

Types of Context Clues in Vocabulary

Definition or explanation clues—

Direct clues where the author actually defines the word for the reader, usually in the same sentence

Restatement or synonym clues—

Explain unfamiliar words by restating them in simpler terms by using synonyms—usually content area textbooks

Contrast or antonym clues—

Sentence offers an opposite meaning for the word; can be in the same sentence

Gist clues—

Most subtle type of context clue; you have to infer the meaning of the word based on the general context of the sentence

Frame and Name

Identify the prefix, root, and suffix in the sentence

Word Family—Vocabulary Trees

Roots or basic word family definition located by the roots of the tree
synonyms and meanings are the subsequent branches of the tree