



Republic of the Philippines **Department of Education** Regional Office IX, Zamboanga Peninsula



Zest for Progress

Z al of Partnership





Context Clues - Definition and Exemplification

Name of Learner: Grade & Section: Name of School:



# What I Need to Know

This module was designed for the leaners like you. This will help you explain and familiarize on how to use context clues to find meaning of unfamiliar words through definition and exemplification.

At the end of your journey, you are expected to use context clues to find the meaning of unfamiliar words through definition and exemplification.



**Directions:** Complete the following analogy by writing the letter of the correct answer on your paper.

- 1. Crocodile is to reptile as cow is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. fish
  - B. paws
  - C. mammal
- 2. Brush is to teeth as comb is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. hair
  - B. face
  - C. body
- 3. Bark is to dog as meow is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. cat
  - B. mouse
  - C. crocodile
- 4. Fish is to sea as bird is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. air
  - B. land
  - C. water
- 5. Pillow is to soft as rock is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. hard
  - B. small
  - C. sleep



#### Mouse at the Seashore

By: Arnold Lobel (slightly simplified)

A mouse told his mother and father that he was going on a trip to the seashore.

"We are very alarmed," they cried. "The world is full of terrors. You must not go!"

"I have already decided," said the Mouse firmly. "I have never seen the ocean, and it is high time that I did. Nothing can make me change my mind."

"Then we cannot stop you," said Mother and Father Mouse, "but do be careful."

Early the next day, the Mouse began his journey. Even before the morning had ended, the Mouse came to know trouble and fear.

A cat jumped out from behind a tree. "I will eat you for lunch," he said. It was a narrow escape for the Mouse. He ran for his life but he left part of his tail in the mouth of the cat.

By afternoon, the Mouse had been attacked by birds and dogs. He had lost his way several times. He was bruised and bloodied. He was tired and frightened.

At evening, the Mouse slowly climbed the last hill and saw the seashore spreading out before him. He watched the waves rolling onto the ocean, one after another. All the colors of the sunset filled the sky.

"How beautiful," cried the Mouse. "I wish that Mother and Father were here to see this with me."

The moon and the stars began to appear over the ocean. The Mouse sat silently on top of the hill. He felt very happy and peaceful.

**Source:** Rabelas, G.U., Victoria D. Mangaser, Lilibeth A. Magtang, Rose Ann B. Pamintuan, et. Al, *English – Grade 4 Learner's Material*, Pasig City, Vibal Group, Inc.2015, 66-68.

Comprehension Questions

**Directions:** Read and understand the questions carefully. Choose the letter of the correct answer. Write the answer on your paper.

- 1. Who was going on a trip to the shore?
  - a. Cat
  - b. Mouse
  - c. Carabao
- 2. What did his parents say?
  - a. "We are very happy."
  - b. "We are very excited."
  - c. "We are very alarmed."

- 3. When did he reach the ocean?
  - a. at evening
  - b. by afternoon
  - c. before the morning
- 4. What kind of mouse he is?
  - a. brave
  - b. coward
  - c. boastful
- 5. What lesson can we get from the story "The Mouse at The Seashore"?
  - a. be kind to others
  - b. do not talk to strangers
  - c. to overcome fear and face bravely



### Word Search

Words used in the story are hidden in the word search below. Find and encircle the word in the word puzzle that corresponds to the definition below.

Μ	0	U	S	Е	J	L	Ρ
Ν	D	Q	D	Т	J	В	Т
S	Е	Α	S	н	0	R	Е
0	С	W	F	D	U	U	Ζ
I	I	Е	G	U	R	I	С
U	D	R	Н	0	Ν	S	X
Y	Е	Т	J	Е	Е	Ε	С
Т	D	G	Κ	W	Y	D	V

- 1. Land adjacent to the sea
- 2. An act or instance of traveling from one place to another
- 3. Come to a resolution in the mind as a result of consideration
- 4. Damaged or wounded by or as if by being struck
- 5. Any of numerous small rodents with pointed snout, rather small ears, elongated body, and slender tail

# Context Clues are words or pictures that give hints to help explain the meaning of an unfamiliar or difficult word.

The clue may appear within the same sentence as the word to which it refers, or it may follow in a preceding sentence.

