

Tuck Everlasting

Chapters 10–17

by Natalie Babbitt

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: anguish, disarray, elation, grudgingly, illiterates, indomitable, outrage, perilous, reasserting, submission

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 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):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Prologue and Chapters 1–9 · The wood and the Foster cottage

Section 2 · Chapters 10–17 · At the Tuck family's home

Section 3 · Chapters 18–25 and Epilogue · The man in the yellow suit

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. He cried out in **anguish** when he heard the terrible news.

- A. bitter anger
- B. sudden confusion
- C. severe suffering

2. After the party, the living room was in complete **disarray**.

- A. a damp, chilly state
- B. a messy, disordered state
- C. a dim, shadowy state

3. She jumped up with **elation** when she won first prize.

- A. mild surprise
- B. sudden relief
- C. great joy

4. He **grudgingly** handed over the remote to his sister.

- A. in an unwilling way
- B. in a hurried way
- C. in a careless way

5. The king ruled over thousands of poor **illiterates**.

- A. people who cannot read
- B. people who own no land
- C. people who live in the city

6. The **indomitable** knight charged into every battle without fear.

- A. famous and widely admired
- B. huge and heavily armored
- C. impossible to defeat

7. Everyone agreed that the new law was an **outrage**.

- A. a great success
- B. a shocking wrong
- C. a small change

8. The hikers crossed the **perilous** bridge high above the river.

- A. dangerous and risky
- B. narrow and crowded
- C. old and wooden

9. After the storm passed, the summer heat was **reasserting** itself.

- A. taking hold again
- B. spreading far and wide
- C. rising higher and higher

10. The defeated army bowed in **submission** to the conqueror.

- A. gratitude for being spared
- B. surrender to a stronger force
- C. respect for a great leader

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

wheel — here, the natural cycle of life: birth, growth, change, and death
constable — a local police officer

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY
1	C
2	B
3	C
4	A
5	A
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	A
10	B

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 "... the cottage where she lived was always squeaking clean, mopped and swept and scoured into limp submission."

In context, the word "submission" emphasizes that the cottage has been...

- A. left dusty and cluttered
- B. forced into spotless order
- C. cleaned gently and gladly

2 "Within it, they were indomitable."

As used in the passage, the word "indomitable" suggests that the Foster women...

- A. were easily discouraged
- B. were gentle and timid
- C. could not be overcome

3 "... dishes were stacked in perilous towers without the least regard for their varying dimensions."

The passage most strongly suggests that the stacked dishes...

- A. were in danger of toppling
- B. were arranged neatly by size
- C. were too grand to be used

4 "It was a whole new idea to her that people could live in such disarray, but at the same time she was charmed."

It can reasonably be inferred that living in such disarray is a new idea to Winnie because...

- A. she has never left Treegap before
- B. she is frightened of the Tucks
- C. her own home is kept spotless

5 "... Winnie felt her elation, and her thoughtless pleasure, wobble and collapse."

The passage most strongly suggests that, just before this, Winnie had been feeling...

- A. joyful and lighthearted
- B. tense and watchful
- C. bored and restless

6 "Winnie, struggling with the anguish of all these things, could only sit hunched and numb, the sound of the water rolling in her ears."

It can reasonably be inferred that Winnie sits hunched and numb because she feels...

- A. great suffering over Tuck's words
- B. slight worry about the water
- C. relief that the talk is over

7 "It was unbelievable that she should be in this place; it was an outrage."

Which statement about Winnie is best supported by the excerpt?

- A. She is curious about the house.
- B. She finds her situation deeply wrong.
- C. She is settling in comfortably.

8 "There's just no telling what illiterates like that might do."

According to the man in the yellow suit, the people who took Winnie are...

- A. ignorant and unpredictable
- B. poor but kindly farmers
- C. clever, dangerous outlaws

9 "... said the constable grudgingly, 'all right, if you're in such a ding-danged hurry.'"

Which detail best supports the idea that the constable agrees only reluctantly?

- A. his quick, cheerful 'all right'
- B. his grumbling 'ding-danged hurry'
- C. his offer to lead the way

10 "The first week of August was reasserting itself after a good night's sleep."

According to the passage, the first week of August was...

- A. slipping quietly past
- B. turning cool toward fall
- C. growing hot and strong again

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	C	
3	A	
4	C	Character comprehension. Winnie's spotless, orderly upbringing opens the section.
5	A	
6	A	Event comprehension. Tuck's rowboat talk forces on her that she too will die.
7	B	
8	A	He uses 'illiterates' scornfully to paint the Tucks as untrustworthy.
9	B	
10	C	'Reasserting' personifies the heat as taking hold again after the cool night.

Teacher Context: Chapters 10–17

At the Tucks' ramshackle cottage, Angus Tuck rows Winnie onto the pond and explains that the spring water has left the family unable to die or change. Winnie grows fond of them, while the man in the yellow suit bargains with her parents to gain the wood. The section ends before the man's arrival with the constable sets off the violence that follows.