

Grady
Greathouse
Jordan
Ballins

Name _____

Date March 27

Lesson
4

Comparison and Contrast Clues

Teaching

Sometime you can tell the meaning of an unfamiliar word when it is compared or contrasted to something familiar. Context clues that show **comparison** include *like, as, similar, and in the same way*. **Contrasts** may be signaled by words such as *but, although, however, and on the other hand*.

Kari's happy face was *luminous*, **like** the rays of the sun.

The clue word *like* in this sentence tells you that *luminous* means "shining" or "giving off light."

I assumed a rhino would move in a *lumbering* manner, **but** it raced across the screen like an attacking army tank.

The clue word **but** in this sentence suggests that *lumbering* means "moving in a heavy, slow manner."

A. Comparison and Contrast Clues in Action

Read the following sentences and underline each word or phrase that signals a comparison or contrast clue. Circle **comparison** or **contrast**, depending on the clue. Then write the meaning of each italicized word.

1. The sink was *clogged*, like a ball stuck in the vacuum cleaner.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

2. The meeting was held in the main house, but refreshments were served in the *annex*.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

3. We thought we were seeing the real painting, but it turned out to be a *fraud*.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

4. Although we had expected a *multitude* to come to the rally, only ten or fifteen people showed up.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

5. That faucet is *faulty*, just like all the other things in this house that don't work.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

6. The summer was *sultry*; on the other hand, the fall was cool and dry.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

7. The moon will *diminish* in size at the end of the month; however, it will grow during the first part of the month.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

8. When the winner was announced, there was *pandemonium* in the hall, something like what happens in the final seconds of a close basketball game.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

9. The coach's *empathy* for her team was like that of a mother for her children.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____

10. I like foods that are hot and spicy, but my brother's diet is much more *bland*.

comparison/contrast

meaning: _____