

Word Meaning Workshop

Infer, check, use, and revisit vocabulary in a complex text.

10.RV "The student will systematically build vocabulary and word knowledge based on grade ten content and text. Vocabulary Development and Word Analysis Develop and accurately use general academic and content-specific vocabulary through reading..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read paragraphs 1-2 first, covering the reference paragraph. For questions 1-2, record initial meanings and clues before uncovering paragraph 3. Then check and correct or confirm your meanings.

A Garden Proposal: An Original Fictional Report

- ① The student council gave provisional approval to a rain garden beside the parking lot: installation could begin only after the maintenance team reviewed the plan. During storms, runoff carried water across the pavement toward a drain. The garden design aimed to increase infiltration by allowing some of that water to enter the soil. One photograph showed a puddle, but it could not establish how often flooding occurred. A second set of dated observations would corroborate the students' account. Until then, treating a single image as a complete record would misinterpret its value as evidence.
- ② At the meeting, Anika was persistent: she returned with revised measurements and answered questions after two postponements. By contrast, the report described a committee member as obstinate because he rejected every revision without considering the new evidence. The council worried that rushing installation might be counterproductive; damage from a poorly planned project could weaken support for future gardens. A quick approval had already opened Pandora's box. Questions about buried cables led to unexpected permit costs, which exposed an unresolved maintenance dispute. Each attempted shortcut revealed another complication. Students recommended a limited trial with a named caretaker, while acknowledging that a successful trial would not settle every question about expansion.

- ③ Reference check: provisional means temporary or subject to later confirmation. Corroborate means strengthen an account with supporting evidence; it does not guarantee proof. Runoff is water flowing over land; infiltration is water entering soil. Misinterpret means understand incorrectly; mis- signals error. Counterproductive describes something working against its intended goal; counter- signals opposition. Persistent often approves of continued effort; obstinate criticizes unreasonable refusal to change. Pandora’s box alludes to a myth in which opening a container releases troubles; the modern expression suggests an action that unleashes many complications. These brief definitions are paraphrased teaching notes, not dictionary quotations.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

- ① Infer provisional and corroborate from paragraph 1, naming a clue for each. Then check paragraph 3 and record a correction or confirmation.

- ② Use mis- and counter- to infer misinterpret and counterproductive. Explain how one detail supports each meaning; then check the reference.

- ③ Why does persistent approve of Anika while obstinate criticizes the committee member? Explain how the actions justify the different connotations.

- 4** Explain the Pandora's box allusion using two linked complications. Why would a single missing password, with no further consequences, be a weak example?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a new 70-100-word report about a different school project. Use and underline provisional, corroborate, and either counterproductive or misinterpret, plus one precise subject-specific term. Make context clarify each meaning. Then complete the separate retrieval task.

Apply vocabulary

Write the report; define the subject-specific term briefly in context.

Retrieve and check later

At the next class, cover the passage and your report. Write meanings of three target words from memory. Uncover the reference; correct or confirm each, then write one new sentence using a word you found difficult.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Read paragraphs 1-2 first, covering the reference paragraph. For questions 1-2, record initial meanings and clues before uncovering paragraph 3. Then check and correct or confirm your meanings. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Infer provisional and corroborate from paragraph 1, naming a clue for each. Then check paragraph 3 and record a correction or confirmation.	Provisional suggests conditional approval because installation must wait for a review. Corroborate means support the account: additional dated observations strengthen it. The reference confirms both; neither approval nor proof is final.
2	Use mis- and counter- to infer misinterpret and counterproductive. Explain how one detail supports each meaning; then check the reference.	Mis- signals an error in interpreting the photograph as a complete record. Counter-signals opposition: a rushed garden could undermine the support it was meant to build. The reference confirms these meanings.
3	Why does persistent approve of Anika while obstinate criticizes the committee member? Explain how the actions justify the different connotations.	Anika continues trying while responding to evidence and questions. The member refuses to consider revisions. Both continue a course of action, but the first behavior is constructive and the second inflexible; the difference concerns attitude, not merely formality.
4	Explain the Pandora's box allusion using two linked complications. Why would a single missing password, with no further consequences, be a weak example?	The cable questions lead to permit costs and then a maintenance dispute. The allusion emphasizes a cascade of troubles released by one action. An isolated inconvenience does not establish that cascade.

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our robotics club received provisional permission to test a delivery cart; approval depends on a safe stopping demonstration. Two video trials could corroborate the claim that its sensor detects obstacles, but they would not establish reliability in every condition. Removing the speed limit to finish testing faster would be counterproductive because a collision could delay approval. We will also measure latency, the delay between detecting an obstacle and responding, before recommending another trial.

Retrieval example: provisional = conditional for now; corroborate = strengthen with evidence; counterproductive = working against the goal. Check: all three confirmed. New sentence: Adding distracting sound effects was counterproductive because listeners missed our instructions.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT NOTES

Evaluate every learner's initial inference, reference check, accurate contextual use and later retrieval. The report model has 73 words; the retrieval model is separate. Accept other correct subject-specific terms explained in context. Allow a partner to question unclear uses before revision. Definitions paraphrase standard senses; references include [merriam-webster.com/dictionary/provisional](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/provisional), [/corroborate](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/corroborate) and [/Pandora%27s%20box](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/counterproductive). The report and project facts are fictional. Every learner completes all skills; no random card assignment. Plan one class plus a short next-class retrieval check.