

The Waves

by Virginia Woolf

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: amorphous, clarity, conspirator, continuity, conviction, copious, discord (2), furtive, immune, incessant, indolent, innumerable, irrelevant, melancholy, mitigate, oblong, perpetual, scorn, sequence



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

The Waves

by Virginia Woolf

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

Vocabulary Preview

The Waves

by Virginia Woolf

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The artist created an **amorphous** sculpture that defied easy labels.
 - A. shapeless or vague
 - B. sharply defined
 - C. perfectly round
2. The judge praised the witnesses for the **clarity** of their testimony.
 - A. briefness
 - B. courage
 - C. clearness
3. She was labeled a **conspirator** after leaked documents revealed her involvement in the plan.
 - A. observer of a public event
 - B. member of a secret plot
 - C. critic of a literary work
4. There was a thread of **continuity** my in nightmares.
 - A. impossibility
 - B. consistency
 - C. danger
5. 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
6. The chef served **copious** amounts of food at the wedding reception.
 - A. small in amount
 - B. rare and unusual
 - C. large in quantity
7. There is too much **discord** in their home.
 - A. conflict
 - B. loud noise
 - C. uncritical agreement
8. She heard the **discordant** clanging of pots in the kitchen.
 - A. unpleasant sound
 - B. attractive sound
 - C. loud sound
9. Later she said she was just trying to figure out whose phone it was, but she looked around **furtively** before she began reading my text messages.
 - A. nervously
 - B. eagerly
 - C. with curiosity
10. She is **immune** to chickenpox because she has been vaccinated.
 - A. at risk
 - B. resistant
 - C. open
11. Night and day we live with the **incessant** noise of the city.
 - A. loud
 - B. continuous
 - C. pleasant

12. She is too **indolent** for med school.
- A. calm
 - B. lazy
 - C. kind
13. **Innumerable** stars seemed to fill the clear night sky.
- A. too many to count
 - B. easy to count
 - C. barely noticeable
14. The writer should delete the sentence because it provides background information that is irrelevant to the paragraph.
- A. confusing
 - B. unimportant
 - C. too wordy
15. This weather makes me **melancholy**. I can't wait for spring,
- A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. feel like singing
16. The new factory is building privacy walls to **mitigate** its impact on neighbors.
- A. make less harmful or unpleasant
 - B. change the subject from
 - C. make a bad situation worse
17. he table is an **oblong** shape, with curved edges.
- A. elongated
 - B. circular
 - C. square
18. He has a **perpetual** fear of forgetting important deadlines.
- A. joyful
 - B. constant
 - C. secret
19. That coach **scorns** students who don't have natural ability.
- A. disrespects
 - B. encourages
 - C. trains
20. The **sequence** of events in the novel kept the readers engaged and eager to find out what happens next.
- A. brief summary
 - B. order or series
 - C. random collection

Vocabulary in Context

The Waves

by Virginia Woolf

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 *There were the floating, pale-grey clouds; and the **immitigable** tree; the implacable tree with its greaved silver bark.*
 - A. impossible to make less harmful or unpleasant
 - B. the quality of not being sensible and careful
 - C. the trait of being easy to meet and talk with
- 2 *Pouring down the walls of my mind, running together, the day falls **copious**, resplendent.*
 - A. able to accept as true (without proof)
 - B. able to be protected or kept unchanged
 - C. abundant (large in quantity or number)
- 3 *Everything became softly **amorphous**, as if the china of the plate flowed and the steel of the knife were liquid.*
 - A. without clearly defined boundaries
 - B. degree to which things are related
 - C. not connected by blood or marriage
- 4 *I recover my **continuity**, as he reads.*
 - A. translation
 - B. consistency
 - C. storyteller
- 5 *Let him describe what we have all seen so that it becomes a **sequence**.*
 - A. tell someone about something
 - B. arranged in a specific order
 - C. something repeated regularly
- 6 *...born entire, out of hatred, out of **discord**.*
 - A. conflict
 - B. characterized by narrower parallel folds when closed and wider when open
 - C. design based on alphabetic letters; or adding such a design to something
- 7 *Each sang stridently, with passion, with **vehemence**, as if to let the song burst out of it, no matter if it shattered the song of another bird with harsh **discord**.*
 - A. sounding bad in combination
 - B. take on or adopt
 - C. make more varied
- 8 *He is shaded with **innumerable** perplexities, or he would go with them to play cricket, and would lie in the grass, watching the sky, and would start when the ball was hit.*
 - A. too numerous to be counted
 - B. able to meet and talk with
 - C. the quality of disagreeing
- 9 *But here bells ring; feet shuffle **perpetually**.*
 - 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
- 10 *The telegraph poles bob up **incessantly**; one is felled, another rises.*
 - A. thoughtfully
 - B. continuously
 - C. with anxiety
- 11 *Look how through them a boat passes, filled with **indolent**, with unconscious, with powerful young men.*
 - A. unfocused
 - B. lazy
 - C. impulsive

