Meaning from Context. Read the definitions. Notice the words in **blue**. These are the words you will hear and use in Lesson B. Then read the article below and fill in each blank with the correct form of the vocabulary word. Listen and check your answers.

1. A **policy** is a plan or set of rules put in place by a government or organization.
2. If one event **coincides** with another, they happen at the same time.
3. An **apparent** situation or feeling is clearly true based on available evidence.
4. An **inclination** is a feeling that makes you want to act in a particular way.
5. If you **presume** that something is true, you believe it is true, although it may not be.
6. A **scenario** is a real or imagined series of possible events or occurrences.
7. The **scope** of a problem or issue tells you how far it reaches.
8. If you say that a situation is **the norm**, you mean that it is usual and expected.
9. **Output** is used to refer to the amount that is produced.
10. **Primarily** means for the most part, mainly, or chiefly.

Egyptians crowd a kiosk selling bread near the Great Pyramids at Giza. Across the globe, there is rising demand for food but fewer supplies.



In the second half of the 20th century, there was a dramatic increase in the amount of food farmers were able to produce. Thanks to improved farming methods, agricultural (1) _____ of corn, wheat, and rice increased around 50 percent. It seemed (2) _____ that scientists could increase production of food as needed. People (3) _____ that there would always be enough food to meet the world's needs.

Today, it seems that scientists might have been wrong. In recent years, shortages of important crops such as corn and rice have become (4) _____, and with these grains in short supply, their prices have been rising. The problem has been particularly serious for people who rely (5) _____ on grain to fill their stomachs. The (6) _____ of the problem has been global, affecting consumers in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. There is not just one explanation for these shortages, but rather several reasons that (7) _____. One reason for the food shortage is that people are eating more meat and dairy products. Both meat and dairy products require large amounts of grain to produce. Another reason is the use of large quantities of grains to produce fuels instead of food. Water shortages and the growing world population have also contributed to the food problems.

There are probably no easy solutions to these problems. It seems very difficult to ask people to fight their natural (8) _____ to eat meat. A government (9) _____ that makes eating meat illegal would likely be very unpopular. However, some experts believe that we have no choice but to take action. If we don't, the future may bring us unpleasant (10) _____ of too little food for the world's people.

A | Read the paragraph about the green revolution. Complete the paragraph with the correct form of a word from the box.

apparent	inclination	policy	primarily	scope
coincide	output	presume	scenario	the norm

The Green Revolution

The increase in agricultural (1) _____ of the late 1900s is sometimes referred to as the "Green Revolution." The increase was made possible when four farming technologies (2) _____. These technologies are:

- irrigation, a technology that brings water to crops;
- chemical pesticides to help kill or control insects;
- fertilizers, which give plants what they need to grow;
- and smaller plants that produce as much food as larger plants.



In India, workers pull loads of rice stalks to a farm to feed animals.

It would be a mistake, however, to (3) _____ that these methods will continue to deliver amazing agricultural growth. In fact, now that these four practices have become (4) _____ for farmers around the world, it has become (5) _____ that the increase in agricultural production can no longer be maintained. In fact, some experts have the (6) _____ to help start another "Green Revolution." They hope to avoid future (7) _____ such as food shortages, high food prices, and their consequences.

Scientists and government officials who determine agricultural (8) _____ are asking, what is the (9) _____ of the issue? These scientists are trying to figure out if there is any way to improve agriculture. To increase production, they are focusing (10) _____ on three different areas: the introduction of GM crops, the improvement of irrigation, and sustainable farming methods. Solving this problem could be the key to our future.

LIVEWORKSHEETS