

Context

CLUES

♥ n92

with Tier 2  
Words

Created by:  
Nicole Allison, SLP



♥ n92



# Context CLUES

Thank you for purchasing Context Clues!

In this evidence-based packet, you receive:

\*Over 50 Level 1 (Gr. 1-3) word cards

\*presented as both multiple-choice and open-ended questions

\*Over 50 Level 2 (Gr. 4-8) word cards

\*presented as both multiple-choice and open-ended questions

\*4 pages of Busted Cards

\*to use as a game

\*2 Levels of post-assessment worksheets

to document acquirement of skills.



# Context



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## Why teach vocabulary using context clues?

\*Research supports it! Giving our students strategies to learn words (such as using context clues) is proven more successful than trying to teach individual words.

Beck, I.L., McKeown, M.G., & Kucan, L. (2002). *Bringing words to life: Robust vocabulary instruction. Solving problems in the teaching of literacy*. New York: Guilford Press.

Gayatri Ram, Sally A. Marinellie, Joann Benigno, and John McCarthy  
Morphological Analysis in Context vs. Isolation: Use of a Dynamic Assessment Task With School-age Children  
Lang Speech Hear Serv Sch, published online Jul 23, 2012.

Roberts, G., Torgesen, J. K., Boardman, A., & Scammacca, N. (2008). Evidence-based strategies for reading instruction. *Learning disabilities research & practice*, 23(2), 63-69. Retrieved from <http://admin.meadowscenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/451/robertsetal08.pdf>

# Context



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\*How were these words chosen?

\*The words in this packet consist primarily of Tier 2 Words, with some Tier 3 Words.

\*What's the difference in Tier words?

\***Tier 1** consists of the most basic words. These words rarely require direct instruction. Sight words, nouns, verbs, adjectives, and early reading words occur at this level. Examples of tier 1 words are: book, girl, sad, run, dog, and orange. There about 8,000 word families in English included in tier 1.

\***Tier 2** consists of high frequency words that occur across a variety of domains. That is, these words occur often in mature language situations such as adult conversations and literature, and therefore strongly influence speaking and reading. Tier 2 words are the most important words for direct instruction because they are good indicators of a student's progress through school. Examples of tier 2 words are: masterpiece, fortunate, industrious, measure, and benevolent. There are about 7,000 word families in English (or 700 per year) in tier 2.

\***Tier 3** consists of low-frequency words that occur in specific domains. Domains include subjects in school, hobbies, occupations, geographic regions, technology, weather, etc. We usually learn these words when a specific need arises, such as learning amino acid during a chemistry lesson. Examples of tier three words are: economics, isotope, asphalt, Revolutionary War, and crepe. The remaining 400,000 words in English fall in this tier.

[The Tiers of Vocabulary](#)

[Three Tiers of Vocabulary and Education](#)

# Context CUES



Multiple Choice  
Tier 2 Vocabulary Words  
Grades 1-3

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Example: Ashley is such a cheerful person.  
She is always smiling.

← Clue!



- A. angry
- B. happy
- C. confused
- D. strict

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When Michael spilled the milk by accident  
he said "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to."



- A. an unexpected event
- B. a planned event
- C. soured milk
- D. an apology

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He received a trophy as an award for  
winning the spelling bee.



- A. spelling list
- B. piece of paper
- C. punishment
- D. prize

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The boys agreed that it was a good idea to throw their mom a birthday party. However, they couldn't agree on the flavor of cake.

- A. argue
- B. to have the same opinion
- C. to have opposite opinions
- D. chocolate



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Kate heard the knock at the door. She was so excited! The guests finally arrived.

- A. a type of car
- B. a late showing
- C. to show up
- D. a loud knock



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It was hard for Stephen to balance his time. He had a lot of activities that demanded his time.

- A. an equal amount
- B. a large scale
- C. a good resource
- D. a calendar



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The blast of wind caused the door to suddenly open.

