

Types of context clues. There are at least four kinds of context clues that are quite common.

Synonym

A synonym, or word with the same meaning, is used in the sentence.

Antonym

My opponent's argument is **fallacious**, *misleading – plain wrong*.
A word or group of words that has the opposite meaning reveals the meaning of an unknown term.

Explanation

Although some men are **loquacious**, *others hardly talk at all*.
The unknown word is explained within the sentence or in a sentence immediately preceding.

Example

The patient is so **somnolent** that *she requires medication to help her stay awake for more than a short time*.
Specific examples are used to define the term.

Celestial bodies, *such as the sun, moon, and stars*, are governed by predictable laws.