

Grade 11 • Image 5 of 6 • Unlock Unfamiliar Vocabulary

English • October 12–16, 2026

New words open bigger ideas!



Use context clues and other strategies to figure out the meaning of unfamiliar words while reading.

Strategy Sequence (Use in Order)

- 1 **Read around** (read the sentence and nearby ideas).
- 2 **Notice clue** (look for signals in the text).
- 3 **Try meaning** (make a sensible guess).
- 4 **Verify** (using a glossary, dictionary or teacher).
- 5 **Reread** (check if the meaning fits the context).

1 Context Definition

“A **caption**, a short explanation beneath a visual, gives **context**.”

Caption = short explanation (beneath a visual).



Mayon Volcano, Albay
A famous volcano in the Philippines known for its near-perfect cone.

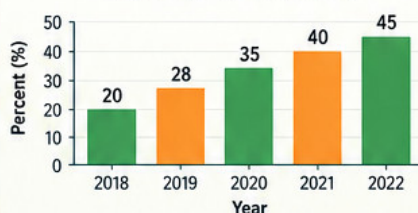
The caption gives context about the photo.

2 Example Clues

“**Multimodal** materials, such as charts with written explanations, communicate in different forms.”

Multimodal = uses more than one form.

Practice Only: Renewable Energy Use in the Philippines (Sample Data)



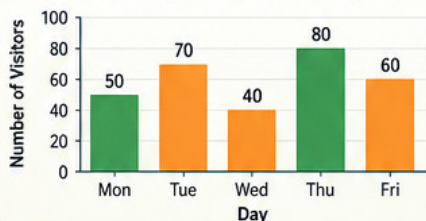
The chart and written explanation work together. This is a **multimodal** material because it uses a chart (visual) and text (written).

3 Contrast Clue

“The **count increased** on Thursday, but **decreased** on Wednesday.”

Decreased = became smaller.

Practice Only: Library Visitors (Sample Data)



The count **decreased** on Wednesday (from 70 to 40) because it became smaller.

4 Word Parts (Affixes)

Look at the parts of the word to get clues about its meaning.

multimodal

multi- = many
modal = relates to modes/forms

Multimodal = uses more than one form.

reread

re- = again
read = read

Reread = read again.



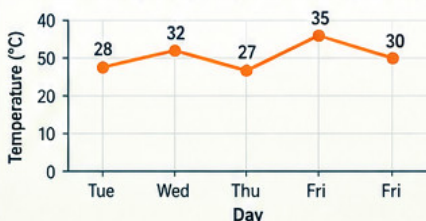
Word parts give clues, not always a complete meaning. Always check the word in context.

5 Grammar Clue

“The results **fluctuated** during the week.”

Fluctuated = past-tense verb describing results. Use nearby values to infer that the results went up and down.

Practice Only: Daily Temperatures (Sample Data)



The temperature went up and down during the week. So, the results **fluctuated**.

6 Verify Using a Glossary, Dictionary or Teacher

Check your guess using a reliable source. Choose the meaning that fits the context.

Specialized terminology = words with a particular meaning in a field.

Word	Meaning in Everyday Use	Meaning in a Specific Field
significant	important	meets a statistical criterion under a specified test, not necessarily a large or important effect
positive (test result)	favorable; good	the test detected what it checks for, requiring interpretation in context. Never treat a positive result as automatically good.

Worked Example

Sentence: “The chart shows a **gradual rise**, increasing little by little.”

Practice Only: Online Book Sales (Sample Data)



The values increase little by little, so the rise is **gradual**.

Your Turn (Notebook Activity)

Read the sentence and answer the questions.

“The chart shows a **gradual rise**, increasing little by little.”

- What does **gradual** mean? (Write your inferred meaning.)
- Which clue helped you?
- How can you verify your meaning?

- _____
- _____
- _____

Check Your Answers

- gradual** = a slow, steady increase; step by step
- Clue:** definition/restatement clue (“increasing little by little”)
- Verify:** check a dictionary, glossary or ask your teacher. The meaning fits the context.

Become a word detective

Grade 11 | Reading & vocabulary | 30-minute practice

Explain an unfamiliar word using a clue, then verify that the meaning fits.

Read and notice

- Read the sentence and the nearby ideas first.
- Look for a definition, example or contrast clue.
- Word parts can help: re- often means again, as in reread.
- Grammar shows how a word works in its sentence.
- Try a meaning, verify it in a glossary or dictionary, then reread the sentence. Choose the meaning that fits the context.

A model to learn from

“The chart shows a gradual rise, increasing little by little.” The words “increasing little by little” explain gradual. A suitable meaning is slow and steady. Check a dictionary, then reread to see whether it fits.

A little check-in

Name: _____ Date: _____

Choose one answer for each question. The answer key is at the end of this pack.

1. In “A caption, a short explanation beneath a visual”, what does caption mean?

- A. A short explanation beneath a visual
- B. A type of drawing tool
- C. The largest number on a graph

2. What does reread mean?

- A. Stop reading
- B. Read very quickly
- C. Read again

3. In “a gradual rise, increasing little by little”, what helps explain gradual?

- A. The word chart alone
- B. The phrase increasing little by little
- C. The full stop only

Review your writing

- ☐ I copied the word and its context.
- ☐ I identified a useful clue.
- ☐ I checked a reliable reference.
- ☐ I reread the sentence with my chosen meaning.

Make it your own

Explain an unfamiliar word using a clue, then verify that the meaning fits.

Complete the sentence frames with your own ideas. Use another sheet if needed.

01. Write a word and its sentence

My unfamiliar word is _____. The sentence is “_____”.

02. Find the clue

The clue is “_____”. It is a _____ clue.

03. Try a meaning

I think _____ means _____.

04. Verify and reread

I checked _____. The meaning fits because _____.

Teacher notes & answer key

Become a word detective

Keep these pages separate from the learner's blank worksheet. Open-ended writing has many possible correct answers.

1. A short explanation beneath a visual

The words after caption directly define it.

2. Read again

The prefix re- gives the clue again. Always check the complete word in context.

3. The phrase increasing little by little

The restatement explains that the change happens slowly, in small steps.

Model responses for the sentence frames

These examples offer support. Learners can change the wording and choose their own ideas.

Write a word and its sentence: My unfamiliar word is gradual. The sentence is "The chart shows a gradual rise, increasing little by little."

Find the clue: The clue is "increasing little by little". It is a definition or restatement clue.

Try a meaning: I think gradual means happening little by little.

Verify and reread: I checked a dictionary. The meaning fits because the chart increases in small steps.