- A. a bullet
- B. a quiet sound
- C. a war
- D. a gust of air



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The girl took off her socks and swung her bare feet in the water.

- A. clothing
- B. having no covering
- C. freezing
- D. hot



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The bright little girl answered every question correctly.

- A. shiny
- B. fast
- C. smart
- D. nervous



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The courageous soldier charged into the battle. It seemed he had no fear.

- A. brave
- B. scared
- C. speedy
- D. hesitant



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The small calf followed its mother to the barn. The other cows were already there.

- A. the part of a leg
- B. a baby horse
- C. a baby cow
- D. a chicken



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The calm water had no waves. It looked like glass.

- A. peaceful, still
- B. rough
- C. burning
- D. dirty



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The woman loved her occupation as a teacher. She hardly thought of it as work!

- A. vacation, holiday
- B. principal
- C. job, career
- D. students



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The curious boy was always asking questions. He loved to learn new information!

- A. bored
- B. wanting to learn
- C. getting into trouble
- D. getting good grades



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The hen gathered her chicks and brought them close.

- A. to chase away
- B. to squish
- C. to flap wings
- D. to bring together



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The printer won't work unless you connect it to the computer.



- A. join together
- B. separate
- C. cut
- D. glue

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Mom took the damp clothes out of the dryer before they were dry.



- A. fresh
- B. smelly
- C. very dry
- D. a little wet

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Walking across the street without looking is very risky.



- A. scary
- B. dangerous
- C. safe
- D. speedy

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The boy dashed down the hallway so fast his friends couldn't keep up.



- A. became ill
- B. to move quickly
- C. crept
- D. yelled

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The farmer gets up at dawn every morning to work the land.

- A. sunrise
- B. sunset
- C. midnight
- D. noon



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The swimmer will dive into the pool. She must make sure it is deep enough so she doesn't hit her head on the bottom.

- A. float
- B. jump head first
- C. flip
- D. wet



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Jacob crumbled the piece of paper and discarded it into the trash.

- A. hold onto
- B. keep
- C. throw away
- D. recycle



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The king's foe wants to kill him and take over his kingdom.

- A. prince
- B. friend
- C. dragon
- D. enemy



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Todd ate seven plates of food at the feast.

- A. a small snack
- B. a huge meal
- C. prison
- D. dessert



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She ate the apple right after it was picked from the tree. Yum—the taste of fresh fruit!

- A. not rotten
- B. rotten
- C. sweet
- D. sour



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The singer became so famous that it was hard for her to go anywhere without people coming up and asking for her autograph.

- A. very clear
- B. well known, popular
- C. disliked
- D. not known, unpopular



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Even though he had his own, the greedy boy took all the candy from his sister.

- A. wanting more
- B. kind
- C. sharing
- D. hateful



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The big roller coaster frightened the boy. His legs started shaking as he stepped on the ride.



- A. calmed
- B. scared
- C. very cold
- D. huge

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The bird's wings flapped in the wind and lifted the bird by moving back and forth.



- A. moving down
- B. a waving movement
- C. flying
- D. high in the air

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The gap in the fence provided enough space for the dog to slip out and escape.



- A. covering
- B. treat
- C. hole
- D. broken

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They gazed at the stars for hours. There were so many of them, it was hard to take their eyes off!



- A. shouted
- B. counted
- C. a long look
- D. a short look

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The barking dog will not harm you unless you pull its tail. Otherwise, it might bite.



- A. lick
- B. hurt
- C. jump
- D. kick

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The black insect had six legs, wings and antennas.



- A. bug
- B. bat
- C. cat
- D. bird

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The frog leaps to the other side of the log.



- A. spits
- B. falls
- C. catches
- D. jumps

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My fish looked lonely so I went out and bought another fish so that he would have a friend.



- A. alone, having no one
- B. happy
- C. having a lot of air
- D. friendly

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The thief was nervous when he saw the police officer walk into the bank. He was afraid he would be caught.



