

Language Arts

Homework Assignment: Vocabulary Exercise

Making new words your own

Use the **Context Structure Sound Dictionary (CSSD)** strategy to improve your vocabulary, to make new words your own. Use one or more strategies to determine the meanings of each word you do not know. The exercises that follow will show you how to go about making new words your own.

How to do the exercises:

In these exercises, you will read the vocabulary word in a sentence. You will figure out the word's meaning by looking at its **context**, its **structure**, and its **sound**. Then you will look up the word in a **dictionary** and write its meaning *as it is used in the sentence*.

Here is an example of the Wordbusting strategy, using the word *transcribe*.

transcribe

After listening to Shaykh Uthaymeen in an interview on audiotape, Saddiqua decided to **transcribe** it so she could accurately write her feature article.

Context: Saddiqua decided to transcribe the interview after listening to it on audiotape. Transcribe might mean "to write it down."

Structure: trans + scribe One meaning of the prefix trans is "over." Scribe is a root that means "to write." Transcribe might mean "to write over."

Sound: tran•skrīb the word transcribe sounds like the word transcript, which is a printed copy of someone's grades. It may be something written down.

Dictionary: "to write or type out a copy of, as from a speech or notes"

Sample – Text

Context: Speaking the truth at all times

Being Honest

In the absence of the excellent role models we had from the past it is absolutely essential that we provide a clear understanding of what is considered to be truth and acceptance. We must teach our children that we cannot, or refuse to accommodate falsehood, not even accidentally. Our generation can accomplish this goal if we accompany our children and their children down the path of previous history. Although, we ourselves are not accustomed to information that is accurate in the United States, we can most certainly gain this knowledge from the Ulema of the past and present. This if conquered, will teach our children that we must speak the truth at all times. That this is a part of being honest and what a great achievement this is.

In the following exercises, you will have the opportunity to expand your vocabulary by reading, listening and breaking each word down into **context**, **structure**, **sound** and the **dictionary** entry word with its definition. Below are ten vocabulary words that are used in this example exercise. Please use a dictionary to assist you with the lesson.

<i>absence</i>	<i>absolutely</i>	<i>acceptance</i>	<i>accidentally</i>	<i>accommodate</i>
<i>accompany</i>	<i>accomplish</i>	<i>accurate</i>	<i>accustomed</i>	<i>achievement</i>

Wordbusting Exercise: Directions

Follow the directions for this example word and then use the sample to complete the remaining ten words from the lesson inshaAllah.

- Figure out the words meaning by looking at its context, its structure, and its sound. Fill in at least one of the three CSS boxes.
- Then, look up the word in a dictionary, read all of its meanings, and write the meaning of the word as it is used in a sentence.
- Follow this same process for each of the vocabulary Words in the word box above. You will need to draw your own map for each word. Use a separate sheet of paper inshaAllah.

Extra Hints and Tips:

1. Context: Look for clues to the meaning of the word in the sentence. For example, the word after, signals cause and effect and helps reveal the meaning of transcribe.
2. Structure: Examine the word parts for roots, prefixes, and suffixes that you know. Consult the word-part tables for meanings of parts you do not know.
3. Sound: Say the word aloud and listen for any word parts you know.
4. Dictionary: If you cannot determine a word's meaning from applying context, structure, and sound strategies, look up the unfamiliar word in a dictionary. Read all the definitions, and choose one that best fits the given sentence.