

# Using Context Clues

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

Focus on using context clues to determine word meaning. Strong test answers are precise, purposeful, and supported by the wording of the task.

## PRACTICE

Answer each question. Choose the best answer for multiple-choice items and write complete short responses.

- Which choice BEST demonstrates using context clues to determine word meaning?
  - The evidence was final and complete.
  - The committee postponed the vote because the evidence was inconclusive; no one could tell which plan would work best.
  - The evidence was humorous.
  - The evidence was illegal.
- Which revision best applies using context clues to determine word meaning? Original: The archive was meticulous, with every photograph labeled by date and location.
  - The archive was meticulous, meaning extremely careful and detailed, with every photograph labeled by date and location.
  - The archive was meticulous, with every photograph labeled by date and location.
  - The evidence was final and complete.
  - The evidence was humorous.
- A student is working on this task: A sentence gives an antonym clue after but. Which choice would be MOST effective?
  - The evidence was final and complete.
  - The evidence was humorous.
  - Use the contrast to infer the unknown word.
  - The evidence was illegal.
- Which explanation best describes why the stronger choice works?
  - It is longer than the other choices, so it must be better.
  - It uses complicated words even if they do not fit.
  - It avoids evidence so the reader can decide alone.
  - It is specific, relevant to the task, and controlled by using context clues to determine word meaning.



5. Which next step would most strengthen the student's work?
  - A. Add an unrelated personal story.
  - B. Look for definition, example, contrast, and cause-effect clues.
  - C. Replace precise words with vague ones.
  - D. Remove the clearest evidence.
6. Which mistake should the student avoid?
  - A. Ignoring the rest of the sentence and guessing from word shape only.
  - B. Checking that each choice fits the audience.
  - C. Using evidence that directly supports the point.
  - D. Rereading the sentence after revising it.
7. Which answer is too vague to earn full credit?
  - A. It works because it applies using context clues to determine word meaning to the exact task.
  - B. It is stronger because the evidence is relevant and sufficient.
  - C. It is better because it sounds good.
  - D. It improves clarity without changing the meaning.
8. Which habit best supports accuracy on this type of question?
  - A. Choose the first familiar word.
  - B. Ignore the audience and purpose.
  - C. Pick the longest answer every time.
  - D. Read the whole sentence or task before choosing an answer.
9. Use context to define resilient in this sentence: After the flood, the resilient community rebuilt quickly.

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10. Name two types of context clues.

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## Answer Keys

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Explanations	
<b>1. B</b>	The correct choice demonstrates using context clues to determine word meaning clearly and precisely.
<b>2. A</b>	The revision improves the original while preserving its intended meaning.
<b>3. C</b>	The correct choice fits the task and gives the writer or speaker a concrete move to make.
<b>4. D</b>	Length and difficult vocabulary do not make an answer strong; relevance and control do.
<b>5. B</b>	The best next step improves clarity, support, or control of the skill.
<b>6. A</b>	The correct answer names a common error that weakens this skill.
<b>7. C</b>	A test response must explain the reason, not merely praise the answer.
<b>8. D</b>	Careful reading prevents attractive but wrong choices.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Strong answers should explicitly use using context clues to determine word meaning, stay specific, and explain the reason for the choice. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Strong answers should include a corrected example or explanation that preserves meaning while improving using context clues to determine word meaning. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.



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