

CONTEXT CLUES



in stories

Context Clues

Name: _____ Date: _____

Xavier's First Game

Xavier had watched the progression of the stadium throughout the last season, and the River Dwellers would have their first baseball season inside the new stadium. Xavier was hoping to go to at least a couple of games this summer.

Finally, his mom was available to take Xavier and his two younger siblings to a game. After school, the three children bounded into the car, excitedly chatting about what they thought the stadium and game would be like. Mrs. V rolled her eyes and smiled when her eight-year-old daughter said that she hoped it was the River Dwellers cute pitcher on the mound.

After parking the car, each family member handed the person at the gate his or her ticket, and they were in! All four of them looked around the stadium in awe. Everything was pristine! The whole stadium was clean and brightly colored. The field was immaculate, and the seats looked untouched. Everyone inside seemed to move around, creating a happy buzz.

The family walked around the entire stadium to see the big croc holding a football. The mascot for the River Dwellers and got to take pictures with the big croc holding a football. The radio and announcers' booth was made completely of windows, so the family checked out all of the microphones and equipment. They couldn't believe how complex of a system it was. As they continued around the stadium, they saw that representatives from a crocodile farm had brought live crocodiles for people to admire. Xavier even took a picture holding a baby crocodile. There was a children's section with hoop shots and giant inflatable slides that they all went down a few times.

The family enjoyed the mouthwatering smells as they toured the stadium, and they decided to get some dinner. Just like the rest of the stadium, the food was impeccable. The pulled pork was covered with a savory barbeque sauce and was accompanied by delicious potato tots. The cinnamon sugar doughnuts they had afterward for dessert melted in their mouths.

While the River Dwellers weren't victorious that night, the team put up a good fight and gave the attendees a few entertaining hours. Not only that, but after the game, there were phenomenal fireworks. Before they left to return home, Mrs. V purchased t-shirts for all four of them, knowing that the family would be attending many more games here in the

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WHAT'S INCLUDED?

TEN 4th & 5th Grade **DIGITAL** and **PRINTABLE** PDF fiction passages & TWO assessments!

- Aligned with 4th & 5th Grade Lexile Levels
- Includes a Be a Word Detective! Anchor Chart & Journal Page
- Students can highlight the text for easy comprehension

CONTEXT CLUES IN STORIES

4th & 5th grade

Table of Contents

*This product includes 12 Lexile[®] leveled stories in the 4th-5th Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 4th-5th grade is 740-1010).

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2. [Little Hands, Big Heart- 750L](#)
3. [The Underground Railroad- 750L](#)
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FICTION PASSAGES

into the swamp, and it felt squishy. After running away from Uncle Bruce in the hot summer temperature, the coolness of the dense, gooey mud felt good.

Raven continued into the swamp until the mud was up to her knees. She proceeded to lay down. The mud now went halfway up her sides. "Ahh, this is the life. There's nothing like a doggy spa day with a mud bath. I think I'll skip the facial though," Raven chuckled to herself. Suddenly, Raven noticed movement out of the corner of her eye. She immediately turned toward the movement and saw that a giant bullfrog had just landed on a large lily pad next to her. Raven observed the bullfrog **basking** in the warm sun, as well as butterflies that fluttered by and the daffodils that seemed to dance in the periodic breeze. Raven didn't even have to worry about Uncle Bruce or Aunt Jan finding her here because thick brush surrounded the area.

When Raven noticed a deer picking berries off a nearby bush, she thought that it would be fun to have a playmate. Unfortunately, the deer was quite **skittish** and bounded away as soon as it caught a glimpse of Raven walking toward it. Raven was disappointed, but she continued on her journey and headed toward Patty's house. Patty had an enormous garden with *all* types of fruit, Raven's favorite! When Raven arrived at Patty's, no one was out in the yard. Raven did a running leap over the fence that was intended to keep animals out of the garden. "Patty loves me, so she won't mind," yelled Raven as she began scrutinizing the berries, trying to decide which she should have first.

After starting with raspberries, Raven moved to blackberries, skipping the blueberries because she knew they made dogs ill. After chowing down on scrumptious strawberries, Raven contently daydreamed in the sun. Between her pleasantly full belly and the heat of the summer day, Raven was becoming drowsy and heavy-eyed.

Suddenly, Raven heard a snapping noise behind her that she swore sounded like...

"Oh, mannnn," thought Raven. She hung her head, unable to look Uncle Bruce in the eyes while he slipped her collar on. Uncle Bruce lectured Raven the whole walk home about how dangerous it was for her to run away, how worried they were, what her mom and dad would think, and how in the future they were going to get all of that mud off of her. **Raven was on a much looser leash than she was accustomed to.** When they ran into Aunt Jan, who had still been out hunting for Raven, she received the same lecture a second time.

