

Context Clues

Time to learn about words in context



What does 'words in context' mean?

Many times we run into new words for the first time. Using the words near to the new unknown word, we can often find out the meaning of that word. This is called using the word in context. Authors often will write sentences with this in mind for the reader. Let us look at an example!

Do you know what "harkarl" is?

What if it was used in this sentence:

Mr. Bjorn prepared his favourite family dish of harkarl for us last night.

By the words of the sentence we can tell that this "harkarl" is a type of traditional cultural food. Harkarl is a traditional dish in Iceland. It's actually aged or some consider it rotten, shark.

Watch this video to help you understand!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyK01USxdg0>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b75vli9XF6o>

The tepee, or tent, is very tall.



Try some of these!

Jonathan was reluctant to ride his bike after he fell and broke his arm the last time he cycled.

What does reluctant mean?

a. angry b. unwilling c. annoyed



If you chose unwilling....

You are correct!

If Jonathan broke his arm last time he rode a bike, he might be a bit scared. So he would be unwilling to ride a bike again.

After a long night of studying, Lena stumbled out of bed sleepily and grumbled about her upcoming maths test to her mum.

What does grumbled mean?



a. sing happily b. complained and murmured c. talk nonstop

If you chose murmured and complained...

You are correct!

Lena has spent all night studying and stumbled out of bed sleepily. This tells me that she doesn't seem very energetic and that she probably isn't looking forward to her math test.

Now complete the activities!

Remember to complete Activity 1, then Activity 2
and only then move on to the Challenge Activity 😊