Context Clues

Definitions

Sometimes an author will tell the meaning of a word in the same sentence. A word's meaning is its **definition**. A definition can help you understand new words. Look at the sentence after the unknown word to see if the author explains what the word means. Sometimes authors use italics or bold print to identify the meaning of unknown words.

Example: Many pilots want to become *astronauts*, people who have learned to travel in space.

The boy was **unresponsive** when *he didn't answer the questions that we asked*.

Guided Practice

Read the sentences below. Use the sentence to write the meaning of the word in bold below.

1. It was time for the **launch**, an action to send the rocket into space.

Meaning: _____

2. People watched **anxiously**, with worry.

Meaning: _____

3. The rocket zoomed **upward**, in the direction of the sky.

Meaning: _____

4. Stars were shining in the **distance**, in a place far away.

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Meaning: _____

5. Everyone was curious about the rocket's **descent**, coming back to Earth from space.

Meaning: _____

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