9th Grade Literature & Composition

Vocabulary in Context

Use context clues in the sentence to identify the meaning of the underlined word. There are four common types of context clues: examples, synonyms, antonyms, or using a general sense of the sentence or passage.

1. Many of us have ambivalent feelings about our politicians, admiring but also distrusting them.
   1. Mixed b. critical c. approving
2. The adverse effects of this drug, including dizziness, nausea, and headaches, have caused it to be withdrawn from the market.
   1. Artificial b. energetic c. harmful
3. I prefer the occasional disturbance of the ear-splitting thunder to the incessant dripping of our kitchen sink.
   1. Harmless b. exciting c. nonstop
4. Today I had to deal with one mishap after another. I couldn’t find my car keys, I dropped a bowl of soup at lunchtime, and my computer crashed twice.
   1. accident b. reward c. miracle
5. Some animals have remarkable longevity. For examples, the giant land tortoise can live several hundred years.
   1. Young b. long-lived c. short-lived
6. Since my grandfather retired, he has developed several new avocations. For instance, he now enjoys gardening and chat groups on the internet.
   1. Responsibilities b. hobbies c. distractions

1. Because my friends had advised me to scrutinize the lease, I took time to examine all the fine print.
   1. Inspect b. overlook c. ignore
2. The presidential candidate vowed to discuss pragmatic solutions. He said the American people want practical answers, not empty theory.
   1. Logical b. idealistic c. optimistic
3. College professors may overlook it when a student is two minutes late, but they are not going to condone someone’s walking into class a half hour late.
   1. Excuse b. rationalize c. object to
4. Many corporations like to be seen as benevolent and will actively seek publicity for their charitable donations.
   1. Merciless b. compassionate c. cruel
5. Throughout history, the prevalent authority pattern in families has been patriarchy, in which males are in control. In only a few societies has matriarchy been the customary authority pattern.
   1. Exceptional b. prevailing c. unconventional
6. Many people have pointed out the harmful effects that a working mother may have on the family, yet there are many salutary effects as well.
   1. Well-known b. beneficial c. hurtful
7. Trying to control everything your teen does can impede their growth. To advance their development, allow them to make some decisions on their own.
   1. Block b. predict c. improve
8. During their training, police officers must respond to simulated emergencies in preparation for dealing with real ones.
   1. Made-up b. mild c. actual
9. Although investments in the stock market can be lucrative, they can also result in great financial loss.
   1. Required b. financially rewarding c. risky