Using Context Clues to Guess the Meaning of Vocabulary

Answer Key

These are suggested answers. As always, teachers can use their own discretion as to whether a given answer is correct or not.

Context Clues

1. abundant

Definition: a lot of; plenty of

Clue: “they could be found nearly everywhere”

1. mischievous

Definition: causing trouble

Clue: “no matter how much trouble I got in”

1. fatigue

Definition: extreme tiredness resulting from physical or mental labor

Clue: “after working for twelve hours without a break”

1. frigid

Definition: very cold

Clue: “winter weather in Canada” or “she wears three or four layers of clothing whenever she goes outside”

1. devastating

Definition: highly destructive or damaging

Clue: “effects of the hurricane”

1. visibility

Definition: the state of being able to be seen

Clue: “because of all the fog” or “be careful on the road”

1. diminished

Definition: made smaller or less

Clue: “as we got farther away from the shore”

1. contemplation

Definition: deep thought

Clue: “I have decided to”

1. unique

Definition: the only one of its kind; unlike anything else

Clue: “which means each flake is different from every other flake”

1. efficient

Definition: achieving maximum productivity with minimum wasted effort or expense

Clue: “you’re wasting too much time”

Cloze Exercise

1. unique
2. visibility
3. abundant
4. frigid
5. fatigue
6. efficient
7. mischievous
8. devastating
9. contemplation
10. diminished

Sentence Creation

Answers will vary.