

Reading Skill: Guessing the meaning of unfamiliar words from context

根据上下文推测词义

《我的表姐》

我的表姐小丽从小就长得丑——尖脸、小眼睛、扁鼻子，还戴着一副大眼镜。走路的时候总是低着头。身边没有多少朋友。

三年前她去国外读书，今年夏天回国休假，我差点儿认不出她了！她的黑发又长又直；眼镜也不见了，一双眼睛亮亮的。丑小鸭变成了白天鹅！

表姐说各个国家的人对美的看法不同，很多外国人觉得她的长相很有个性，很漂亮。找回自信的她，当然和以前大不一样了！

As you read this passage, you may have circled some words that you've never seen before. If this was a text for your exam and you were not allowed to look up a dictionary, how could you understand it? Don't panic! Do some detective work and look carefully at how these unfamiliar words are used in the text, you can figure out what they mean.

Paragraph 1: By simply looking at words “小眼睛”，“走路.....低头” and “没有...朋友”， you know that the word “丑” must be something negative. The verbal phrase “长得+adjective” means “how someone looks physically”. Because her physical appearance is “丑”， that means she has small eyes etc, she is always lowering her head when walking, and has no friends. “丑” must be something opposite of “pretty” .

Task: Now read paragraph 2 and 3 and do your own detective work to guess the meanings of highlighted words.

丑小鸭: pretty bird / ugly bird / ugly duckling / pretty duck

白天鹅: white duck / white bird / white dog / white swan

个性: one man / one student / person / personality

自信: self / letter / believe / self-confidence

Task: Read the text below and guess what 结婚 and 开心 mean:

《我长得像谁？》

我妈妈年轻的时候长得很美，黑黑的眼睛，尖尖的下巴。我的爸爸长得不好看，小眼睛，大方脸，又胖又矮。妈妈比爸爸高很多。我真的不明白他们为什么会结婚，但是他们在一起总是很开心。我长得像爸爸，但是长得还不错。每当人家说我长得好看的时候，爸爸总是很高兴。他经常说：“我的女儿长得像我，当然是个大美人！”

妈妈很美，爸爸不好看，我不明白他们为什么……？但是他们在一起很……？

Circle the correct answer:

结婚:

1. be together
2. love each other
3. be married
4. divorce

开心:

1. sad
2. happy
3. angry
4. beautiful