- 12 *Now that we look at the tree together, it has a combined look, each branch distinct, and I will tell you what I feel, under the compulsion of your **clarity**.*
- A. a collection of things on public display OR a detailed explanation or background of a specific topic
 - B. the process of assigning a value on or judging the worth of something; or the result of such a process
 - C. seen, expressed, or understood clearly; or a degree of transparency such as the quality of clear water
- 13 *But Neville, delicately avoiding interference, stealthily, like a **conspirator**, hastens back to his room.*
- A. something that causes ongoing suffering
 - B. a participant involved in a secret plot
 - C. worry or concern about what will happen
- 14 *But when I get up, brushing the crumbs from my waistcoat, I slip too large a tip, a shilling, under the edge of my plate, so that she may not find it till I am gone, and her **scorn**, as she picks it up with laughter, may not strike on me till I am past the swing-doors.*
- A. disrespect or reject as not good enough
 - B. not answer questions; or block progress
 - C. move from more general to more specific
- 15 *Pale, with dark hair, the one who is coming is **melancholy**, romantic.*
- A. relating to the outside
 - B. a sad feeling or manner
 - C. about (but not exactly)
- 16 *Let me visit **furtively** the treasures I have laid apart.*
- A. while taking pains to avoid being observed; or in a nervous manner (as though hoping not to be seen)
 - B. in a manner that provokes, excites, or stimulates -- especially controversy, sexual desire, or anger
 - C. in a straightforward manner (uncomplicated or simple -- perhaps also indicating openness and honesty)
- 17 *There is, then, a world **immune** from change.*
- A. the state or character of having found a condition or substance to be present
 - B. not in danger of suffering from something OR relating to disease resistance
 - C. a health indicator measured by the force of circulating blood on the arteries
- 18 *The bell is pressed and I do not ring or give out **irrelevant** clamours all jangled.*
- 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. the character or degree of bouncing back light (or more rarely: heat, sound, electromagnetic waves...)
- 19 *The structure is now visible; what is **inchoate** is here stated; we are not so various or so mean; we have made **oblongs** and stood them upon squares.*
- A. an elongated shape (having more length than width) -- typically of a stretched circle that is longer than an oval, but occasionally used to describe a rectangle
 - B. soccer: foul kicks taken from 12 yards in front of the goal and defended only by the goalkeeper who cannot advance beyond the goal line until the shot is taken
 - C. the more or less continuous military expeditions in the 11th to 13th centuries when Christian powers of Europe invaded Muslims in the Holy Land in the Middle East
- 20 *With my Australian accent I have sat in eating-shops and tried to make the clerks accept me, yet never forgotten my solemn and severe **convictions** and the discrepancies and incoherences that must be resolved.*
- A. not working or not operating
 - B. a strong, firmly held belief
 - C. calculates or judges too low

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

The Waves

by Virginia Woolf

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	mitigate	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
2	C	copious	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
3	A	amorphous	Used 3 times in this book.
4	B	continuity	Used 4 times in this book.
5	B	sequence	Used 8 times in this book.
6	A	discord (<i>as in: discord amongst the group</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	discord (<i>as in: discordant music</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
8	A	innumerable	Used 10 times in this book.
9	B	perpetual	High-utility academic word; used 17 times in this book.
10	B	incessant	Used 8 times in this book.
11	B	indolent (<i>as in: she is naturally indolent</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
12	C	clarity	Used 6 times in this book.
13	B	conspirator	Used 7 times in this book.
14	A	scorn	High-utility academic word; used 5 times in this book.
15	B	melancholy	Used 5 times in this book.
16	A	furtive	Used 9 times in this book.
17	B	immune	Used 6 times in this book.
18	B	irrelevant	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
19	A	oblong	Used 8 times in this book.
20	B	conviction (<i>as in: spoke with conviction</i>)	Used 6 times in this book.