

Under the Lion's Paw

by Hamlin Garland

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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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: accustom, avenge, indifferent, infinite, innumerable, inquire, jovial, mortgage, notwithstanding, persist, premonition, principle, quiver, refuge, sallow, saunter, solemn, squall, taint, vigor



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. Actors and politicians are **accustomed** to less privacy than the rest of us.
 - A. used to
 - B. happy with
 - C. paid for
2. The hero set out to **avenge** the cruel treatment of his village by the bandits.
 - A. kindly forgive
 - B. quietly forget
 - C. take revenge for
3. She was **indifferent** to his anger.
 - A. without interest
 - B. with fear
 - C. with anger
4. The night sky seemed **infinite** as we gazed at countless stars.
 - A. blurry
 - B. silent
 - C. endless
5. **Innumerable** stars seemed to fill the clear night sky.
 - A. too many to count
 - B. easy to count
 - C. barely noticeable
6. I am here to **inquire** about the job.
 - A. answer questions
 - B. ask about
 - C. perform a task
7. She is a **jovial** old woman.
 - A. impossible to understand
 - B. cheerful and friendly
 - C. very noticeable
8. The site has a **mortgage** payment calculator that calculates the loan payment based on the interest rate and length of the loan.
 - A. unsecured loan
 - B. real estate loan
 - C. credit card loan
9. The budget was approved, **notwithstanding** the loud protests from the opposition.
 - A. in spite of
 - B. as a result of
 - C. in addition to
10. We expect the conditions to **persist** into next year.
 - A. grow worse
 - B. continue
 - C. go away
11. Like most soldiers, I was scared before battle, but it's not like I had a **premonition** that something bad was going to happen to me.
 - A. expectation
 - B. feeling
 - C. certainty

12. One guiding principle is that everyone should be treated fairly.
- A. rule or belief
 - B. complaint
 - C. answer or result
13. Her hands began to quiver as she opened the envelope.
- A. slightly shake
 - B. tightly grip
 - C. quickly move
14. She took refuge from the sun under a beautiful oak tree.
- A. protection
 - B. shade
 - C. warmth
15. Liver disease has given her a **sallow** complexion.
- A. unhealthy pale or yellowish
 - B. design based on alphabetic letters; or adding such a design to something
 - C. characterized by narrower parallel folds when closed and wider when open
16. She **sauntered** over to us.
- A. limped painfully
 - B. marched quickly
 - C. walked leisurely
17. Everyone was **solemn** at the funeral.
- A. serious and dignified
 - B. teary eyed
 - C. dressed in dark colors
18. The fishermen rushed to shore as a **squall** approached.
- A. calm breeze
 - B. thick fog
 - C. brief storm
19. Authorities said the milk was tainted with rat poison.
- A. contaminated
 - B. stored
 - C. sabotaged
20. The scientist pursued her research with **vigor**, determined to make a breakthrough discovery.
- A. outside help
 - B. energy and strength
 - C. persistent patience

Vocabulary in Context

Under the Lion's Paw

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

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

- 1 All day long the ploughmen on their prairie farms had moved to and fro in their wide level fields through the falling snow, which melted as it fell, wetting them to the skin all day, **notwithstanding** the frequent squalls of snow, the dripping, desolate clouds, and the muck of the furrows, black and tenacious as tar.
A. used to show that something remains true even though something else seems to go against it
B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
C. therefore (for that reason)
- 2 All day long the ploughmen on their prairie farms had moved to and fro in their wide level fields through the falling snow, which melted as it fell, wetting them to the skin all day, notwithstanding the frequent squalls of snow, the dripping, desolate clouds, and the muck of the furrows, black and tenacious as tar.
A. shows fear by positioning the body as though afraid of being hit
B. degrades (decreases) the purity, quality, or status of something
C. sudden strong winds; or storms
- 3 They seemed to know what he meant, and that this was the last round, for they worked with greater **vigor** than before.
A. lacking things most people enjoy
B. strength, energy, or good health
C. opposed to people who are Jewish
- 4 He was picking his way carefully through the mud, when the tall form of a man loomed up before him with a **premonitory** cough.
A. related to intelligence -- such as requiring, appealing to, or possessing intelligence
B. a feeling, not based on reason, that something will happen -- especially something bad
C. (adjective) designed to stop something OR (noun) something that stops something else
- 5 "There ye go!" he shouted **jovially**, to the children.
A. relating to the outside
B. cheerfully and friendly
C. about (but not exactly)
- 6 His hair was a reddish brown, like his coat, and seemed equally faded by the wind and sun, and his **sallow** face, though hard and set, was pathetic somehow.
A. an unhealthy pale or yellowish complexion; or to cause such a complexion
B. design based on alphabetic letters; or adding such a design to something
C. characterized by narrower parallel folds when closed and wider when open
- 7 "W-a-a-l, set right up, Mr. Haskins; wade right into what we've got; 'taint much, but we manage to live on it she gits fat on it," laughed Council, pointing his thumb at his wife.
A. to spoil something so it is not desirable
B. stop interacting; or stop having interest
C. improve (something that had deteriorated)
- 8 When the tired husband and wife were lying under the generous quilts of the spare bed, Haskins listened a moment to the wind in the eaves, and then said, with a slow and **solemn** tone, "There are people in this world who are good enough t' be angels, an' only haff t' die to be angels."
A. very serious--possibly dignified
B. indicating approval or agreement
C. able to be taken on as one's own
- 9 Every cent he could save or spare from his trade he put into land at forced sale, or mortgages on land, which were "just as good as the wheat," he was **accustomed** to say.
A. used to (adapted to something, so it seems normal)
B. the ability to be taken up or received into heaven
C. the state or character of being good or beneficial

