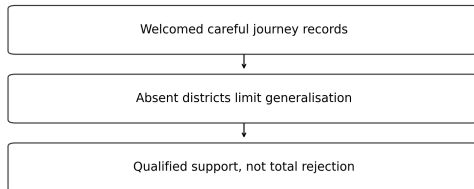


Words in context: meaning, polarity and collocation

Original skill preparation; versioned source scope

Method and conditions



- A word in context must fit the relationship, not just a dictionary entry.
- Sentence meaning; contrast and explanation clues.

Worked method 1

Read and reason

A word in context must fit the relationship, not just a dictionary entry. In “The evidence is thin, so the conclusion remains provisional”, provisional means open to revision. It does not mean temporary employment or physical thinness. Paraphrase before choosing.

Original context 1

Read and reason

Original passage: The reviewers welcomed the survey's careful record of individual journeys, but they gave its city-wide conclusions only qualified support. The routes had been chosen for convenience, and several districts were absent. One reviewer called the record illuminating: it made previously overlooked travel difficulties easier to understand. Another cautioned that extending the conclusions would require a broader sample.

Original context 2

Read and reason

The authors accepted this reservation and proposed a second survey.

Attempt 1.1

Read and reason

Explain qualified, illuminating and reservation in this passage. Quote a clue for each.

Reasoning 1.1

Read and reason

Qualified means limited or conditional, supported by absent districts and a need for broader sampling. Illuminating means revealing or clarifying, supported by difficulties becoming easier to understand. Reservation means a concern or limitation, supported by caution about extending conclusions; it is not a booked seat.

Attempt 2.1

Read and reason

Compare “The reviewers dismissed the survey” with “The reviewers endorsed its conclusions without reservation”. Why does neither fit?

Reasoning 2.1

Read and reason

Dismissed ignores their welcome for its careful records. Endorsed without reservation erases the sampling concern. The attitude combines appreciation of the records with limited support for broader conclusions.

Attempt 3.1

Read and reason

Replace illuminating with revealing, dazzling or visible. Which best preserves meaning and why do the others fail here?

Reasoning 3.1

Read and reason

Revealing preserves the idea that the record makes difficulties understood. Dazzling introduces brilliance or admiration beyond the stated clarification. Visible describes perceptibility, not the survey's explanatory contribution. This is a contextual meaning decision, not a rule that those words are always wrong.

Transfer and limits

Read and reason

Sentence meaning; contrast and explanation clues.

Check yourself

Read and reason

Close the worked reasoning. Explain why the method fits the final transfer task, reconstruct its conclusion, and state a condition that would change your answer. Then check the full reasoning in the reference.