



ELA 7.3 Pathway

Study Island *Study Guide*

Multiple Meaning Words



Multiple Meaning Words

Sometimes words are **spelled alike** but have **different meanings**. Knowing about different types of words and their definitions is very important to reading and writing.

Multiple meaning words can be tricky. Use context clues and think carefully about the sentence's message to figure out which meaning is being used. Below are some examples of words with multiple meanings:

- **Concrete** can mean "real" or "a hard and strong building material."
- **Staple** can mean "a metal loop to fasten together material" or "a resource that is in high demand."
- **Foil** can mean "to prevent the success of someone or something" or "a very thin sheet of metal."

Sample Questions

The water created a **groove** on the hill as it traveled downward.

What is the meaning of the bold word in the sentence above?

- A. a long narrow channel
- B. a fixed routine
- C. a track on a music record
- D. an enjoyable experience

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What is the meaning of the bold word in the sentence above?

- A. a long narrow channel
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Explanation: The word "groove" has many meanings. All of the answer choices are definitions of the word. However, in this sentence, "groove" means "a long narrow channel." The correct answer is A. The reader can tell that this definition is being used because a "groove" is created on a hill by the water. Looking at context clues helps the reader figure out the meaning being used.



After high school, Jason wants to **pursue** a career in medicine so that he can support his family.

In this sentence, the word **pursue** means

- A. to follow in order to defeat.
- B. to haunt.
- C. to strive to accomplish.
- D. to court.

Explanation: The word "pursue" has many meanings. All of the answer choices are definitions of the word. However, in this sentence, "pursue" means "to strive to accomplish." The correct answer is C. The reader can tell that this definition is being used because Jason wants to have a career in medicine to help his family. Looking at context clues helps the reader figure out the meaning being used.

Entry: base

Pronunciation: 'bAs

1 *n.* a thing or part on which something rests; **2** *adj.* not honorable or moral; **3** *v.* to use as a base or basis for; ESTABLISH

1. Which sentence uses the word **base** as it is defined by definition 1?

- A. The judge based the decision on many facts.
- B. Sharon chose a gold base for the lamp.
- C. Kim will base her opinion on months of research.
- D. Gertrude's conduct was crude and base.

Joan of Arc served the **house** of Valois in France during 15th century.

Which sentence uses the word **house** in the same way it is used above?

- A. In the stage play, Romeo and Juliet belonged to feuding noble houses.
- B. The fire department responded to a four-alarm fire at the Jonas house.
- C. Usually when it comes to gambling in a casino, the house always wins.
- D. In my garage, I house a boat and an RV, along with several ATVs.