- 10 *In spite of all these signs of easy life Butler **persisted** in saying he "hadn't enough money to pay taxes on his land," and was careful to convey the impression that he was poor in spite of his twenty farms.*
- A. disagreed
 - B. continued
 - C. stuck out
- 11 *Poor Higley, after working himself nearly to death on it in the attempt to lift the **mortgage**, had gone off to Dakota, leaving the farm and his curse to Butler.*
- A. to concentrate, look at; or the act of concentration
 - B. a real estate loan; or pledging something for a loan
 - C. enter another's property without right or permission
- 12 *Butler was seated in Ben Ashley's store telling fish yarns when Council **sauntered** in casually.*
- A. strutted (walked in an especially confident and proud manner)
 - B. walked leisurely
 - C. walked leisurely
- 13 *"My relation'll need all he's got t' git his crops in," said Council, in the same, **indifferent** way.*
- A. without interest
 - B. likely to change
 - C. able to be found
- 14 *And when the red light of the lamp shone out into the darkness of the cold and windy night, and he thought of this **refuge** for his children and wife, Haskins could have put his arm around the neck of his burly companion and squeezed him like a lover.*
- A. something giving protection or comfort -- especially a safe place
 - B. a ceiling designed to affect noise -- typically to decrease noise
 - C. a person (often a writer or artist) living an unconventional life
- 15 *My religion ain't run on such business **principles**.*
- A. basic rules or beliefs
 - B. subtle characteristics
 - C. long eventful journeys
- 16 *The eldest boy drove a team all through the spring, ploughing and seeding, milked the cows, and did chores **innumerable**, in most ways taking the place of a man.*
- A. too numerous to be counted
 - B. able to meet and talk with
 - C. the quality of disagreeing
- 17 *An **infinitely** pathetic but common figure this boy on the American farm, where there is no law against child labor.*
- A. in a manner that is open to arguments, ideas, or change
 - B. inadequately (in a manner that does not provide enough)
 - C. unlimited; without boundaries; or too numerous to count
- 18 *"Well, what do you think of it?" **inquired** the cool, mocking, insinuating voice of Butler.*
- A. limited or with boundaries
 - B. asked about or looked into
 - C. gradually added or removed
- 19 *Butler **shrank** and **quivered**, expecting the blow; stood, held hypnotized by the eyes of the man he had a moment before despised a man transformed into an avenging demon.*
- A. to shake or tremble slightly
 - B. not working or not operating
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 20 *Butler **shrank** and **quivered**, expecting the blow; stood, held hypnotized by the eyes of the man he had a moment before despised a man transformed into an **avenging** demon.*
- A. briefly seeing
 - B. making fearful
 - C. taking revenge

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	notwithstanding	High-utility academic word
2	C	squall (<i>as in: a squall blew in</i>)	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
3	B	vigor	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
4	B	premonition	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
5	B	jovial	Used 2 times in this story.
6	A	sallow (<i>as in: a sallow complexion</i>)	Used about 2 times per 10 books in our high school library.
7	A	taint	Used about 5 times per 10 books in our high school library.
8	A	solemn	Used about 17 times per 10 books in our high school library.
9	A	accustom	Used about 16 times per 10 books in our high school library.
10	B	persist	Used about 9 times per 10 books in our high school library.
11	B	mortgage	Used 4 times in this story.
12	C	saunter	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.
13	A	indifferent	High-utility academic word
14	A	refuge	Used about 9 times per 10 books in our high school library.
15	A	principle	High-utility academic word
16	A	innumerable	Used 2 times in this story.
17	C	infinite	Used about 11 times per 10 books in our high school library.
18	B	inquire	Used about 15 times per 10 books in our high school library.
19	A	quiver	Used about 16 times per 10 books in our high school library.
20	C	avenge	Used about 4 times per 10 books in our high school library.