

Context Clues

For each sentence, write the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word or words in italics. Use context clues to help you choose the correct answer.

- _____ 1. Some scientists warn that if we continue to pollute the world, we could *alter* Earth's climates by raising temperatures significantly.
 A understand B preserve C improve D change
- _____ 2. Because Jim enjoys working in the science laboratory at school, his teacher has hopes that Jim will become a *chemist* someday.
 A a builder B a teacher C a weather forecaster D an expert in chemistry
- _____ 3. We left the room in good *condition*, with the carpet vacuumed and all the furniture dusted and set back in place.
 A control B favor C order D design
- _____ 4. Detective Hayes *conducted* the investigation of the robbery. He told each member of the team what to do and when to do it.
 A prevented B managed C followed D aided
- _____ 5. After a careful examination with her stethoscope, Dr. Maeda was able to *detect* a faint murmur in the patient's heart.
 A remove B operate C overlook D discover
- _____ 6. The young parents were fascinated by every stage of their baby's *development*, from his first smile to his first wobbly step.
 A growth B education C success D personality
- _____ 7. Congressman Romero will *establish* the social service program by organizing volunteers and building neighborhood shelters for the homeless.
 A close B argue for C set up D overthrow
- _____ 8. Dad sometimes brings Mom flowers from the *florist* near the train station.
 A flower seller B tile layer C restaurant D engineer
- _____ 9. Glaciers moving over North America created many of the *formations* of the hills and valleys that we see today.
 A arrangements B future possibilities C disappearances D earthquakes
- _____ 10. Because Renee spends all of her allowance on CDs, she is *frequently* in debt and looking for odd jobs to earn money.
 A rarely B often C occasionally D never

- _____ 11. The company *guarantees* in writing that if its MP3 player has any defects, the device will be repaired or replaced free of charge.
 A demands B admits C promises D denies
- _____ 12. Several months after injuring her back in an automobile accident, Becky finally began to accept her *handicap*.
 A insurance B surgery C confusion D disability
- _____ 13. Officer McKenzie's lecture on neighborhood gangs was very *informative*. We learned some things we had not known.
 A educational B casual C boring D businesslike
- _____ 14. Mario and Rosa are *inseparable*; they were together all summer and continue to spend time with each other as often as possible.
 A related B close C sensible D boring
- _____ 15. The big Fourth of July fireworks display was *magnificent*. We'll always remember how beautiful it was.
 A dangerous B loud C splendid D ordinary
- _____ 16. An astronomer *observes* the stars through a telescope, which makes it possible to see incredible distances.
 A watches B connects C arranges D reveals
- _____ 17. The weather *prediction* was for hot weather—temperatures above one hundred for the next week.
 A invitation B forecast C contract D prayer
- _____ 18. Our teacher *renders* a great service by offering help to students after school.
 A provides B endures C withholds D repeats
- _____ 19. Wearing a life jacket serves as a *safeguard* against drowning.
 A relief B protection C pad D hazard
- _____ 20. The work of migrant farmhands who follow the harvest is *seasonal*. Different crops are ready for harvest at different times of the year.
 A limited to water C incredibly difficult
 B never ending D dependent on the time of year