

from THE PRINCE

COPY MASTER

## Vocabulary Strategy

### USING CONTEXT CLUES

You can sometimes figure out the meaning of an unfamiliar word by examining its context, or the words and phrases surrounding it. In this sentence: *Although Mark is courteous, his brother is often belligerent*, the word *although* is a contrast word. It signals that *belligerent* means the opposite of *courteous*. Other words that signal contrast include *but*, *however*, *not*, *on the other hand*, *or*, and *while*.

**A. Directions:** Use the words that signal contrast in each sentence to help you figure out the boldfaced word's meaning. Write the meaning of the boldfaced word.

1. He was a wealthy noble, but he dressed like a member of the **hoi polloi**.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Caffeine wakes people up, while some antihistamines have a **narcotic** effect.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Is the material **porous**, or does it prevent water from getting in?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Although he seemed **ebullient** at the award, he was actually a bit depressed.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. She loves the big city; however, her husband prefers a more **bucolic** lifestyle.

\_\_\_\_\_

**B. Directions:** Complete each sentence with a word that shows contrast.

6. She seems very childish, but her sister is quite \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Did the teacher pay attention to you, or did she \_\_\_\_\_ you?

8. The new house seems spacious, not at all \_\_\_\_\_.

9. Although her words seemed hopeful, her expression was \_\_\_\_\_.

10. The actors were professionals; on the other hand, their work in the new play seemed \_\_\_\_\_.