

2nd Blizzard
Bag

Learn About It

Context clues are the words or sentences that surround an unknown word. Writers provide context clues for readers to figure out what new words mean.

Read the sentences. Look for context clues that help define the highlighted words.

“Now, Jamie,” said his babysitter Angel. “This is a really big mall. It is enormous. You could get lost here. So please do not wander off or go far away. I want you to stay in this vicinity, near me, all the time. Do you understand?”

Context Clues		
Type	Meaning	Example
Synonym	A word that means the same as the unfamiliar word	The <u>vulnerable</u> snow fort was too <u>weak</u> to stay up.
Antonym	A word that means the opposite of the unfamiliar word	The extra credit assignment was not <u>frustrating</u> but <u>easy</u> .
Definition	A word's actual meaning	An <u>amoeba</u> is a <u>single cell life form</u> .
Example	A list of words linked to the unfamiliar word	<u>Reptiles</u> , such as <u>snakes</u> , <u>lizards</u> , and <u>turtles</u> , have scaly skin.
Restatement	Saying a sentence again in a new way	The new girl is <u>introverted</u> . <u>She is very shy</u> .
Cause and effect	The reason something happens and its result	I was <u>flabbergasted</u> when <u>the magician guessed my card</u> .

Try It

Read the passage. Look for context clues that help define the highlighted words. Use the questions to help you.

Bridges

(1) Bridges are structures, or buildings, that carry traffic over rivers, canyons, and roads. (2) Bridges speed cars, trucks, and people on their way. (3) A bridge may provide a safe way for a pedestrian to walk across a road. (4) A small plank, or piece of wood, set across a stream, can make a useful bridge.

(5) A graceful bow bridge, curving over a path, can help a city dweller enjoy an urban park.

(6) Thousands of years ago, people built bridges. (7) Many of them were made of rope. (8) Most of these bridges were fragile. (9) They were not strong enough to carry heavy loads. (10) The first people to make bridges out of stone were the ancient Romans. (11) These structures could provide more support.

(12) After a time more kinds of bridges were built. (13) Covered wooden bridges provided overhead protection. (14) Moveable bridges, called drawbridges, could lift to allow boats to pass.

(15) Today we see many bridges. (16) Some bridges are suspended, or hung between towers, from thick steel wires. (17) These bridges have a long single span, or distance, between sides. (18) There are two very famous suspension bridges in the United States. (19) One is the Brooklyn Bridge. (20) The other is the Golden Gate Bridge.

What context clue helps readers know the meaning of the word *structures* in sentence 1?

What does *fragile* mean in sentence 8? What context clue helped you know the meaning?



How do context clues help you understand the meaning of an unfamiliar word?

Apply It

Read the passage. Answer the questions on the next page.

Feeling the Heat

(1) Touch, or feeling, is one of the five senses. (2) It is one way that we learn about the world around us. (3) Nerve endings in the cells, the basic building blocks of living things, register touch. (4) Without your sense of touch, you would not even know if you were holding something securely.

(5) Your skin cells are very sensitive to heat and cold. (6) This keeps you from damaging your body since heat can burn. (7) Really cold conditions are harmful, too. (8) They can cause frostbite.

(9) It is not only humans who are sensitive to heat. (10) For some animals the sense of touch is especially important. (11) It is crucial to their survival. (12) Without it they could not stay alive. (13) A female mosquito is one example. (14) Sensitivity to heat helps it find prey, the food it needs to survive.

(15) A female mosquito senses the carbon dioxide gas humans breathe out. (16) When a mosquito is close enough to the surface, or top, of our skin, it finds the blood vessels it is looking for. (17) It does this by sensing the heat the blood vessels give out. (18) Then the mosquito bites.

(19) Luckily, as a mosquito approaches, or gets near, we can hear the buzzing sound it makes. (20) We have time to brush it away!

Use "Feeling the Heat" to answer the questions. Write your answers in complete sentences.

1. What does the word *cells* mean in sentence 3?

2. Write a sentence using the word *damaging*. Use context clues from sentences 5 to 7 to understand the meaning of the word.

3. What context clues in sentences 5 and 7 tell you the meaning of the word *frostbite*?

4. What does the word *survival* mean in sentence 11? What context clue in sentence 12 tells you this?

5. What does the word *surface* in sentence 16 mean? How do you know?

NEWSLA

Warnings of a monster mudslide ignored?

By The Seattle Times, adapted by Newsela staff on 03.28.14

Word Count **671**



Rescue workers carry an inflatable boat to the flooded area in the debris field caused by the massive mudslide above the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River onto Highway 530, as recovery efforts are underway, near Oso, Washington. Photo: Marcus Yam/Seattle Times/MCT

SEATTLE — On Saturday, houses and cars were buried in 40 feet of mud in Washington state. At least 24 people who lived on the hill were killed.

