A Vocabulary

MEANING FROM CONTEXT

A 3.20 **Read and listen to the conversation. Notice each word in blue and think about its meaning.**

Max: Hey, Rika. What's wrong?
Rika: Nothing. I'm just reading the paper.
Max: Well, you're frowning as you read. Facial always show your emotions. For example, frowning signals sadness or fear.
Rika: But doesn't that change depending on a person's culture? I'm Indonesian and you're Canadian. We probably just make different facial expressions.
Max: Actually, culture doesn't matter. Back in the 19th century, Charles Darwin found that all people typically make the same facial expressions. He reasoned that these expressions must be a human characteristic.



Rika: Really? Has anybody else looked into this, or was it just Darwin?
Max: Well, in the 1960s, a psychologist named Paul Ekman confirmed Darwin's theory. He conducted an experiment. He showed photos of facial expressions to people of many different cultures. The showed that people across all cultures recognize—and make—the same facial expressions for the same emotions.
Rika: So culture doesn't matter then, right?
Max: Well, for *some* facial expressions. Neither Darwin nor Ekman could that all facial expressions are universal. And Ekman also wondered whether there are things that universally certain emotions.
Rika: So, you mean to say that what impacts our emotions is the same for everyone?
Max: Well, yes and no. Certain things are universal. For example, everyone gets scared whenever there's a sudden, unexpected movement in their field of vision.
Rika: That A sudden movement might signal danger, and there's a for humans to to danger. We do it
Max: Right, but not everything triggers the same emotion in different people. For example, one person might associate the smell of the sea with something enjoyable, like a vacation.
Rika: But for someone who has gotten seasick or been stung by a jellyfish, the ocean isn't so pleasant. So the smell might cause negative emotions.
Max: Exactly! Our reaction is influenced by our experience and, often, our

B **Discuss the questions with a partner.**

1. Are you surprised that facial expressions are the same across cultures? Why or why not?
2. Which emotions do you feel are easiest to recognize? Which are most difficult? Explain.

LIVEWORKSHEETS