

First Class

- Chapter 1
- Elements of the Lecture
- **Reading Strategies:**
- Getting Meaning from Context
- Identifying the main idea
- Skimming for the Topic and Main Idea
- Pronoun Reference
- **Building Vocabulary**
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Getting Meaning From Context

When you read, you don't want to look up the meanings of all new words in a dictionary. You can often guess the meaning. Here are three ways that will help you to guess new words:

1. Punctuation: () (-) , ; :

There is a **drawback**, a disadvantage, to that idea.
(Drawback means disadvantage.)

e.g.

Full-color pictures are printed using only black and three colors: yellow, cyan (a light blue) and magenta (a light purple).

an unfamiliar word = *cyan and magenta*

signal punctuation = ()

meaning : cyan = *a light blue* and magenta = *a light purple*

2. A clue in another Sentence: (surrounding words)

A school system in one country is not identical to the system in any other country. It cannot be exactly the same because each culture is different.

(in the second sentence, you see the meaning of identical – exactly the same)

3. Logic:

The educational system is a mirror that reflects the culture.

(you probably know the word mirror, so you can guess that reflects means shows.)

Let's Guess the Meaning ☺

1. In a number of countries, education is both compulsory-required-and universal, available to everyone, at least in primary school (elementary school).

Compulsory= _____

Universal= _____

Primary= _____

2. Public schools are all both free and egalitarian; all students are considered equal and learn the same the same material.

Egalitarian = _____

Identifying the Main Idea:

HOW TO IDENTIFY THE QUESTION	What is the topic of the passage? What is the subject of the passage? What is the main idea of the passage? What is the author's main point in the passage? With what is the author primarily concerned ? Which of the following would be the best title ?
WHERE TO FIND THE ANSWER	The answer to this type of question can generally be determined by looking at the first sentence of each paragraph.
HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTION	1. Read the first line of each paragraph. 2. Look for a common theme or idea in the first lines. 3. Pass your eyes quickly over the rest of the passage to check that you have really found the topic sentence(s). 4. Eliminate any definitely wrong answers and choose the best answer from the remaining choices.

Example

Here is a paragraph to consider. Look for the main idea of this paragraph:

The life of a doctor is not easy. Martin works a very long day, and he is very busy with a variety of activities. He spends a lot of time with people, but he also spends a lot of time working on reports in his office.

* What is the main idea of this paragraph?
If you said that the life of a doctor is not easy, you are correct.

Another Example

The CNA's in this office can't always come to work on the same schedule each week. Sometimes they have to talk to each other and work out differences in the schedule. They usually can do this without any trouble. Ben, Victoria, and Alex work together very well.

* What is the main idea of the paragraph?
If you said that they can all work together well, you are correct.

Skimming for the topic Main Idea:

Hint: Remember that the topic is just a word or noun phrase – a few words. It is not a sentence.

The main idea is in a sentence or two and can be found at the beginning, middle, or end of a paragraph.

Each Paragraph has a main idea.

¹Do you have a favorite season? ²Winter, fall, and spring have many advantages. ³However, summertime is my favorite season because it offers the tranquility of the beach as well as the exhilaration of outdoor sports. ⁴First, sitting on the other side of a sand dune, hidden by sea oats and sedge, I like looking at the Atlantic Ocean, scanning for dolphins and pelicans. ⁵Looking at something larger than I am gives me a sense of awe and gratitude and provides a backdrop for some deep musings. ⁶Second, summertime provides me with the chance to go sailing, surfing, and hiking along the shore. ⁷The exercise enhances my sense of well being and creates a feeling of optimism.

The topic of the paragraph is

- a. sailing and surfing.
- b. summertime.
- c. seasons at the beach.
- d. ways to develop optimism.

The main idea of the paragraph is

- a. sentence 1. b. sentence 2. c. sentence 3. d. sentence 4.

Understanding Pronoun Reference:

Because a pronoun REFERS to a noun or TAKES THE PLACE OF that noun, you have to use the correct pronoun so that your reader clearly understands which noun your pronoun is referring to.

Therefore, pronouns should:

1. Agree in number

If the pronoun takes the place of a singular noun, you have to use a singular pronoun.

If a student parks a car on campus, he or she has to buy a parking sticker.

(NOT: If a student parks a car on campus, they have to buy a parking sticker.)

Hint:

Remember:

The words everybody, anybody, anyone, each, neither, nobody, someone, a person, etc. are singular and take singular pronouns.

Examples:

Everybody ought to do his or her best. (NOT: their best)

Neither of the girls brought her umbrella. (NOT: their umbrellas)

2. Agree in person

If you are writing in the "first person" (I), don't confuse your reader by switching to the "second person" (you) or "third person" (he, she, they, it, etc.). Similarly, if you are using the "second person," don't switch to "first" or "third."

When a person comes to class, he or she should have his or her homework ready.

(NOT: When a person comes to class, you should have your homework ready.)

Choosing the Correct Pronoun

Circle the pronoun that agrees in number with its antecedent in each sentence.

- Each of the girls makes (her, their) own clothes.
- The jury finally made (its, their) decision.
- It often seems that television programmers are not concerned with (its, their) viewers.
- Both Tim and Tony write (his, their) mothers twice a week from camp.

Understanding Pronoun Reference:

HOW TO IDENTIFY THE QUESTION	The pronoun "..." in line X refers to which of the following?
	Look at the word X. Click on the word or phrase that X refers to.
WHERE TO FIND THE ANSWER	The line where the pronoun is located is given in the question. The noun that the pronoun refers to is generally found <i>before</i> the pronoun.
	The pronoun is highlighted in the passage. The noun that the pronoun refers to is generally found <i>before</i> the pronoun.
HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTION	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Locate the pronoun in the passage.2. Look <i>before</i> the pronoun for nouns that agree with the pronoun.3. Try each of the nouns in the context in place of the pronoun.4. Eliminate any definitely wrong answers and choose the best answer from the remaining choices.

Vocabulary: Recognizing Word Meanings

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. ___ determine | A. unusual |
| 2. ___ afford | B. disadvantage |
| 3. ___ reflect | C. side, part, or characteristic |
| 4. ___ nontraditional | D. developing new ideas |
| 5. ___ drawback | E. fact in the form of a number |
| 6. ___ statistic | F. control |
| 7. ___ discipline | G. whole |
| 8. ___ aspect | H. decide on |
| 9. ___ involves | I. have enough money for |
| 10. ___ tuition | J. show |
| 11. ___ entire | K. fees (money) for school |
| 12. ___ creative | L. includes |

Do the Following Homework.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Chapter 1. Exercise 3. page 6 | 5. Chapter 1. Exercise 1. page 18 |
| 2. Chapter 1. exercise 5. page 9. | 6. Chapter 1. exercise 3. page 19 |
| 3. Chapter 1. exercise 1. page 13 + 14 + 15 | |
| 4. Chapter 1. exercise 2. page 15 + 16 | |

~Queen~

wish U all the BEST