

The Prince

by *Niccolo Machiavelli*

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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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: accord (2), annex, attain, attribute (2), compel, establish (2), faction, illustrious, impetuous, odious, oppress, ordinance, prudent, reproach, republic, superfluous, valor



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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

The Prince

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She dresses in **accordance** with the latest fashions.
 - A. opposition
 - B. keeping
 - C. ignorance
2. His lawyers demand he be **accorded** the status of a captured soldier rather than a spy.
 - A. given
 - B. denied
 - C. told about
3. Hitler **annexed** Lithuania.
 - A. defeated (as a result of a large, mechanized invasion)
 - B. took (a territory to make it part of a larger territory)
 - C. threatened (possibly indirectly)
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. She described his physical **attributes**.
 - A. characteristics
 - B. strengths
 - C. weaknesses
6. She **attributes** her success to hard work.
 - A. gives money for
 - B. gives credit for
 - C. gives help for
7. Can we **compel** the witness to testify?
 - A. prevent
 - B. force
 - C. delay
8. Which word choice would help to **establish** a serious tone.
 - A. avoid
 - B. create
 - C. increase
9. The sixth paragraph (lines 67–68) is primarily concerned with **establishing** the contrast between men and masculine traits.
 - A. minimizing
 - B. exaggerating
 - C. showing
10. She's part of the far-right **faction** of the Republican Party.
 - A. sub-group (that is made up of 10% or less of a larger group)
 - B. enthusiastic sub-group
 - C. sub-group
11. The **illustrious** scientist received another prestigious award for her research.
 - A. famous and admired
 - B. unknown and ordinary
 - C. controversial but rich

12. She made an **impetuous** purchase, buying the car without test-driving it first.
- A. impulsive
 - B. cautious
 - C. wealthy
13. The poll tax was designed as a particularly **odious** violation of civil rights.
- A. extremely devious
 - B. harmful and hidden
 - C. extremely dislikable
14. My work environment is **oppressive**.
- A. friendly
 - B. harsh and unfair
 - C. very important
15. The Chicago **ordinance** required that new streets be laid out with eight streets per mile in one direction and sixteen in the other direction.
- A. custom
 - B. suggestion
 - C. law
16. Courage is dangerous without **prudence**.
- A. good sense
 - B. good purpose
 - C. good support
17. Don't **reproach** yourself for things beyond your control.
- A. congratulate
 - B. criticize
 - C. accept honor for
18. A **republic** is a particular type of democracy.
- A. weak monarchy
 - B. representative government
 - C. oligarchy
19. Everyone liked the idea. The arguments I prepared to support it were **superfluous**.
- A. appreciated
 - B. important
 - C. unnecessary
20. She has served her country with **valor**.
- A. wisdom
 - B. enthusiasm
 - C. courage

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 Take then, your Magnificence, this little gift in the spirit in which I send it; wherein, if it be diligently read and considered by you, you will learn my extreme desire that you should **attain** that greatness which fortune and your other attributes promise.*
 - technical: center or concentration
 - to be overly unhappy and unsociable
 - gain or reach something with effort
- 2 All states, all powers, that have held and hold rule over men have been and are either **republics** or principalities.*
 - acts of officially telling someone about something; or things that contain such message
 - governmental systems in which a majority of citizens elect representatives to make laws
 - responses to prior offers that proposes different terms while rejecting previous offers
- 3 Principalities are either hereditary, in which the family has been long **established**; or they are new.*
 - persuaded someone to want something (often sex or love) by tempting with something desired
 - set in place
 - not having a relationship whereby a change in one thing helps predict a change in another
- 4 But granted a prince who has **established** himself as above, who can command, and is a man of courage, undismayed in adversity, who does not fail in other qualifications, and who, by his resolution and energy, keeps the whole people encouraged—such a one will never find himself deceived in them, and it will be shown that he has laid his foundations well.*
 - accepted someone's membership though a special procedure such as a ceremony and/or period of instruction and/or test
 - examined an issue, got opinions by asking specific questions; and/or asked people for political support individually
 - proven
- 5 The new are either entirely new, as was Milan to Francesco Sforza, or they are, as it were, members **annexed** to the hereditary state of the prince who has acquired them, as was the kingdom of Naples to that of the King of Spain.*
 - not controlled
 - took territory
 - told (a story)
- 6 And in fact it has been seen that the greatness of the Church and of Spain in Italy has been caused by France, and her ruin may be **attributed** to them.*
 - not made different; or shown to be different
 - credited (pointed to as the cause of something)
 - not changed directly from a solid to a vapor
- 7 Therefore, any one wishing to maintain among men the name of liberal is obliged to avoid no **attribute** of magnificence; so that a prince thus inclined will consume in such acts all his property, and will be compelled in the end, if he wish to maintain the name of liberal, to unduly weigh down his people, and tax them, and do everything he can to get money.*
 - characteristic (of something or someone)
 - dreamlike state of altered consciousness
 - normal mood, personality, or inclination
- 8 If, therefore, all the steps taken by the duke be considered, it will be seen that he laid solid foundations for his future power, and I do not consider it **superfluous** to discuss them, because I do not know what better precepts to give a new prince than the example of his actions;*
 - the quality of being sensible and careful
 - without purpose, job, or natural activity
 - more than is desired

