

Dual Meaning Builder Answer Key

Sample Responses

1. Beside: The teacher sat beside the principal during the assembly.
Besides: Besides teaching math, the teacher also coaches the debate team.
2. Beside: My backpack is beside my chair in the classroom.
Besides: Besides my backpack, I also brought my art supplies.
3. Beside: The soccer coach stood beside the field to give instructions.
Besides: Besides coaching, he also manages the athletic department.
4. Beside: Our dog sleeps beside the fireplace on cold nights.
Besides: Besides the dog, we also have two cats at home.
5. Beside: The library is beside the city hall downtown.
Besides: Besides books, the library offers free computer classes.
6. Beside: My best friend sat beside me during lunch.
Besides: Besides being my best friend, she's also my lab partner.
7. Beside: The museum stands beside a beautiful garden.
Besides: Besides art exhibits, the museum hosts live performances.

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Reinforces how **beside** expresses spatial relationships while **besides** conveys addition or exception through contrastive writing.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - For struggling learners, model the first pair together and highlight the word clues ("next to" vs. "in addition to").
 - For advanced learners, have them extend each pair into a short paragraph showing context for both meanings.
- **Engagement Idea:**
 - Turn it into a "Meaning Match" game where pairs of students read only one sentence aloud, and others guess whether it used **beside** or **besides**.
- **Extension Activity:**
 - Ask students to write a short narrative using each preposition at least twice, ensuring one expresses position and the other expresses addition.