

Up From Slavery: An Autobiography

by Booker T. Washington

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: abolition, agitate, aspiration, canvass, convention (2), cordial, enable, however (2), illustrate, inclined, legislature, notwithstanding, philanthropy, preside, prominent, resolve (2), yield



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	C
4	A
5	B
6	C
7	B
8	B
9	A
10	C
11	C
12	C
13	C
14	A
15	B
16	B
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. The long fight for **abolition** finally achieved its goal in the 19th century.
 - A. outlawing alcohol
 - B. ending slavery
 - C. regulating child labor
2. She gets **agitated** whenever the topic comes up.
 - A. calm and thoughtful
 - B. gloomy (sad)
 - C. emotionally disturbed
3. Her **aspiration** to travel the world was finally realized when she received a job offer from an international company.
 - A. reason
 - B. payment
 - C. desire
4. Volunteers will **canvass** the neighborhood to gather support for the candidate.
 - A. go door-to-door in
 - B. set up a stage in
 - C. report news from
5. Hotel rooms are expensive that week because so many people are attending a big **convention**.
 - A. unexpected emergency
 - B. large conference or meeting
 - C. traditional holiday
6. In most countries, the **convention** is to shake the head to indicate "no", but in Bulgaria that indicates "yes".
 - A. movement
 - B. agreement
 - C. normal behavior
7. The professor greeted each student **cordially** as they entered.
 - A. in a hurried manner
 - B. in a friendly manner
 - C. in a clumsy manner
8. Modern smartphones **enable** people to work from almost anywhere.
 - A. require
 - B. allow
 - C. remind
9. I hope to take the ACT just once. **However**, I will take it early, so there is time to study and take it again if my scores aren't high enough.
 - A. but
 - B. also
 - C. and
10. **However** safe we make it, there will always be risk.
 - A. on-the-other-hand
 - B. in addition
 - C. no matter how
11. The example **illustrates** the belief.
 - A. disproves
 - B. proves
 - C. makes clear

12. I was inclined to laugh, but I overcame the urge.
- A. disinclined
 - B. afraid
 - C. tending
13. She is running for the state legislature.
- A. highest court
 - B. police department
 - C. lawmaking body
14. The budget was approved, notwithstanding the loud protests from the opposition.
- A. in spite of
 - B. as a result of
 - C. in addition to
15. The billionaire's philanthropy supported hospitals around the world.
- A. selfish hoarding
 - B. charitable giving
 - C. loud boasting
16. The student body president presides over student council meetings.
- A. regularly attends
 - B. officially leads
 - C. casually observes
17. The committee has many prominent members, so its findings will be taken seriously.
- A. well-known and important
 - B. diverse or varied
 - C. talented or skilled
18. I resolved to never drink again.
- A. was forced
 - B. was encouraged
 - C. firmly decided
19. She is testing my resolve to keep a good attitude.
- A. determination
 - B. ability
 - C. optimism
20. After the scandal, she yielded to public pressure and resigned her position.
- A. added
 - B. gave in
 - C. produced

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 *These were the ambitious youths of the race, at work with an earnestness that put to shame the **conventional** student life of most educational institutions.*
 - A. complete or total
 - B. able to challenge
 - C. normal or typical
- 2 *When the Louisiana State Constitutional **Convention** was in session, I wrote an open letter to that body pleading for justice for the race.*
 - A. result or predictable value
 - B. large conference or meeting
 - C. a long uninterrupted speech
- 3 *From the time that Garrison, Lovejoy, and others began to **agitate** for freedom, the slaves throughout the South kept in close touch with the progress of the movement.*
 - A. the act of hiding something by making it blend in with its surroundings; or hiding the truth; or something that hides or deceives
 - B. present something to treat as true in order to advance a discussion or to further investigation even though it might not be true
 - C. stir up (public demand)
- 4 *When I walked they made a fearful noise, and besides this they were very inconvenient, since there was no **yielding** to the natural pressure of the foot.*
 - A. showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance
 - B. giving in, giving up, or giving way (easily moved or soft)
 - C. placing trust (in someone) by talking about private things
- 5 *There was never a time in my youth, no matter how dark and discouraging the days might be, when one **resolve** did not continually remain with me, and that was a determination to secure an education at any cost.*
 - A. determination (firmness of purpose to do something)
 - B. wrongly translating
 - C. difficult situation
- 6 *It is now long ago that I learned this lesson from General Armstrong, and **resolved** that I would permit no man, no matter what his colour might be, to narrow and degrade my soul by making me hate him.*
 - A. changed
 - B. adapted
 - C. decided
- 7 *[M]y mother adopted into our family, **notwithstanding** our poverty, an orphan boy, to whom afterward we gave the name of James B. Washington.*
 - A. despite
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)
- 8 *Before the end of the vacation she gave me some work, and this, together with work in a coal-mine at some distance from my home, **enabled** me to earn a little money.*
 - A. got closer to
 - B. made possible
 - C. not satisfied
- 9 *I did receive, **however**, a small salary from the public fund, for my work as a public-school teacher.*
 - A. a word used to connect contrasting ideas as when using *though, in spite of that, in contrast, nevertheless, etc.*
 - B. in keeping with or in agreement with what was just stated
 - C. therefore (for that reason)

