

THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE

Vocabulary Study Sheet #1

Using Context Clues to Figure Out a Word's Meaning

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Directions: Choose the answer that provides the best definition for the bold-faced word.

- [Larry looked] like he was recovering from a **perpetual** cold.
A. never-ending B. life-threatening C. unnoticeable D. very loud
- "Where you living?"
"Maple Hill estates." His answers were quick and **perfunctory**.
A. very loud B. showing little interest or care C. whispering D. impolite
- "Thanks, man. I'll get this back to you tomorrow," [Funky said.]
"No problem," Larry said **indifferently**, shrugging his shoulders.
A. showing little interest or care B. angrily C. happily D. in a wailing voice
- [Mark asks Larry what he thinks about what he says in class.]
"Oh, it's okay, I guess. Some of it's pretty funny." Larry answered with almost a blank expression. He was always so **noncommittal**.
A. emotional B. sad C. trying to be your friend D. not revealing what you think
- [Mark is trying to borrow some money from Larry.]
"See, it's not for me, but I need it. It's for a present, I mean. Well, I need... uh... uh," Mark was **stammering** with embarrassment.
A. speaking with halts and repetitions B. speaking in a loud voice
C. speaking barely above a whisper D. speaking in a monotone
- "Okay, but I have stuff to do so I don't have a lot of time," Larry said, opening the door wider and **beckoning** them to come in.
A. pushing B. writing C. signaling D. shouting at
- What he saw, however, didn't tell him anything. Wherever Larry was storing all his **paraphernalia**, it wasn't in his locker.
A. drugs B. secret possessions C. food D. personal junk
- "About what? What are you trying to say." Larry's impatience was **morphing** into anger... Larry paused and winced as if he had a migraine headache just beginning...
A. changing B. changing C. changing D. changing *(Is this one easy enough?)*
- [Mark's thinking of Sarah.] She'd be **gobsmacked**, he knew, by the present.
A. disappointed B. super surprised C. offended D. horrified
- At lunchtime Larry's locker opened the first time the boys tried it. There was hardly anyone else in the hall, which gave the locker's opening creak an **ominous** quality.
A. beautiful B. threatening C. peaceful D. warlike