

GUESSING WORD MEANING FROM CONTEXT

Being able to guess a word's meaning from the context of its sentence is a very useful skill. For example, in the following sentence: 'In cold weather motorcyclists wear mittens to keep their hands and fingers warm,' if we don't know the meaning of 'mittens', we can guess they're *probably* a type of glove.

If we know a word's meaning, we may need to explain it using paraphrase or a definition: The word 'buoyant' describes how we feel when we have received some very good news, happy, elated. The word 'peregrination' means wandering or going from one place to another.

EXERCISE

Write paraphrases or definitions for the words in Exercise One.

1) *chimera* _____

2) *apotheosis* _____

3) *eulogy* _____

4) *fulminate* _____

5) *euphemism* _____

6) *vicarious* _____

7) *supercilious* _____

8) *peripatetic* _____

9) *osmosis* _____

10) *decrepit* _____

11) *garrulous* _____

EXERCISE Describe this word, don't use the word itself; instead, say 'this word means ' Can your partner guess the word from the exercise above?