- A. loud
- B. mean
- C. confident, assured
- D. scared, uneasy

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The sick girl's face turn pale. It was as white as a sheet.



- A. black
- B. colorful
- C. no color
- D. green

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The mountain peak looked as high as the sky. It seemed as if we would never reach it.



- A. highest point
- B. lake
- C. trail or path
- D. valley

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The boy saw his own reflection in the water and smiled to himself.



- A. a picture of someone else
- B. a picture of yourself
- C. a shiny picture
- D. a muddy picture

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The shy girl hid behind her father's legs and refused to say "hello."



- A. loud, annoying
- B. good at hiding
- C. quiet, scared
- D. curious

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He licked and sealed the envelope so that no one could read the letter.



- A. opened
- B. ate
- C. ripped
- D. closed

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The people cut down trees and made shelters to protect themselves from the rain.



- A. a leaf
- B. a home
- C. water
- D. an umbrella

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The dress felt so smooth and soft. Mom made sure there were no wrinkles.



- A. flat, no lumps
- B. bumpy
- C. rough
- D. scratchy

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The seeds were planted in the soil and watered.



- A. water
- B. leaves
- C. a garden pot
- D. dirt

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The girl's talent was painting. Her pictures were beautiful.



- A. skill, good at something
- B. paintbrush
- C. painting with lots of color
- D. art museum

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Autumn is such a beautiful time. I just love when the leaves turn color!



- A. a very hot time
- B. the season of summer
- C. the season of fall
- D. snow on the ground

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The girl shivered when she felt the snow in her hands.



- A. burning from heat
- B. shaking from cold
- C. to fall down
- D. ice-skating

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She whispered a secret in the other girl's ear.

- A. shout
- B. yell
- C. talk quietly
- D. annoyed



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The wise teacher gave the students good advice. It seemed he knew everything!

- A. kind
- B. worried
- C. smart
- D. dumb



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The girl sobbed when she received her punishment. She just couldn't stop the tears!

- A. cheerful
- B. smiled
- C. crying
- D. blowing your nose



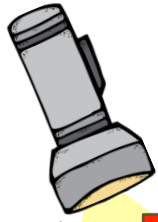
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Michael has so much charm. It seems his beautiful smile and great personality makes everyone want to be around him.

- A. attracts people
- B. keeps others away
- C. ugly
- D. sparkle



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**Busted!**

Give 1 card back

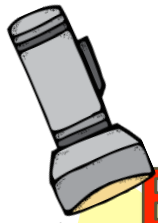
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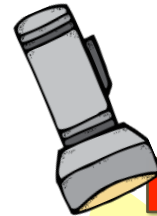
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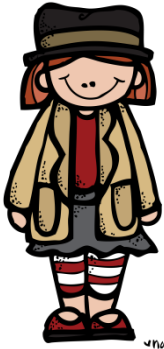
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# Context CUES

♥ nqz



Open-ended  
Tier 2 Vocabulary Words  
Grades 1-3

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Example: Ashley is such a cheerful person.  
She is always smiling.

← Clue!



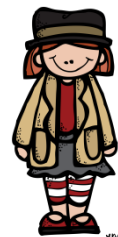
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When Michael spilled the milk by accident  
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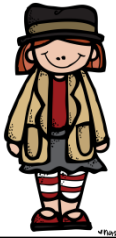
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He received a trophy as an award for  
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The boys agreed that it was a good idea to throw their mom a birthday party. However, they couldn't agree on the flavor of cake.



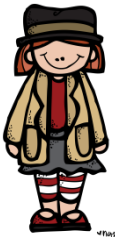
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Kate heard the knock at the door. She was so excited! The guests finally arrived.



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It was hard for Stephen to balance his time. He had a lot of activities that demanded his time.



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The girl took off her socks and swung her bare feet in the water.



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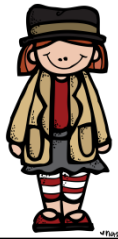
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The small calf followed its mother to the barn. The other cows were already there.



