
C. evidence or argument that something is false
- 5 Ralph took a candlestick and moved about, pointing out the things he liked; Isabel, inclining to one picture after another, **indulged** in little exclamations and murmurs.
A. enjoyed to excess
B. guided or managed
C. thought carefully
- 6 She had played no social part as mistress of Gardencourt, and it was not to be supposed that, in the surrounding country, a **minute** account should be kept of her comings and goings.
A. having the characteristics of a monk (often inclined toward self-denial)
B. the quality of holding something back or holding others down through oppression
C. detailed
- 7 She has travelled over the whole American continent and can at least find her way about this **minute** island.
A. awake
B. exact
C. small
- 8 She accused him of an **odious** want of seriousness, of laughing at all things, beginning with himself.
A. the degree to which something is able to change or is different
B. not trustworthy, or improper, or attracting unwelcome attention
C. extremely unpleasant, disgusting, dislikable, or worthy of hate
- 9 "Well now, there's a **specimen**," he said to her as they walked up from the riverside and he recognised Lord Warburton.
A. the act of taking something on as one's own
B. an example regarded as typical of its class
C. something that helps clarify or demonstrate
- 10 It must be added **moreover** that an incident had occurred which might have seemed to put her good-humour to the test.
A. despite that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
B. in addition to what has just been said
C. even though -- used to connect contrasting ideas

- 11 When Isabel was interested she asked a great many questions, and as her companion was a **copious** talker she urged him on this occasion by no means in vain.
- A. able to accept as true (without proof)
 - B. able to be protected or kept unchanged
 - C. abundant (large in quantity or number)
- 12 My first impressions (of the people at large) are not rose-coloured; but I wish to talk them over with you, and you know that, whatever I am, at least I'm not **superficial**.
- A. comprehensive (thorough)
 - B. relating to a surface rather than to anything deep or penetrating
 - C. deep and creative
- 13 Isabel judged best not to show this letter to her uncle; but she **acquainted** him with its purport, and, as she expected, he begged her instantly to assure Miss Stackpole, in his name, that he should be delighted to receive her at Gardencourt.
- A. not having taken power or responsibility
 - B. compensated for a loss; or paid a reward
 - C. familiar with OR a friend or associate
- 14 It may appear to some readers that the young lady was both precipitate and unduly **fastidious**; but the latter of these facts, if the charge be true, may serve to exonerate her from the discredit of the former.
- A. a person who works from within to destroy an established order; or relating to such destructive efforts
 - B. not relevant (not related to the subject being considered, or not important enough to want to consider)
 - C. giving careful attention to detail
- or:
- excessively concerned with cleanliness or matters of taste
- 15 It may appear to some readers that the young lady was both precipitate and unduly fastidious; but the latter of these facts, if the charge be true, may serve to exonerate her from the **discredit** of the former.
- A. struggle or disagreement
 - B. include consideration of
 - C. damage the reputation of
- 16 "On this supposition," said Ralph, "he must regard her as a thorn on the stem of his rose; as an intercessor he must find her wanting in **tact**."
- A. having good judgment or good taste and/or perceiving things not easily perceived by most people
 - B. the ability or act of saying or handling things in such a way that others feel good about them
 - C. measles -- a highly contagious viral disease marked by distinct red spots followed by a rash
- 17 With many of these amiable colonists Mrs. Touchett was intimate; she shared their expatriation, their **convictions**, their pastimes, their ennui.
- A. not working or not operating
 - B. a strong, firmly held belief
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 18 He was dressed as a man dresses who takes little other trouble about it than to have no **vulgar** things.
- A. increasing reason or general desire to do something
 - B. of bad taste
 - C. the state of being unaware of one's mental activity
- 19 My **indolence**, at any rate, was one of the reasons I didn't go to Rome.
- A. not real
 - B. laziness
 - C. allowing
- 20 You know I asked you some time ago never to speak to me of a creature who shouldn't **correspond** to that description.
- A. connect or fit together by being equivalent, proportionate, or matched
 - B. to stick out, attract more attention than desired, or impose on others
 - C. speak in a manner that does not clearly express an opinion or decision

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

The Portrait of a Lady – Volume 1

by Henry James

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	cultivate	High-utility academic word; used 17 times in this book.
2	B	allude	High-utility academic word; used 15 times in this book.
3	B	benevolent	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
4	C	refute	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
5	A	indulge	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
6	C	minute (<i>as in: minute description</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
7	C	minute (<i>as in: minute size</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
8	C	odious	Used 8 times in this book.
9	B	specimen	Used 13 times in this book.
10	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 25 times in this book.
11	C	copious	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
12	B	superficial	High-utility academic word; used 13 times in this book.
13	C	acquaint	Used 11 times in this book.
14	C	fastidious	Used 7 times in this book.
15	C	discredit	Used 5 times in this book.
16	B	tact	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
17	B	conviction (<i>as in: spoke with conviction</i>)	Used 23 times in this book.
18	B	vulgar	Used 21 times in this book.
19	B	indolent (<i>as in: she is naturally indolent</i>)	Used 6 times in this book.
20	A	correspond (<i>as in: corresponding time period</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.