



ELA Virtual Learning

English II

April 22, 2020

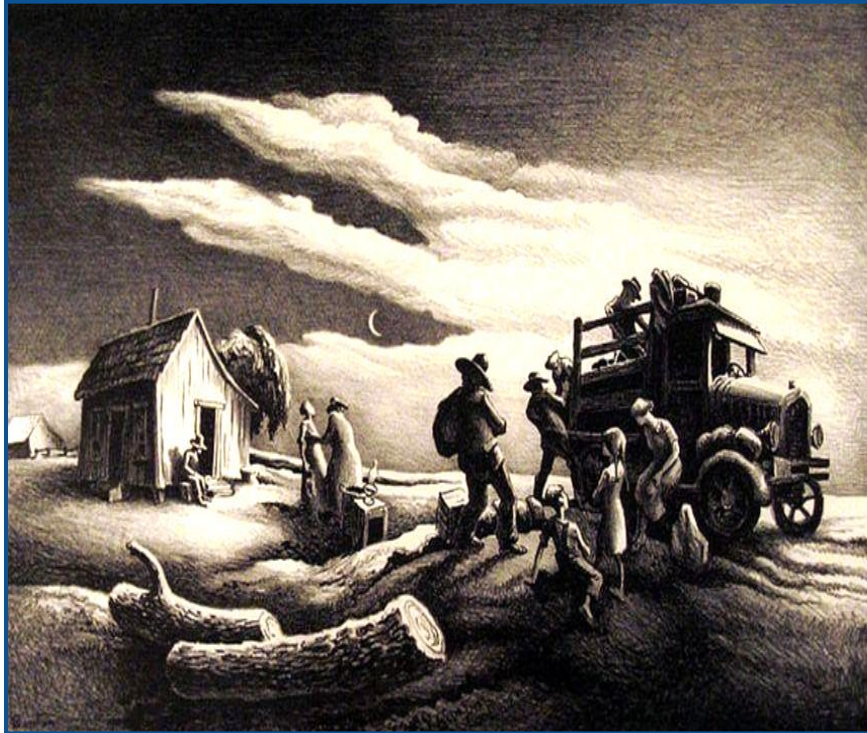


English II
Lesson: April 22, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- I can define unfamiliar words and phrases in John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath* using context clues.

BELL RINGER



In the 1930s, farmers and their families, almost 400,000 people in total, had to leave their homes due to severe drought and dust storms known as the dust bowl.

Take a look at the image to the left and list three details that would suggest this family is leaving their home:

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)

Congratulations! If you completed the bell work, you just identified some **context clues**.

A **context clue** is a hint a reader can use to infer a difficult or unknown word's meaning. **Context clues** can be found in the same sentence as an unknown word, in nearby sentences, or within the word itself. For instance, in the word *nonexistent* the prefix *non-* means *not*.

You use **context clues** all the time when you read, watch tv or movies, listen to music, and even during conversations in your daily life.

Jane Goodall arrived at Tanzania's Gombe Stream National Park in 1960. She was considered somewhat unconventional among other animal researchers. After all, she had not yet been to college.



OTHER RESEARCHERS
HAD GONE TO COLLEGE?



Khan Academy

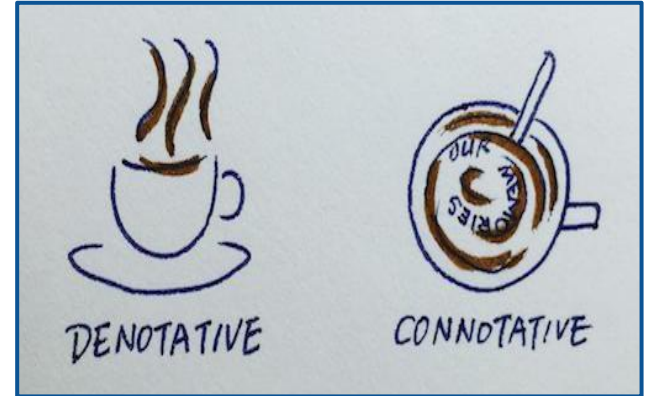
Need additional help with context clues? Check out the video above.

Identifying **context clues** is a key skill needed when analyzing literature, especially when determining an unknown word's **denotation** and **connotation**.

Denotation is the literal and primary definition of a word.

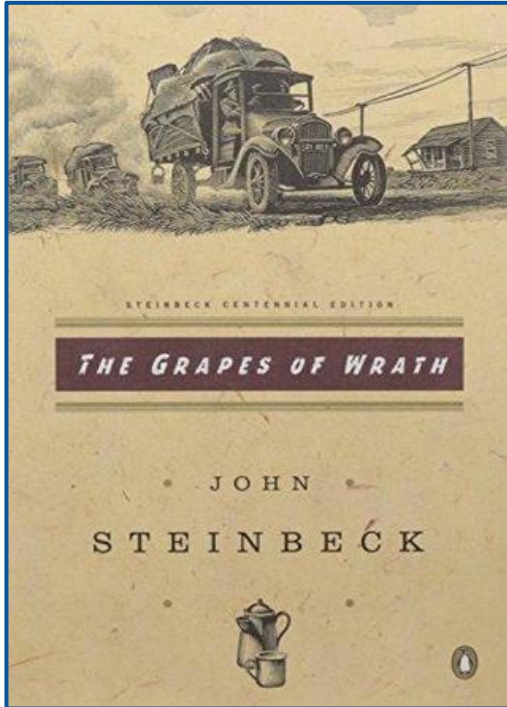
Connotation is an emotion or feeling a word evokes in addition to its literal meaning.

