

# Two Old Women

by *Velma Wallis*

## 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:** abundant, acknowledge, deter, dismal, ecstatic, famished, humiliate, inevitable, intrusion, linger, migrate, monotonous, ration, scarcity, skeptical, turmoil, undermine, wary, yearn, yield



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*(all resources free)*

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary Preview

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

## Vocabulary Preview

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

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

- The region has abundant natural resources, from oil to fresh water.
  - extremely scarce
  - highly disputed
  - widely available
- She acknowledged her mistake and apologized.
  - admitted
  - minimized
  - exaggerated
- Warning signs help deter people from trespassing.
  - discourage
  - encourage
  - celebrate
- When she graduated from college the job market was dismal.
  - especially good
  - promising but unusual
  - terrible or depressing
- She was ecstatic when her team won the championship.
  - exhausted
  - thrilled
  - angry
- She skipped lunch and felt famished by dinner time.
  - very full
  - very tired
  - very hungry
- She's convinced PE class was invented to humiliate innocent kids.
  - strengthen
  - extremely embarrass
  - teach hard lessons
- The leaves fall each year with the inevitable change of the seasons.
  - certain to happen
  - complete or total
  - minor
- They are a proud people and resent foreign intrusion into their local affairs.
  - watching as a show
  - showing off superior abilities
  - unwelcome involvement
- The sweet smell of cookies lingered in the kitchen for hours.
  - spread quickly
  - remained a long time
  - smelled good
- Many Germans migrated to South America in the mid-19th century
  - flew toward
  - flew away
  - moved
- The study indicates that traffic accidents from falling asleep increase on long, straight, monotonous roads.
  - dark
  - narrow
  - boring

13. During the Second World War, products such as food and gasoline were rationed in the United States, so more resources could be devoted to the war effort.
- A. restricted in the amount each person could have
  - B. set at a high price only the military could afford
  - C. imported in small amounts from many countries
14. Work is scarce in the region.
- A. easily found
  - B. extremely hard
  - C. in short supply
15. She is skeptical about the project.
- A. doubtful
  - B. keeping silent
  - C. excited
16. Her emotions were in turmoil after the difficult news.
- A. harmony
  - B. disorder
  - C. balance
17. The purpose of the UN Human Rights Commission is undermined by dictators who have maneuvered to control it.
- A. strengthened
  - B. weakened
  - C. celebrated
18. She looked wary as she reached out to pet her friend's new dog.
- A. determined
  - B. distrustful
  - C. excited
19. I yearn for more independence.
- A. fear
  - B. desire
  - C. work
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 *Far off in this seemingly dismal land were bands of people dressed in furs and animal skins, huddled close to small campfires.*
  - A. irrelevant or unimportant
  - B. important or significant
  - C. depressing or gloomy
- 2 *Where the caribou and other migrating animals roamed, The People followed.*
  - A. selecting (on a computer screen)
  - B. limiting or acting as a boundary
  - C. moving from one place to another
- 3 *She hung her head in shame and grief, for her mother refused to acknowledge her presence.*
  - A. recognize
  - B. translate
  - C. collision
- 4 *Ozhii Nelii was in deep turmoil.*
  - A. harmony
  - B. disorder
  - C. balance
- 5 *Worse yet, in their famished state, they might do something even more terrible.*
  - A. strongly desired
  - B. not concentrated
  - C. extremely hungry
- 6 *There they saw a small, trembling rabbit that lay partially strangled as it eyed them warily.*
  - A. in a manner that involves betrayal
  - B. in a nervous or distrustful manner
  - C. with difficulty moving or managing
- 7 *The creek where the fish were so abundant that we had to build many caches to dry them?*
  - A. able to be disagreed with
  - B. not tending to find fault
  - C. present in great quantity
- 8 *The women yearned to be as far away as possible from this place of bad memories.*
  - A. not concentrated
  - B. strongly desired
  - C. stopped fighting
- 9 *There, they built a fire and, after eating some of the rabbit meat they had carefully rationed, they returned for their sleds and resumed their journey.*
  - A. restricted in the amount each person could have
  - B. a non-doctor who assisted a women in childbirth
  - C. not controlled, prevented, or made less intense
- 10 *Perhaps the young ones were right — she and Sa' were fighting the inevitable.*
  - A. certain to happen
  - B. size or dimension
  - C. circular movement
- 11 *All right, strange young girl,' he said in a loud voice that I knew was meant to humiliate me.*
  - A. deeply involve; or intermix with complications or difficulties
  - B. extremely embarrass (decrease dignity, self-respect, or pride)
  - C. stimulates; or reflects brilliant light in a flickering manner
- 12 *Yet I would not yield as I stared unblinkingly into his eyes.*
  - A. produce or give
  - B. stop (something from happening)
  - C. think deeply or carefully about

- 13 *Though food was scarce, warmth was their main concern, and at night they would sit and talk, trying to keep each other from the loneliness and fears that threatened to overcome them.*
- A. the state of not being aware or concerned about something
  - B. a state similar to sleep where one is unaware of anything
  - C. in short supply OR barely or hardly (by a small margin)
- 14 *Sometimes, to break the monotony, one would present a woven rabbit-fur hat or mittens to the other.*
- A. relative amount
  - B. dramatic change
  - C. lack of variety
- 15 *Ch'idzigyaak did not approve but could see that her friend would not be deterred.*
- A. tried to prevent; or prevented
  - B. took (power or responsibility)
  - C. not hired, occupied, or booked
- 16 *How long could he hold out before he, too, became lost in the hunger and fatigue that undermined his decisions?*
- A. wrongly understood
  - B. weakened gradually
  - C. influenced opinion
- 17 *Perhaps a summer fire nearby had left its lingering smell in the air.*
- A. a serious intestinal infection caused by contaminated food or water
  - B. to remain in a place or situation longer than necessary or expected
  - C. people of the second most populous denomination of Islam (over 10%)
- 18 *Still skeptical, one of the younger men asked Daagoo what he expected to find.*
- A. doubtful (that something is true or worthwhile)
- or more rarely:
- generally tending to doubt what others believe
  - B. the quality of being characterized by fantastic imagery, or combinations of things and events that don't go together
  - C. related to the branch of medicine that deals with the diseases of women -- especially those of the reproductive organs
- 19 *He feared that something had happened to his men, yet hope kept intruding on that thought.*
- A. giving an opinion of what is wrong with something
  - B. keeping people and goods from reaching a location
  - C. interrupting or involving oneself without welcome
- 20 *Shruh Zhuu was so ecstatic that, when he heard the news, the young boy immediately gathered his things and was ready to go.*
- A. deeply disappointed
  - B. feeling intense happiness and excitement
  - C. intensely concerned

# ANSWER KEY

## Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	dismal	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
2	C	migrate	Used 2 times in this book.
3	A	acknowledge ( <i>as in: acknowledge her or the truth</i> )	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
4	B	turmoil	Used 2 times in this book.
5	C	famished	Used 2 times in this book.
6	B	wary	High-utility academic word; used 2 times in this book.
7	C	abundant	High-utility academic word
8	B	yearn	Used 2 times in this book.
9	A	ration	Used 2 times in this book.
10	A	inevitable	High-utility academic word
11	B	humiliate	Used 2 times in this book.
12	A	yield ( <i>as in: will yield valuable data</i> )	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
13	C	scarcity	High-utility academic word
14	C	monotonous	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	A	deter	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
16	B	undermine	High-utility academic word
17	B	linger	Used 2 times in this book.
18	A	skeptical	High-utility academic word
19	C	intrusion	Used 2 times in this book.
20	B	ecstatic	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.