Vocabulary Skill Check

Grade 7 · Shades of meaning · Try 2

Name or code _____ Date _____

Read each passage. Circle the letter that gives the best meaning in that passage.

Passage 1

The family wanted to finish painting the community stage before the evening performance. A younger cousin asked to climb a tall ladder so the work could go faster.

Although the others urged her to hurry, Saira, the oldest cousin, would not allow anyone to use the ladder without the agreed adult supervision. Repeated pressure did not change the condition she had set.

A paint tray stood beside the entrance. She asked the cousin to help prepare brushes on the ground while they waited. When the supervising adult arrived, the group resumed work and completed the highest part of the stage before the audience began gathering outside. Saira was **unyielding** about the safety arrangement.

1. What does the writer's choice of "unyielding" suggest about the attitude or approach described?

Circle ONE letter.

A refusing to bend a position under pressure

B uncertain about which rule should apply

C flexible about every request for a change

D cruel because of a desire to embarrass others

Passage 2

Tenzin was offered the lead role in the community play, a part he had admired since the first rehearsal. He felt **ambivalent** about the offer.

Accepting it would also mean missing several evenings with a visiting cousin. The director left a copy of the script on a chair.

He wanted the challenge of the role and felt disappointed at the thought of losing time with his cousin. The same decision brought genuine excitement and genuine regret.

Tenzin carried the script home instead of answering at once. He planned to discuss the rehearsal schedule with his family, hoping that understanding the practical details would help him decide what mattered most during the short visit.

2. What does the writer's choice of "ambivalent" suggest about the attitude or approach described?

Circle ONE letter.

A indifferent because neither choice matters

B feeling attraction and unease about one choice

C certain that only one choice is acceptable

D confused because the available information is unreadable

Passage 3

Tariq had failed to complete his first long-distance walk because his pack was uncomfortable and his training had been rushed. He returned home disappointed, but he still wanted to make the journey.

A route map hung above his desk. By the following morning, Tariq was **resolute**.

He remained determined to finish the walk, although he knew he would need months of preparation and better advice. A difficult first attempt had changed his plan without removing his commitment to the goal.

He asked an experienced neighbor to help him improve his training schedule. Together they selected shorter practice routes and discussed what he could learn from the point where he had turned back.

3. What does the writer's choice of "resolute" suggest about the attitude or approach described?

Circle ONE letter.

A unreasonably attached to a plan that cannot work

B aggressive toward anyone who asks a question

C steadfast in pursuing a goal despite difficulty

D undecided about whether the goal matters

Passage 4

Yara planned a meal for her cousins with money from helping in a neighbor’s garden. She planned the menu at the kitchen table with her father.

She used stored ingredients and bought only the fresh food they needed. That left enough money for everyone to have a satisfying meal. She checked the number of portions against the guest list and added the fresh fruit her cousins had requested.

A folded shopping bag rested beside her notebook. Her father smiled at her **thrifty** choices.

Yara wrote out the recipe and checked which dishes could be prepared the day before. Her cousins had promised to help set the table when they arrived.

4. What does the writer’s choice of “thrifty” suggest about the attitude or approach described?

Circle ONE letter.

A careless about how resources are used

B economical while still spending on what matters

C unwilling to spend even when something is necessary

D eager to choose the most expensive option

Passage 5

Maya enjoyed talking with her new neighbor about books and music. Her neighbor’s questions eventually began to feel **intrusive**.

At first, she appreciated the friendly interest he showed whenever they met in the hallway. A book she had borrowed lay beside her door.

After she explained that she did not want to discuss her parents' disagreement, he continued pressing her for private details. The attention no longer felt welcome because he ignored a limit she had clearly expressed.

Maya returned the borrowed book and changed the subject to the community concert. Later she spoke with an adult she trusted about how to set boundaries without giving up the conversations she still enjoyed.

5. What does the writer’s choice of “intrusive” suggest about the attitude or approach described?

Circle ONE letter.

A helpful because it answers a request

B curious in a considerate and welcome way

C distant because it avoids all conversation

D pushing into someone’s private concerns

Passage 6

When Leon joined the drama club, he seldom spoke during the noisy conversations before rehearsal. He usually sat near the window, reading his lines while the others discussed their week.

A row of painted masks decorated the wall. His new friend described him as **reserved**.

He offered thoughtful help when someone asked, but revealed his own worries and excitement only after he knew people well. His restraint concerned what he shared about himself, not whether he cared about others.

During rehearsal, Leon noticed a loose piece of scenery and quietly helped secure it. His friend thanked him, then sat beside him during the break without expecting him to explain everything he was thinking.

6. What does the writer's choice of "reserved" suggest about the attitude or approach described?

Circle ONE letter.

A unprepared to contribute anything useful

B eager to share every thought immediately

C careful about expressing personal feelings

D unfriendly and uninterested in other people

Teacher use: ____ / 6