- 9 Afterwards the duke considered that it was not advisable to confer such excessive authority, for he had no doubt but that he would become **odious**, so he set up a court of judgment in the country, under a most excellent president, wherein all cities had their advocates.
- the degree to which something is able to change or is different
 - not trustworthy, or improper, or attracting unwelcome attention
 - extremely unpleasant, disgusting, dislikable, or worthy of hate
- 10 The Carthaginians, reduced to extreme necessity, were **compelled** to come to terms with Agathocles,
- fruit cooked with sugar (like jam)
 - forced
 - didn't trust or have confidence in
- 11 ...the people do not wish to be ruled nor **oppressed** by the nobles,
- not with energy redirected from a negative impulse to a positive one
 - dominated harshly and unfairly
 - convinced (someone) that an idea previously believed was not correct
- 12 During the rioting between the Cancellieri and Panciatichi **factions** in 1502
- sympathies
 - main roads
 - sub-groups
- 13 Neither could you have a better or a more **prudent** arrangement, or a greater source of security to the king and kingdom.
- sensible and careful
 - not demonstrative of
 - sincerity (realness)
- 14 princes ought to leave affairs of **reproach** to the management of others, and keep those of grace in their own hands.
- move into position to work; or start
 - criticism
 - to spread to other parts of the body
- 15 But let us come to Alexander, who was a man of such great goodness, that among the other praises which are **accorded** him is this, that in the fourteen years he held the empire no one was ever put to death by him unjudged;
- given (special treatment)
 - found, sought, or researched
 - not judged in a negative way
- 16 I believe also that he will be successful who directs his actions **according** to the spirit of the times,
- idiom meaning "won the day"
 - in keeping with
 - U.S. history: pre-Civil War period
- 17 Pope Julius the Second went to work **impetuously** in all his affairs, and found the times and circumstances conform so well ... that he always met with success.
- impulsive (acting suddenly without much thought)
 - in the manner of a logical, systematic examination
 - in a manner that shows care or concern for someone
- 18 Nor is there to be seen at present one in whom she can place more hope than in your **illustrious** house,(*) with its valour and fortune, favoured by God and by the Church of which it is now the chief, and which could be made the head of this redemption.
- famous and admired; or worthy of admiration
 - the state or degree of being bad or harmful
 - able to be taken up or received into heaven
- 19 And nothing honours a man more than to establish new laws and new **ordinances** when he himself was newly risen.
- acts or processes of stopped something from happening
 - bands of inelastic tissue connecting a muscle to bone
 - a rule or law -- typically enacted by city government
- 20 For the old Roman **valour** is not dead,
- exceedingly powerful bomb whose energy comes from the splitting of atoms
 - a long race that is shorter than the typical long race of about 26 miles
 - courage when facing danger (especially in battle)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	attain	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
2	B	republic (<i>as in: the country is a republic</i>)	Used 14 times in this book.
3	B	establish (<i>as in: establish a positive tone</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	C	establish (<i>as in: establish that there is a need</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	B	annex (<i>as in: annexed the community</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
6	B	attribute (<i>as in: I attribute it to...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	attribute (<i>as in: It is an attribute of...</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
8	C	superfluous	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
9	C	odious	Used 3 times in this book.
10	B	compel	Used 15 times in this book.
11	B	oppress (<i>as in: oppressive government</i>)	Used 15 times in this book.
12	C	faction	Used 13 times in this book.
13	A	prudent	High-utility academic word; used 11 times in this book.
14	B	reproach	Used 11 times in this book.
15	A	accord (<i>as in: accord her the respect deserved</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
16	B	accord (<i>as in: according to, or in accord with</i>)	Used 14 times in this book; 3 meanings in this book.
17	A	impetuous (<i>as in: an impetuous decision</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
18	A	illustrious	Used 6 times in this book.
19	C	ordinance (<i>as in: passed the ordinance</i>)	Used 6 times in this book.
20	C	valor	Used 20 times in this book.