

# The Red Badge of Courage

by Stephen Crane

## 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 from 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:** agony, altercation, annihilate, antagonist, clamor, compel, denotes, despair (2), enable, oblige, perceive (2), profound, prostrate, quiver, reproach, resolve (2), stolid



#### More Vocabulary Printables

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# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

### The Red Badge of Courage

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

**Vocabulary Preview**  
**The Red Badge of Courage**

by Stephen Crane

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

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

1. She cried out in **agony**.
  - A. sudden surprise
  - B. intense anger
  - C. intense suffering
2. We have video of the **altercation**.
  - A. fight
  - B. accident
  - C. theft
3. Black holes **annihilate** all traces of what falls into them.
  - A. carefully preserve
  - B. slowly examine
  - C. completely destroy
4. In the book, *Harry Potter*, Voldemort is Harry's **antagonist**.
  - A. partner
  - B. friend
  - C. enemy
5. Noisy **clamor** gave way to reasoned dialogue.
  - A. demands
  - B. insults
  - C. whining
6. Can we **compel** the witness to testify?
  - A. prevent
  - B. force
  - C. delay
7. In algebra, letters often **denote** unknown numbers in equations.
  - A. scatter
  - B. represent
  - C. confuse
8. She rescued me from **despair**.
  - A. fear
  - B. poverty
  - C. hopelessness
9. Don't **despair**--help is on the way!
  - A. lose hope
  - B. be impatient
  - C. cry
10. Modern smartphones **enable** people to work from almost anywhere.
  - A. require
  - B. allow
  - C. remind
11. I didn't want to help, but I felt **obliged** because of our family connections.
  - A. required to
  - B. interested
  - C. sad
12. Researchers **perceive** a clear pattern in how the disease spreads through families.
  - A. carefully measure
  - B. view or understand
  - C. actively prevent

13. It's one thing to **perceive** something with the senses and another to understand its importance.
- A. become aware of
  - B. physically touch
  - C. clearly see
14. It was a **profound** spiritual experience that changed her life.
- A. intense
  - B. common
  - C. traditional
15. He lay **prostrate** on the floor after collapsing from exhaustion.
- A. curled up tightly
  - B. sitting upright
  - C. lying face-down
16. Her hands began to **quiver** as she opened the envelope.
- A. slightly shake
  - B. tightly grip
  - C. quickly move
17. Don't **reproach** yourself for things beyond your control.
- A. congratulate
  - B. criticize
  - C. accept honor for
18. I **resolved** to never drink again.
- A. was forced
  - B. was encouraged
  - C. firmly decided
19. She is testing my **resolve** to keep a good attitude.
- A. determination
  - B. ability
  - C. optimism
20. Her face showed nothing but **stolid** indifference.
- A. emotionless
  - B. confused
  - C. bitter

# Vocabulary in Context

## The Red Badge of Courage

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

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

- 1 He had long **despaired** of witnessing a Greeklime struggle.
  - A. lost hope
  - B. disagreed
  - C. stuck out
- 2 The men in blue were intent with the **despair** of their circumstances and they seized upon the revenge to be had at close range.
  - A. adjusts a lens to make an image clear
  - B. not creating disagreement or struggle
  - C. hopelessness
- 3 As he **perceived** her, she had immediately begun to stare up through the high tree branches at the sky.
  - A. saw
  - B. said indirectly
  - C. greatly annoyed
- 4 Apparently, the other had now climbed a peak of wisdom from which he could **perceive** himself as a very wee thing.
  - A. not feeling or showing sympathy for another's suffering
  - B. view in a certain way so as to form a belief
  - C. suntanned; or reddish-brown or yellowish-brown in color
- 5 He must **accumulate** information of himself, and meanwhile he **resolved** to remain close upon his guard lest those qualities of which he knew nothing should everlastingly disgrace him.
  - A. changed
  - B. adapted
  - C. decided
- 6 They seemed **resolved** to make every trouble.
  - A. determined
  - B. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
  - C. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
- 7 They had a rapid **altercation**, in which they fastened upon each other various strange epithets.
  - A. a noisy argument, confrontation, or fight
  - B. a particular understanding or explanation
  - C. the time during which something continues
- 8 In his great anxiety his heart was continually **clamoring** at what he considered the intolerable slowness of the generals.
  - A. demanding loudly and persistently
  - B. suggesting that someone was involved
  - C. walking in an awkward, shuffling way
- 9 he had been **compelled** to leave a little protection of stones and dirt to which he had devoted much care and skill.
  - A. fruit cooked with sugar (like jam)
  - B. forced -- perhaps by an inner desire
  - C. didn't trust or have confidence in
- 10 He considered that there was **denoted** a lack of purpose on the part of the generals.
  - A. with rises and falls in pitch
  - B. stand for or symbolize literally; or be a sign or indicator of
  - C. embarrassed or self-conscious
- 11 It seemed to be **struggling** to free itself from an agony.
  - A. size or dimension
  - B. circular movement
  - C. intense suffering

