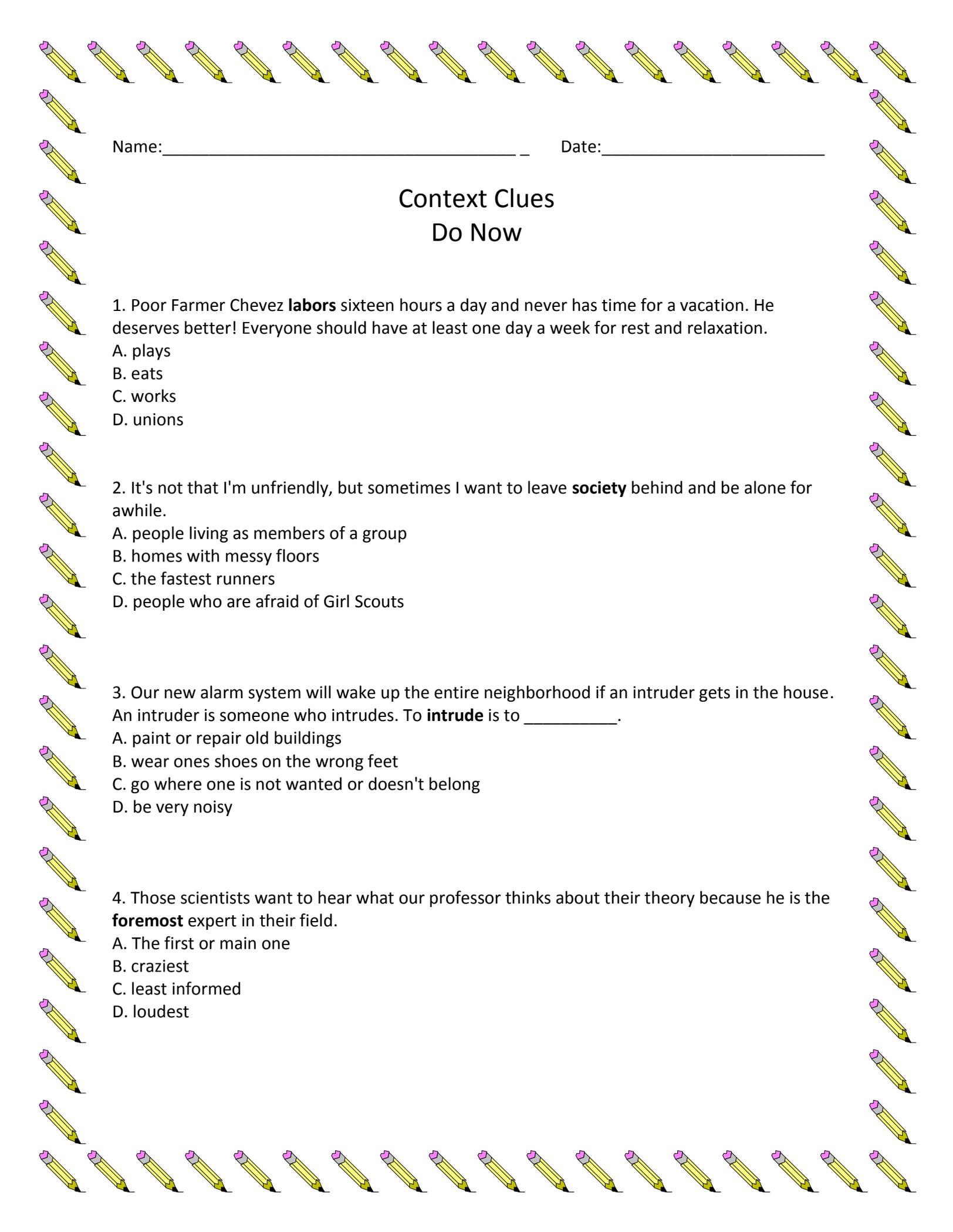


CONTEXT CLUES
DO NOW EXERCISES
9 WORKSHEETS



Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

1. Poor Farmer Chevez **labors** sixteen hours a day and never has time for a vacation. He deserves better! Everyone should have at least one day a week for rest and relaxation.

