

Context clues are words in a sentence that help you figure out the meaning of unfamiliar words. A context clue may occur in the same sentence as the unfamiliar word or in a sentence immediately before or after it. Read the story of Orpheus and Eurydice below. Some of the words are underlined. Use context clues to determine the meaning of the underlined word. Write what you think each word means and the clue you used to figure it out in the box below

— The Story of Orpheus —



Orpheus was a poet and a musician. When Orpheus sang, or played an instrument, birds fell silent from respect and envy. Flowers turned away from the sun and splayed their petals wide, instead, in Orpheus's direction, to soak up the beauty of his music. From the lowliest stone on the ground to the highest mountain peak, every non-living thing grew ears so as not to miss a note. Orpheus fell in love with the alluring Eurydice whose beauty was unsurpassed by any other woman. When Eurydice was bit by a snake and died, Orpheus was devastated. With a heavy heart he traveled to The Underworld. There, he begged its king, Hades, to allow Eurydice to return home with him. Orpheus sang of his grief to Hades, who was so touched by his music that he succumbed to Orpheus's wishes. Hades told Orpheus that Eurydice could return to the living world, but only on the condition that Orpheus not look back as he and Eurydice left The Underworld. Orpheus, appreciative and relieved, agreed at once. Together, the lovers fled, with Orpheus leading the way. When they were almost back to the upper world, Orpheus, deprived of Eurydice's beauty since her death and overjoyed to be reunited with her, turned back to reach for her hand. In that instant, she disappeared forever.

Word	What does it mean?	What was your clue?
1. Envy	_____	_____
2. Splayed	_____	_____
3. Lowliest	_____	_____
4. Alluring	_____	_____
5. Unsurpassed	_____	_____
6. Devastated	_____	_____
7. Succumbed	_____	_____
8. Condition	_____	_____
9. Appreciative	_____	_____
10. Deprived	_____	_____
11. reunited	_____	_____