

Word Choice

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. Words that have the same *denotation* are called _____.
A. acronyms
B. antonyms
C. homonyms
D. synonyms
2. When you look up a word in the dictionary, you find its _____.
A. connotation
B. denotation
C. acronym
D. homonym
3. What is the term for the emotions that a word stirs in a reader?
A. synonym
B. denotation
C. connotation
D. acronym
4. You look up synonyms for minimal. Which word do you see?
A. least
B. unclear
C. largest
D. obvious
5. Read the sentence below. The word tranquil has a _____ connotation.
*The baby looked **tranquil** as he slept.*
A. positive
B. negative
6. Read the sentence below. The word dinky has a _____ connotation.
*My mom only let me eat a **dinky** scoop of ice cream.*
A. positive
B. negative

7. Read the sentence below. What is the denotation of the word superior?

*My old computer kept running out of batteries. My new one is **superior**.*

- A. better
- B. worse
- C. positive
- D. negative

8. Read the sentences. What is the difference between the words mortified and embarrassed?

*A. Sam was **mortified** when he was called to come up onstage during the assembly.*

*B. Sam was **embarrassed** when he was called to come up onstage during the assembly.*

- A. "Mortified" is antonym of "embarrassed."
- B. "Embarrassed" is more intense and has more negative connotation than "mortified."
- C. "Mortified" is more intense and has a more negative connotation than "embarrassed."
- D. "Mortified" and "embarrassed" have different denotations.

9. Read the sentences. What is the difference between the words surprised and astounded?

*A. Julie was **surprised** to find out that her grandma was coming for a visit.*

*B. Julie was **astounded** to find out that her grandma was coming for a visit.*

- A. "Surprised" is antonym of "astounded."
- B. "Astounded" is more intense than "surprised" and implies that Julie was even more shocked.
- C. "Surprised" is more intense than "astounded" and implies that Julie was even more shocked.
- D. "Surprised" and "astounded" have different denotations.

10. The denotation is the _____ meaning of a word.

- A. emotional
- B. literal
- C. incorrect
- D. opposite