

Context Clues for Vocabulary

Today's Standard

8.L.4a - 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.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Understanding unfamiliar words in a novel or article; Deciphering the meaning of technical terms in science or social studies texts; Interpreting the meaning of words in standardized test questions; Using context to understand new vocabulary in daily conversation; Reading and comprehending instructions in manuals or guides

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to use context clues to figure out the meaning of new words. This means looking at the words and sentences around a new word to understand what it means.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that the clues to a new word's meaning are always in the same sentence. They also might think that these clues always directly tell what the word means. But, clues can be in nearby sentences and might not always give a direct definition.

Quiz Me

- What is a context clue?
- Where can you find context clues?
- Do context clues always tell you exactly what a word means?
- Can a context clue be in a different sentence?
- What should you do if you don't understand a word?

Help Me

We use context clues to understand new words by looking at the words and sentences around them. This helps us understand what the new word means, even if we haven't seen it before. For example, if you read a story and see a word you don't know, look at the other words in the sentence or nearby sentences to help you

figure it out.