

# Shades of Meaning

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

Some words have similar meanings, but one is **STRONGER** than the others. *Happy* → *glad* → *thrilled* all describe positive feelings, but they are not exactly the same. The strongest word fits the strongest feeling.

## PRACTICE

Pick the word with the **BEST** shade of meaning.

- Which word shows the **STRONGEST** happiness?
  - okay
  - glad
  - happy
  - overjoyed
- Which word shows the **WEAKEST** anger?
  - furious
  - annoyed
  - enraged
  - livid
- Which word fits **BEST**? *After running ten miles, I was* \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a little sleepy
  - exhausted
  - kind of tired
  - rested
- Which word fits **BEST**? *When I lost my pencil, I was* \_\_\_\_\_.
  - furious
  - annoyed
  - devastated
  - heartbroken



5. Order these from WEAKEST to STRONGEST: *chilly, freezing, cool, cold*.
- A. cool, chilly, cold, freezing
  - B. freezing, cold, chilly, cool
  - C. cold, cool, freezing, chilly
  - D. chilly, freezing, cool, cold
6. Which word shows the STRONGEST surprise?
- A. interested
  - B. surprised
  - C. amazed
  - D. shocked
7. Which word BEST replaces *said* for someone whispering?
- A. yelled
  - B. shouted
  - C. murmured
  - D. screamed
8. Which word BEST replaces *said* for someone who is angry?
- A. whispered
  - B. snapped
  - C. mumbled
  - D. asked
9. Pick the BEST word: *The kitten was so small that we \_\_\_\_\_ over its tiny paws.* (gasped / glanced / glared / giggled)
- Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Pick a feeling. Write THREE words for it from weakest to strongest. Example: happy → cheerful → overjoyed.

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## Answer Keys

- 1  A  B  C  D
- 2  A  B  C  D
- 3  A  B  C  D
- 4  A  B  C  D
- 5  A  B  C  D

- 6  A  B  C  D
- 7  A  B  C  D
- 8  A  B  C  D
- 9
- 10

### Explanations

1. D	Overjoyed > happy > glad > okay. The strongest word wins.
2. B	Annoyed is mild. Furious, enraged, and livid are very strong.
3. B	Ten miles → exhausted is the strongest fit. The others are too mild or opposite.
4. B	Losing a pencil is a small problem → mild annoyance. The others are too strong.
5. A	Cool → chilly → cold → freezing. The others scramble the order.
6. D	Shocked > amazed > surprised > interested.
7. C	Murmured = quiet speech. The others are loud.
8. B	Snapped = sharp, angry speech. The others fit other moods.
9.	<b>Answer:</b> gasped or giggled (either fits) Gasped = strong surprise; giggled = light laughter. Both fit something cute and small. Glanced/glared do not fit the meaning.
10.	<b>Answer:</b> Examples: tired → exhausted → wiped out. OR cold → freezing → arctic. Any three words on the same feeling in increasing intensity.



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