Shades of Meaning: Intensity

Synonyms and other groups of words used to describe similar ideas often have small but important differences in meaning. Using the most accurate word makes your ideas clearer and your writing more descriptive.

One common difference in meaning is intensity, or how strong or forceful an action or emotion is.

example: Someone **happy** feels content and generally pleased.

Someone **delighted** is very pleased, often about a specific thing.

Someone **ecstatic** is happy beyond reason or self-control.

Read each set of words. Then write the words on the lines in the correct order from least intense to most intense.

← least intense

most intense -----



Preview

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- **5.** damp, soaked, wet
- **6.** stroll, march, walk
- 7. fantastic, acceptable, great
- **8.** gorgeous, beautiful, cute
- **9.** chip, break, shatter
- **10.** sob, weep, sniffle

ANSWER KEY

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