

Transcript in English

Video: Vocabulary in Context

Vocabulary in context is figuring out the meaning of unknown words using context:

*Context: The words that surround an unknown word.

There are just a few simple steps:

1. Look for synonym clues.

(Synonym: A word that means the same.)

For example:

❖ The **beautiful** girl knew she was **gorgeous**.

***Gorgeous** and **Beautiful** are synonyms.

Look for nearby words that may mean the same thing as an unknown word.

2. Look for contrast clues.

(Contrast or antonym: a word that means the opposite.)

For example:

❖ After facing the **tumult** of the Black Friday sales, the shopper longed for a **calm** lunch.

***Tumult** and **Calm** are opposites.

Look for a nearby word that provides a contrast to the unknown word.

3. Look for example clues.

Sometimes the context will include an example that makes the meaning of the unknown word clear.

For example:

❖ Her **atrocious** day included getting a speeding ticket, failing a test, and losing her keys.

You probably figured out that **atrocious** means really bad. Look for possible examples near the unknown word.

4. Make an inference.

(An inference: an educated guess.)

For example:

- ❖ The instructor was **flabbergasted** when a snowman walked into her classroom.

You probably guessed that **flabbergasted** means shocked. It just makes sense in the sentence.

Remember, look for:

- ✓ **Synonym** clues
- ✓ **Contrast** clues
- ✓ and **example** clues.
- ✓ And make **inferences** when necessary.

Now, you are ready for: Vocabulary in context!