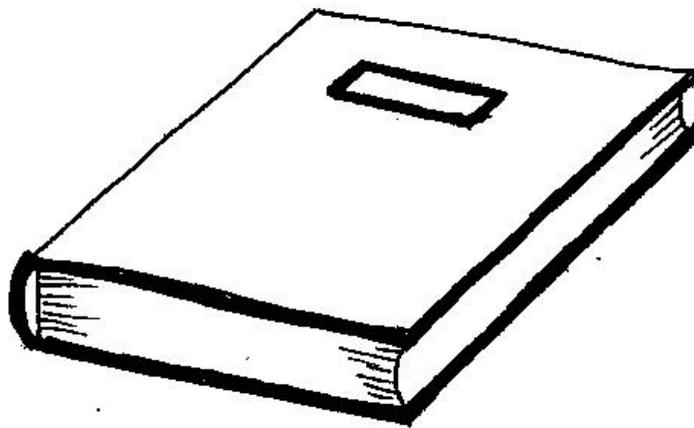


5

Module 7

English

Using Context to Get Meaning of Word with Multiple Meanings





To the Learner

Dear Learner,

How are you today?

In your previous module you have already learned about using the dictionary. In this module you will learn to use context to get meaning of words that have multiple meanings.



Let's Learn This

This module will help you get the exact meaning of a word, using context. Context means a particular situation, setting or condition.

When we say context clues, it means “get the meaning of the word as it is used with other words in the sentence.” Therefore, the word or words that come before or after an unfamiliar word will help you get its specific meaning.



Let's Try This

Encircle the meaning of the underlined words.

1. The soles of her shoes are already worn out.
a. heel b. strap c. botton
2. He thought he was the grandest person in the community.
a. proudest b. most important c. most contented
3. Wild animals live in the jungle.
a. forest b. farms c. mountain

4. He wears a purple robe.

- a. black b. brown c. reddish-blue

5. The ducks and ducklings swam among the palm trees.

- a. seaweeds b. water lilies c. tree with no branches

Finished?

* Were your answers like these? (a, b, a, c, c)

* Write your score inside the box.



Let's Study This

* A word may have one or more meanings as given in the dictionary. The meaning of the word, however, depends on the context on which it is used.

* Take the word hand for example.

* Read the sentences below and find out how many meanings the word hand has.

1. The carpenter hit his hand while working.

2. Let us lend a helping hand to the flood victims.

3. Why don't we hand in our projects now to Mr. Angeles?

4. The singers got a big hand from the audience after their performance.

* In which sentence is hand used to mean part of the body? Help or support? Give or submit? Applause or appreciation by clapping one's hands?

- In sentence 1, hand refers to the part of the body.
- In sentence 2, hand means help or support.
- In sentence 3, hand means to give or submit.
- In sentence 4, hand means applause or clapping of the hands.

* The meaning of an unfamiliar word can sometimes be determined with the help of clues or hints given in the sentence or paragraph.

* When a word has two or more meanings use context or other words in the sentence to help you get the right meaning.



Let's Do This

Select the best definition of the underlined word in each sentence from the choices given. Write the letter of the definition in the blank.

_____ 1. At the end of the term the manager received one thousand pounds as retirement pension.

- a. strikes heavily b. units of money c. units of weight

_____ 2. After examining the caves, the archeologist pronounced them the finest gallery of prehistoric art.

- a. testing the condition
b. inspecting closely
c. inquiring carefully

_____ 3. The green trees and the bright sunshine were something to behold.

- a. radiating; reflecting
b. intelligent; clever
c. lively; cheerful

_____ 4. We are a team; designing and creating the festival hats.

- a. plotting against someone
b. sketching outlines for a project
c. projecting mental schemes

_____ 5. The gentleman was sporting an attractive tie.

- a. to secure with string or the like
b. some score
c. necktie used as part of men's attire

- * Finished? Check your answers against the answer key.
- * What's your score?
- * If your score is 4 or 5, Excellent! Do the next module.
- * If your score is 3 and below, do your best in the next activity.



