LESSON
19
STUDENT LESSON SUMMARY
COPYMASTER

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**multiple-meaning words**: words that can have more than one meaning
**context**: the surroundings or situation in which a word is used
**context clues**: other words or phrases near the word that help point to its meaning

HERE’S HOW

**Step 1: Identify the part of speech.** When you come across a multiple-meaning word and are unsure which definition to apply, ask: Is this word being used as a noun, verb, adjective, adverb, or some other part of speech?

**Step 2: Think of definitions of the word that fit that part of speech.** For example, if the word is being used as an adjective, you can rule out definitions that would only apply to a noun, verb, or adverb.

**Step 3: Use context clues.** Ask yourself: Which of the multiple meanings fits this context? If you are unsure, try each meaning in the sentence to see which makes the most sense.

**Step 4: If none seem to fit, use a dictionary.** Ask yourself: What else can this word mean? Remember to look only at definitions that fit the correct part of speech. Decide which one best fits the context.

**EXAMPLE: CONTEXT CLUES**

Read the following sentence, looking for clues to the meaning of the boldface word.

Chef Luc added a **cup** of crushed strawberries to the ice cream and stirred it vigorously before covering it and placing it in the freezer.

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| The article *an* before the adjective *extra* shows that in this sentence, *cup* is a noun. | The noun *cup* can mean all of the following:  
- a drinking vessel  
- any item shaped like a drinking cup  
- a hole on a golf course  
- a trophy or prize | In the sentence, Chef Luc is preparing food. None of the definitions I thought of seems to fit what he is doing. | The dictionary reminds me that a *cup* is: an exact 8-ounce measure in cooking.  
- The definition is the correct part of speech.  
- It fits the context. |