

Vocabulary Strategy

MULTIPLE-MEANING WORDS

Many English words have more than one meaning. For example, you might know that the vocabulary word *engage* can refer to a promise of marriage. Given this, you may have been confused by its use in this article. Here it means “to involve” or “to participate.”

When you come across a familiar word that suddenly does not make sense to you, look at the words and sentences around it for clues to a different meaning for the word. If you are still unsure, check a dictionary.

A. Directions: Define each boldfaced word, using context clues to help you. Use a dictionary if you need to.

1. Deion needed to go to the **store** for some milk. _____
Wendy likes to **store** her backpack under her desk. _____
2. The tree started to die and its **bark** began falling off. _____
Mom somehow trained the dog not to **bark** at the cat. _____
3. The couch was large, yet surprisingly **light**. _____
Jake turned on the **light** so he could read. _____
4. The writer was interesting but failed to make her **point**. _____
Gerald sharpened his pencil after the **point** became dull. _____
5. Kendra surprised her sister by giving her a new **watch**. _____
Rhonda had never been one to **watch** much television. _____
6. Maria asked for a **roll** with her soup instead of crackers. _____
Ted used to climb to the top of the hill and **roll** down. _____

B. Directions: Write sentences showing different meanings for each of these words:
block, list.

7. _____