- A. plays
- B. eats
- C. works
- D. unions

2. It's not that I'm unfriendly, but sometimes I want to leave **society** behind and be alone for awhile.

- A. people living as members of a group
- B. homes with messy floors
- C. the fastest runners
- D. people who are afraid of Girl Scouts

3. Our new alarm system will wake up the entire neighborhood if an intruder gets in the house. An intruder is someone who intrudes. To **intrude** is to _____.

- A. paint or repair old buildings
- B. wear ones shoes on the wrong feet
- C. go where one is not wanted or doesn't belong
- D. be very noisy

4. Those scientists want to hear what our professor thinks about their theory because he is the **foremost** expert in their field.

- A. The first or main one
- B. craziest
- C. least informed
- D. loudest

Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

Directions: Define the underlined word using context clues.

1. Jorge has been the proprietor of the store for thirty years. His father was the owner before that.

2. The tiny dog looked innocuous, but in fact he was very dangerous.

3. Taylor was never hungry, but after going without food for three days, he was so ravenous that he ate like a dog.

4. Lela is usually very verbose in class. Today, however, she didn't talk at all.

5. My 75-year-old mother and my 93-year-old grandmother are both in the same geriatric center.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

1. Mars is a frozen red desert whipped by tornadoes and **fierce** winds.
Which word is an antonym for **fierce**?
A. Natural
B. Gentle
C. Ancient
D. warm
2. The canal was so **parched** that the fish lined up with their towels to take turns swimming in the few remaining water holes.
What is the meaning of the word **parched** in this sentence?
A. The canal was getting bigger.
B. The canal was filling up with water.
C. The canal was very cold.
D. The canal was drying up.
3. "Millions of years passed, and the climate of the earth **altered** dramatically. The northlands turned cold and icy."
What does **altered** mean in the sentence?
A. Jumped
B. Raised
C. Stopped
D. Changed
4. "One way is to **conserve** energy. If we burn less fossil fuel, we'll produce less carbon dioxide."
What is a synonym for **conserve**?
A. Save
B. Ignore
C. Waste
D. Increase

Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

1. Your cousin claimed to be late because the doors of his house were frozen shut. Even though I have my doubts, his explanation is **plausible**. It got really cold last night. I'll just have to take his word for it.

If a statement is *plausible*, _____.

- a. you must always believe it
- b. you should never believe it
- c. it's hard to understand because it makes no sense
- d. it's believable enough to possibly be true

2. If you don't **curtail** your spending, you'll be broke in no time at all!

Which word is a synonym of "curtail"?

- a. reduce
- b. follow
- c. behind
- d. buy

3. No word must ever leak out about this military action! It has to be a **clandestine** operation in order to succeed.

Which word is a synonym of "clandestine"?

- a. family
- b. useful
- c. dangerous
- d. secret

4. Put this medicine on your arm and rub it into your skin until it's invisible. It will **inhibit** the infection's attempt to spread.

What does "inhibit" mean?

- a. live in a certain place
- b. block or slow down
- c. itch or burn
- d. help to do something important

Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

1. My brother said, "I just freed myself from a very **loquacious** history professor. All he seemed to want was an audience."

- a. pretentious
- b. grouchy
- c. talkative
- d. worried

2. There is no doubt that the idea of living in such a **benign** climate was appealing. The islanders seemed to keep their vitality and live longer than Europeans.

- a. tropical
- b. not malignant
- c. kind
- d. favorable

3. It is difficult to imagine a **surfeit** of talent in one individual, yet Leonard Bernstein simply does not have the time to make complete use of his talent as conductor, performer, writer, and lecturer.

