HAKILLO KIDS · TEACHER GUIDE · COMMON CORE EDITION · LANGUAGE ARTS · GRADE 7 · LESSON 1

Context Clues from Position and Function



COMMON CORE
L.7.4.a, L.7.6

VIDEO LENGTH
3:39 · Virginia SOL edition also available

WATCH THE LESSON FREE
hakillokids.org/language-arts/grade-7#L7-01

PRACTICE ONLINE
learn.hakillokids.org · videos stop for each question, scored automatically

L.7.4.a Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

L.7.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Materials: Nonsense-word sentences (The glorp jumped), short paragraphs with unfamiliar words.

Students will

- Use a word's position in a sentence to find its job (noun, verb or adjective).
- Use the job to choose the meaning of a multiple-meaning word.
- Use clues across a whole paragraph.
- Know the academic words infer, contrast and significant.

Key words

position	where a word sits in a sentence
function	a word's job: thing, action or description
infer	figure out from clues
significant	important

Before the video 2 minutes

Write: "The glorp jumped over the fence." Ask: "What is a glorp? How do you know it's a thing?"

What happens in the video

0:00	Welcome and today's goal: context clues from position and function
0:20	A word's position tells its job: the glorp jumped
0:38	Same word, different job: record
0:54	Clues across a paragraph: exhausted
1:12	Academic words: infer, contrast, significant
1:29	Spot the mistake: object is a verb here
1:50	Your turn! Students answer during each pause (see below)
3:19	Recap and goodbye

Spot the mistake at 1:29

> **Sam:** They will object to the plan. Object must mean a thing, like a ball!
> **Ivy:** Hmm... what job does object do here?
> **Mia:** It comes after will, so it's a verb. Object here means to disagree!
> **Sam:** Oops! Check the job.

- Ask: “What word comes before object?” (Will.)
- Ask: “So what job is object doing?” (A verb, to disagree.)
- Students write object as a noun and as a verb.

Your-turn pauses students answer out loud, then the characters give the answer

TIME	QUESTION	ANSWER IN THE VIDEO
1:51	We will present our project. Is present a verb, or a noun meaning a gift?	A verb! To show or give a talk.
2:06	The floor was slick, and two kids slipped. Does slick mean slippery, or rough?	Slippery! Kids slipped.
2:20	A zib ran across the yard. What job does zib do? A noun, or a verb?	A noun! It comes after a.
2:36	Which word means figure out from clues? Infer, or ignore?	Infer!
2:49	The desert was arid. No rain had fallen for months. Does arid mean very dry, or very cold?	Very dry!
3:05	A significant change is what? An important change, or a tiny change?	An important change!

Tip: pause the video a little longer on any question your class finds hard, and ask a student to explain how they know.

After the video: talk about it

1. How can you tell if a word is a noun or a verb from where it sits?
2. Why read the whole paragraph, not just the sentence?
3. Use significant in a sentence about a science class.

Go further

Nonsense sentences: students write sentences with made-up words; partners name each made-up word's job and guess a meaning.

Answer key for the practice page

1. A verb (to show or give a talk).
2. Slippery
3. A noun (it comes after a).
4. Very dry
5. Infer
6. For example: I broke the record (noun). Please record the song (verb).

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Context Clues from Position and Function

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. **We will present our project. Is present a verb or a noun meaning a gift?**

   Answer: _____

2. **The floor was slick, and two kids slipped. What does slick mean?**

   Answer: _____

3. **A zib ran across the yard. What job does zib do: noun or verb?**

   Answer: _____

4. **The desert was arid. No rain had fallen for months. What does arid mean?**

   Answer: _____

5. **Which word means figure out from clues: infer or ignore?**

   Answer: _____

6. **Write two sentences using record, once as a noun and once as a verb. Label the job in each.**

   Answer: _____