USING CONTEXT

It's important to use a variety of clues when decoding particular words or understanding an overall situation in a foreign language. Context is just one of these clues. Being able to make and confirm predictions about what will happen is a big part of successful language comprehension. You will see that even when you are unable to understand discrete words and phrases, your general knowledge about life and social interaction can provide you with a great deal of information. The exercises below are designed to make you aware of various contextual clues.

Part 1
Olga tells Viktor how to get to the university. Watch the following scene, paying attention to body language and other clues. Which of the following means "to the left?"   To view the scene again, click here: . (To make the movie window larger, drag the lower right-hand corner.)

          А. Напра́во.
          Б. Нале́во.
          В. А пото́м пря́мо.
          Г. Вот здесь, пожа́луйста.

Can you guess what any of the other items mean? _____

_____

Part 2
Watch the following scene (without sound) and try to imagine what our two characters are saying. Then construct, in <u>English or</u> Russian, a plausible dialogue.

Ольга: _____ .

Виктор: _____ .

Ольга:_____ .

Виктор:_____ .

Part 3

Olga wants to know how much she owes Viktor for the taxi ride.

A) Listen closely to this scene again and put the following sentences below into their proper sequence, numbering them 1 - 8 on the far left.

B) Then try to guess the meaning of the Russian text when the English translations are not given.

<u>**RUSSIAN**</u>   <u>**ENGLISH**</u>

_____3.50 (три пятьдеся́т).   3.50.

_____Нет, то́лько де́сять.   _____, only _____.

_____Ско́лько с меня́?   How much do I owe?

_____Пожа́луйста.   _____

_____У вас нет ме́лочи?   You don't have any change?

_____Спаси́бо.   Thank you.

_____Вот, пожа́луйста, 6 (шесть)   Here you go, 6 rubles and
рубле́й и ме́лочь.   change.

_____У меня́ то́лько 10 (де́сять).   I only have 10.