

The Turn of the Screw

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

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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: agitate, allude, anecdote, bewilder, concur, hideous, infer, infernal, inquiry, literally (2), moreover, nonetheless, perceive, perpetual, revelation, scarcity, scruples, tacit, yield



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She gets **agitated** whenever the topic comes up.
 - A. calm and thoughtful
 - B. gloomy (sad)
 - C. emotionally disturbed
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 is good at making a point in an interesting and memorable way with an **anecdote**.
 - A. short true story
 - B. long boring lecture
 - C. detailed research report
4. I am trying to understand her, but I am **bewildered**.
 - A. confused
 - B. bored
 - C. distracted
5. She could not bring herself to concur publicly, but she honored her promise by not discussing her concerns.
 - A. criticize
 - B. agree
 - C. help
6. He had a **hideous** scar running from his forehead to his jaw.
 - A. barely noticeable
 - B. extremely ugly
 - C. perfectly healed
7. That **infernal** alarm clock kept going off every five minutes.
 - A. annoying
 - B. expensive
 - C. antique
8. The meaning of the word can be **inferred** based on context clues.
 - A. different
 - B. figured out
 - C. converted
9. The official **inquiry** has ended, but the press continues to ask questions.
 - A. story
 - B. statement
 - C. investigation
10. It's dirty money--**literally** and figuratively.
 - A. openly
 - B. actually
 - C. completely
11. I **literally** laughed my head off.
 - A. secretly
 - B. joyfully
 - C. really

12. 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
13. The class was hard. It was **nonetheless** my favorite.
- A. despite that
 - B. because of that
 - C. for that reason
14. 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
15. He has a **perpetual** fear of forgetting important deadlines.
- A. joyful
 - B. constant
 - C. secret
16. I was leaning toward voting for her, but her stance on education policy was a **revelation** to me.
- A. something surprising and previously unknown
 - B. something that made a decision easy
 - C. something that reversed a previous decision
17. Work is **scarce** in the region.
- A. easily found
 - B. extremely hard
 - C. in short supply
18. Her **scruples** were not so strong as to withstand her friend's arguments.
- A. principles that discourage certain kinds of action
 - B. known facts
 - C. firmness of purpose
19. We have a **tacit** agreement.
- A. reasonable
 - B. clear
 - C. implied
20. The experiment **yielded** data that raised a new set of questions.
- A. produced
 - B. destroyed
 - C. slowed down

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 *The others resented postponement, but it was just his **scruples** that charmed me.*
 - A. principles that discourage certain kinds of action
 - B. moves again into position to work; or starts again
 - C. prepares food in a way that keeps it from spoiling
- 2 *They were all listening now, and of course there was somebody to be arch, or at any rate to draw the **inference**.*
 - A. someone who expresses disapproval
 - B. conclusion (reached by reasoning)
 - C. purpose, job, or natural activity
- 3 ***Nonetheless**, the rest of the day I watched for further occasion to approach my colleague, especially as, toward evening, I began to fancy she rather sought to avoid me.*
 - A. in spite of that (used to connect contrasting ideas)
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 4 *There came to me thus a **bewilderment** of vision of which, after these years, there is no living view that I can hope to give.*
 - A. a feeling of extreme confusion
 - B. a type of small portable radio
 - C. a change; or a changed version
- 5 *The place, **moreover**, in the strangest way in the world, had, on the instant, and by the very fact of its appearance, become a solitude.*
 - 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
- 6 *It took little time to see that I could sound without forms of **inquiry** and without exciting remark any domestic complications.*
 - A. small quantity or indication
 - B. reason (for doing something)
 - C. questioning or investigating
- 7 *They were like the cherubs of the **anecdote**, who had—morally, at any rate—nothing to whack!*
 - A. a short story that is true -- often told for amusement or to make a point
 - B. a feeling of anger or unhappiness at having to accept something not liked
 - C. Hitler's fanatical and oppressive political party in World War II Germany
- 8 *I **scarce** know how to put my story into words...*
 - A. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
 - B. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
 - C. hardly (by a small margin)
- 9 *At the image of this possibility Mrs. Grose for a moment collapsed, yet presently to pull herself together again, as if from the positive force of the sense of what, should we **yield** an inch, there would really be to give way to.*
 - A. produce or give
 - B. stop (something from happening)
 - C. think deeply or carefully about
- 10 *It was neither more nor less than the circumstance that for a period of several months Quint and the boy had been **perpetually** together.*
 - A. done in a manner that is of low quality or of lower quality than something else
 - B. continuing forever without change; or occurring so frequently it seems constant
 - C. in a manner that relates to electricity generated by light or affected by light

