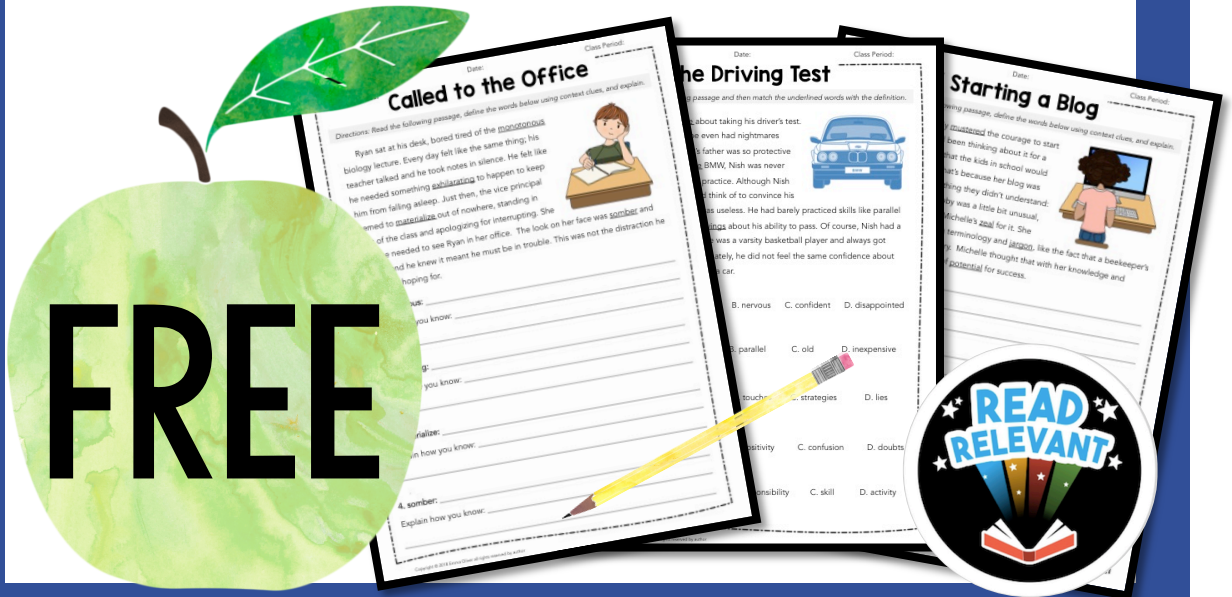


Read Relevant presents:

VOCABULARY PRACTICE USING CONTEXT CLUES



- Tools to help students master the use of context clues to understand and use vocabulary
- Great for test-prep
- Ready to use: print and go!

Context Clue Practice

Directions: Read the following sentences and then match the underlined word with the correct meanings. Explain which context clues you used to help you choose your answer.

1. There was a long hiatus in the television broadcast. This pause was caused by technical problems.

A. noise

C. show

B. break

D. announcement

Explain how you know: _____

2. Francesca was not sentimental about the old maple tree in the front yard. Although it had been important to her family for many generations, she had no trouble deciding to cut it down.

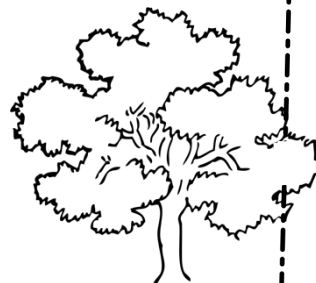
A. happy

C. emotional

B. angry

D. tired

Explain how you know: _____



3. Grandma Marie loved to indulge her grandchildren whenever she was watching them, giving them all the things they were never allowed to have, like soda and greasy food.

A. spoil

C. starve

B. ignore

D. humor

Explain how you know: _____

4. Mya was nervous for the first day of school. She was an introvert, and her timidity made it hard for her to make new friends.

A. new student

C. class clown

B. a shy person

D. outsider

Explain how you know: _____

5. The science fair needed impartial judges: they had to have no biases towards any of the contestants so that it would be fair.

- A. expert
- B. wealthy

- C. open-minded
- D. negative

Explain how you know: _____

6. As Jamal ran towards the goal on the soccer field, he suddenly rolled his ankle and fell painfully to the ground. He grimaced, clutching his ankle in pain.

- A. frowned
- B. smiled

- C. laughed
- D. walked

Explain how you know: _____

7. Dogs that have been abused and neglected are often wary around strangers. Eventually, however, they can learn to trust and love people again.

- A. trusting
- B. cautious

- C. friendly
- D. sleepy

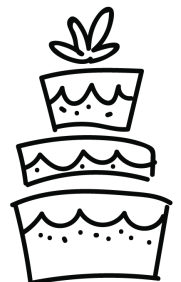
Explain how you know: _____

8. Sean blew out the candles on his thirteenth birthday cake, thinking about all the changes that would take place in the next decade. He would graduate from high school, get a car, and be in college before he knew it.

