

# Using Vocabulary

## Activity 1

When you first read a text you may not understand all of the vocabulary. You can use context clues to understand the meaning of unknown words. Context clues are hints the author has used in the text to help explain more challenging words.

Top Tip: look out for synonyms (words of similar meaning).

A thesaurus can help you with this challenge.

- 1 Underline the word in the sentence below that explains what 'bravado' means.

It was an act of bravado that made Tilly shout at her head teacher, never before had she been so bold.

- 2 Underline the word in the sentence below that explains what 'putrid' means.

Something in the cupboard smelt putrid, there was a rotten smell coming from deep inside it.

- 3 Underline the word in the sentence below that explains what 'condemned' means.

The shopkeeper condemned the actions of the thief, he criticised his disrespectful and unlawful behaviour.

- 4 Underline the word in the sentences below that explains what 'altercation' means.

An altercation took place between the shopkeeper and the thief. They argued as the thief tried to take money from the till.

- 5 Underline the word in the sentences below that explains what 'sympathy' means.

The shopkeeper showed some sympathy towards the thief once he discovered he hadn't eaten for a week. The thief thanked the shopkeeper for his compassion.

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## Activity 2

There are some things you need to know to complete this challenge:

- A root word is a basic word with no prefix or suffix added to it, e.g. 'view'.
- A prefix is a word or letters added to the beginning of a word, e.g. 'review'.
- Suffixes are letters added the end of a word, e.g. 'viewing'.

Prefix	Root word	Suffix
re	view	ing

- 1 Underline the three words that contain root words in this sentence.

Toby was asked to quickly rewrite his name tag.

- 2 Match the prefix that completes each of the following words, so that the sentences make sense.

After the hurricane the villagers \_\_\_constructed their homes.

dis-

Buying marshmallows for everyone would be an \_\_\_ proper use of public funds.

mono-

The play begins with the main character's \_\_\_logue.

re-

The \_\_\_appearance of sea ice is attributed to global warming.

im-

- 3 Match the suffix to its meaning.

Top Tip: look up some words ending in each suffix to help you.

Makes a past-tense verb.

dis-

Can be done.

mono-

The belief in.

re-

The study of.

im-

- 4 List at least five words with the root 'pose':

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## Activity 3

Imagine Chase is your pen pal, he lives in America and you are writing to tell him about what job you would like when you are older.

You can use a dictionary and thesaurus to help you with this challenge.

You need to include the following words in your letter:

- occupation
- vocation
- passionate

You aren't sure if Chase will know the meaning of these words, so you are going to include some context clues to help him establish their meanings.

Top Tip: you can use antonyms, synonyms, definitions or examples to help him.

Here is an example to get you started. You can improve this to include all three words, or start from scratch.

There is space on the next page to complete your writing.



