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Greathouse
Rollins Date March 26

Name _____

Lesson 1 **Context Clues**

Teaching

You can sometimes tell the meaning of an unfamiliar word by looking closely at nearby words and phrases. Read the following sentence:

He was so brazen that he would come late to class noisily, winking and grinning at all his friends.

You can infer from the context phrases - "late to class noisily" and "winking and grinning" - that *brazen* means "bold" or "shameless."

A. Context Clues in Action

In each sentence below, underline any context clues that help you figure out the meaning of the word in italics. Then write the meaning of the word.

- Taking a slow, deep breath, I fought back an *impulse* to say something nasty to the rude official.
meaning: _____
- Using his *intuition* rather than his reason, the detective located the suspect.
meaning: _____
- Dr. Wu fears that the weak and seriously ill patient might *lapse* into a coma.
meaning: _____
- Sitting all alone I fell into a *reverie*, imagining all the things I wanted to do someday.
meaning: _____
- The shortstop *deftly* caught the fly ball and zipped it to first base.
meaning: _____
- Can you imagine anything more *tedious* than doing the same dull job over and over?
meaning: _____
- The more I stretch and exercise, the more *flexible* my joints become.
meaning: _____
- When we saw a blinking red light and a man waving a flag, we realized there was some kind of *hazard* ahead.
meaning: _____
- If that tree falls across the road, it will *obstruct* traffic in and out of the area.
meaning: _____
- There was something *sinister* about the dark castle, with the wolves howling in the distance.
meaning: _____