

READING STRATEGIES 6

CONTEXT CLUES

Read the texts, consider the questions below the text. The answer the multiple choice questions.

Task 1. Read the text about education techniques.

"Perhaps Irving's most **compelling** educational tool is the example his own life provides. After landing his record-breaking flight at age 23, he smiled out at the airfield crowd and said, "Everyone told me that I couldn't do. They said I was too young, that I didn't have enough money, experience, strength or knowledge. T he told me it would take forever and I'd never come home. Well... guess what?"

- What part of speech is "compelling"? Adjective, verb, noun?
- Does the information about Irving's flight provide or deny evidence of his education techniques?
- Answer the question:

What does "compelling" mean?

- A exciting and demanding
- B interesting and amusing
- C powerful and effective
- D clear and simple

Task 2. Read the text about bird-watching.

My father was struggling with one foot deep in a wet patch of mud. He heaved it free: it gave out a loud **squelch**. "in actual fact," he said, "it was a buzzard."

- What part of speech is "squelch"? Adjective, verb, noun?
- If the squelch is "loud" what kind of thing could it be?
- If your food is stuck in mud, what kinds of things would you feel and hear?
- Answer the question:

The word "squelch" describes ...

- A the way something looked.
- B the noise something made.
- C a way of moving something.
- D a way of talking about something



Task 3. Read the text about a natural wonder in Sweden.

One of the factors that makes Abisko a prime location for viewing the Aurora is the Tometrask itself. The huge lake, which sprawls more than 70 kilometers long just north of the station, creates an unusual weather phenomenon that keeps the skies above the station clear even when fog or clouds blanket most of northern Sweden. This is the famed "blue hole of Abisko," a perennial patch of sky kept mostly clear by the climatological effects of this inland sea and its valley.

When this **quirk** of weather is combined with the comforts of the station, the package adds up to one of the best options anywhere for viewing the Aurora.

- What part of speech is "quirk"? Adjective, verb, noun?
- Look at the description of the weather - unusual, clear, blue, etc.
- Answer the question:

What does "quirk" mean?

- A an advantage
- B a flaw
- C a very pleasant surprise
- D an usual feature

Task 4. Read the text from the novel "Howard's End" describing a passage of music.

For, as if things were going too far. Beethoven took hold of the goblins and made them do what he wanted. He appeared in person. He gave them a little push, and they began to walk in major key instead of in a minor, and then - he blew with his mouth and they were scattered! Gusts of splendor, gods and demigods contending with vast swords, color fragrance broadcast on the field of battle, magnificent victory, magnificent death! Oh, it all burst before the girl, and she even stretched out her glove hands as if it was **tangible**.

- What part of speech is "tangible"? Adjective, verb, noun?
- Notice the fantasy aspect of the text - goblins, demi-gods, etc.
- What does "as if it was ..." indicate?

Answer the question:

What does "tangible" mean?

- A something that can be touched
- B something emotional
- C something imaginary
- D something frightening