- a. excess
- b. variety
- c. superiority
- d. lack

4. There is a large demand all over the United States for plants **indigenous** to the desert. Many people in Arizona have made a good business of growing and selling cacti and other local plants.

- a. native
- b. necessary
- c. foreign
- d. alien

5. After the Romans left, a **millennium** and a half passed before people again lived in such comfort. Churchill wrote, "From the year 400 until the year 1900 no one had central heating and very few had hot baths."

- a. a decade
- b. many years
- c. 1000 years
- d. a century

Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

Directions: Using the context clues write the definition of the word underlined.

1. His lucid lectures, along with his clearly presented explanations, made him a popular professor.

2. Their vociferous chatter made me wish I had ear plugs.

3. He was so impudent to his mother that I would have punished him if he talked to me that way.

4. The Russians are skillful at sending cryptic messages, open to many interpretations. Our State Department spends days puzzling over their meanings.

5. The Great Flood of Noah's day was caused by incessant rain that fell for 40 days and nights.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

1. Mr. Huge was very proud of his auto superstore. "We have such an **extensive** selection of cars," he said, "so everyone should find a vehicle that he or she will love!"

The word "extensive" means _____.

- a. costing a lot of money
- b. large amount
- c. having no color
- d. not enough

2. Friendship is a **priceless** thing. If Chris put a price, or conditions, on her friendship, it's no longer priceless. In fact, it's not real friendship at all!

If something is priceless, _____.

- a. it has a missing tag
- b. it has no value
- c. it has great value
- d. it is made out of rice

3. The news story was based on a letter that was a **fabrication**. Now the reporter who wrote the story is in big trouble. Will anyone believe him again?

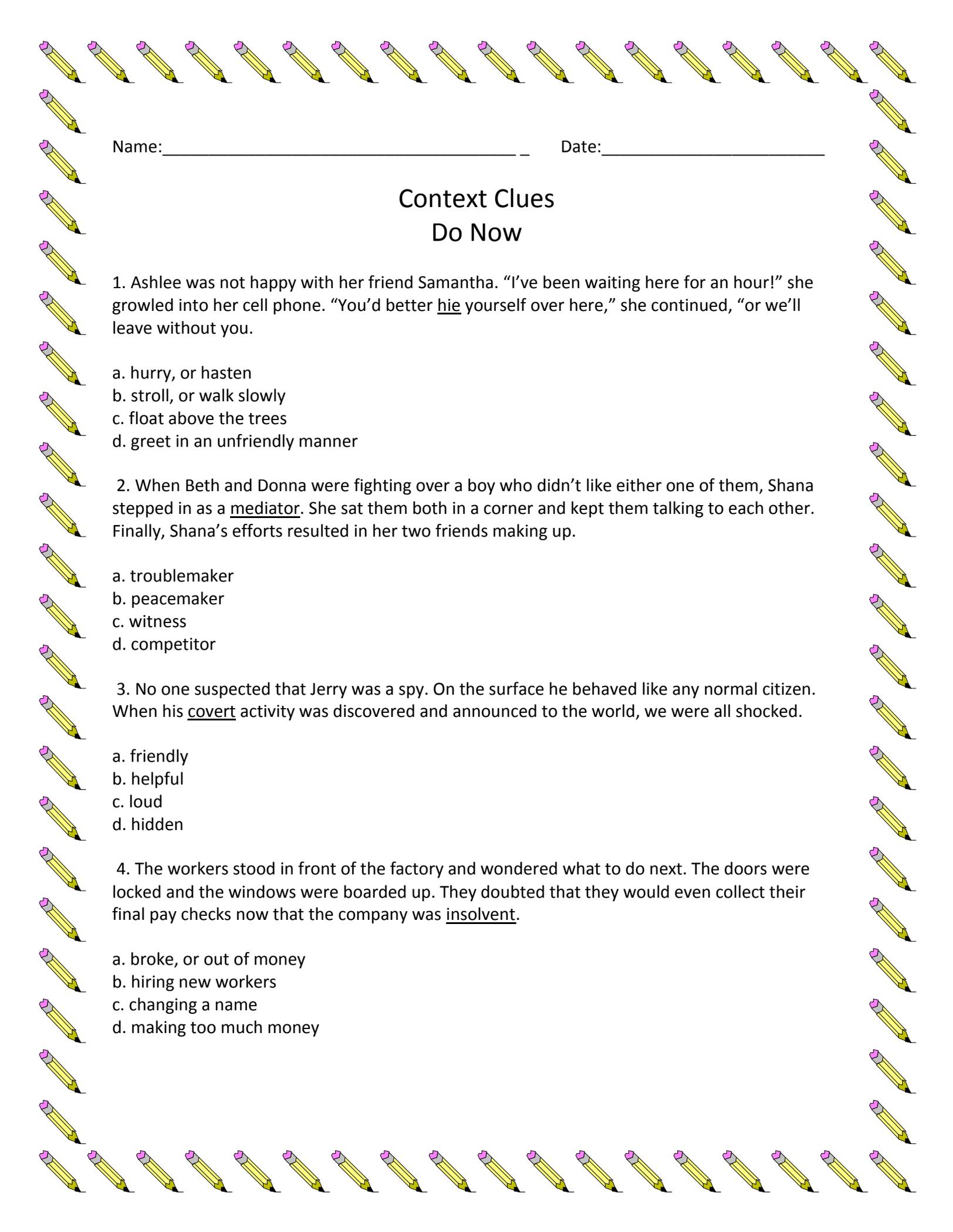
A fabrication is _____.

