



Vocabulary in Context

About These Problems

In critical reading sections you will be given a long passage and will be asked questions about the purpose and tone etc. You will be given a word and asked for its definition in context. All the options will be defined by the word, but you will have to pick the best one. Try replacing the word with the options listed and seeing which one makes the most sense.

Question. In the passage below, "means" most clearly means?

In a world where credit cards are easier to get than candy, we spend and spend and spend beyond our means and drive our possibilities of a future into the ground. How can you afford college when you spend nearly 23,000 dollars on a new car? Does your \$500 dress put food on the table? It is despicable how materialistic we have become, especially when we cannot afford to be.

- A. definition
- B. abilities
- C. a method
- D. financial resources
- E. intension

Answer. D: Although all the choices can mean "means", option B and D are the most likely. Although people are spending beyond their abilities, "financial resources" is the best option of the two. Select option D.