

Name _____

Analyzing Context Answer Key

1. Sample answer: “Reclusive” means withdrawn or avoiding others. The author implies the artist valued privacy and authenticity more than fame, and perhaps lived with quiet intensity. His isolation adds to his mystique.
2. B – “Prosperous” means successful and thriving. The contrast with the current decay adds emotional weight and suggests a sense of loss or nostalgia.
3. Sample answer: “Circuitous” means indirect or roundabout. The author’s tone is critical—Marcus seems to be avoiding accountability through distraction.