

Washington Square

by Henry James

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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OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

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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: attribute (2), cleave (2), contradict, conviction, correspond, correspondence, discreet (2), discretion (2), disposition (2), inquiry, narrate, oblige, obliged, trifle, trifle with



More Vocabulary Printables

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ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. She described his physical **attributes**.
 - A. characteristics
 - B. strengths
 - C. weaknesses
2. She **attributes** her success to hard work.
 - A. gives money for
 - B. gives credit for
 - C. gives help for
3. It has the ability to **cleave** carbon-carbon bonds.
 - A. split
 - B. identify
 - C. find
4. She was taught that she must **cleave** to God.
 - A. pray sincerely
 - B. hold firmly
 - C. give service
5. Does the sentence **contradict** what is said in the previous paragraph?
 - A. disagree with
 - B. reinforce
 - C. expand upon
6. She stood up in class with total **conviction** and said, "I believe animals deserve to be treated kindly, no matter what."
 - A. raised voice
 - B. firm belief
 - C. shaky voice
7. Do either of you have copies of your **correspondence**?
 - A. instructions
 - B. letters or emails
 - C. pictures or drawings
8. I don't live in Los Angeles yet, but I joined the organization as a **corresponding** member.
 - A. visiting
 - B. founding
 - C. done from afar
9. I will be **discreet** in my investigation.
 - A. thorough
 - B. quick
 - C. subtle
10. The waiter was **discreet** about the celebrity dining at the corner table.
 - A. loud and boastful
 - B. rude and impatient
 - C. careful and tactful
11. I mistakenly thought I could trust her **discretion**, so I gave her my cell phone number. Now I need a new number.
 - A. behavior that does not reveal private information
 - B. ability to memorize important things
 - C. wisdom to finish a job quickly

12. I count on her **discretion** to recommend sound investments.
- A. communication skills
 - B. good judgment
 - C. information sources
13. We'll see if her cheerful **disposition** continues when she's tired and under stress.
- A. team
 - B. generosity
 - C. personality
14. We are awaiting the commander's final **disposition** of the matter.
- A. general mood
 - B. questions regarding a topic
 - C. decision to settle a matter
15. The official **inquiry** has ended, but the press continues to ask questions.
- A. story
 - B. statement
 - C. investigation
16. She avoided eye contact as she **narrated** the story of how she ended up in prison.
- A. told (a story)
 - B. discouraged
 - C. urged strongly
17. I didn't want to help, but I felt **obliged** because of our family connections.
- A. required to
 - B. interested
 - C. sad
18. I'd be **obliged** if you could help me lift this.
- A. surprised
 - B. grateful
 - C. paying
19. Don't waste my time with trifling matters.
- A. other's
 - B. future
 - C. unimportant
20. The European Parliament refuses to be trifled with.
- A. treated without respect
 - B. argued with
 - C. negotiated with

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 He was a thoroughly honest man—honest in a degree of which he had perhaps lacked the opportunity to give the complete measure; and, putting aside the great good-nature of the circle in which he practised, which was rather fond of boasting that it possessed the "brightest" doctor in the country, he daily justified his claim to the talents **attributed** to him by the popular voice.
 - A. not made different; or shown to be different
 - B. credited (pointed to as the cause of something)
 - C. not changed directly from a solid to a vapor
- 2 "Their number is infinite!" said Mrs. Penniman, in a tone which seemed to suggest that this convenient faculty was one of her brightest **attributes**.
 - A. characteristics (of something or someone)
 - B. dreamlike states of altered consciousness
 - C. piles of wood or other burnable materials
- 3 Mrs. Penniman was a tall, thin, fair, rather faded woman, with a perfectly amiable **disposition**, a high standard of gentility, a taste for light literature, and a certain foolish indirectness and obliquity of character.
 - A. dreamlike state of altered consciousness
 - B. someone who is intolerant and prejudiced
 - C. normal mood and personality
- 4 The first of these dated from ten years back, and consisted of a series of **dispositions** by which he left the great mass of property to his daughter, with becoming legacies to his two sisters.
 - A. members of the Religious Society of Friends (the Friends have never called themselves Quakers)
 - B. compounds consisting of large molecules made up of linked series of repeated smaller molecules
 - C. decisions
- 5 Dr. Sloper had travelled but little, and he took the liberty of not believing everything this anecdotal idler **narrated**.
 - A. told (a story)
 - B. not translated
 - C. began fighting
- 6 It wouldn't give you any pleasure to **contradict** him?
 - A. disagree
 - B. subtract
 - C. continue
- 7 She had told Morris Townsend that she would not mention him to her father, and she saw no reason to retract this vow of **discretion**.
 - A. keeping a secret (so that discomfort is not caused for another)
 - B. the reason for doing something; or the level of desire to do something
 - C. a drug that calms or puts to sleep; or describing something as calming
- 8 I have not interfered, I have left you your liberty, I have remembered that you are no longer a little girl—that you have arrived at years of **discretion**.
 - A. communications that are through in nature
 - B. good judgment
 - C. sources of information
- 9 Mrs. Penniman's **convictions** as regards the relations of her niece and the clever young visitor who saved appearances by coming ostensibly for both the ladies—Mrs.
 - A. not working or not operating
 - B. a strong, firmly held belief
 - C. calculates or judges too low
- 10 Well, I have been **indiscreet**, formerly; but I think I have got over it.
 - A. unable to get closer to
 - B. optimistic or agreeable
 - C. not sensible or careful