- 10 *There was a further feeling that a knowledge, however little, of the Greek and Latin languages would make one a very superior human being, something bordering almost on the supernatural.*
A. people who are good at or spend much time studying, thinking, and reasoning
B. aka analysis -- psychiatric treatment; or a theory of psychiatric treatment
C. regardless of how
- 11 *At the close of my school year in Washington I was very pleasantly surprised to receive, from a committee of three white people in Charleston, an invitation to canvass the state in the interests of that city.*
A. get the opinions (of people) by asking specific questions; or solicit votes
B. surgically interrupt nerve tracts to and from the frontal lobe of the brain
C. to investigate; or an investigation; or an instrument used for investigation
- 12 *I think I may say, without seeming egotism, that it is seldom that five years have wrought such a change in the life and aspirations of an individual.*
A. battles
B. results
C. desires
- 13 *While I was in charge of the Indian boys at Hampton, I had one or two experiences which illustrate the curious workings of caste in America.*
A. work or operate
B. think carefully
C. help make clear
- 14 *trying to secure money for philanthropic purposes*
A. unable to find
B. helping others
C. representative
- 15 *In the spring of 1895 I received a telegram from prominent citizens in Atlanta asking me to accompany a committee from that city to Washington*
A. well-known or important
B. unable to get closer to
C. not sensible or careful
- 16 *If in an audience of a thousand people there is one person who is not in sympathy with my views, or is inclined to be doubtful, cold, or critical, I can pick him out.*
A. not capable of being suffered through (or put up with)
B. the degree to which something can be solved or settled
C. with a tendency
- 17 *The English abolitionists with whom we came in contact never seemed to tire of talking about these two Americans.*
A. things that disagree with themselves
B. reformers who favored ending slavery
C. Muslim religious teachers or leaders
- 18 *I was never given a more cordial hearing anywhere.*
A. absolute
B. friendly
C. pleasing
- 19 *A similar reception was given me in New Orleans, which was presided over by the Mayor of the city.*
A. interacted, interested, or attracted
B. headed
C. made strips of hair lighter in color
- 20 *The Alabama Legislature was in session in Montgomery at this time.*
A. something that serves as evidence -- especially a statement at a trial or hearing
B. an atom that has acquired an electrical charge by the loss or gain of an electron
C. a group, made up of government representatives, that has the power to create laws

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	C	convention (<i>as in: conventional behavior</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
2	B	convention (<i>as in: teacher's convention</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
3	C	agitate	High-utility academic word; used 8 times in this book.
4	B	yield (<i>as in: yield to pressure</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 10 times in this book.
5	A	resolve (<i>as in: Her resolve weakened.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
6	C	resolve (<i>as in: I resolved to stop drinking.</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
7	A	notwithstanding	High-utility academic word; used 16 times in this book.
8	B	enable	High-utility academic word; used 13 times in this book.
9	A	however (<i>as in: However, complications may...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
10	C	however (<i>as in: However much she tried...</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
11	A	canvass (<i>as in: canvass the crowd</i>)	Used 4 times in this book.
12	C	aspiration	Used 3 times in this book.
13	C	illustrate (<i>as in: as illustrated by this example</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 10 times in this book.
14	B	philanthropy	Used 11 times in this book.
15	A	prominent (<i>as in: a prominent politician</i>)	Used 9 times in this book.
16	C	inclined (<i>as in: I'm inclined to</i>)	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
17	B	abolition	Used 7 times in this book.
18	B	cordial (<i>as in: a cordial reception</i>)	Used 9 times in this book.
19	B	preside	Used 10 times in this book.
20	C	legislature	Used 11 times in this book.