

TYPES OF HELPFUL CONTEXT CLUES

Type	Description	Example Sentence
Definition	<p>The author provides a direct definition of an unfamiliar word, right in the sentence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIGNAL WORDS: <i>is, are, means, refers to</i> 	A <u>conga</u> is a barrel-shaped drum.
Appositive Definition	<p>A type of definition clue. An appositive is a word or phrase that defines or explains an unfamiliar word that comes before it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIGNAL WORD: <i>or</i> • SIGNAL PUNCTUATION: set off by commas 	At night you can see <u>constellations</u> , or groups of stars, in the sky.
Synonym	<p>The author uses another word or phrase that is similar in meaning, or can be compared, to an unfamiliar word.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIGNAL WORDS: <i>also, as, identical, like, likewise, resembling, same, similarly, too</i> 	My dog Buck travels everywhere with me. My friend's <u>canine</u> buddy travels everywhere with him, too.
Antonym	<p>The author uses another word or phrase that means about the opposite of, or is in contrast with, an unfamiliar word.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIGNAL WORDS: <i>but, however, in contrast, instead of, on the other hand, though, unlike</i> 	I thought the movie would be weird, <i>but</i> it turned out to be totally <u>mundane</u> .
Example	<p>The author provides several words or ideas that are examples of an unfamiliar word.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIGNAL WORDS: <i>for example, for instance, including, like, such as</i> 	In science we are studying <u>marine mammals</u> <i>such as</i> whales, dolphins, and porpoises.
General	<p>The author provides some nonspecific clues to the meaning of an unfamiliar word, often spread over several sentences.</p>	Einstein rode his bike everywhere. He thought driving a car was way too <u>complicated</u> .