USING CONTEXT CLUES, ACTIVITY 3

CONTEXT - RELATIONSHIP PROCEDURE

Purpose: To introduce the concept of analyzing the context on a sentence (the words surrounding an unfamiliar word) in order to discover the meaning.

Directions:

1. Give students a list of new vocabulary words and divide them into groups or teams. Two students per team.

2. Assign each team a new word. They will have to write a paragraph according to the directions below. They will also have to create a question for the class. (see example)

3. Afterward, students can exchange paragraphs with other groups and try to come up with the meaning of the word.

   • Sentence 1 uses the word in the context of a sentence. Underline the word.
   • Sentence 2 does not use the word, but further explains it.
   • Sentence 3 uses the word and contrasts it to an antonym.
   • Sentence 4 uses the word and defines it.

4. Next a multiple choice item is created to check the meaning.

EXAMPLE

Our nasty new boss was always cantankerous. He was disagreeable and bad tempered most of the time. Our former boss was quite pleasant and good-natured, while this new manager is cantankerous. I may quit if this cantankerous supervisor maintains his irritable and unreasonable nature.

cantankerous means:

   a. delightful
   b. serious
   c. grumpy

adapted from http://people.uncw.edu/notes/context_relationship_procedure.htm