"Well," Raven thought as she did her best to avoid the cold water coming at her from the garden hose, "it sure was fun while it lasted. However, I can see how I was selfish, making Aunt Jan and Uncle Bruce worry like that. I probably shouldn't run away again."

With that thought, Raven couldn't take it anymore and just *had* to get the water off of her. She shook with all her might, resulting in soaking both Aunt Jan and Uncle Bruce.

"RAVENNNNNNNN!" they screamed in unison.

Color-coded highlighting supports student comprehension. In Google Slides, students can highlight as they read!

Context Clues

5. Read this sentence from the story.



"Unfortunately, the deer was quite **skittish** and bounded away as soon as it caught a glimpse of Raven walking toward it."

What is the meaning of the word "skittish" as it is used in the sentence above?

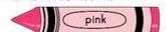
- a. speedy
- b. sluggish
- c. nervous
- d. unfriendly

6. What is the meaning of the word "accustomed" as it is used in the story?



- a. liked
- b. familiar
- c. preferred
- d. comfortable

7. What does the word "unison" mean? Use **one** detail from the passage and **one** detail about word parts to support your answer.



Students type their answers right in the text box.

After reading, students type their answers in the text boxes using text evidence.

ASSESSMENTS

Color-coded highlighting can also be done on the assessments!

760L Context Clues Name: _____ Date: _____
TEST: Sonny with a Chance of Chocolate Cake
"It's tomorrow! It's tomorrow!" CJ cheered as he pranced around the kitchen. Sonny trailed behind him, her golden tail swaying behind her. She

820L Context Clues Name: _____ Date: _____
Ally's Awesome Awakening



"AL-LY! AL-LY! AL-LY!" the crowd chanted as she stood at the plate. She was the bottom of the ninth inning, and the score was tied. The crowd chanted three balls and two strikes. She had a great hit her last swing, but it was out of the fair territory. Ally *really* wanted to knock the ball out of the park.

As Ally tightened her grip around her softball bat, she kept hearing her name over and over again, but the field was becoming blurry. **Slowly, Ally drifted back into consciousness.** Ally realized that she wasn't on the field. It wasn't the fans chanting her name at all. **Looking around groggily,** Ally began to comprehend that she was actually laying in her bunk bed. It was actually her older sister Shannon exclaiming her name.

"What are you doing? What do you want? What *time* is it?!" Ally asked a bunch of off questions as she looked out the window, noticing that it was still dark outside, not being able to **fathom** what her sister could possibly need. The sun was even up.

"ALLY! ALLY! ALLYYYY!" Shannon exclaimed, jumping on Ally. The goodness Ally had chosen to sleep on her bottom bunk last night. The bunk certainly would have come crashing down by now if she'd chosen to sleep differently.

Context Clues
Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What is the meaning of the word "consciousness" as it is used in the story? 

a. slumber
b. frustration
c. awareness
d. drowsiness 

2. Read this sentence from the story. 

"Looking around **groggily**, Ally began to comprehend that she was actually laying in her bunk bed, and it was actually her older sister Shannon exclaiming her name."

What is the meaning of the word "groggily" as it is used in the sentence above?

a. happily
b. alertly
c. drowsily
d. attentively 

3. What is the meaning of the word "fathom" as it is used in the story? 

a. hear
b. notice
c. question
d. understand 

4. What is the meaning of the word "interrogation" as it is used in the story? 

a. story
b. shouting
c. answers
d. questioning 

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This resource also includes TWO tests with different Lexile Levels for student assessment.

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4th & 5th grade

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ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS



MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

| Grade Band | Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations |
|------------|---|
| K-1 | N/A |
| 2-3 | 420L-820L |
| 4-5 | 740L-1010L |
| 6-8 | 1185L-1385L |

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."



The Dansala

Sri Lanka, April 2018

Udesh met Anuk on his way home from school.

"What are your plans for the weekend?" he inquired.

Anuk pondered for a moment and said, "Nothing much really. I have to get my bicycle fixed."

"Well, I was meaning to ask you something," went on Udesh. "We learned about **charitable** deeds at school, and I would like to engage in one..."

"That's really **considerate**," encouraged Anuk. "Have you thought of any?"

"Well...I did think of something, but it seems like a farfetched idea," replied Udesh, quite unsure.

"What is it?" asked Anuk curiously.

"A *dansala*...a small *dansala*," said Udesh.

"Wow!" exclaimed Anuk. "I didn't expect that."

"I know...and that is why I'm dropping the idea," replied Udesh apprehensively.

"No, no, you mustn't give up. I can help you if you like," said Anuk with determination.

"I could certainly use your help," smiled Udesh. "Come home in the evening, and let's discuss a plan." The boys headed home hurriedly.