- a. made of cloth
- b. full of long words
- c. funny
- d. fake

4. The reporter insisted that the letter he used was **authentic**. He said that he had shown it to many experts before he used it in his story.

When something is authentic, it's _____.

- a. genuine, or real
- b. carefully written
- c. full of tasty worms
- d. very old



Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

1. Ashlee was not happy with her friend Samantha. "I've been waiting here for an hour!" she growled into her cell phone. "You'd better hie yourself over here," she continued, "or we'll leave without you."

- a. hurry, or hasten
- b. stroll, or walk slowly
- c. float above the trees
- d. greet in an unfriendly manner

2. When Beth and Donna were fighting over a boy who didn't like either one of them, Shana stepped in as a mediator. She sat them both in a corner and kept them talking to each other. Finally, Shana's efforts resulted in her two friends making up.

- a. troublemaker
- b. peacemaker
- c. witness
- d. competitor

3. No one suspected that Jerry was a spy. On the surface he behaved like any normal citizen. When his covert activity was discovered and announced to the world, we were all shocked.

- a. friendly
- b. helpful
- c. loud
- d. hidden

4. The workers stood in front of the factory and wondered what to do next. The doors were locked and the windows were boarded up. They doubted that they would even collect their final pay checks now that the company was insolvent.

- a. broke, or out of money
- b. hiring new workers
- c. changing a name
- d. making too much money

Name: _____ Date: _____

Context Clues Do Now

1. Connie is never happy when everyone is getting along. She always instigates fights and then acts like little Miss Innocent.

When you **instigate** something, you _____.

- a. check it out
- b. protect it
- c. get it started
- d. ignore it

2. I like that store. All the employees strive to make the customers feel right at home.

Which word is a synonym of "**strive**"?

- a. complain
- b. try
- c. fail
- d. clean

3. This is a clandestine operation. It is extremely important that no one discovers what you're doing!

A **clandestine** operation is supposed to be _____.

- a. dangerous
- b. harmful
- c. exciting
- d. secret

4. If you don't recover quickly from your condition, it could become chronic. Then you might have to take medicine for the rest of your life.

If something is **chronic**, it _____.

- a. is very painful
- b. won't go away
- c. makes you smell bad
- d. isn't real