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What is Context Clues

Unlocking Meaning with Context Clues!

DEFINITION

> Context clues are hints in a sentence that help you understand unfamiliar words. They provide information about a word's meaning through surrounding text.

KEY CONCEPTS

Types of Context Clues

There are different types of context clues, such as synonyms, antonyms, and examples.

Synonyms

A synonym is a word that has a similar meaning, helping to clarify the unknown word.

Antonyms

An antonym is a word with the opposite meaning, which can highlight the meaning of the unfamiliar word.

Examples

Sometimes, sentences provide examples that illustrate what the unknown word means.

Inferences

Using clues from the text to make educated guesses about the meaning of a word.

EXAMPLES

→ The weather was so frigid, I could see my breath.

→ Her demeanor was cheerful, always smiling and laughing.

→ He was a novice at chess, still learning the basic moves.

MEMORY TIPS

★ Think of context as a 'clue detective' helping you solve word mysteries.

★ Remember 'SAME' for Synonyms and 'OPPOSITE' for Antonyms.

★ Visualize a scene where the word is used to create a mental picture.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Ignoring surrounding sentences that provide hints.

✗ Relying solely on a dictionary without considering context.

✗ Misinterpreting the tone of the sentence, leading to incorrect meanings.

QUICK RECAP

Context clues are hints found in sentences that help define unfamiliar words. By identifying synonyms, antonyms, and examples, you can better understand the text. Always pay attention to the surrounding words for clues!