

# Context clues

## Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

**Context clues** are hints that help us understand unknown words. Different types include:

- **Definition Clues:** The word is defined nearby
- **Antonym Clues:** A nearby word means the opposite
- **Synonym Clues:** A nearby word means almost the same thing
- **Example Clues:** An example nearby helps explain the word
- **Inference Clues:** What the text says and what you already know can be used to figure out the word



As you read the story, look for context clues that help explain the meaning of the underlined words.

### Diving High

Paragraph 1

Competitive high diving is an exciting sport where athletes jump off high platforms, spin through the air and then land in the pool below. You've likely seen regular diving boards before but these are much higher. Some are as high as ten meters tall—which is as tall as a big bus if it was standing straight up in the air! High diving is not an easy sport. It requires precision, or exact movements. One tiny mistake in the position of a diver's body can change the entire dive!

Paragraph 2

Because of this, high divers spend years training their minds and bodies. Some divers may feel tense before their dives, but others are relaxed and have loose muscles and steady breathing. Before each dive, divers must do their best to be stress-free, focused and calm. Even a moment of hesitation or pause on the diving board can cause a mistake. To avoid this, it's common for divers to take deep breaths or picture their dive in their minds before they leap.

Paragraph 3

Divers are human, though, and they may make mistakes during competitions. Instead of getting upset, divers try to show resilience. This means that they bounce back, continue practicing and don't give up. This strong attitude helps them grow as divers and as people.



In order to become better divers, it's important for divers to have discipline. Professional divers train every day. They stick to a strict routine, which includes healthy eating, exercise and rest. They often push themselves to train even when they're tired so they can improve their skills and reach their goals.

### Then answer the following questions:

1. What is the text mostly about?
  - a. How to swim quickly in deep water
  - b. What high diving is and what it takes to do it well
  - c. Why water sports are popular
  
2. What type of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **precision** in paragraph 1?
  - a. Synonym
  - b. Antonym
  - c. Inference
  
3. What is the best meaning of the word **tense** in paragraph 2?
  - a. Feeling tight and nervous
  - b. Feeling excited and happy
  - c. Feeling relaxed and calm
  
4. What type of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **tense** in paragraph 2?
  - a. Inference
  - b. Example
  - c. Antonym
  
5. What is the best definition of the word **hesitation** in paragraph 2?
  - a. A loud cheer
  - b. A pause or delay
  - c. A strong jump

6. What kind of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **hesitation** in paragraph 2?
- a. Inference
  - b. Synonym
  - c. Antonym

7. What is the best definition of **resilience** in paragraph 4?

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8. What kind of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **discipline** in paragraph 5?
- a. Antonym
  - b. Definition
  - c. Inference

## Answers

1. What is the text mostly about?  
b. What high diving is and what it takes to do it well
2. What type of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **precision** in paragraph 1?  
a. Synonym
3. What is the best meaning of the word **tense** in paragraph 2?  
a. Feeling tight and nervous
4. What type of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **tense** in paragraph 2?  
c. Antonym
5. What is the best definition of the word **hesitation** in paragraph 2?  
b. A pause or delay
6. What kind of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **hesitation** in paragraph 2?  
b. Synonym
7. What is the best definition of **resilience** in paragraph 4?  
The ability to bounce back after a mistake.
8. What kind of context clue helps you figure out the meaning of **discipline** in paragraph 5?  
c. Inference