- 12 *If he had thought the regiment was about to be **annihilated** perhaps he could have amputated himself from it.*
- A. not found, sought, or researched
  - B. caused something to move forward
  - C. completely destroyed or defeated
- 13 *He craved a power that would **enable** him to make a world-sweeping gesture and brush all back.*
- A. stop fighting
  - B. make possible
  - C. grant a favor
- 14 *The battery was disputing with a distant **antagonist** and the gunners were wrapped in admiration of their shooting.*
- A. someone who changes something (upon review)
  - B. someone who takes something on as their own
  - C. someone who offers opposition or is hostile
- 15 *When he looked loweringly up, **quivering** at each sound, his eyes had the expression of those of a criminal who thinks his guilt little and his punishment great, and knows that he can find no words.*
- A. to shake or tremble slightly
  - B. not working or not operating
  - C. calculates or judges too low
- 16 *Thus, many men of courage ... would be **obliged** to desert the colors and scurry like chickens.*
- A. required
  - B. gradually added or removed
  - C. limited or with boundaries
- 17 *He now rejoiced in the possession of a small weapon with which he could **prostrate** his comrade at the first signs of a cross-examination.*
- A. spend time with; or someone with whom a person spends a lot of time
  - B. an overwhelming amount; or to overwhelm -- especially said of water
  - C. lying down - typically face downward on the ground as in submission
- 18 *The youth walked **stolidly** into the midst of the mob, and with his flag in his hands took a stand as if he expected an attempt to push him to the ground.*
- A. with little emotion
  - B. intentionally
  - C. with distaste
- 19 *The news that the regiment had been **reproached** went along the line.*
- A. translated
  - B. criticized
  - C. subtracted
- 20 *Shame was upon him, and with it **profound** regret that he was, perhaps, no more to be counted in the ranks of his fellows.*
- A. of greatest intensity or emotional depth
  - B. without a tendency to be full of thought
  - C. lacking a tendency to be full of thought

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	despair ( <i>as in: do not despair</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
2	C	despair ( <i>as in: she felt despair</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
3	A	perceive ( <i>as in: though blind, can perceive light</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	B	perceive ( <i>as in: perceive the system as unfair</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	C	resolve ( <i>as in: I resolved to stop drinking.</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	A	resolve ( <i>as in: Her resolve weakened.</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	altercation	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
8	A	clamor	Used 10 times in this book.
9	B	compel	Used 13 times in this book.
10	B	denotes	Used 3 times in this book.
11	C	agony	Used 9 times in this book.
12	C	annihilate	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
13	B	enable	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
14	C	antagonist ( <i>as in: the antagonist in the film</i> )	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
15	A	quiver	Used 10 times in this book.
16	A	oblige ( <i>as in: I am obliged by law.</i> )	Used 13 times in this book.
17	C	prostrate	Used 3 times in this book.
18	A	stolid	Used 8 times in this book.
19	B	reproach	Used 8 times in this book.
20	A	profound ( <i>as in: profound sadness</i> )	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.