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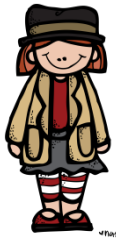
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The woman loved her occupation as a teacher. She hardly thought of it as work!



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The curious boy was always asking questions. He loved to learn new information!



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The hen gathered her chicks and brought them close.



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The printer won't work unless you connect it to the computer.



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Walking across the street without looking is very risky.



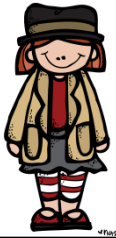
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The swimmer will dive into the pool. She must make sure it is deep enough so she doesn't hit her head on the bottom.



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Jacob crumbled the piece of paper and discarded it into the trash.



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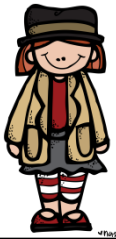
The king's foe wants to kill him and take over his kingdom.



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She ate the apple right after it was picked from the tree. Yum—the taste of fresh fruit!



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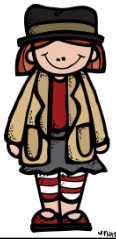
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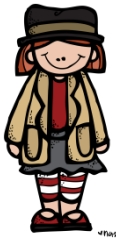
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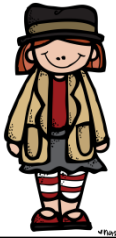
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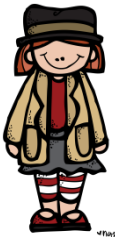
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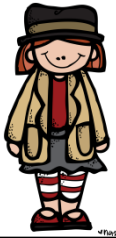
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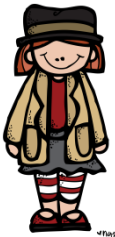
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The people cut down trees and made shelters to protect themselves from the rain.



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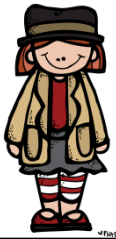
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The seeds were planted in the soil and watered.

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The girl's talent was painting. Her pictures were beautiful.



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Autumn is such a beautiful time. I just love when the leaves turn color!



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The wise teacher gave the students good advice. It seemed he knew everything!



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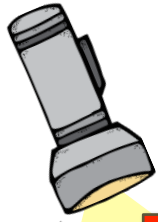


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Michael has so much charm. It seems his beautiful smile and great personality makes everyone want to be around him.



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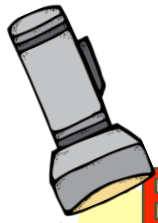
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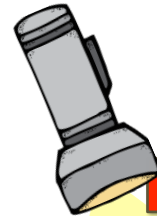
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# Context CUES



Multiple Choice  
Tier 2 Vocabulary Words  
Grades 4-8

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Example: My family hates the frigid weather in January.



- A. warm
- B. cold
- C. still
- D. painful

← Clue!

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Michael is very energetic. He can run miles before getting tired.



- A. an athlete
- B. sleepy
- C. lazy
- D. full of energy

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My son and his two companions love playing games. They are always happy to play together!



- A. jokes
- B. enemies
- C. friends
- D. games

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Kelsey was sick, her voice was almost inaudible. We had to lean forward to hear her.



- A. very loud, easy to hear
- B. very strange
- C. very soft, hard to hear
- D. very annoying

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I hope we can reach an amicable agreement. I don't like to fight.



- A. be hateful
- B. cold
- C. still
- D. peaceful

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Florida is known for its tropical weather. Many people travel there to escape cold weather.



- A. dry
- B. clean
- C. cold
- D. hot

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I'm really hungry! That cracker didn't appease my hunger. I want a sandwich now.



- A. anger
- B. increase
- C. satisfy
- D. confuse

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The defense players tried their best, but the other team still scored.



- A. soccer
- B. players who block
- C. basketball
- D. players who score

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My absent-minded teacher loses his keys and his pencil almost every day!



- A. be hateful
- B. forgetful
- C. be intelligent
- D. careful

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The ruthless king let his servants go hungry.



