

## Voluminous Vocabulary:

### There's No Such Thing as a Perfect Fly

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

**Example:** Fiona stormed into her flies' room, lowering the volume. Upon her way out, she caught a peculiar site. Standing in front of the adjacent bathroom mirror, stood Fillmore, holding a pair of scissors in one hand and a chunk of hair in the other.

Based on the context clues above, adjacent means:

- A. Sideways
- B. Broken
- C. Next to (as in, there is a bathroom next to the flies' bedroom)

Can you think of a time when you might use the word adjacent? You might say that the school secretary has a desk that is adjacent to the principal's office.

1. He thumbed through page after page of some of the fanciest hairstyles he had ever seen! It seemed the harder he looked, the more he disliked his hair as it was. Exhausted, he fell asleep, dreaming of Billy Ray and his magnificent mullet.

Based on the context clues above, mullet means:

- A. Leather jacket
- B. A hairstyle that is short on the top and long in the back
- C. Necklace

2. Franny, assuming she was finished with HER wisdom for the day, noticed Fonzy beginning to whine about the sauce he had dripped on his clean, white shirt as he was loading dishes into the dishwasher.

Based on the context clues above, assuming means:

- A. Something that you understand to be true
- B. Accepting something
- C. Fed up with something

3. For the next several minutes, Fonzy locked himself in the bathroom, scrutinizing the scrape on his wing.

Based on the context clues above, scrutinizing means:

- A. Protecting
- B. Looking carefully at
- C. Washing, cleaning

4. Fiona stormed into her flies' room, lowering the volume. Upon her way out, she caught a peculiar site. Standing in front of the adjacent bathroom mirror, stood Fillmore, holding a pair of scissors in one hand and a chunk of hair in the other.

Based on the context clues above, peculiar means:

- A. Odd, strange
- B. Completely normal
- C. Enjoyable

5. Franny, assuming she was finished with HER wisdom for the day, noticed Fonzy beginning to whine about the sauce he had dripped on his clean, white shirt as he was loading dishes into the dishwasher.

Based on the context clues above, whine means:

- A. Talk loudly about
- B. Bring something to life
- C. Complain

6. "Ugggggggh! Would everyone just leave me alone? Please! Fillmore put down the scissors, moping on back to his room.

Based on the context clues above, moping means:

- A. Walking around in a good mood
- B. Running
- C. Walking around unhappy

7. "And just what do you think YOU'RE doing, young fly?" she asked, looked perplexed.

Based on the context clues above, perplexed means:

- A. Annoyed
- B. Confused
- C. Happy

8. Attempting to be optimistic, he looked at Franny. "You don't suppose stains are in, do you?" he asked warily. "Like, maybe some of those musicians in your music magazine wear sloppy clothes on PURPOSE?"

Based on the context clues above, optimistic means:

- A. To be positive, look on the bright side
- B. To be strong and courageous
- C. To fight for what you believe in

9. He thumbed through page after page of some of the fanciest hairstyles he had ever seen! It seemed the harder he looked, the more he disliked his hair as it was. Exhausted, he fell asleep, dreaming of Billy Ray and his magnificent mullet.

Based on the context clues above, exhausted means:

- A. Very tired
- B. Energetic
- C. Shaky

10. Oddly, the mastermind behind the mid-morning music, wasn't Franny.

Based on the context clues above, mastermind means:

- A. A sneaky person
- B. Someone who is brave
- C. Someone in charge of an idea or plan

\*\*\*EXTRA CREDIT\*\*\*

"Franny stopped in the hallway, snickering. She rolled her eyes. 'Ummmmm, sure Fillmore. Smooth move. Don't you know you have to grow your hair out first?'"

Based on the context clues above, snickering means:

- A. Laughing
- B. Making fun of someone
- C. Shouting