When Lynne Rodgers Miller saw the news of the mudslide, she knew exactly what happened. Her husband, Daniel Miller, knew, too.

In 1999, the Millers wrote a report filed with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps is a government agency that tries to prevent disasters. It warned back then that someday there might be a large mudslide on the hill.

"We've known it would happen at some point," he said. Daniel Miller studies how land and hills, and lakes and rivers come about and change. "We just didn't know when."

Mudslide In 2006

Daniel Miller knows the hill's history. He has collected reports going back to the 1950s. He has folders stuffed with maps, slides and drawings. They all tell the story of a hillside that has collapsed several times.

Daniel Miller says officials should have known the danger.

"We've known that it's been failing," he said of the hill.

John Pennington, head of Snohomish County's Department of Emergency Management, disagrees. "It was considered very safe," Pennington said. "This came out of nowhere."

Two Snohomish County officials said they were not aware of the 1999 report. A mudslide this large is very difficult to predict, said Snohomish official Steve Thomsen. He said no one had any idea Saturday's slide would happen.

A mudslide took place in 2006. Even after this, at least five homes were built that year in the slide zone on Steelhead Drive. Another home was built in the area in 2009.

"Frankly, I was shocked that the county permitted any building," Daniel Miller said.

"They didn't even stop pounding nails," Tracy Drury said. Drury is an engineer who studied the area with Miller after the 2006 slide. "We were surprised."

The Hill's "Toe"

Irwin and Judith Wood owned the last home allowed in the slide zone.

The Woods were not there on Saturday when the mudslide wiped out their home.

Wood said none of the homeowners were warned that a huge mudslide was possible. But he said the government could not prevent it.

"If the hillsides were going to (slide) away, they were going to (slide) away," Wood said. "That's kind of what happens around here."

There have been at least five mudslides on the site.

A 1949 report looked at the reasons mudslides happen in this area. It found that a main cause of the slides is the river slowly washing away a piece of an older slide, called a "toe." The "toe" holds up millions of tons of dirt behind it. It is like someone with their back against a bulging door.

The "toe" hangs down close to the river. Eventually, the "toe" fails from water eating away at it. Then gravity pulls the hillside down.

Nearly 600 feet of hillside broke away in Saturday's slide.

"They're Heartbroken"

Over the years, county officials talked about whether to buy the homes to keep people from living there. But nothing came of the idea. No one really wanted to sell their homes and move, Drury said.

County officials did not talk much about the risk of a mudslide. They were more concerned about floods, said Pat Stevenson, who is in charge of environmental issues for the Stillaguamish Tribe.

Ron and Gail Thompson moved into a cabin on Steelhead Drive in 2003.

The Army Corps of Engineers showed their daughter, Jennifer Johnson, a map. They promised "mom and dad's house would be safe," she said Monday.

"When we moved them in there, I never in a million years, never in a billion years, thought about (a mudslide)," Johnson said. Her father said they would be fine, "and I just believed him," she said.

Johnson's parents and 85-year-old grandmother left their house eight minutes before the slide hit for a shopping trip, Johnson said. They lost everything.

"They are in mourning. They're in shock," she said. "They're heartbroken for their neighbors."

Quiz

- 1 This article is mostly about:
- (A) what causes a disastrous mudslide to begin
 - (B) how a recent mudslide in Washington state killed 24 people
 - (C) why people built homes on Steelhead Drive in a mudslide area
 - (D) how scientists warned that a large mudslide could happen and officials did not get their warning
- 2 Which of the following would MOST LIKELY be included in a summary of the article?
- (A) When Lynne Rodgers Miller saw the news of the mudslide, she knew exactly what happened.
 - (B) A mudslide took place in 2006. Even after this, at least five homes were built that year in the slide zone on Steelhead Drive.
 - (C) The Woods were not there on Saturday when the mudslide wiped out their home.
 - (D) "When we moved them in there, I never in a million years, never in a billion years, thought about (a mudslide)," Johnson said.
- 3 According to the article, why was Daniel Miller so certain a mudslide would occur on the hill?
- (A) He read the 1999 report from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that predicted a large mudslide on the hill.
 - (B) His job is to study how land and rivers change and he has used old reports and maps to study this particular hill going back to the 1950s.
 - (C) He and his wife used to be homeowners on Steelhead Drive and experienced the 2006 mudslide.
 - (D) He is an engineer that examines the safety of areas where people want to build homes and he studied the area around Steelhead Drive.

- 4 Based on the information in the article, what was the BIGGEST concern of the county officials before the most recent mudslide?
- (A) the possibility of the dangerous mudslide predicted by scientists
 - (B) buying people's homes on Steelhead Drive to protect the natural area
 - (C) the possibility of the area being dangerously flooded by the river
 - (D) rebuilding homes on the hill after the 2006 mudslide destroyed the original homes



Problem of the Month Friends You Can Count On



Level A:

The friends in your class like to exchange stickers. You decide to give each classmate three stickers. You have 19 classmates. How many stickers will you need? Show how you figured it out.