A *dansala* is a roadside stall, often found in Sri Lanka, that **distributes** free refreshments to people who are passing by. Running a *dansala* is a great act of charity and kindness. Several types of food items are given away at a *dansala*, ranging from soft drinks to fried rice. Anybody is free to walk in and have his or her share at any time.

Anuk and Udesh decided to have a chickpeas *dansala*, but first, they had to boil the chickpeas in a big pot. Udesh's mother came forward to help, but the boys wanted to do it themselves with little help. They measured the amount required, poured water into the pot, and let it boil. When this was done, the chickpeas were tempered with coconut and spices to **concoct** the perfect flavor. Cooking the chickpeas was taking too long, so the boys decided to take a quick break and come back in a while to check on their food.

When they returned, to their utmost despair, the chickpeas had turned black! Udesh's mother rushed to the scene only to discover that the fire had been kept on high, which had resulted in the burn.

We cannot serve this!" cried the boys.

"What are we to do now?"

Just then, Kanthi and Rathna came looking for Udesh to borrow some notes from the school day. They heard what had happened and felt sorry for the boys.

"Let's not be **disheartened**," pacified Rathna. "We can always give away something else."

"But what? Something has to be done soon!" cried Udesh in **dismay**.

"I know just the right thing!" exclaimed Kanthi, much to the surprise and relief of everyone. "Flowers! Let's give away flowers of all kinds!"

That did not seem like a bad idea. The next morning, the boys and girls hunted for flowers everywhere and came up with bunches of beautiful flowers. There were too many to count.

"This is more than we expected," said Anuk happily.

"Yes, we would have been in trouble if the girls hadn't helped us," said Udesh as he smiled at the pleased girls. "Flowers may seem small and **insignificant**, but they are very useful in offerings and prayers."

"And...I'm sure everyone will want flowers since they are too pretty to be refused," added Anuk with a chuckle.

Everybody couldn't agree more.



Context Clues

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What is the meaning of the word “charitable” as it is used in the story?



- a. useful
- b. money
- c. profitable
- d. generous

2. Read this sentence from the story.

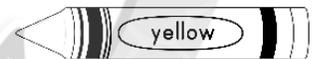


“That’s really **considerate**,” encouraged Anuk.”

What is the meaning of the word “considerate” as it is used in the sentence above?

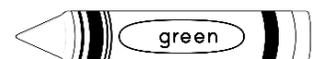
- a. caring
- b. selfish
- c. exciting
- d. enjoyable

3. What is the meaning of the word “distributes” as it is used in the story?



- a. sells
- b. profits
- c. receives
- d. gives out

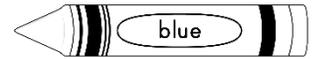
4. What is the meaning of the word “concoct” as it is used in the story?



- a. scent
- b. drink
- c. create
- d. consume

Context Clues

5. Read these sentences from the story.

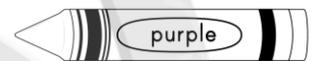


“Let’s not be **disheartened**,” pacified Rathna. “We can always give away something else.”

What is the meaning of the word “disheartened” as it is used in the sentence above?

- a. upset
- b. joyous
- c. uncaring
- d. miserable

6. What does the word “dismay” show about how Udesch felt? Use **one** detail from the passage and **one** detail about word parts to support your answer.



7. What is the meaning of the word “insignificant” as it is used in the story?

- a. central
- b. colorful
- c. striking
- d. unimportant



Sports Day

"I'm never coming back to this park!" said a very red, very angry Tiffany. She was at the new park that had opened up in her neighborhood. It boasted one of the best jungle gyms in the city. It consisted of a series of twisted metal rungs and ladders and an entire rope climbing station, which was the setting of Tiffany's **dilemma**. She had been trying to climb the rope for quite some time now, as evidenced by her red palms and scratched shins. If it was any **consolation**, nobody else had been able to climb it either, but all of the other kids had left after a couple of attempts.

Tiffany's dad bent down until he was at eye level with her, and he pushed her hair out of her eyes. "Tiffany, dear, we don't ever give up. We try again and again until we get it. How about we come back tomorrow and try again?" he suggested.

"Yeah, I think that sounds better," Tiffany huffed.

Tiffany spent the remainder of her time playing on the swings and slides. She was having so much fun! She couldn't wait to come back tomorrow and try again.

The next day, Tiffany raced to the park after school, eager to play on all of the things she had tried yesterday. This time, however, there were a couple of kids from her school at the park. Tiffany felt a little **apprehensive** about having a small audience while she tried something new, but she was determined to **conquer** the rope.

Once again, she made her way to the rope climbing set and tried to cling to the rope. Her palms were still raw from yesterday's failed attempts, so she was unable to hold on for more than a few minutes. By this time, she had caught the attention of the other students milling around.

"What's wrong, Tiffany? Can't climb a little rope?" they **jeered**.

"It's so easy; even a baby can do it!" they laughed.

