

Wuthering Heights

Chapters 1–9

by Emily Bronte

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: annihilated, antipathy, aversion, conjecture, degrade, equanimity, infatuated, misanthropist, sullen, vindictive

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 · Chapters 1–9 · Lockwood's arrival at Wuthering Heights

Section 2 · Chapters 10–17 · Heathcliff returns to the moors

Section 3 · Chapters 18–26 · A new generation at the Grange

Section 4 · Chapters 27–34 · A visit to Wuthering Heights

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 explosion **annihilated** the old building in seconds.

- A. shaken to its foundations
- B. completely wiped out
- C. set ablaze and gutted

2. The two rivals felt a lasting **antipathy** that no apology could soften.

- A. a deep dislike or hostility
- B. a bitter sense of envy
- C. a proud, stubborn rivalry

3. She has a deep **aversion** to crowded, noisy rooms.

- A. a strong dislike
- B. a growing impatience
- C. a deep fear

4. From the few clues at the scene, the detective could only **conjecture** about the thief.

- A. to worry without cause
- B. to ask many questions
- C. to guess from few clues

5. Selling fake goods would **degrade** the store's good name.

- A. to spread widely by rumor
- B. to lower in dignity or standing
- C. to slowly wear down or decay

6. Even as the deadline loomed, he kept his **equanimity**.

- A. quiet good humor
- B. fierce determination
- C. calm composure

7. Within a week he was **infatuated** with his new neighbor.

- A. openly jealous of
- B. foolishly in love with
- C. deeply annoyed with

8. After the scandal, he became a sour **misanthropist**, shut away from the whole town.

- A. a person who hates all people
- B. a loner who shuns all company
- C. a gloomy, complaining pessimist

9. The **sullen** boy slouched in the corner all evening.

- A. gloomy and resentful
- B. weary and worn out
- C. shy and easily embarrassed

10. The **vindictive** coach benched any player who once crossed him.

- A. quick to lose his temper
- B. harsh and hard to please
- C. set on getting revenge

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

melancholy — deeply sad and mournful

altered the colour of my mind — permanently changed the way I think and feel

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	A
3	A
4	C
5	B
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	A
10	C

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 “A perfect misanthropist’s heaven: and Mr. Heathcliff and I are such a suitable pair to divide the desolation between us.”

As it is used in the passage, the word ‘misanthropist’ most nearly describes someone who...

- A. shuns and distrusts all people
- B. keeps to a solitary routine
- C. loves bleak, lonely landscapes

2 “... his reserve springs from an aversion to showy displays of feeling – to manifestations of mutual kindness.”

It can reasonably be inferred that Heathcliff’s reserved manner springs from...

- A. a dislike of open shows of feeling
- B. a secret longing for friendship
- C. a fear of seeming weak

3 “... everybody conjectured that I perished last night; and they were wondering how they must set about the search for my remains.”

According to the passage, when Lockwood returned the household had...

- A. known for certain he was dead
- B. forgotten he had set out
- C. guessed he had died in the snow

4 “He seemed a sullen, patient child; hardened, perhaps, to illtreatment: he would stand Hindley’s blows without winking or shedding a tear ...”

In the passage, the young Heathcliff is characterized as...

- A. gloomy and inwardly resentful
- B. patient and naturally easy-going
- C. timid and eager to please

5 “... I really thought him not vindictive: I was deceived completely, as you will hear.”

The author most likely has Nelly add ‘I was deceived completely’ in order to...

- A. show Heathcliff had forgiven Hindley
- B. prove Nelly misjudged every child
- C. warn that Heathcliff was truly vengeful

6 “The little party recovered its equanimity at sight of the fragrant feast.”

In context, the word ‘equanimity’ most nearly means...

- A. polite silence
- B. calm composure
- C. cheerful appetite

7 “It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now; so he shall never know how I love him: and that, not because he’s handsome, Nelly, but because he’s more myself than I am.”

It can reasonably be inferred that, for Catherine, marrying Heathcliff would...

- A. lower her in social rank
- B. anger her brother Hindley
- C. deepen her love for him

8 “Edgar must shake off his antipathy, and tolerate him, at least.”

Which statement is best supported by the passage?

- A. Edgar secretly admires Heathcliff
- B. Edgar is indifferent to Heathcliff
- C. Edgar deeply dislikes Heathcliff

9 “If all else perished, and HE remained, I should still continue to be; and if all else remained, and he were annihilated, the universe would turn to a mighty stranger: I should not seem a part of it.”

The passage most strongly suggests that, for Catherine, Heathcliff’s existence is...

- A. less vital than her marriage
- B. essential to her very being
- C. a comfort she could give up

10 “Edgar Linton, as multitudes have been before and will be after him, was infatuated ...”

Which choice best describes Nelly’s attitude toward Edgar as he marries Catherine?

- A. admiration for his devotion
- B. pity for his blind self-deception
- C. scorn for his reckless haste

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	A	
2	A	
3	C	
4	A	Character comprehension. The excerpt calls him 'patient,' so the key rests on knowing 'sullen' means silently resentful, not easy-going.
5	C	
6	B	
7	A	
8	C	
9	B	Theme comprehension. Rejecting the marriage option rests on the section's bond between Catherine and Heathcliff, not on the word alone.
10	B	Character comprehension. Nelly's pity depends on knowing Catherine does not love Edgar as she loves Heathcliff.

Teacher Context: Chapters 1–9

Lockwood, the new tenant of Thrushcross Grange, calls on his landlord Heathcliff and, after an unsettling night at Wuthering Heights, asks the housekeeper Nelly Dean to tell its history. Nelly recounts the childhood of Catherine and Hindley Earnshaw and the orphan Heathcliff, Catherine's deep bond with Heathcliff, and her choice to marry Edgar Linton, which drives Heathcliff to run away. Section ends as Heathcliff disappears, a clean break before his transformation and return.