There are many ways how context clues can help you figure out unfamiliar words. One is through a **definition** where **the meaning of the unfamiliar word is directly defined or explained in the sentence.** 

Let's take a look at this example.

**Example 1:** Entomology is the study of insects.

Sentence in Example 1 use "is" as a clue to definition of Entomology.

**Example 2:** The **dabakan** – a large goblet shaped drum – is used by the Maranao during wedding celebrations.

The dashes setting off "**a large goblet shaped drum**" point out the definition of "**dabakan**" in Example 2.

**Example 3: Corona,** the outermost part of the sun's atmosphere, releases huge amount of electromagnetic energy in outer space.

The commas before and after "the outermost part of the sun's atmosphere" point out the definition of "**Corona**" in Example 3.

Clues to definition include "is," commas, dashes, and parentheses. Sometimes the writer uses **signal words or phrases** in defining the word. They are:

- means
- is/are called
- is defined as
- is/was, are/were
- refers to
- that is

or

in other words

Aside from **definition**, we can also use context clues to find meaning of unfamiliar words through **exemplification**.

Another way of determining the meaning or definition of the unfamiliar or difficult word is through **exemplification** or giving of examples.

Through the help of pictures and words as examples, you easily figure out the words even though you did not know what the words were.

Sometimes the writer introduced the examples by using signal words such as:

for example

such aslike

for instance

to illustrate

including

4

Let us have this example.

**Example 1: Celestial** bodies, including the sun, moon, and stars, have fascinated man through the centuries.

The definition or the meaning of the word **celestial** is **relating to the sky or visible heavens**.

The **sun, moon, and stars** were the **examples given** that help us determine the meaning of the word celestial.

Including was used as signal word in introducing the examples: sun, moon, and stars.

**Example 2: Geology** is the study of many topics, such as rock formations and biological changes in the earth.

The sentence in Example 2 give an illustration or example of what an unknown word means by using signal word "**such as**".

**Example 3:** A typical **meal** would consist of rice, fish, vegetable and fruits.

The sentence in Example 3 uses signal word "consist of" to help explain the meaning of "meal".

Sometimes when a reader finds a new word, an example might be found nearby that helps to explain its meaning. Words **like including, such as,** and **for example,** point out example clues.



Directions: Identify the meaning of each highlighted word through context clues. Encircle the letter of your answer.

- 1. Eating too much junk food may be **hazardous** to your health.
  - a. dangerous
  - b. great
  - c. delightful
- 2. The house was once again tranquil after the kids moved outside to play.
  - a. upset
  - b. peaceful
  - c. stormy

- 3. After the storm, the rainbow lit up the sky with **vibrant** colors.
  - a. dark
  - b. funny
  - c. bright
- 4. The **wealthy** woman that wears sparkling jewelry on her body gave lots of money to the poor old man.
  - a. rich
  - b. purple
  - c. hungry

5. The **spacious** parking lot contains hundreds of cars.

- a. wide
- b. small
- c. long



**Directions:** Read the sentences. Choose in the box the word that will complete the sentence. Write your answer on your paper.

Context Clues	Refer to
Definition	Such as
Exemplification	Synonyms

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_ are words or pictures that give hints to help explain the meaning of an unfamiliar or difficult word.
- 2. Some signal words in using examples in context clues were; including, consist of, like and \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Some signal words in using definition in context clues were; means, is defined as, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ is one way of finding the meaning of the unfamiliar word which is directly defined or explained in the sentence.
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ is another way of determining the meaning or definition of the unfamiliar through the help of words as examples.



**Directions:** Read the sentences. Box the words that explain the meaning of the underlined words.

- 1. The members of the football team **<u>huddled</u>** around the injured player. They gathered around him to see what happened to him.
- 2. There was silence in the huddled group. You can hear clearly the <u>whimper</u>, or low, soft cry of the injured player.
- 3. From afar, one can hear the **<u>siren</u>** or the shrill sound of the fire truck.
- 4. The firemen **<u>rushed</u>** to the burning building with their water hoses. The hurrying firemen ran to prevent the fire from spreading.
- 5. I did not eat the stale bread because it was not fresh.



