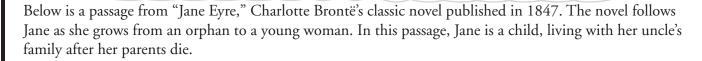
## Finding Meaning In Context



Read the passage, paying special attention to the underlined words. Complete the grid at the bottom of the page.

I was a <u>discord</u> in Gateshead Hall: I was like nobody there; I had nothing in <u>harmony</u> with Mrs. Reed or her children, or her chosen <u>vassalage</u>. If they did not love me, in fact, as little did I love them. They were not bound to regard with affection a thing that could not sympathise with one amongst them; a <u>heterogeneous</u> thing, opposed to them in temperament, in capacity, in <u>propensities</u>; a useless thing, <u>incapable</u> of serving their interest, or adding to their pleasure; a <u>noxious</u> thing, cherishing the germs of indignation at their treatment, of contempt of their judgment. I know that had I been a <u>sanguine</u>, brilliant, careless, exacting, handsome, romping child—though equally dependent and friendless—Mrs. Reed would have endured my presence more <u>complacently</u>; her children would have entertained for me more of the <u>cordiality</u> of fellow-feeling; the servants would have been less prone to make me the scapegoat of the nursery.



Word	part of speech	What do you think it means?	What were your clues?
1. discord			
2. harmony			
3. vassalage			
4. heterogeneous			
5. propensities			
6. incapable			
7. noxious			
8. sanguine			
9. complacently			
10. cordiality			

Name:		Key
_ / / _		_

## Finding Meaning In Context

Below is a passage from "Jane Eyre," Charlotte Brontë's classic novel published in 1847. The novel follows Jane as she grows from an orphan to a young woman. In this passage, Jane is a child, living with her uncle's family after her parents die.

Read the passage, paying special attention to the underlined words. Complete the grid at the bottom of the page.

I was a <u>discord</u> in Gateshead Hall: I was like nobody there; I had nothing in <u>harmony</u> with Mrs. Reed or her children, or her chosen <u>vassalage</u>. If they did not love me, in fact, as little did I love them. They were not bound to regard with affection a thing that could not sympathise with one amongst them; a <u>heterogeneous</u> thing, opposed to them in temperament, in capacity, in <u>propensities</u>; a useless thing, <u>incapable</u> of serving their interest, or adding to their pleasure; a <u>noxious</u> thing, cherishing the germs of indignation at their treatment, of contempt of their judgment. I know that had I been a <u>sanguine</u>, brilliant, careless, exacting, handsome, romping child—though equally dependent and friendless—Mrs. Reed would have endured my presence more <u>complacently</u>; her children would have entertained for me more of the <u>cordiality</u> of fellow-feeling; the servants would have been less prone to make me the scapegoat of the nursery.



## Student answers will vary for columns 3-4. Example of correct answers:

Word	part of speech	What do you think it means?	What were your clues?
1. discord	noun	disagreement	
2. harmony	noun	common	
3. vassalage	noun	servants	
4. heterogeneous	adjective	different	
5. propensities	noun	emotions	
6. incapable	adjective	unable	
7. noxious	adjective	unpleasant	
8. sanguine	adjective	cheerful	
9. complacently	adverb	easily	
10. cordiality	noun	friendship	