- A. cruel
- B. kind
- C. useless
- D. compassionate

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The island was desolate. The only sound that was heard was the wind.



- A. loud
- B. lonesome
- C. scary
- D. hot

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The bear was sluggish after the long winter of hibernation. Her cubs had no trouble keeping up with her.



- A. hungry
- B. slow
- C. cold
- D. thirsty

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After the harvest, we had an abundant amount of apples. We had so many apples!



- A. a shortage
- B. not enough
- C. very green
- D. a lot-almost too much

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The thought of eating a snake is abhorrent to most people.



- A. fun, lively
- B. horrible, repugnant
- C. delicious, tasty
- D. hairy

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The portable stage made it easy for the actors to perform in many cities. They can just get up and go!



- A. moveable
- B. firm
- C. heavy
- D. colorful

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The gigantic sky-scraper had 120 floors. It seemed to take forever to get to the top!



- A. skinny, thin
- B. lots of windows
- C. huge
- D. dark, gloomy

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The awkward boy could not catch the ball, even when it was thrown at a short distance.



- A. skilled
- B. proud
- C. new
- D. clumsy

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In 1865, the United States abolished slavery, after the American Civil War.



- A. continue
- B. make known
- C. do away with
- D. promote

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The plane kept descending until it reached the ground..



- A. rising
- B. shaking
- C. moving down
- D. tilting

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It was apparent from his tears that the boy was sorry.



- A. obvious
- B. sad
- C. apologize
- D. hurting

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The aroma of a fresh baked pie lingered in the kitchen and made my stomach growl.



- A. taste
- B. feeling
- C. smell
- D. apples

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Melissa has so many friends because she is a gregarious person.



- A. introverted
- B. shy, quiet
- C. friendly, outgoing
- D. rude

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Bill is such a courteous young man. He always says "please" and "thank you."



- A. rude
- B. amazing
- C. energetic
- D. having good manners

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Hurricanes and tornadoes are treacherous.  
Only a very foolish person would go out during  
that kind of weather.



- A. exciting
- B. dangerous
- C. spooky
- D. safe

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I am craving chocolate. I just can't  
stop thinking about getting my hands  
on some!



- A. longing for
- B. dark
- C. resisting
- D. enjoying

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We weren't sure if the berries were  
edible but then we noticed another group  
of campers eating them.



- A. sweet
- B. delicious
- C. poisonous
- D. able to be eaten

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The agency asked for an official  
document so I provided my birth  
certificate.



- A. piece of paper
- B. statement
- C. passport
- D. hospital

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The spies were able to evade being caught using a disguise.



- A. run very fast
- B. escape
- C. hold tightly
- D. mask

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The story sounded peculiar. She didn't know whether or not to believe it.



- A. reliable
- B. true
- C. strange
- D. hilarious

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After having no food for 2 days, the man was very feeble. He could barely stand up.



- A. likable
- B. hungry
- C. weak
- D. thin

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The beautiful scenery had a hazy quality, which unfortunately made it hard to see.



- A. beautiful
- B. green
- C. misty, foggy
- D. clear, sunny

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The men here are very industrious. They always work until they accomplish their goal.



- A. hard working
- B. lazy
- C. clever
- D. crazy

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Some babies start eating within twenty four hours of birth and are totally independent of their mother at three weeks of age.



- A. dependent
- B. not needing support
- C. hungry
- D. reliant

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The messenger was intercepted on his way to the king and the letter was never delivered.



- A. stopped, cut off
- B. rushed, hurried
- C. fell, tripped
- D. slow

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The twinkling Christmas lights illuminated the dark sky. It was almost as bright as day!



- A. glitter
- B. lighten up
- C. to cover
- D. to darken

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The miniature Statue of Liberty was displayed on the small shelf.



- A. made out of clay
- B. freedom
- C. large representation
- D. small representation

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After lying about stealing the candy, the boy worried what his teacher would think of him, knowing how moral he was.



