Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Context Clues and Clue Types

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| 1. We could tell by the rotten smell, that something putrid was in our trash can.  In this sentence, the word **putrid** means   1. alive c. ample 2. rotten d. appealing   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 2. Using certain body language is illicit in some countries, but allowed in others.  In this sentence, the word **illicit** means   1. dumb c. forbidden 2. cool d. Awkward   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 3. Janice thought the man was kind, but Casey thought he was malicious.  In this sentence, the word **malicious** means   1. harmful c. sweet 2. friendly d. cute   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 4. The cop knocked the derringer, or gun, away from the bad guy.  In this sentence, the word **derringer** means   1. hat c. jewelry 2. gun d. book   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 5. The speaker’s comments were detrimental to Carl’s reputation. Following the remarks, the speaker agreed to a public apology, which included valuable comments about Carl.  In this sentence, the word **detrimental** means   1. nice b. useful 2. hurtful d. good   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 6. Becky had an innate ability to play the piano. She had never taken a lesson, yet she was able to play the most complicated songs.  In this sentence, the word **innate** means   1. trained c. unnatural 2. natural d. learned   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 7. I know that Jeff is smart, so I was confused when he did such a vacuous thing as to jump off the roof of our house.  In this sentence, the word **vacuous** means   1. stupid c. annoying 2. outstanding d. cowardly   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 8. The man was sent to the penitentiary, or prison, for stealing cars.  In this sentence, the word **penitentiary** means   1. paradise c. Heaven 2. prison d. hotel   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 9. Jill’s capricious behavior shows up when she speaks out of turn.  In this sentence, the word **capricious** means   1. careless c. stable 2. careful d. steady   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 10. I watched as the eagle swooped down and grabbed his prey with his talon, or claw.  In this sentence, the word **talon** means   1. beak c. claws 2. teeth d. feathers   Clue type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |