

“Using Context to Clue Meaning”

A. The boldfaced word in each sentence is not a real word. However, its context gives clues to its meaning. Read each sentence. Then write the best meaning for the boldfaced nonsense word on your scratch paper.

1. After dinner the chef brought out a creamy, fattening **lamadora**.

- a. cigar b. dessert c. napkin

2. The music played on, and we **twaddled** until our feet were sore.

- a. sang b. argued c. danced

3. The forecast called for **blorps**, but I never needed my umbrella.

- a. heat waves b. showers c. fog

4. I’ve always feared **snorblets**, those crawling, hissing creatures.

- a. snakes b. dogs c. burglars

B. Use context clues to determine the meanings of real words. Write the letter of the best meaning of the boldfaced word on your scratch paper.

1. I **abhor** bullies who pick on people weaker than they are.

- a. befriend b. admire c. hate

2. That naughty child often **pilfers** coins from his mother’s purse.

- a. polishes b. counts c. steals

3. Her blank stare and silly comments make her seem **vacuous**.

- a. adventurous b. stupid c. attractive

4. The **orator** turned to the audience, glanced at his notes, cleared his throat, and began to speak.

- a. speaker b. magician c. musician