## READING I Meeting 12

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## Word Meanings from Context

The United States has a new president. Americans are hopeful that George W. Bush will succeed in dealing with some of the major problems that our nation faces. Some feel that the task will be made extremely difficult by the controversial way that the election ended. Others are very confident that our new leader is a man who will bring people together to get things done.

President Bush’s top priority will be to improve education in our country. He is determined to see that no child will ever fail. He believes that local school districts should decide how to meet national standards. The president insists that parents should have greater choices about which schools their kids attend. He will work hard to find areas of agreement between the opposing parties so that important education reforms will become law.

*1. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “important”?*

*2. Which word in the selection is an antonym of “succeed”?*

*3. Which word in the selection means to make better?*

*4. Use a word from the selection to complete the following sentence.*

 *The Giants and the Ravens will be the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ teams in the Super Bowl.*

*5. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “nation”?*

*6. Which word in the selection means the rank (place in order) of importance?*

*7. Which word in the selection means having a lot of disagreement.*

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## Using Context - Antonyms

***Use the context of the selections to identify antonyms.***

Megan was determined to finish her homework before bedtime. She still had to start her math assignment; it would take at least an hour to complete. She sighed and thought, “I’ve been working really hard since right after dinner!”

 *1. Which word in the paragraph is an antonym of “complete”?*

 *2. Which word in the paragraph is an antonym of “before”?*

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There are some very different opinions about the outcome of the presidential election. James insists that Al Gore really won the election and that the U.S. Supreme Court took it away from him. He didn’t have the same kind of objections when the Florida Supreme Court ruled for his candidate. Is James right, or is he just a sore loser?

 In my opinion, the final decision was correct. The Supreme Court of the United States ruled against a very

bad and unequal process. Votes weren’t being counted, they were being assigned to people who hadn’t cast

legal votes. George W. Bush was the true winner of the presidential election.

*3. Which word in the selection is an antonym of “same”?*

*4. Which word in the selection is an antonym of “against”?*

*5. Which word in the selection is an antonym of “loser”?*

 Harold is a hard worker who helps our company succeed. We would be well advised to pay

him more money before some other corporation snatches him away. It’s always wise to compensate employees

fairly if you want your business to thrive.

 *1. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “compensate”?*

 *2. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “corporation”?*

 Santa just can’t expect his elves to manufacture all the presents he needs to deliver to good little boys and

girls. That task could never be done in time. The elves do make many of the toys in Santa’s own shop. The rest of

the toys are outsourced to major companies around the world. Santa requires a lot of help to get his job

accomplished.

 3. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “manufacture”?

 4. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “accomplished”?

 5. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “needs”?

 6. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “job”?

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