

# Reading Strategy: 06 Context Clues

 Class: \_\_\_\_\_ No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 1050729

## ■ Context Clue

A method to figuring out what an unknown word means by looking at the words nearby. There are several types of context clues:

- Definition Clue
- Series Clue
- Synonym / Restatement Clue
- Antonym / Contrast Clue
- Experience Clue
- Inference Clue
- Explanation Clue / Descriptions
- General Context

## 1. Definition Clue

**The word is defined directly and clearly in the sentence in which it appears.**

 Please mark the definition clues referring to the unknown words underlined

- 1-1. Uncle Max prefers coffee to tea; that is, he likes coffee more.
- 1-2. "Put away your books and get ready for a short quiz. Yes, that means a test."
- 1-3. Many states charge a levy—a tax—on items such as groceries and clothing.
- 1-4. Everyone experiences some misfortune, or bad luck, at one time or another.
- 1-5. Her mother's spaghetti is so good that Janine devours it, eats it all up, even if she isn't very hungry.

 SYAJH Grade 9-1-2, 101.11.27


One of the Maori's favorite legends is about a child, Maui. Maui wanted to go fishing with his brothers, but he was not allowed, so he hid in their waka, or fishing boat. When he was found, he begged not to send him back. Because his brothers would not share their bait, he used his own blood and threw his fishing line in the water. He caught a very big fish and pulled so hard on the line to bring the fish up that he put one foot on the edge of the waka for more power. When he brought the fish in, he was hit to break the edge of the boat and fall into the sea, creating the Kaikoura Peninsula, a town in the northeast of New Zealand's South Island.

48. What does "waka" mean?

- (A) A house.                      (B) A ship.                      (C) A fish.                      (D) A town.

## 2. Series Clue


A new word will be part of a group of words that go together. You can figure out the meaning of the new word by looking at the other words in the series.

 Choose the correct answer.

- 2-1. The bride and groom don't join in the singing, dancing, eating, or other **rejoicing**.  
(A) celebrating (B) wedding (C) decorating
- 2-2. The kite flew out of control, twisting, churning, and **plummeting** to the earth.  
(A) falling (B) floating (C) shining
- 2-3. The surface of the moon was rocky, **craggy**, and mountainous.  
(A) rough (B) soft (C) cold
- 2-4. The new student was motivated, eager, **industrious**, and anxious to learn.  
(A) hard-working (B) lazy (C) happy

## 3. Synonym / Restatement Clue

You can spot other words used with similar meanings near the new word. It is often signaled by the words **like, or, such as**, or linked with a statement following a dash.

 Choose the correct answer.

- 3-1. Everyone experiences some **misfortune**, or bad luck, at one time or another.  
(A) bad luck (B) good luck (C) kind heart
- 3-2. The young man had a **robust** appearance; that is, strong and healthy.  
(A) healthy (B) weak (C) small
- 3-3. The surface of the moon was rocky, **craggy**, and mountainous.  
(A) rough (B) soft (C) cold

 SYAJH Grade 8-2-2, 101.05.09


She **sneaked** softly through her garden to look closely. She found a little Fairy mother singing softly and moving the flower to and fro like a cradle. ...The good old woman **sneaked** quietly back to her house, and from that time on she never picked a flower.

38. Which picture shows the action of "**sneak**"?

- (A)  (B)  (C)  (D) 

## 4. Antonym / Contrast Clue

You can spot an antonym for a new word in a sentence near the one in which the new word appears. It is often signaled by the words ***not***, ***whereas***, ***unlike***, or ***as opposed to***.

 Choose the correct answer.

4-1. They didn't want to rush into a quick marriage. So they decided to have a **lengthy** engagement.

- (A) long                      (B) hasty                      (C) quick

4-2. We didn't sleep at all at her **slumber** party.

- (A) sleepover                      (B) birthday                      (C) surprise

4-3. If you don't **conquer** your fears, they will beat you.

- (A) win                      (B) lose                      (C) forget

4-4. When the sun set, the bright day turned into a **caliginous** rainy night.

- (A) dark                      (B) bright                      (C) clear

4-5. Unlike his talkative older brother, Alvin is a **taciturn** person.

- (A) dark                      (B) bright                      (C) clear

## 100-1 BC Test

There are many kinds of dances, but each has its own rules.

When we dance, we follow different rules.

We move to the front or stay in the back.

We dance close together or leave lots of space for each other;

We dance excitedly or slowly to fast or sweet music;

We dance to show how we feel in happy or sad times.

Sometimes we dance with people;

Sometimes we **dance solo**.

Yes, we dance differently;

But we won't dance without rules.




32. What do you do when you "**dance solo**"?

- (A) You dance excitedly.                      (B) You dance by yourself.  
(C) You dance in a public place.                      (D) You dance without shoes on.

## 5. Experience Clue

You can guess the meaning of a new word because the meaning makes sense to you. The meaning fits with things you know to be true.

