Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues

Grade 3 | Using clues in a sentence to work out the meaning of an unfamiliar word

Read each sentence. The word before the equals sign is the hard word. Look for clues in the rest of the sentence, then write the meaning that fits.

1. After the hike, the weary kids fell asleep. weary = (hungry / tired / angry)

   Answer: _____

2. Ben was furious when his tower fell. furious = (very angry / very happy / bored)

   Answer: _____

3. The timid puppy hid behind the couch. timid = (loud / sleepy / shy)

   Answer: _____

4. The rapid river swept the leaf away. rapid = (quick / muddy / quiet)

   Answer: _____

5. The ancient castle is 1,000 years old. ancient = (very tall / brand-new / very old)

   Answer: _____

6. The enormous whale was as long as a bus. enormous = (very fast / very big / very old)

   Answer: _____

7. Water is scarce in the dry desert. scarce = (hard to find / very cold / salty)

   Answer: _____

8. The drowsy baby yawned and shut her eyes. drowsy = (silly / sleepy / sick)

   Answer: _____

9. My socks got soggy in the puddle. soggy = (wet / torn / warm)

   Answer: _____

10. The mouse will nibble in tiny bites. nibble = (run / eat a little / hide)

    Answer: _____

11. Hold the glass with care; it is fragile. fragile = (heavy / easy to break / dirty)

    Answer: _____

12. The gleaming new car shone in the sun. gleaming = (broken / small / shiny)

    Answer: _____

Context Clues - ANSWER KEY

Grade 3 | Using clues in a sentence to work out the meaning of an unfamiliar word

Read each sentence. The word before the equals sign is the hard word. Look for clues in the rest of the sentence, then write the meaning that fits.

1. After the hike, the weary kids fell asleep. weary = (hungry / tired / angry)
   Answer: **tired**

2. Ben was furious when his tower fell. furious = (very angry / very happy / bored)
   Answer: **very angry**

3. The timid puppy hid behind the couch. timid = (loud / sleepy / shy)
   Answer: **shy**

4. The rapid river swept the leaf away. rapid = (quick / muddy / quiet)
   Answer: **quick**

5. The ancient castle is 1,000 years old. ancient = (very tall / brand-new / very old)
   Answer: **very old**

6. The enormous whale was as long as a bus. enormous = (very fast / very big / very old)
   Answer: **very big**

7. Water is scarce in the dry desert. scarce = (hard to find / very cold / salty)
   Answer: **hard to find**

8. The drowsy baby yawned and shut her eyes. drowsy = (silly / sleepy / sick)
   Answer: **sleepy**

9. My socks got soggy in the puddle. soggy = (wet / torn / warm)
   Answer: **wet**

10. The mouse will nibble in tiny bites. nibble = (run / eat a little / hide)
    Answer: **eat a little**

11. Hold the glass with care; it is fragile. fragile = (heavy / easy to break / dirty)
    Answer: **easy to break**

12. The gleaming new car shone in the sun. gleaming = (broken / small / shiny)
    Answer: **shiny**