

Clue or No Clue?

Use sentence details to figure out unfamiliar words.

3.L.V.3.a “Use context (e.g., images and graphs) within and beyond a sentence to determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words and multiple-meaning words and phrases. (I)”

NAME _____

DATE _____

CONTEXT GIVES CLUES

The sentence gives details that help you figure out what a word means.

After hiking all morning, Niko was famished, or very hungry.

CONTEXT GIVES NO CLUES

The sentence does not give enough details to help you figure out what a word means.

Niko carried a zindle to school.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle CLUES or NO CLUE for each sentence, then choose two items and explain which words helped you decide.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. The puppy was timid, so it hid behind Ava's legs when visitors arrived. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |
| 2. The cave was dim, and Maya could barely see the walls. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |
| 3. The hikers noticed a plim near the trail. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |
| 4. The glass vase was fragile, so Ben carried it carefully to keep it from breaking. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |
| 5. Lena put the vop on the shelf. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |
| 6. At recess, Omar saw a truff. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |
| 7. Dad fixed the wug before dinner. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |
| 8. The squirrel scurried, moving quickly, up the tree when it heard a noise. | ☐ CLUES | ☐ NO CLUE |

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one sentence for CLUES and one sentence for NO CLUE. Use a made-up word in each sentence.

CLUES _____

NO CLUE _____

CHALLENGE

Choose your NO CLUE sentence. Rewrite it so the context tells what your made-up word means.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The puppy was timid, so it hid behind Ava's legs when visitors arrived.	CLUES	Hiding from visitors shows that timid means shy or scared.
2	The cave was dim, and Maya could barely see the walls.	CLUES	Barely being able to see shows that dim means not bright.
3	The hikers noticed a plim near the trail.	NO CLUE	The sentence gives no details about what a plim is.
4	The glass vase was fragile, so Ben carried it carefully to keep it from breaking.	CLUES	Keeping it from breaking shows that fragile means easy to break.
5	Lena put the vop on the shelf.	NO CLUE	The sentence gives no details about what a vop is.
6	At recess, Omar saw a truff.	NO CLUE	The sentence gives no details about what a truff is.
7	Dad fixed the wug before dinner.	NO CLUE	The sentence gives no details about what a wug is.
8	The squirrel scurried, moving quickly, up the tree when it heard a noise.	CLUES	Moving quickly explains that scurried means moved fast.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CLUES:** After the race, Jae was glumpy, so tired that he fell asleep on the couch.
- **NO CLUE:** Jae found a plocket in the closet.

Challenge: Jae found a plocket, a tiny box that holds pencils, in the closet.

Accept CLUES sentences when details reasonably help identify the made-up word's meaning. Accept NO CLUE sentences only when the sentence does not give enough information to identify the word.