

CONTEXT CLUES

Worksheet - Functional Skills English Level 1

Section A: Use the context to choose the best meaning.

1. After the six-hour walk, Sam was **exhausted** and went straight to bed. What does **exhausted** mean?

Choose: very tired / very excited / very early

2. Tickets were **scarce**; only three were left by lunchtime. What does **scarce** mean?

Choose: hard to find / very expensive / brightly coloured

3. Mina was **reluctant** to speak first, so she waited for someone else to volunteer. What does **reluctant** mean?

Choose: unwilling / confident / noisy

4. The path was **slippery**, so walkers moved slowly and held the rail. What does **slippery** mean?

Choose: hard to stand on safely / very narrow / brightly lit

5. The centre is **accessible** by bus, train and a step-free entrance. What does **accessible** mean?

Choose: easy to reach or use / closed to visitors / very old

Section B: Give an alternative word or phrase that keeps the meaning the same.

6. Regular exercise is **vital** for good health.

Alternative word or phrase for **vital**:

7. The new plan should **reduce** waiting times.

Alternative word or phrase for **reduce**:

8. The club offers **top-class** facilities.

Alternative word or phrase for **top-class**:

9. The workshop will **focus** on interview skills.

Alternative word or phrase for **focus**:

10. The project needs a **sizeable** number of volunteers.

Alternative word or phrase for **sizeable**:

11. Please **consider** all the options before deciding.

Alternative word or phrase for **consider**:

12. The advertised **salary** is paid monthly.

Alternative word or phrase for **salary**:

13. The course is useful, **especially** for new employees.

Alternative word or phrase for **especially**:

Section C: Read the text and answer the questions.

Text: The Community Repair Project

The new repair project is designed to make household items last longer. Volunteers with considerable experience will show residents how to mend small electrical items and furniture. Booking is essential because places are limited. The project hopes to reduce waste and make repairs more accessible to local families. People should consider bringing one item that is safe to carry.

14. Which words in the text help you understand that **considerable** means a large amount of experience?

15. Give an alternative word or phrase for **essential** that keeps the meaning the same.

16. Give an alternative word or phrase for **reduce** that keeps the meaning the same.

17. What does **accessible** mean in this text? Use the surrounding information to explain your answer.

18. Give an alternative word or phrase for **consider** that keeps the meaning the same.

Section D: Level 1 exam-style challenge

Text: Travel Support for New Staff

New staff can claim travel expenses during their first month. The scheme is particularly useful for employees who live outside the town centre. Bus and rail tickets are accepted, but taxi fares are only covered in exceptional circumstances. The company wants to promote public transport because it is a more cost-effective option.

19. Give an alternative word or phrase for **particularly** that keeps the meaning the same.

20. Use context clues to explain what **exceptional circumstances** means in this text.

21. Give an alternative word or phrase for **promote** that keeps the meaning the same.

22. Use the sentence to explain what **cost-effective** means.

23. Explain the strategy you used for one of your answers above.