- **A. Directions:** Choose the meaning of the underline word in each sentence in the box. Write the letter of your answer on the space before the number.
- \_\_\_\_1. Please pick up that barbeque stick.
  - \_\_\_2. Don't ever drop a <u>tear</u> on your food.
- \_\_\_\_3. Never put heavy makeup on your <u>face</u>.
- 4. His pillow is made up of the <u>down</u> of birds.
- 5. Marilyn bought a <u>bouquet</u> of red and white roses for her mother's birthday.

- **a.** flowers picked and fastened together in a bunch
- **b.** soft fine feathers
- c. a long slender piece of wood
- **d.** a drop of salty fluid from the eye
- e. the front of the head

**B. Directions:** Read the sentences. Use context clues to find the meaning of the bolded words. Write the letter of the correct answer on your paper.

 Sunlight can't shine through **opaque** objects like brick walls and wooden doors. Using the example clue, what does the word **opaque** in this sentence means?
 a. thin b.thick c.clear d.transparent

- Larceny, such as stealing a car, can cause you to spend a lot of time in jail. Using the example clue, what does the word larceny in this sentence means?
   a. Theft
   b. murder
   c. conflict
   d. bravery
- Equestrian items would include saddles, horseshoes, and reins. Using the example clue, what does the word equestrian in this sentence means?
   a. having to do with hair
   c. having to do with horses
  - b. having to do with royalty d. having to do with the equator
- 4. In the fall, the bright foliage is a delight to see. Red, orange, and yellow leaves and vegetation paint the world for our enjoyment.
  Using the example clue, what does the word foliage in this sentence means?
  a. dirt
  b. leaves
  c. rocks
  d. houses
- 5. The emergency room doctors see patients with **trauma**, such as a broken bone, every night. Using the example clue, what does the word **trauma** in this sentence means?

a. Plans b. goals c. injury d. headaches

#### References

#### A. Textbooks

Rabelas, G.U., Victoria D. Mangaser, Lilibeth A. Magtang, Rose Ann B. Pamintuan, et. al, *English – Grade 4 Learner's Material*, Pasig City, Vibal Group, Inc., 2015, 66-68.

#### B. Online Resources

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### I Am a Filipino by Carlos P. Romulo

I am a Filipino–inheritor of a glorious past, hostage to the uncertain future. As such I must prove equal to a two-fold task–the task of meeting my responsibility to the past, and the task of performing my obligation to the future.

I sprung from a hardy race, child many generations removed of ancient Malayan pioneers. Across the centuries the memory comes rushing back to me: of brownskinned men putting out to sea in ships that were as frail as their hearts were stout. Over the sea I see them come, borne upon the billowing wave and the whistling wind, carried upon the mighty swell of hope- hope in the free abundance of new land that was to be their home and their children's forever.

I am a Filipino. In my blood runs the immortal seed of heroes-seed that flowered down the centuries in deeds of courage and defiance. In my veins yet pulses the same hot blood that sent Lapulapu to battle against the first invader of this land, that nerved Lakandula in the combat against the alien foe, that drove Diego Silang and Dagohoy into rebellion against the foreign oppressor.

The seed I bear within me is an immortal seed. It is the mark of my manhood, the symbol of dignity as a human being. Like the seeds that were once buried in the tomb of Tutankhamen many thousand years ago, it shall grow and flower and bear fruit again. It is the insignia of my race, and my generation is but a stage in the unending search of my people for freedom and happiness.

I am a Filipino, child of the marriage of the East and the West. The East, with its languor and mysticism, its passivity and endurance, was my mother, and my sire was the West that came thundering across the seas with the Cross and Sword and the Machine. I am of the East, an eager participant in its spirit, and in its struggles for liberation from the imperialist yoke. But I also know that the East must awake from its centuried sleep, shake off the lethargy that has bound his limbs, and start moving where destiny awaits.

I am a Filipino, and this is my inheritance. What pledge shall I give that I may prove worthy of my inheritance? I shall give the pledge that has come ringing down the corridors of the centuries, and it shall be compounded of the joyous cries of my Malayan forebears when first they saw the contours of this land loom before their eyes, of the battle cries that have resounded in every field of combat from Mactan to Tirad Pass, of the voices of my people when they sing:

"I am a Filipino born to freedom, and I shall not rest until freedom shall have been added unto my inheritance—for myself and my children and my children's children—forever."

(Reprinted from The Philippines Herald, August 16, 1941)