Clue Connection

Sort definition clues from contrast clues.

7.L.V.3.b "Analyze relationships between words, phrases, and/or clauses (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, analogies, contextual clues) to determine, distinguish, or clarify the meaning of unknown or multiple-meaning words and phrases. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

DEFINITION

A definition clue tells what an unfamiliar word means. It may use a meaning phrase set off by commas or words such as means.

A glacier, a huge moving mass of ice, carved the hillside.

CONTRAST

A contrast clue shows how one idea differs from another. The difference can help you figure out an unfamiliar word.

In contrast to the cheerful parade, the solemn ceremony was quiet and serious.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle DEFINITION or CONTRAST for each sentence, then choose two item numbers and explain the clue words that helped you sort them.

1.	The aviary, a shelter where birds live, was repaired.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST
2.	To navigate means to plan and follow a route.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST
3.	Unlike the ancient bridge, the new tunnel looked modern.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST
4.	A skeptic is a person who questions whether claims are true.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST
5.	The desert was arid, but the nearby field was wet and green.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST
6.	Rather than whispering, Jamal boomed his answer across the room.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST
7.	The fragile vase, easily broken, stayed on the highest shelf.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST
8.	While the first draft was messy, the final copy was polished and neat.	DEFINITION	CONTRAST

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 new sentence with a DEFINITION clue and one new sentence with a CONTRAST clue. Make each clue clear enough to help a reader figure out the unfamiliar word.

DEFINITION _____

CONTRAST _____

CHALLENGE

Write a two-sentence mini-passage that uses a definition clue for one unfamiliar word and a contrast clue for a different unfamiliar word.

ANSWER KEY

Clue Connection

GRADE 7 · 7.L.V.3.b

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The aviary, a shelter where birds live, was repaired.	**DEFINITION**	The words between commas define aviary.
2	To navigate means to plan and follow a route.	**DEFINITION**	The phrase means to directly defines navigate.
3	Unlike the ancient bridge, the new tunnel looked modern.	**CONTRAST**	Unlike signals a difference between ancient and modern.
4	A skeptic is a person who questions whether claims are true.	**DEFINITION**	The sentence directly defines skeptic.
5	The desert was arid, but the nearby field was wet and green.	**CONTRAST**	But contrasts arid with wet and green.
6	Rather than whispering, Jamal boomed his answer across the room.	**CONTRAST**	Rather than contrasts whispering with booming.
7	The fragile vase, easily broken, stayed on the highest shelf.	**DEFINITION**	Easily broken defines fragile.
8	While the first draft was messy, the final copy was polished and neat.	**CONTRAST**	While contrasts messy with polished and neat.

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)

- **DEFINITION**: The observatory, a building used to study space, opened before sunrise.
- **CONTRAST**: Instead of being scarce, the apples were abundant, filling several baskets.

Challenge: A curator, a person who cares for a collection, unlocked the museum case. Unlike the ordinary coin beside it, the pristine medal was perfectly clean and untouched.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, accept explanations that name accurate clue words or phrases and correctly describe how those words reveal meaning.