

Name:

Date:

Definition

(direct definition of the word right in the sentence)

Appositive Definition

(word or phrase that defines the word before or after it)

Synonym

(word or phrase that is similar in meaning or can be compared to the unfamiliar word)

Antonym

(word or phrase that means the opposite of, or is in contrast to, an unfamiliar word)

Example

(examples are given about the unfamiliar word)

General

(clues to the word's meaning are provided in the surrounding words or sentences)

We are reading about mammals, such as cows, apes, horses, and whales.

The cougar, like other big cats, eats mostly small animals.

A predator is an animal that hunts other animals for food.

The parrots had to adapt to their changing environment. They moved deeper into the forest where the trees were not being cut down. They also began to eat different plants and insects.

The enormous, or huge, dinosaur skeleton is being moved to another museum.

Unlike most animals that hunt during the day, nocturnal animals hunt only at night.

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Vocabulary Strategy: Context Clues

Sometimes you can use context clues, or words surrounding a new, unfamiliar word, to figure out the new word's meaning. This is a good strategy when a dictionary or glossary is not available.