For example, the word *home* has a literal definition, or denotation of a *shelter someone lives in*. However, this word has many connotations such as *warmth, comfort, and affection*.



Need additional help before you practice? Check out the video on the previous slide.

PRACTICE



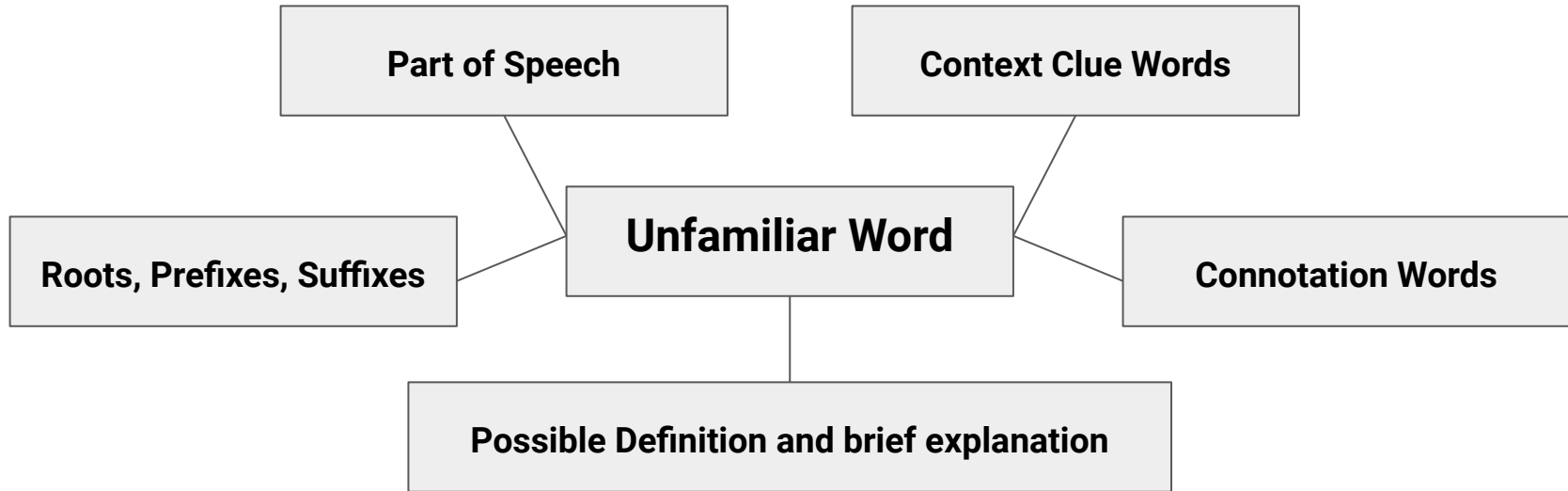
Now that we have reviewed the definitions of **context clue**, **denotation**, and **connotation**, let's practice defining unfamiliar words, phrases, and references in a work of literature.

John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath* follows the Joad family on their perilous journey west after leaving their home in Oklahoma to find work. Learn more about *The Grapes of Wrath* [here](#).

In this novel, as is common for many of Steinbeck's work, the vocabulary consists of words that are short (one or two syllables), but nevertheless difficult to define.

PRACTICE

Use the information from slides 4-6 to identify the definition of three unfamiliar terms in *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck linked [here](#). Use the word web template below.