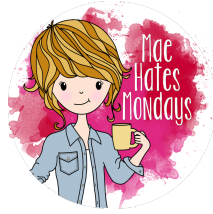
- A. hundred years
- B. three years

- C. one year
- D. ten years

Explain how you know: _____



CREDITS:



ANSWER KEY:

1. B
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. C
6. A
7. B
8. D

*explanations
will vary*

STANDARDS ALIGNMENT:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.4

Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.6

Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6-9.4

Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6-9.4.A

Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6-9.4.D

Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

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VOCABULARY PRACTICE USING CONTEXT CLUES



Called to the Office

Directions: Read the following passage, define the words below using context clues, and explain.

Ryan sat at his desk, bored tired of the monotonous lecture. Every day felt like the same thing; his teacher lectured and he took notes in silence. He felt like he needed something exhilarating to happen to keep him from falling asleep. Just then, the vice principal seemed to materialize out of nowhere, standing in front of the class and logging for interrupting. She said she needed to see Ryan in her office. The look on her face was somber and serious and he knew it meant he must be in trouble. This was not the distraction he had been hoping for.

1. monotonous:
Explain how you know: _____

2. exhilarating:
Explain how you know: _____

New Year's Eve

Directions: Read the following passage and then match the underlined words with the definition.

Have you ever been to Times Square for New Year's Eve? If you don't mind a multitude of people surrounding you in a small area, you might enjoy it. There are performances throughout the evening leading up to midnight. The atmosphere is very festive and there is always a lot of cheering and commotion when they illuminate the giant ball. The ball drop is a famous tradition on New Year's Eve. In Times Square, this bright sphere is made of 672 lights and is so luminous that it can be seen from far away. Standing outside for several hours can be difficult, especially in winter temperatures.

4. luminous

A. withstand B. atmosphere C. dislike D. quit

Starting a Blog

Directions: Read the following passage, define the words below using context clues, and explain.

Michelle had finally mustered the courage to start her own blog. She had been thinking about it for a while, but was worried that the kids in school would make fun of her for it. That's because her blog was going to be about something they didn't understand: beekeeping. Yes, this hobby was a little bit unusual, but this did not decrease Michelle's zeal for it. She knew all of the beekeeping terminology and jargon, like the fact that a beekeeper's equipment is called an apiary. Michelle thought that with her knowledge and passion, her blog had a lot of potential for success.

potential:
Explain how you know: _____

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TYPES OF CONTEXT CLUES

Definition/Explanation Clues

Definition or explanation clues appear near an unfamiliar word and tell the reader the word's meaning. Clues that a definition or explanation clue is used are commas, colons, semi-colons, dashes, or words like "that is," "which is," "is," or "meaning."

Examples:
Seahorses have prehensile tails—tails that allow them to grasp things—helping them hold onto seaweed and hunt for food.

Nelson Mandela was the first black president of a free South Africa. He became president in 1994 after the fall of apartheid, a system of racial discrimination.

The hunter-gatherers in ancient times were nomadic, meaning that they travelled and lived from place to place.

Synonym/ Restatement Clues

Synonym or Restatement clues say a word in another way that is easier to understand. You can tell the author is using this kind of clue based on commas, semi-colons, dashes, "that is," "and," "or," and "in other words."

Examples:
In 2017, fidget spinners took the world by storm. Fidget spinners are meant to keep your hands busy as well as be a fun hobby. Soon, they became ubiquitous, appearing in the hands of children everywhere.

The doctor consulted with his coworkers, asking them what they thought about the patient's strange symptoms.

During the Great Depression, families needed to be frugal and careful with their money.

TYPES OF CONTEXT CLUES

Antonym/Contrast Clues

Antonym or contrast clues present the opposite meaning of a word in the text. Clues that you are seeing antonym or contrast clues are words like "but," "unlike," "however," "although," "while," "on the other hand," etc.

Examples:
Unlike the boisterous students in her class, Grace was quiet and liked to follow the rules.

Liam was more hopeful that his parents would finally let him adopt a puppy, but his brother was more pessimistic.

As the city was developed and forests were destroyed, deer became scarce. On the other hand, there will still many squirrels throughout the city.

Inference Context Clues

Inference context clues are clues that appear throughout the passage. To best use these clues, make sure to read the entire passage, and pay close attention to the sentences before and after the sentence in which the unknown word occurs. The mood and tone of a passage can help you understand the word's meaning.

Examples:
Many jobs that we know today will someday be taken over by robotics. For example, you may have seen the self-checkout lanes at grocery stores. These machines do the jobs that people used to do, making many human cashiers obsolete.

Non's short stature made it hard for her to reach things that were high on shelves.

For years, people have been advocating that America should eliminate the penny. They think it is not worth enough money to have a real purpose.

potential:
Explain how you know: _____

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