Let's Do More

You will find three different meanings for each given word. The given word will be used in three different sentences. Pick out the meaning of the word appropriate for each sentence. Write the letters in the appropriate blanks. Number one is done for you.

1. dashing

- a. breaking b. racing c. sprinkling

 b Tom was awarded a medal for dashing 100 metres in ten seconds.

 a The boy was dashing the stone against the wall.

 c The cook kept dashing the salad with pepper.

Start Here:

2. desert

- a. run away b. a dry region c. leave

_____ The camel is the “ ship of the desert”.

_____ We will desert the place before the army arrives.

_____ He had plans to desert the army.

3. haul

- a. something that has been caught
- b. pull hard
- c. transport

----- The pickup will haul the broken-down car.

----- The haul was valuable.

----- Everyone tugged on the rope and hauling as hard as he could.

4. shower

- a. a short fall of rain
- b. anything like a fall of rain
- c. wet with a shower

----- Usually hot summer days bring showers of hail.

----- The gardener showered the plants with a solution of water and fertilizer.

----- Last night we had the first shower of the season.

5. distinguish

- a. see or show the difference
- b. see or hear clearly
- c. make famous or well known

----- The invalid could distinguish the sounds made in the sickroom.

----- The students were asked to distinguish metal from nonmetal elements.

----- They welcomed the distinguished visitor.

- * Finished? Check your answers again in the answer key.
- * What's your score? _____
- * If your score is 9–12, You're Great! Do the next module.
- * If your score is 8 and below challenge yourself to do better.
Make up!



Let's Remember This

- Most words have more than one meaning. To get the exact meaning of a word, it must be used in context. When we say use context clues, it means “ get the meaning of the word as it is used with other words.” Therefore, the words that precede and follow an unfamiliar word will help you get its specific meaning.
- There are many meanings to a word as there are words. It is not practical to memorize word meanings. The best advice this module can convey is to get the various meanings of a word in context. To help us know the multiple meanings of words, we must understand the paragraph or sentence containing the words in question.



Let's Test Ourselves

Write the letter of your answer on your answer sheet.

1. The strong flow of water from the leaking faucet was stanched with a piece of rolled bag.
a. stooped b. strengthened c. weakened
2. People who look thin and wan probably have poor eating habits.
a. tall b. dark c. pale
3. The vagabond stepped into the restaurant and asked for a free meal.
a. rich person b. thoughtful person c. worthless person
4. A stray bullet grazed the arm of an innocent bystander.
a. scratched lightly
b. wounded seriously
c. hit strongly
5. Blood oozed from the wound in his forehead.
a. flowed
b. disappeared
c. gathered

* Are you done?

* What's your score? _____

* Smile. If you get 4 or 5, you can proceed to the next module.

* If your score is 3 and below, answer Let's Enrich Ourselves.



Let's Enrich Ourselves

Which meanings fit the underlined word in each of the sentences below the box? Write the letter that carries your answer in your paper.

delicate
a. pleasing and finely - flavored
b. deliciously mild and soft, as a delicate air
c. beautifully fine in texture, workmanship, and other
d. slight and subtle
e. easily damaged, disordered
f. frail
g. needing careful handling
h. finely sensitive

- _____ 1. Our music teacher has a delicate ear for music.
- _____ 2. Everybody admired the delicate pattern of the design.
- _____ 3. Her delicate health forbids her participation in so many activities.
- _____ 4. I don't know how to get out of the delicate situation.
- _____ 5. Glass is delicate and should therefore, be handled with care.

- * Finished? Look at the answer key again then check your answers.
- * How much did you get? _____
- * Congratulations for work well done!



Answer Key

Let's Do This

1. b
2. b
3. a
4. b
5. c

Let's Do More

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 2. b | 3. c | 4. b | 5. b |
| a | a | c | a |
| c | b | a | c |

Let's Test Ourselves

1. a
2. c
3. c
4. a
5. a

Let's Enrich Ourselves

1. h
2. c
3. f
4. e
5. g