

Context Clues

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 10



Quick Review

When you do not know a word, look at the OTHER WORDS in the sentence. They are clues that help you guess what the new word means.

PRACTICE

Use the other words in the sentence as clues to find the meaning.

1. Read: *The path was **muddy**, so our shoes got wet and dirty.* **Muddy** means —
 - A. clean and dry
 - B. wet and dirty
 - C. soft and warm
 - D. new
2. Read: *The puppy was **tiny** and could fit in one hand.* **Tiny** means —
 - A. very big
 - B. very small
 - C. very loud
 - D. very fast
3. Read: *I was **thirsty**, so I drank a big glass of water.* **Thirsty** means —
 - A. needing a drink
 - B. feeling sleepy
 - C. feeling happy
 - D. feeling cold
4. Read: *The room was **silent**; we could not hear a sound.* **Silent** means —
 - A. very loud
 - B. very quiet
 - C. very bright
 - D. very dark
5. Read: *The soup was **steaming** and too hot to eat.* **Steaming** means —
 - A. very cold
 - B. very hot
 - C. very sweet
 - D. very old



6. Read: *My grandma is **elderly**; she is almost ninety years old.* **Elderly** means —

- A. young
- B. old
- C. tall
- D. shy

7. Read: *The clown was **amusing**, and the kids laughed and laughed.* **Amusing** means —

- A. funny
- B. scary
- C. sad
- D. boring

8. Read: *The box was so **heavy** that Dad could not lift it.* What does **heavy** mean? _____

Answer: _____

9. Read: *The puppy was **weary** after the long walk and fell asleep right away.* What does **weary** mean?

Answer: _____

10. Read: *The hill was so **steep** that we had to climb up slowly.* What does **steep** mean? How do you know?



Answer Keys

- 1 A B C D
- 2 A B C D
- 3 A B C D
- 4 A B C D
- 5 A B C D

- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8
- 9
- 10

Explanations

1. B	Wet and dirty shoes are the clue. The others do not fit.
2. B	Fitting in one hand tells you it is very small.
3. A	Drinking water is the clue. Thirsty means you need a drink.
4. B	No sound at all means very quiet.
5. B	Too hot to eat is the clue for steaming.
6. B	Almost ninety years old tells you elderly means old.
7. A	Kids laughing is the clue. Amusing means funny.
8.	Answer: hard to lift / very weighty Not being able to lift the box is the clue for heavy.
9. tired	Falling asleep right away is the clue for weary.
10.	Answer: Example: Steep means going up sharply. I know because they had to climb up slowly. Accept any answer that uses the clue about climbing slowly.



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