

Tuck Everlasting

Chapters 18–25 and Epilogue

by Natalie Babbitt

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: accomplice, custody, envious, exertion, fleeting, lingered, profoundly, remorseless, scarcely, wistful

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. The robber refused to name his **accomplice** to the police.

- A. a witness to a crime
- B. a partner in a crime
- C. a victim of a crime

2. After the divorce, the children were placed in their mother's **custody**.

- A. protective care and control
- B. company and presence
- C. home and household

3. She felt **envious** when her friend got a new bike.

- A. annoyed and irritated
- B. wanting what others have
- C. nervous and uneasy

4. After all that **exertion**, he needed a long rest.

- A. hard physical effort
- B. worry and stress
- C. excitement and thrill

5. She caught a **fleeting** glimpse of the deer before it ran.

- A. lasting a very short time
- B. distant and far away
- C. clear and unmistakable

6. The guests **lingered** at the table long after dinner ended.

- A. gathered close together
- B. grew restless and bored
- C. stayed longer than usual

7. The news **profoundly** changed how she saw the world.

- A. permanently; for good
- B. suddenly; all at once
- C. deeply; greatly

8. The **remorseless** storm battered the coast for three days.

- A. relentless and unstoppable
- B. rare and unusual
- C. sudden and unexpected

9. The shy boy **scarcely** spoke during dinner.

- A. quietly; in a low voice
- B. rarely; not often
- C. hardly; barely

10. She gave a **wistful** smile as she looked at the old photos.

- A. proud and satisfied
- B. sad and full of longing
- C. shy and nervous

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

marionette — a puppet controlled by strings from above

gallows — a wooden frame from which people were hanged as punishment

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY
1	B
2	A
3	B
4	A
5	A
6	C
7	C
8	A
9	C
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 "... wished, for a fleeting moment, that she could stay with them forever in that sunny, untidy little house by the pond."

As it is used in the passage, the word "fleeting" most nearly suggests that Winnie's wish...

- A. troubled her deeply
- B. lasted only an instant
- C. returned again and again

2 "And then her eyes went to Tuck and lingered on his sad, creased face."

It can reasonably be inferred that, as her gaze lingered on Tuck, Winnie...

- A. looked at each Tuck alike
- B. wished to leave the room
- C. felt specially drawn to him

3 "Winnie found that she could scarcely breathe."

The passage most strongly suggests that Winnie could scarcely breathe because...

- A. the standoff had grown unbearable
- B. she had run there in a panic
- C. the hot room had no fresh air

4 "It was as if he were entranced and—yes, envious—like a starving man looking through a window at a banquet."

The passage most strongly suggests that Tuck, gazing at the fallen man, is...

- A. longing for the death denied him
- B. hungry after the long morning
- C. mourning a man he admired

5 "It was the hottest day yet, so heavy that the slightest exertion brought on a flood of perspiration, an exhaustion in the joints."

Which statement is best supported by the passage?

- A. Even slight effort was exhausting
- B. The heat gave people energy
- C. Only hard labor caused sweat

6 "The sun was a ponderous circle without edges, a roar without a sound, a blazing glare so thorough and remorseless that even in the Fosters' parlor, with curtains drawn, it seemed an actual presence."

In context, the word "remorseless" emphasizes...

- A. how relentless the heat was
- B. how briefly the heat lasted
- C. how gentle the morning felt

7 "Winnie was profoundly grateful for that. But she was also profoundly tired."

According to the passage, Winnie's feelings about the Tucks' escape were...

- A. calm and slightly relieved
- B. anxious and full of regret
- C. deeply grateful yet deeply weary

8 "She was ... an accomplice. She had helped a murderer escape."

It can reasonably be inferred that, in calling Winnie an "accomplice," the constable means she...

- A. was wrongly blamed for it
- B. helped carry out the crime
- C. only witnessed the crime

9 "She was released, then, into the custody of her mother and father."

According to the passage, after Winnie left the cell she was...

- A. sent away from her home
- B. punished by the court
- C. placed in her parents' care

10 "Over and over they asked her, shocked at first and then wistful: why had she done such a thing?"

Which statement is best supported by the passage?

- A. Their anger grew with each question
- B. Their shock turned to sad longing
- C. They soon laughed the matter off

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	C	Character comprehension.
3	A	Event comprehension.
4	A	Theme comprehension. Tuck, unable to die, envies the man his mortality.
5	A	
6	A	
7	C	
8	B	Event comprehension.
9	C	
10	B	

Teacher Context: Chapters 18–25 and Epilogue

The man in the yellow suit tries to force Winnie to drink the water and give up the spring's secret; Mae Tuck stops him and is jailed, and Winnie helps the family free her. Winnie makes her own choice about the water, and the epilogue returns to Treegap years later. Section runs to the end of the novel.