

UNDERSTANDING WORDS IN CONTEXT



A. Using the verb “to be”

The object following the verb “to be” is frequently used to identify the subject

Example: (1) A salmon is a fish

The meaning of “salmon” is a fish

Now, study the exercises on page 281, no.

1-5

B. Using Appositives

A noun or noun group which follows a noun and is set off by commas is an appositive. It identifies the noun it follows

Example:

(2) Mercury, *the silver-colored metal used in thermometers*, is usually is liquid form.

The meaning of “mercury” is identified by its appositive, *the silver-colored metal used in thermometers*

By adding the words “which is/are” or “who is/are” you can test if the noun is appositive.

Example:

(3) Mercury, ***which is*** the silver-colored metal used in thermometers, is usually in a liquid form.

Now, study the sentences no. 6-10 on page 283

C. Using Punctuation

Punctuation marks are sometimes used to set off a word which is being used to identify another word. Some of the punctuation marks you may see used in this way are:

-commas , brackets []

-dashes - single quotation marks ‘ ’

-parentheses () –double quotation marks “ ”

Now, study the sentences no. 11-15 on page 282-3

C. Using “OR”

A word is sometimes identified by synonym following the word “or”

Example:

(4) The husky, or sled dog, of the North is a hardy breed.

The meaning of the word “husky” is identified by the words “sled dog” following the word “or”

Now, study the sentences no. 16-20 on page 283

D. Using Examples

A word is sometimes identified by examples.

These terms often introduce examples:

**as for example such as
like for instance**

Example: (5) Percussion instruments, such as, drums, cymbals, and tambourines, were the preferred instruments in the study.

The meaning of “percussion instruments” is identified by the three examples: “drums”, “cymbals”, and “tambourines”.

Study the sentences, no. 21-25, on page 283-284.

E. Using clauses

Adjective clauses sometimes identify words.

They are introduced by the words:

that where who when which whom

Example: Airships, which are cigar-shaped, steerable balloons, have many uses, such as filming, advertising, and entertainment

No, Study the sentences no. 26-30 on page 284