- A. concerned about right/wrong
- B. uncaring
- C. religious
- D. having no political preference

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The captain was able to navigate the ship, even through the rough waters.



- A. ocean
- B. lose control of
- C. anchor
- D. direct, steer

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Even though the father threatened discipline, the boy's cool look remained nonchalant.



- A. scared, frightened
- B. uncaring
- C. freezing
- D. concerned

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Only people with refined tastes could afford the luxurious hotels along the ocean.



- A. spotlessly clean
- B. inexpensive
- C. rich, expensive
- D. dangerous

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When she walked into the candy store, the girl eyes lit up with the numerous kinds of candy. Too many even to count!



- A. very many
- B. too little
- C. delicious, sweet
- D. colorful

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CDs have become nearly obsolete, as iPods have become popular. No one ever seems to use them anymore.



- A. popular
- B. out of date, useless
- C. plentiful, many
- D. common, typical

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Cars should always allow a pedestrian to cross the street so that no one gets hurt.



- A. a person on foot
- B. an injured animal
- C. a bike rider
- D. a bus

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The soldier stood petrified with fear after seeing the destruction of the war.



- A. excited
- B. hurt, injured
- C. paralyzed with emotion
- D. running

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The severed telephone wire hung from the branch, making it impossible to make any calls.



- A. joined, together
- B. small
- C. thin
- D. cut, separate

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After having no rain, the farmer's crops were very sparse. The family wondered how they would have enough for winter.



- A. rotten
- B. thin, not enough
- C. plentiful, many
- D. contained

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The eagle soared above the mountain-tops.



- A. to swim
- B. to skip
- C. to fly low
- D. to fly high

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The hiker's finally reached the mountain's summit.



- A. highest point
- B. valley
- C. stream
- D. forest

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The abandoned kittens were left in a box on Kate's doorstep. She wondered who left them there.



- A. deserted, rejected
- B. cold
- C. hungry
- D. many

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The arrogant prince bragged about his riches. He constantly thought he was better than everyone else.



- A. thinking you're superior
- B. thinking you're kind
- C. poor
- D. wealthy

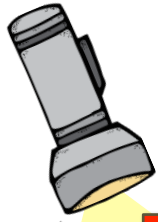
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The wiggling worm lured the fish to the hook. It was caught.



- A. to smell
- B. to entice, trap
- C. having lots of movement
- D. to push away

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**Busted!**

Give 1 card back

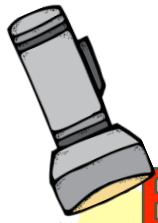
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# Context CUES

♥ n92

Open-ended

Tier 2 Vocabulary Words

Grades 4-8



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Example: My family hates the frigid weather in January.

← Clue!



♥ n92

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Tom is very energetic. He can run miles before getting tired.



♥ n92

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My son and his two companions love playing games. They are always happy to play together!



♥ n92

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Kelsey was sick, her voice was almost inaudible. We had to lean forward to hear her.



♥n912

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I hope we can reach an amicable agreement. I don't like to fight.



♥n912

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Florida is known for its tropical weather. Many people travel there to escape cold weather.



♥n912

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I'm really hungry! That cracker didn't appease my hunger. I want a sandwich now.



♥n912

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The defense players tried their best, but the other team still scored.



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My absent-minded teacher loses his keys and his pencil almost every day!



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The ruthless king let his servants go hungry.



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The island was desolate. The only sound that was heard was the wind.



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The bear was sluggish after the long winter of hibernation. Her cubs had no trouble keeping up with her.



~n12

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After the harvest, we had an abundant amount of apples. We had so many apples!



