

Context Clues Vocabulary Practice

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Read the passage below. Use context clues to work out the meaning of each underlined word. Then answer the questions.

The ancient Māori navigators were intrepid explorers who sailed across the vast Pacific Ocean without modern instruments. Their journeys required incredible courage and skill. These voyagers used celestial navigation, observing the stars, sun, and moon to guide their waka across thousands of kilometres of open water.

The knowledge passed down through generations was imperative for survival. It was absolutely necessary that each navigator learned to read the ocean swells, recognise bird flight patterns, and understand cloud formations. Without this essential information, they could easily become lost at sea.

When the navigators finally glimpsed land after weeks at sea, their elation was overwhelming. The joy and excitement they felt upon seeing the coastline must have been immense. However, they remained cautious, as unfamiliar shores could be treacherous, with hidden reefs and dangerous currents that could damage or destroy their vessels.

Upon landing, the settlers had to be resourceful, making clever use of everything available to them. They cultivated the land, growing kumara and other crops to sustain their communities for generations to come.

Part A: Write the meaning of each word based on context clues

1. **intrepid:** _____

2. **imperative:** _____

3. **elation:** _____

4. **treacherous:** _____

5. **resourceful:** _____

6. **cultivated:** _____

Part B: Identify the type of context clue

Types: Definition, Synonym, Antonym, Example, Inference

1. What context clue helped you understand "intrepid"? _____

2. What context clue helped you understand "imperative"? _____

3. What context clue helped you understand "elation"? _____