- 11 *I had had brothers myself, and it was no **revelation** to me that little girls could be slavish idolaters of little boys.*
A. something previously unknown; or making such a thing known
B. a large, elongated gland located behind the stomach that secretes digestive enzymes and insulin
C. of the philosophical & religious system based on the teachings of Laozi (also spelled Taoist)
- 12 *I **perceived** an agitation of the window blind,*
A. saw (became aware of)
B. said indirectly
C. greatly annoyed
- 13 *"While you," I **concurred**, "caught your death in the night air!"*
A. traded
B. agreed
C. copied
- 14 *NEVER, by a slip of the tongue, have they so much as **alluded** to either of their old friends,*
A. marked important text
B. indirectly referenced
C. gained advantage from
- 15 *It was not, I am as sure today as I was sure then, my mere **infernal** imagination: it was absolutely traceable that they were aware of my predicament and that this strange relation made, in a manner, for a long time, the air in which we moved.*
A. very bad; or very annoying; or characteristic of hell or the underworld
B. relating to classical music plays in which most of the dialogue is sung
C. strict, firm, or hard (not giving in, not giving way, or not giving up)
- 16 *I seemed **literally** to be running a race with some confusion to which he was about to reduce me, but I felt that he had got in first when, before we had even entered the churchyard, he threw out— "I want my own sort!"*
A. in a manner that is not aware of something
B. in a manner that is not successful or good
C. an intensifier (to intensify what is said)
- 17 *It **literally** made me bound forward.*
A. meticulously (with great care for small details)
B. actually (not figuratively; not an exaggeration)
C. in a manner that accepts as true (without proof)
- 18 *She passed that night, by the most **tacit**, and I should add, were not the word so grotesque a false note, the happiest of arrangements, with Mrs. Grose.*
A. certain
B. outside
C. implied
- 19 *...she had passed a night of extreme unrest, a night **agitated** above all by fears that...*
A. concentrated, look at, or paid attention to
B. thought carefully and made a judgment about
C. disturbed
- 20 *For there again, against the glass, as if to blight his confession and stay his answer, was the **hideous** author of our woe—the white face of damnation.*
A. the characteristic of demonstrating something
B. extremely ugly, offensive, and/or frightening
C. the quality of not being sensible and careful

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	scruples	Used 4 times in this book.
2	B	infer	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
3	A	nonetheless	Used 6 times in this book.
4	A	bewilder	Used 8 times in this book.
5	B	moreover	High-utility academic word; used 6 times in this book.
6	C	inquiry	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
7	A	anecdote	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
8	C	scarcity	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
9	A	yield (<i>as in: will yield valuable data</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
10	B	perpetual	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
11	A	revelation	Used 7 times in this book.
12	A	perceive (<i>as in: though blind, can perceive light</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 11 times in this book.
13	B	concur (<i>as in: I concur</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
14	B	allude	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
15	A	infernal	Used 4 times in this book.
16	C	literally (<i>as in: literally at death's door</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	literally (<i>as in: literally--not figuratively</i>)	Used 11 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
18	C	tacit	Used 3 times in this book.
19	C	agitate	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
20	B	hideous	Used 10 times in this book.