Word Analysis: Context Clues

1. View the attached PowerPoint presentation on the topic of context clues. Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper about the presentation:
   a. Define the term “context clues.”
   b. You might find context clues directly following the unfamiliar word. Write an original sentence that defines the word “domicile” in this way.
   c. An author might use a punctuation clue. Write an original sentence that defines the word “portmanteau” using dashes or parentheses.
   d. Context clues can appear before the unfamiliar word. Write an original sentence that defines the word “exoskeleton” this way.
   e. Prediction words can also help you define unfamiliar words. What predictive words could you use to define the word “exhumed” in this sentence: When the time capsule was exhumed, city residents gathered around the hole and marveled at how long it had been in the ground.
   f. You can ask yourself whether a word sounds positive or negative. In this sentence, does the word “nefarious” sound positive or negative: The murderer concocted a nefarious plot.
   g. What are some of the other ways you can use context clues to help you figure out the meanings of unfamiliar words? List two others from the presentation.

2. If there are any questions above that you cannot not answer, or any that confuse you, you should visit an instructor or a tutor to get your questions answered. If you feel you have a good understanding of context clues, you may continue on to #3.

3. When you are finished reading, go to http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/~steuben/vocabularycontext.htm. Look to the bottom of the page where it says “Practice Vocabulary.” Print the activity and complete the exercise.

4. Before reviewing all your answers with an instructor or tutor, use the space below to write any questions you still have about using context clues to determine word meanings:

____________________________________________________________

5. Review your answers with an instructor or tutor in the WRC. Have that person sign and date this sheet.

Instructor/Tutor signature
Date

6. Return this completed, signed sheet to your instructor.