

Name _____

Period _____

Chapter Two

Assessment Preparation: Context Clues

In most assessments, you must infer (make an educated guess) the meanings of words by looking at **context clues**, or clues within an entire sentence. You must look at *how* the word is used in the sentence in order to make an inference.

Directions: For each vocabulary word from Chapter Two, first indicate the part of speech in which the vocabulary word appears (noun, verb, etc.). Then write an original definition for the vocabulary word **based upon the clues in the sentence**. (If you need further clarification, read the entire paragraph on the page number given in parentheses.) Finally, look up the word and write down the dictionary definition. How accurate is your definition?

Ex. And these shelves were loaded with little articles, soap and talcum powder, razors and those Western magazines ranch men love to read and scoff at and secretly believe.

- a. Part of Speech: verb
- b. Inference: laugh at; make fun of
- c. Definition: to express ridicule or contempt towards or about somebody or something

1. "A guy on a ranch don't never listen nor he don't ask no questions."
"Damn right he don't," said George, slightly mollified, "not if he wants to stay workin' long." (25)
 - a. Part of Speech: _____
 - b. Inference: _____
 - c. Definition: _____
2. His glance was at once calculating and pugnacious. Lennie squirmed under the look and shifted his feet nervously. (25)
 - a. Part of Speech: _____
 - b. Inference: _____
 - c. Definition: _____
3. Curley stepped gingerly close to him. "You the new guys the old man was waitin' for?" (25)
 - a. Part of Speech: _____
 - b. Inference: _____
 - c. Definition: _____
4. "Curley's pretty handy. He's done quite a bit in the ring. He's a lightweight, and he's handy." (26)
 - a. Part of Speech: _____
 - b. Inference: _____

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- c. Definition: _____
5. George was watching the door. He said ominously, "Well, he better watch out for Lennie." (27)
- a. Part of Speech: _____
- b. Inference: _____
- c. Definition: _____
6. "Don't tell Curley I said none of this. He'd slough me. He just don't give a damn." (27)
- a. Part of Speech: _____
- b. Inference: _____
- c. Definition: _____
7. "That's a dirty thing to tell around," he (George) said. The old man was reassured. He had drawn a derogatory statement from George. (28)
- a. Part of Speech: _____
- b. Inference: _____
- c. Definition: _____
8. George stared at his solitaire lay, and then he founced the cards together and turned around to Lennie. (29)
- a. Part of Speech: _____
- b. Inference: _____
- c. Definition: _____
9. Lennie's eyes were frightened. "I don't want no trouble," he said plaintively. "Don't let him sock me, George." (29)
- a. Part of Speech: _____
- b. Inference: _____
- c. Definition: _____
10. His tone grew decisive. "You keep away from Curley, Lennie." (30)
- a. Part of Speech: _____
- b. Inference: _____
- c. Definition: _____
11. Lennie, who had been following the conversation back and forth with his eyes, smiled complacently at the compliment. (34)
- a. Part of Speech: _____
- b. Inference: _____
- c. Definition: _____