Class 7 – Vocabulary Worksheet 3

Unknown Words in Context

Instructions

Read the text carefully. **Do not use a dictionary while reading for the first time.**

1. Underline or write down **all the words you do not know**.
2. Try to **guess their meanings from the context**.
3. Complete the exercises.
4. Finally, use a dictionary to check your guesses and write the correct meanings.

A. Reading Text – The Secret Garden

When twelve-year-old Leo moved to a new town, he missed his old friends terribly. His new house was comfortable, but the neighbourhood seemed **unfamiliar** and rather quiet. One afternoon, while exploring the area, Leo discovered a small gate hidden behind a **thick** hedge.

The gate was rusty and covered with **ivy**, but it was not locked. Leo pushed it open and stepped into a **neglected** garden. Tall grass covered the paths, and colourful flowers grew wildly along the walls. In the middle of the garden stood a **crumbling** stone fountain. Although the place looked forgotten, Leo thought it was beautiful.

As he walked around, he noticed a wooden bench underneath a large tree. On the bench lay a **weathered** notebook. Its cover was scratched, and several pages were missing. Leo opened it **cautiously** and discovered that someone had written about the garden many years earlier.

The writer described the garden as a place where people could come to read, think and escape from their busy lives. Leo became **fascinated** by the story. He wondered who had written the notebook and why the garden had been abandoned.

Suddenly, Leo heard a noise behind him. He turned around and saw an elderly woman standing near the gate. She looked **startled** when she saw him.

“I used to come here when I was a child,” she said with a smile. “My grandfather looked after this garden. We spent many afternoons here.”

Leo showed her the notebook. The woman became **delighted**.

“I thought it had disappeared years ago!” she exclaimed.

Together, they walked around the garden. The woman told Leo stories about the people who had once visited the place. She explained that the garden had gradually become **overgrown** after her grandfather had died.

Leo had an idea. “Perhaps we could clean it up,” he suggested.

The woman looked at him **hopefully**. “Perhaps we could.”

Over the next few weeks, Leo and the woman worked together. They removed weeds, cleaned the fountain and repaired the old bench. Some of Leo’s new classmates joined them too. Slowly, the forgotten garden became a welcoming place again.

Leo realised that he had found more than an old garden. He had found a new friend, a connection to the past and a place where he finally felt at home.

B. My Unknown Words

Write down the words **you personally do not know** from the text.

No.	Unknown word	My guess	Correct meaning
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____

8. _____ _____ _____
   _ _ _
9. _____ _____ _____
   _ _ _
10. _____ _____ _____
    _ _ _

C. Guess the Meaning from Context

Try to understand the meaning **without using a dictionary**.

1. **unfamiliar**
   → _____
2. **neglected**
   → _____
3. **crumbling**
   → _____
4. **weathered**
   → _____
5. **cautiously**
   → _____
6. **fascinated**
   → _____
7. **startled**
   → _____
8. **delighted**
   → _____
9. **overgrown**
   → _____
10. **hopefully**
    → _____

D. Match the Words and Meanings

1. unfamiliar
2. neglected

3. cautious
4. fascinated
5. startled
6. delighted
7. overgrown
8. weathered
9. crumbling
10. ivy

a. very happy
b. covered with plants that have grown too much
c. surprised suddenly
d. not known or recognised
e. a climbing plant that grows on walls and trees
f. very interested in something
g. damaged or worn by time and weather
h. not looked after properly
i. careful to avoid danger or mistakes
j. slowly breaking apart or falling down

E. Choose the Correct Word

1. The old building was **crumbling / delighted**, so nobody lived there anymore.
2. Emma was **fascinated / overgrown** by the story about the mysterious island.
3. The garden had become **neglected / cautious** after nobody looked after it for years.
4. The sudden loud noise **startled / weathered** the baby.
5. The walls were covered with **ivy / fountain**.
6. I was **delighted / unfamiliar** when my friend gave me a birthday present.
7. We walked **cautiously / crumbling** across the icy bridge.
8. The old photograph looked **weathered / fascinated** after many years.

F. Find the Word in the Text

Find a word from the text that means:

1. **not known or familiar** → _____
2. **not looked after** → _____
3. **very interested in something** → _____

4. **very happy** → _____
5. **surprised suddenly** → _____
6. **grown too much** → _____
7. **carefully** → _____
8. **slowly falling apart** → _____

G. True or False?

Write **True** or **False**.

1. Leo had recently moved to the town. _____
2. The garden was in perfect condition. _____
3. Leo found an old notebook. _____
4. The notebook belonged to Leo's grandfather. _____
5. An elderly woman knew about the garden. _____
6. The woman had visited the garden as a child. _____
7. Leo decided to keep the garden a secret. _____
8. Some of Leo's classmates helped clean the garden. _____
9. The garden became a welcoming place again. _____
10. Leo still felt completely alone at the end of the story. _____

H. Answer in Complete Sentences

1. Why did Leo enter the garden?

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2. What did Leo find on the bench?

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3. Why was the elderly woman happy when she saw the notebook?

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4. Why had the garden become overgrown?

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5. How did Leo and the woman improve the garden?

6. What did Leo gain from discovering the garden?

I. Vocabulary in Your Own Sentences

Choose **8 new words** from the worksheet and write your own sentences.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

J. Challenge – Replace the Simple Word

Replace the word in brackets with a **better vocabulary word** from the text.

1. The garden was **(not looked after)** for many years.
   → _____
2. Leo was **(very interested)** in the notebook.
   → _____
3. The old building was **(falling apart)**.
   → _____

4. She was **(very happy)** to see her old notebook.
   → _____
5. Leo opened the notebook **(carefully)**.
   → _____
6. The garden was **(covered with too many plants)**.
   → _____

Final Task

Choose **5 words you learned today** and write a short paragraph of **60–80 words** using all five words.