 SYAJH Grade 8-2-2, 101.05.09

She sneaked softly through her garden to look closely. She found a little Fairy mother singing softly and moving the flower to and fro like a cradle.

39. What does the phrase “**moving ...to and fro**” mean?

- (A) Hunt.                      (B) Hide.                      (C) Slide.                      (D) Swing.

## 99-1 BC Test

Alice: Hi, Jerry, I heard you had fun with Peggy in Merry Park yesterday.

Jerry: Yes. We had a great time there. Why didn't you come with us? We got there by bus in only ten minutes.

Alice: I know, but the ticket is more expensive on the weekend. Also, I've been there many times since it opened five years ago. Did you try the Dandelion Seat there? It's so popular that people have to wait for over an hour to get a ride.

Jerry: You mean those flower-like umbrellas that fly high in the sky?

Alice: Yes. I enjoyed riding on the Dandelion Seat and looking over the city. It was a great experience.

Jerry: Eh...I liked taking the train to get around the park better. I don't think it's fun to ride in the air. I'd feel like I could fall down any time.

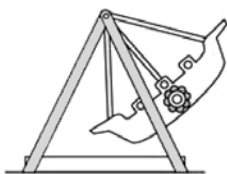
Alice: Maybe you would like it more at night. It's wonderful to see the beautiful lights below your feet.

Jerry: Well...I'm afraid of high places.

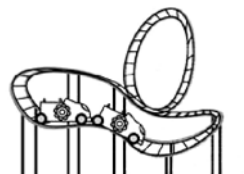
Alice: Oh, I see. That's too bad.

36. What may the “**Dandelion Seat**” look like?

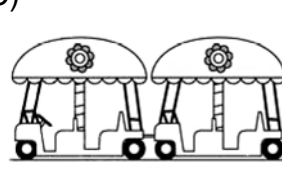
(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



## 6. Inference Clue

An inference clue is a clue that helps you figure out the whole idea of a word or sentence. Inferential thinking is often called “reading between the lines.” Many times you can figure out the meaning of an unknown word by using logic and reasoning skills. The inference clue helps the readers draw an inference from several equal expressions.

Examples:

- a. Elvaridha is successful state woman, prime minister, and housewife. She is a versatile woman.
- b. Dedy is quite versatile; he is a good student, a top athlete, and excellent car mechanic, and a gourmet cook.
- c. The girl who is standing up in front of building is my sister, does not marry yet.

### BCT 102

In the art world, many artists with “weak” bodies have shown us a “strong” power in their great works of art. Take Frida Kahlo for example. She was a healthy girl until she was knocked down by a bus at the age of twelve. Much of her body was seriously hurt, but her mind wasn’t. In her paintings, we can feel her strong love of art and life. Another example is Christy Brown. He was born in bad health, and the only part of his body that could move was his left foot. However, using his only foot, he still was able to write and draw wonderfully. In his autobiography, Brown wrote what happened in his life and how he began to draw pictures with his left foot. And don’t forget Stevie Wonder. He became blind soon after he was born, but he is now a popular singer and songwriter.

These artists with “weak” bodies bring us many good things and much hope with their “strong” minds. Their stories tell us that the most important thing in life is not what we have, but what we make of it.

40. What does autobiography mean?
- (A) A movie about great writers’ lives.
  - (B) A book of a person’s life by that person.
  - (C) A videotape that teaches how to write stories.
  - (D) A picture with the painter’s name on the bottom.

## AAT 103 -- Inference Clue

How do you choose a T-shirt when you're shopping? It's price, it's brand, what it is made of, or how it looks on you? Have you ever thought what it may take to make a T-shirt?

When people hear about clothes factory workers in poor countries working day and night on little pay, they feel worried if their clothes are from factories of this kind. They begin to ask about how and where their clothes are made, and who makes them. The provenance of clothes has now become an important fact shoppers ask for.

Some brands of clothes have listened and started to move their factories back to their home countries. There the cost of making clothes is higher, but the workers are better paid and taken good care of. Clothes of these brands are more expensive, but people don't mind paying a little more to feel right. Today these brands have even become leaders in the business.

Next time you are buying a T-shirt that feels good on your body, you may want to learn its story and see if it also feels good in your heart.

18. What does provenance mean in the reading?
- (A) The story of making something popular.
  - (B) The story of behind the making of something.
  - (C) The way of taking care of something expensive.
  - (D) The way of cutting the cost of making something.

## 100 PPK Test

We went to a small town, Bali, and saw many things there. I also tried some interesting snacks. They were very delicious. Da-wei knows a lot about birds. He showed me several kinds. "The Japanese White-eye is my favorite, because it looks cute and sings well," he said.

31. What is the Japanese White-eye?
- (A) A kind of bird.      (B) A famous singer.      (C) A small town.      (D) A kind of snack.

Ans: p. 1 48. B      p.2 38. B      p.3 32. B      p.4 39. D      36. D      p.5 40. B  
p. 6 18. B      31. A

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