

Name: _____ Date: _____

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read aloud!

Paired Texts Vocabulary

"Could You Become a Mean Meme?"

- 1. aspect (AS-pekt)** *noun*; An aspect is a particular part or feature of something. For example, eating nutritious foods is one aspect of a healthy lifestyle; other aspects include exercising, getting plenty of sleep, and participating in activities that make you happy.

- 2. context (KON-tekst)** *noun*; The context of something is what is happening around it. If your teacher asks you to use context clues to figure out the meaning of an unfamiliar word, he wants you to look at what comes before and after that word for hints about what it means. An article about a past event usually provides some historical context: information about what life was like at the time the event occurred.

You may hear about someone's words being taken *out of context*. This means that what someone says—or part of what someone says—is repeated without explaining the situation in which the words were spoken and making it sound like the person meant something different from what he or she meant. For example, imagine Vince says, "As you can see, I hate puppies" in a joking tone while petting a bunch of puppies. Then Alan tells Stacy that Vince said he hates puppies without explaining that Vince was joking. Vince's words have been taken out of context.

- 3. foolproof (FOOL-proof)** *adjective*; Something that is foolproof is done, made, or planned so well that nothing can go wrong—even a fool couldn't mess it up. If someone on your dodgeball team says he has a foolproof plan for winning, he means that his plan is absolutely sure to work.

- 4. nefarious (nih-FAIR-ee-uhs)** *adjective*; *Nefarious* means "extremely wicked or criminal."

- 5. misstep (MIHS-stehp)** *noun*; A misstep is a poorly judged or clumsy step. For a tightrope walker, one misstep can mean plunging into the net below.

A misstep can also be a slip or error in judgment—an action or decision that is a mistake. Sarah might realize that handing out birthday invitations at recess was a misstep; some kids who weren't invited were upset.

- 6. potential (puh-TEN-shuhl)** *adjective or noun*; As an adjective, *potential* means "possible, or capable of becoming real." If someone is a potential candidate for student body president, he or she *might* become a candidate for student body president but is not a candidate yet. The potential side effects of a medicine—like making you dizzy or tired—are side effects that the medicine *could* cause.

As a noun, *potential* can mean "an ability that can lead to success or excellence." If you have potential as a piano player, you have skills and/or natural talent that can carry you to greatness (if you keep practicing). *Potential* can also mean "the chance or possibility that something will develop and become real." Icy sidewalks increase the potential for slipping and falling on your walk to school.

7. alias (AY-lee-uhs) *noun*; An alias is a false or temporary name. There are lots of reasons someone might use an alias. A screen name that you create for yourself to use on social media is an alias. If John Crane is a criminal, he might use the name Bob North while traveling from place to place to avoid being found by the police.

"Are You Being Watched?"

1. anonymity (an-uh-NIM-ih-tee) *noun*; The adjective *anonymous* (uh-NON-uh-muhs) means "unknown" or "not named or identified." If Michelle receives anonymous flowers on Valentine's Day, the person who sent the flowers did not include a card saying who they are from.

Anonymity is the quality or state of being anonymous—that is, unknown—to most people. A famous athlete might wear a big hat and sunglasses to protect her anonymity while walking down the street.

2. privacy (PRAHY-vuh-see) *noun*; Privacy is the state of being alone or away from other people's view or observation. Privacy gives you freedom from unwanted attention or interference with your personal life. If a friend Facetimes you while you're hanging out with your family, you might go upstairs and take the call from your room so you can have some privacy.

Directions: Below and on the back of this page, list any other words from the articles whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence.

Paired Texts Vocabulary Practice

Directions: Rewrite each sentence below using one of the words in the box. There is one word you will not use.

misstep	aspect	nefarious	alias	anonymity
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1. Rumor has it that Beyoncé makes hotel reservations under the false name "Ingrid Jackson."

2. *The Avengers* is my favorite kind of movie: classic superheroes standing in the way of evil schemes.

3. The actress enjoyed being able to walk around without anyone recognizing her.

4. One part of middle school life that Liz is still getting used to is remembering to bring her gym clothes to school.

Directions: In each pair of boldfaced words, underline the word that best completes the sentence.

5. I found a **foolproof/nefarious**, step-by-step slime recipe online—it even has a how-to video.

6. Adam was shy about dancing in public, but in the **privacy/misstep** of his own room, he was a dancing machine!

7. Today I brainstormed a list of **nefarious/potential** topics for my science fair project.

8. My teacher recommended a book about World War I. She said it helps readers understand the **context/alias** of World War II.

9. Sharing my friend Mike's secret when I had promised not to was a **context/misstep** that nearly ended our friendship.