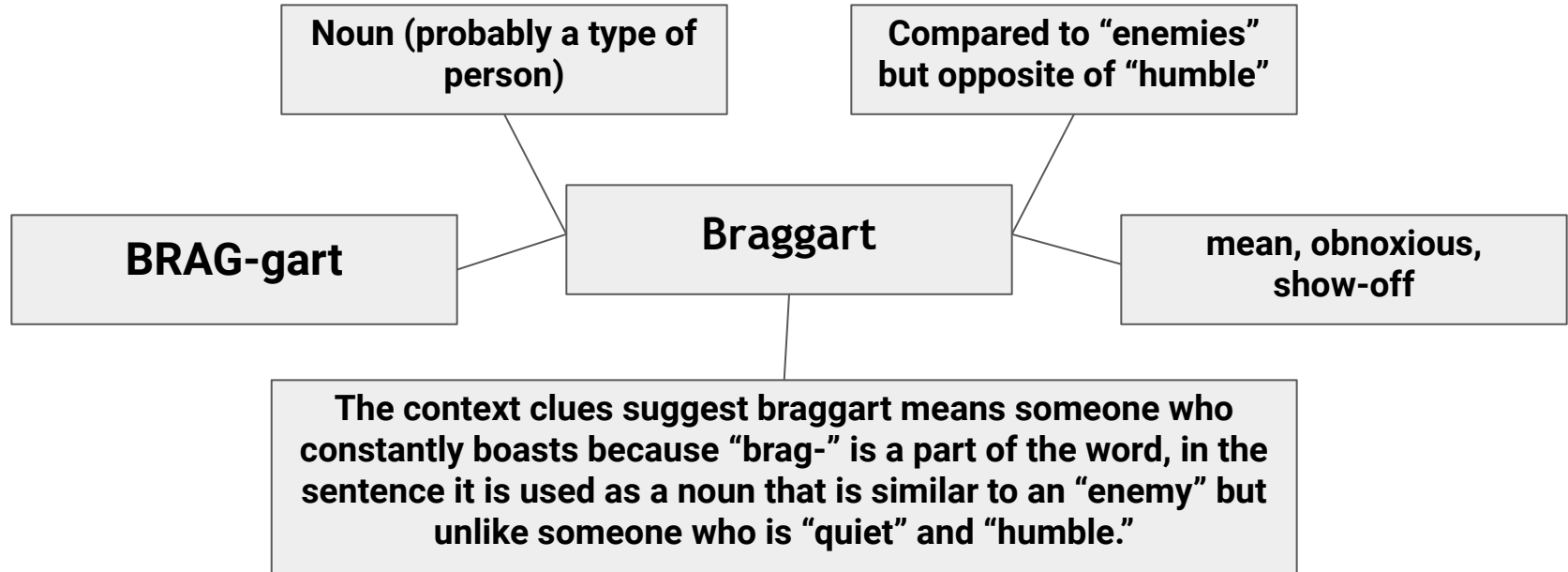


PRACTICE ANSWER KEY *(Answers will vary)*

- **Check your answer to make sure your response meets the following criteria:**
 - Did you select three unfamiliar words from the passage?
 - Did you identify the word's part of speech? (noun, verb, adjective, adverb, etc.)
 - Did you identify possible context clues around the word?
 - Did you consider possible synonyms or connotations? (when you read the word, what other words, ideas, or emotions come to mind? There are no wrong answers.)
 - Did you predict what the word's definition might be and explain?

PRACTICE ANSWER KEY *(Answers will vary)*

Word Web Example





ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

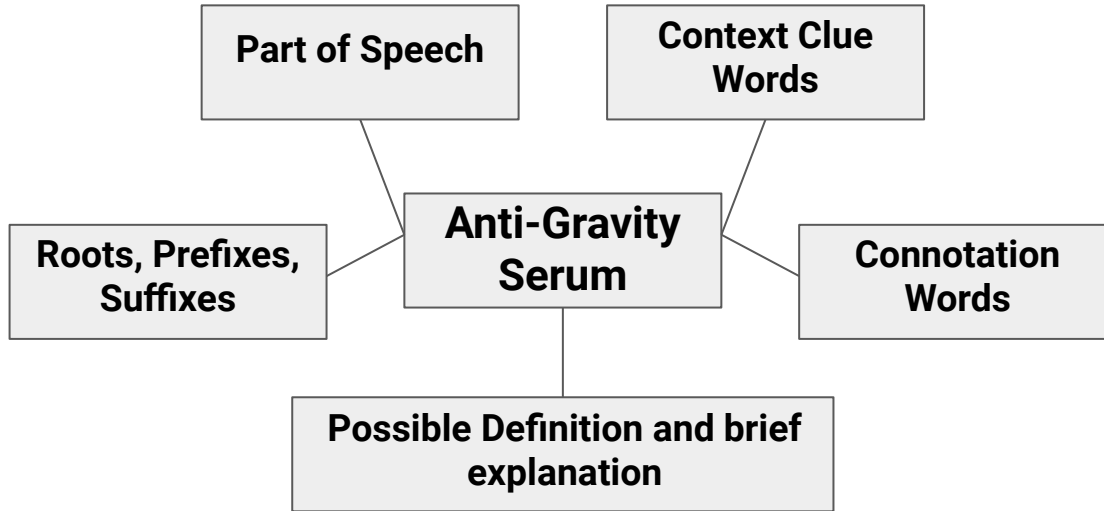
Need additional help? Check out some of the useful resources linked below.

The Dust Bowl of the 1930s

- [Uncovering the Dust Bowl \(PBS\)](#)

EXTENDED ACTIVITY

Want more practice with **context clues**? Watch this clip from *Despicable Me* and determine the meaning of Anti-Gravity Serum using the word web template below:





REFLECTION

Today's learning target is listed below:

1. I can define unfamiliar words and phrases using context clues.

On a scale of 1-5, how confident do you feel with each of today's learning targets?
What did you struggle on? What did you understand the best?

1 = I still need to work on it

5 = I know I've mastered it!