~n12

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allisonsspeechpeeps.blogspot.com

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♥n12

allisonsspeechpeeps.blogspot.com

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♥n12

allisonsspeechpeeps.blogspot.com

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♥n12

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♥n12

allisonsspeechpeeps.blogspot.com

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♥n12

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♥n12

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allisonspeechpeeps.blogspot.com

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♥n12

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♥n12

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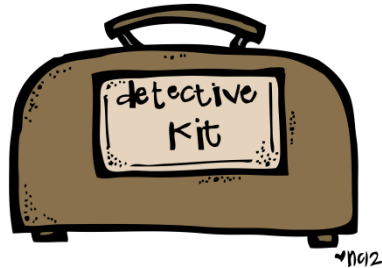
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♥n12

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♥n12

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♥n12

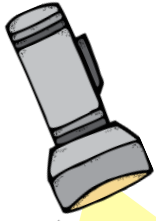
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♥n12

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Busted!

Give 1 card back

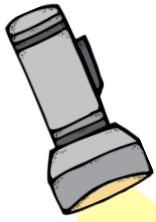
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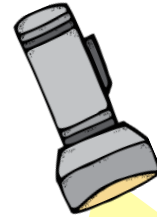
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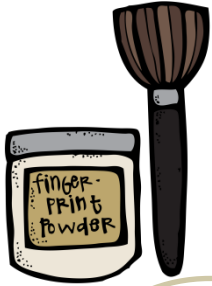
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# Context

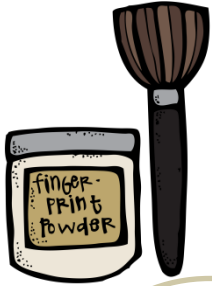
# CLUES

Level 1

♥ nqz

Directions: Tell what each word means using the words around it.  
Underline or highlight the clues in the sentence.

1. The boy boldly walked up to the monster and said "You don't scare me!"  
boldly means: \_\_\_\_\_
2. The ancient pyramid was over 5,000 years old!  
ancient means: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Sledding in the arctic might be fun but cold.  
arctic means: \_\_\_\_\_
4. The clever boy was able to answer all of their questions correctly.  
clever means: \_\_\_\_\_
5. The crumbled piece of paper was now impossible to read with all the wrinkles.  
crumbled means: \_\_\_\_\_
6. After staying up all night, the boy started to doze in class.  
doze means: \_\_\_\_\_
7. The frail woman's bones looked like they could break at any moment.  
frail means: \_\_\_\_\_
8. He grasped the necklace in his hand and refused to let go.  
grasp means: \_\_\_\_\_
9. The gem was rare. There were only two others like it.  
rare means: \_\_\_\_\_
10. The deer ran swiftly through the forest. The hunters could not catch him.  
swift means: \_\_\_\_\_



# Context

# CLOES

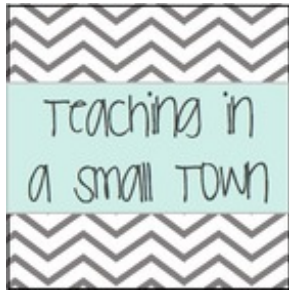
Level 2

♥ nqz

Directions: Tell what each word means using the words around it.  
Underline or highlight the clues in the sentence.

1. The kindergartener appeared anxious on his first day of starting school.  
anxious means: \_\_\_\_\_
2. The family lived in poverty. It was hard to tell if they would have food from one day to the next.  
poverty means: \_\_\_\_\_
3. The fake news story was such a hoax. It was meant to trick people.  
hoax means: \_\_\_\_\_
4. The model airplane quickly plummeted from the sky.  
plummet means: \_\_\_\_\_
5. The boy showed no remorse after the mean comment he made to the little girl. He just kept playing.  
remorse means: \_\_\_\_\_
6. The diligent student stayed up all night working on his project for school.  
diligent means: \_\_\_\_\_
7. I loathe the horrible itching I have from all these mosquito bites!  
loathe means: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Don't retaliate when someone is mean to you. Instead, continue to show kindness.  
retaliate means: \_\_\_\_\_
9. She vowed to go to college, no matter how hard it was.  
vow means: \_\_\_\_\_
10. The cabin was in a remote place in the woods. There were no voices to be heard.  
remote means: \_\_\_\_\_

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