

Voluminous Vocabulary:

Frederick Fly Flips Out

Read each sentence or group of sentences below. Choose the BEST meaning for the underlined word.

Example: "Impossible," he said. No one's filthier than us flies. Not even your little Sturdy Ant friends." "STINKY ANTS!" Franny impatiently corrected her father.

Based on the context clues above, impatiently means:

- A. Relaxed
- B. Angry
- C. Feeling frustrated with

If impatient people sometimes feel a little frustrated, can you think of a time when you might be impatiently doing something?

You might impatiently correct your younger brother if you caught him playing with your toys and saw that he was about to break something or knock it over by accident.

1. Fillmore did a cannonball into a rickety trash can while Franny and her mother nibbled on some artisan bread and cranberry scones.

Based on the context clues above, rickety means:

A. Beat-up, old

B. Brand new

C. Unique

Can you give an example of something that might be rickety? A soda can lying around on the ground is often dirty and sometimes crinkled up or has scratches on the outside. You might refer to the can as rickety before picking it up to throw it away.

2. Franny was eager to share the latest gossip on the ride home.

Based on the context clues above, eager means:

A. Upset

B. In a hurry

C. Excited

Can you think of a time when you might feel eager? If you were going to a theme park like Knott's Berry Farm, you might feel super eager, or excited to go on all the fun rides.

3. Frederick dashed out the door early the next morning, his fitness tote handy.

Based on the context clues above, dashed means:

- A. To run fast, hurry
- B. Crawled
- C. Walk slowly

Would you say, "The boy dashed to his classroom after the end-of-recess bell rang" or "The boy dashed to the nurse's office with a hurt ankle?"

4. Fillmore did a cannonball into a rickety trash can while Franny and her mother nibbled on some artisan bread and cranberry scones.

Based on the context clues above, nibbled means:

- A. Eat fast
- B. Take small bites
- C. Hold tight

Can you give an example of a time when you might nibble on your food?

Let's say you are having a class party and your teacher passes out chocolate chip cookies. You might nibble on the cookie to make it last longer as opposed to eating it quickly.

5. Inside was a copy of *The Orphan Finch*, a story about an impoverished bird who overcomes the challenges of homelessness and starts a shelter for other needy animals.

Based on the context clues above, impoverished means:

- A. Made rich
- B. Full of life
- C. Made poor

Can you give an example of a time when a family might become impoverished? Let's say a family with three children was struggling financially. If the father lost his job, the family might become impoverished.

6. Franny was eager to share the latest gossip on the ride home.

Based on the context clues above, gossip means:

- A. To make fun of someone or something
- B. To say something about another person that may or may not be true
- C. Good news

Is it a good idea or a bad idea to spread gossip about another person? Why or why not? It is not a good idea because gossip, especially if it is not true can hurt another person's feelings.

7. Frederick dashed out the door early the next morning, his fitness tote handy.

Based on the context clues above, tote means:

- A. Wrist band
- B. Equipment
- C. Bag or purse

Can you give another example of a tote? Some shoppers carry a reusable tote with them when they go to the supermarket. It is useful for carrying groceries.

8. After several hours of tedious schoolwork, the plane was just skidding onto the runway.

Based on the context clues above, skidding means:

- A. Sliding
- B. Running
- C. Stopping

Can you give an example of a time when you might see someone skidding to a stop? If you have ever played Baseball or watched the sport on TV, then you are probably familiar with either skidding to first base yourself, or watching someone do so on TV.

9. Frederick completed an impressive tumbling pass for his floor routine and with strong, steady hands, raised himself up on a pair of still rings earning a silver medal for his impressive performance.

Based on the context clues above, steady means:

- A. Quick
- B. Without moving
- C. Shaky

Can you think of an activity or sport that requires having steady hands or feet? Ballet dancing requires steady hands and feet. A ballerina balances on steady toes while performing on stage.

10. After several hours of tedious schoolwork, the plane was just skidding onto the runway.

Based on the context clues above, tedious means:

- A. Fun
- B. Boring
- C. Difficult

Name one task that is not necessarily difficult but considered tedious. Cleaning your room is not necessarily a difficult task but can be considered tedious or boring.