Your best friend decides to give each classmate 4 stickers. How many will your best friend need to give away?

Two more classmates join your class. You and your best friend give them stickers also. How many total stickers were exchanged? Explain how you figured it out.

Your younger brother wants to give some stickers to his classmates. Explain to him how to figure out how many he needs to bring to class.

Level B:

You and your friend went to a frozen yogurt store. You both like to get frozen yogurt cones with different toppings. The store has a sign showing the different kinds of cones, yogurt and toppings you can buy:

Cones	Yogurt	Toppings
Sugar Cone	Vanilla	Oreo Cookie
Chocolate Dip Cone	Chocolate	Reese's Pieces
	Strawberry	Rainbow Sprinkles
		Gummy Bears

You and your friend wonder how many different cones you can make? Find all the different combinations of cones, yogurt and toppings you can make and explain how you know you have found all of them.

How would your numbers change if the store added a waffle cone? Explain.

Name _____

LESSON



4th Grade Social Studies
Blizzard Bag #2

Ohio History: Recent Years

IT'S IMPORTANT:

- ✦ The Northwest Ordinance gave Ohio a plan to grow and become a state.
- ✦ Steamboats, roads, canals and railroads brought more settlers into Ohio.
- ✦ Ohio's population growth increased its success.
- ✦ Important inventors and U.S. presidents were born in Ohio.

As the United States grew into a powerful nation, Ohio grew into a powerful state. Large numbers of people came to Ohio, thanks to roads, canals, steamboats and trains. Many people worked hard and invented new things that helped make Ohio a success. Ohio also became a strong force in the government of the United States.

From Territory to State

After the American Revolution was over, people were eager to move westward and settle in new areas that were now open.

In 1787, the government of the United States passed the Northwest Ordinance. The **Northwest Ordinance** explained the steps for a territory to become a state. It also explained how the governments of the different territories would be set up and who would lead them. The Northwest Ordinance became one of the most important sets of laws passed by the early U.S. government. The Northwest Ordinance said that the Northwest Territory would be split into three to five smaller territories. Those territories would later become states. People wanted their area to become a state so that they could choose their own governments. The Northwest Ordinance also said that the new states would be just as

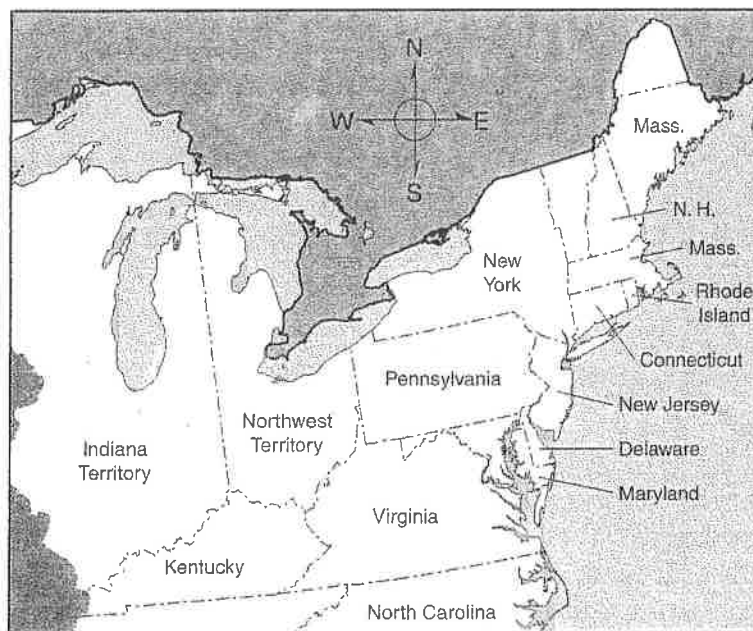
important as the old states. All people in all states would be treated the same way under the laws of the United States.

The Northwest Ordinance gave three steps for a territory to become a state:

- At first, each of the territories was mostly empty. The U.S. government decided who would run the government in each of these territories.
- When a territory had at least 5,000 people living there, the people of the territory could choose who ran their government. They could also make their own laws.
- After 60,000 people had moved into a territory, the territory could become a state. As a state, the people could decide what kind of government they wanted to have, choose their own leaders and have a say in the national government.

By 1800, more than 45,000 people were living in the Ohio area. Two years later, Ohio's population reached 60,000. Then, on February 19, 1803, Ohio became the seventeenth state in the United States: Ohio was the first state to be created from the Northwest Territory.

Eastern United States, 1803



Quick Review 1: According to the Northwest Ordinance, what did an area need before it could become a state?

- A. a name
- B. \$60,000
- C. to be split into five sections
- D. 60,000 people

Why would a territory want to become a state?

- A. in order to bring more people to the area
- B. in order to choose their leaders
- C. in order to make their own government
- D. in order to use their natural resources

