

CONTENT CLUES

What are Context Clues?

Context clues are hints found in a text that may help to figure out the meaning of a difficult word.

A **context clue** might be in the same sentence, the sentence before, or the sentence after the difficult word.

Example 1:

The magician vanished before the eyes of the audience. He was nowhere to be seen on the stage.

When
vanish
noticed

Vanish

Some
definition

Example

My

This
output

and vegetables.



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A sentence may also include synonyms that can be used as a **context clue**. A sentence may include words that mean the same thing as the difficult word in the sentence.

Example 3:

Amy was disheartened; she was extremely sad.

You may not know what the word disheartened means, but this sentence gives you a synonym of that word as a context clue to help you figure out what disheartened means.

Disheartened means sad.