
Subject:	English Language Arts
Level:	Standard Five
Strand:	Reading (Comprehension Skills)
Topic:	Context Clues – Vocabulary (Synonyms)

Key Point: Using context clues to determine the meaning of words



Hi, boys and girls! Do you remember how to use context clues to arrive at the meaning of unfamiliar words? Read the passage. Then, write a word or a phrase on the line below to replace each word in

Richard, along with his family and other passengers, **departed** for Little Tobago, last Sunday. The weather was fine. Richard did not experience motion sickness because the waters were **tranquil**. However, dark clouds were gathering **menacingly** on the horizon. Soon, the waves became **boisterous** and the small boats began to **sway**. Water **gushed** into the boat. The passengers watched in horror as their **possessions** washed into the sea. The captain, who foresaw **peril**, announced that all passengers onboard should **don** their life jackets. Then, he telephoned for assistance. Thankfully, the rescue was **swift** and everyone was taken safely back to shore. They were disappointed, however, that their visit to the island had to be cancelled.

Now, write a word or a phrase on the lines below to replace each word in **bold** in the passage.

1. **Departed** means _____
2. **Tranquil** means _____
3. **Menacingly** means _____
4. **Boisterous** means _____
5. **Sway** means _____
6. **Gushed** means _____
7. **Possessions** means _____
8. **Peril** means _____
9. **Don** means _____
10. **Swift** means _____

ANSWER KEY

1. Departed means left
2. Tranquil means quiet, calm
3. Menacingly means threateningly
4. Boisterous means rough, choppy
5. Sway means move from side to side
6. Gushed means flowed rapidly
7. Possessions means belongings
8. Peril means danger, threat
9. Don means put on
10. Swift means quick, fast