- 11 *Then she saw a gentleman standing in the middle of the room, from which her aunt had discreetly retired.*
 A. in the manner of someone who believes oneself morally superior to others
 B. in a manner related to obtaining pleasure from inflicting pain on others
 C. in a manner that is unlikely to attract attention or cause embarrassment
- 12 *"You will cleave to me?" said Morris.*
 A. bounce back
 B. hold firmly
 C. begin again
- 13 *Catherine's outbreak of anger and the sense of wrong gave her, while they lasted, the satisfaction that comes from all assertion of force; they hurried her along, and there is always a sort of pleasure in cleaving the air.*
 A. splitting
 B. gradually adding or removing
 C. thinking about or discussing
- 14 *She had a vision of this ceremony being performed in some subterranean chapel—subterranean chapels in New York were not frequent, but Mrs. Penniman's imagination was not chilled by trifles—and of the guilty couple—she liked to think of poor Catherine and her suitor as the guilty couple—being shuffled away in a fast-whirling vehicle to some obscure lodging in the suburbs, where she would pay them (in a thick veil) clandestine visits, where they would endure a period of romantic privation, and where ultimately, after she should have been their earthly providence, their intercessor, their advocate, and their medium of communication with the world, they should be reconciled to her brother in an*
 A. struggles or disagreements
 B. is attractive or desirable
 C. things of small importance
- 15 *It seems to make you very happy that your daughter's affections have been trifled with.*
 A. treated thoughtlessly or without respect
 B. injury to muscles or tendons of the knee
 C. limit light vibrations to a single plane
- 16 *"The woman's an idiot," thought Morris; but he was obliged to say something different.*
 A. required (to do something)
 B. gradually added or removed
 C. limited or with boundaries
- 17 *I am really very much obliged to her.*
 A. differed; or changed
 B. grateful or indebted
 C. began fighting again
- 18 *Here, suddenly, Morris was interrupted; these ingenious inquiries had not reached Catherine's ears.*
 A. social events or ceremonies
 B. reasons for doing something
 C. questions or investigations
- 19 *He supposed she was in correspondence with Morris Townsend; but he held his peace about it, for he never saw the young man's letters, and Catherine's own missives were always given to the courier to post.*
 A. Nazi organization for children aged 10 to 18
 B. communication by written letters or messages
 C. found a condition or substance to be present
- 20 *I haven't the least idea; I am not in secret correspondence with him!*
 A. small kitchens
 B. leaps or jumps
 C. done from afar

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	B	attribute (<i>as in: I attribute it to...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
2	A	attribute (<i>as in: It is an attribute of...</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
3	C	disposition (<i>as in: a kind disposition</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
4	C	disposition (<i>as in: disposition of the matter</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
5	A	narrate	Used 5 times in this book.
6	A	contradict	High-utility academic word; used 7 times in this book.
7	A	discretion (<i>as in: embarrassing lack of discretion</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
8	B	discretion (<i>as in: Parental discretion advised.</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
9	B	conviction (<i>as in: spoke with conviction</i>)	Used 9 times in this book.
10	C	discreet (<i>as in: discreet--not foolish</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
11	C	discreet (<i>as in: discreet--not showy or gossipy</i>)	Used 3 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
12	B	cleave (<i>as in: cleave to</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
13	A	cleave (<i>as in: cleave through</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
14	C	trifle (<i>as in: a trifling matter</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
15	A	trifle with (<i>as in: trifle with her affections</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
16	A	oblige (<i>as in: I am obliged by law.</i>)	Used 8 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
17	B	obliged (<i>as in: I'm much obliged for your kindness</i>)	Used 4 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
18	C	inquiry	High-utility academic word; used 9 times in this book.
19	B	correspond (<i>as in: corresponding by email</i>)	3 meanings in this book.
20	C	correspondence (<i>as in: a correspondence course</i>)	3 meanings in this book.