Tiffany felt her neck turning red as she continued her attempts. At least she was trying; hard work always paid off. Tiffany continued to climb until her dad called her for dinner. It was hard, but it was easier than yesterday. The taunts still rang in her ears, but they strengthened her resolve to try harder.



Tiffany visited the park every day after school and attempted to climb the rope. Sometimes there were other students present, and they passed **snide** comments, but Tiffany ignored them and continued bettering herself. After two weeks of hard work, Tiffany smiled triumphantly as she swung from the very top of the rope. She had callouses on her hands and a couple scratches on her shins, but the **euphoria** of reaching the top trumped all of that.

It was the annual sports day event of the year. Tiffany and her friends were so excited because they would win for sure this year! They had spent the morning in a variety of water sports- from a water balloon toss to carrying a spoonful of water without spilling it. A barrel run and balancing eggs followed this. Tiffany and her friend won the barrel run, crossing the finish line way before everyone else. Tiffany waited anxiously for the third and last part of the day, which was a series of team events. She couldn't wait to run the obstacle course if they made it to the finals.

After winning both the leg tie race and the marathon, Tiffany, along with her team, advanced to the finals. They stood at the start of the obstacle course, and both team captains shook hands. Tiffany saw that the majority of the kids on the other team were the ones she often saw in the park...the same ones who had not been so nice.

As soon as Tiffany was handed the baton, she shot off, dust rising from where her feet had been a second ago; Tiffany tore through the obstacle course. She could feel her **opponent** right behind her, so she used her remaining energy to push her way through to the last obstacle. She looked ahead and almost laughed in relief. The last task was always the hardest, but this year, it would be easy for her. The last obstacle was a rope climb!

Tiffany could see the flag waving at the top. The first team to return with the flag would win. Tiffany grabbed the rope with her hands, her callouses already familiar with the rough material. With practiced strokes, she quickly made her way to the top. By the time she reached the bottom, her opponent was still struggling with the climb. Tiffany stopped for a minute to see if she could be of any help. After noticing that the placement of her feet could be better, Tiffany called out, "Hey! Try placing one foot on top of the other with the rope in the middle!" This was a trick she had picked up from her numerous rope climbs. After seeing that the other girl had gotten the hang of the trick, Tiffany clutched her flag and ran to the finish line, where she was greeted by cheers from her teammates.

Tiffany celebrated her win with the rest of her team, finally being able to take home the trophy at the end of the day. As she was making her way to the car with her dad, she heard someone calling after her. She turned around to see who it was and was surprised to see that it was the girl from the last obstacle.

"Tiffany, hi! I just wanted to apologize for my behavior at the park. I laughed at you learning how to climb that rope, but I couldn't have done it without your help today, even though I was mean to you before. I just wanted to say thank you and congratulations!" she finished with a hug as she walked away.

Tiffany smiled to herself. Her dad was right; hard work always paid off.

Context Clues

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What is the meaning of the word “dilemma” as it is used in the story?



- a. fright
- b. delight
- c. problem
- d. excitement

2. Read this sentence from the story.

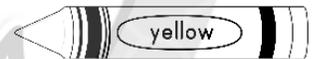


“If it was any **consolation**, nobody else had been able to climb it either...”

What is the meaning of the word “consolation” as it is used in the sentence above?

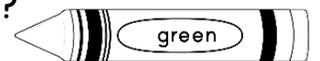
- a. prize
- b. award
- c. comfort
- d. frustration

3. What is the meaning of the word “apprehensive” as it is used in the story?



- a. uneasy
- b. alarmed
- c. terrified
- d. confident

4. What is the meaning of the word “conquer” as it is used in the story?



- a. fail
- b. defeat
- c. attempt
- d. overcome

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Context Clues

5. Read these sentences from the story.



“What’s wrong, Tiffany? Can’t climb a little rope?” they **jeered**.”

What is the meaning of the word “jeered” as it is used in the sentence above?

- a. joked
- b. teased
- c. mimicked
- d. encouraged

6. What does the word “euphoria” show about how Tiffany felt? Use **two** details from the passage to support your answer.



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7. What is the meaning of the word “opponent” as it is used in the story?



- a. rival
- b. friend
- c. partner
- d. teammate

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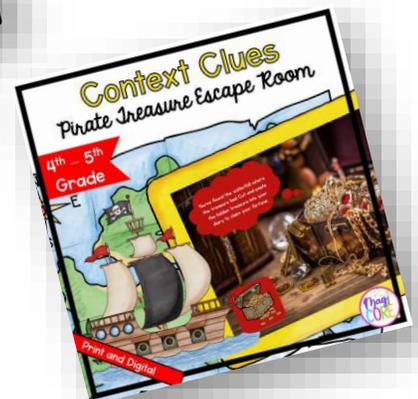


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