A writer may provide context clues by restating a term in easier language. Commas, dashes, or other punctuation can point to a restatement clue, along with expressions such as *that is, in other words, and or.*

My father is a podiatrist, or foot doctor.

The restatement clue, “or foot doctor,” tells you the meaning of *podiatrist.*

Another way writers can suggest the meanings of words is to give one or two examples, as in the following sentence:

Fred showed some very *belligerent* traits, such as shouting at other drivers and constantly getting into fights.

The examples suggest that *belligerent* means something like “hostile” or “bad-tempered.”

### A. Restatement and Example Clues in Action

In each sentence below, first look at the italicized word, then look for clues to its meaning. Circle either *restatement* or *example.* Then write a meaning for the italicized word.

1. Mano had such a **longing** for the horse that he knew he would never want anything so much again.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

2. The burning of our home was a **calamity**—a real disaster.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

3. *Impediments* to his getting the job included his youth and inexperience and his lack of language skills.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

4. When using power tools you should take **precautions**, such as wearing safety goggles and treating the equipment properly.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

5. We feared lightning would **ignite** the dry grass and burn up the fields.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

6. The legend told of a **pauper**, or person without wealth, who dreamed of owning a horse.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

7. The **precipitation** we expect this weekend may come in the form of rain, sleet, or snow.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

8. The judge’s sentence was **punitive**; that is, it was meant to punish the offender.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

9. Unfortunately, this diamond has some **flaws**, including a yellow color and a cloudy appearance.
   - restatement/example
   - Meaning: ______________________________

10. The man was **infuriated**: he simply flew into a rage.
    - restatement/example
    - Meaning: ______________________________
B. Vocabulary Words in Action

Review the meanings of the words in the list above. Then insert in each sentence the word that correctly fits the meaning.

1. Your argument is fairly good, but there are some ________________ in it.
2. All day I had a strong ________________, or desire, for a piece of chocolate cake.
3. The crop should be in good shape this year if we get enough ________________.
4. Stored gasoline and a stray match helped ________________ the warehouse, which was soon in flames.
5. Jason felt it was a ________________ —a disaster—when he got B’s on his two tests.
6. The fantasy was about a ________________ who became rich through a magic fish.
7. Bad study habits can be an ________________ to your success.
8. In dealing with the uprising, the government was forced to take ________________ measures.
9. Take extra ________________ if the roads are slippery.
10. When she discovered the broken vase, Alice became ________________.

C. Vocabulary Challenge

Look at the following words and their meanings. Then for each word write a sentence that uses the word and includes a context clue to its meaning.

1. **taunted** teased

2. **ailment** illness

3. **clamor** loud noise

4. **consequence** result

5. **impartial** fair, unbiased