Name _____ Date _____

Connotation: Words That Mean the Same but Feel Different

Directions: Each question gives you its own sentence or situation. Think about the feeling each word carries, then answer.

1. Ava's family admires the way Grandma reuses glass jars and mends old sweaters instead of buying new ones. Which word describes Grandma with the same admiring feeling?

A. tightfisted B. thrifty C. cheap D. stingy

2. Jordan's little sister keeps asking who he is texting and reads over his shoulder, and it annoys him. Which word shows Jordan's annoyed feeling about his sister?

A. nosy B. curious C. interested D. inquiring

3. Read this sentence: "The scrawny puppy shivered in the corner of the shelter." What feeling does the word *scrawny* add?

A. It makes the puppy seem like a small breed that will never grow.

B. It makes the puppy seem strong and well fed.

C. It makes the puppy seem weak and in need of care.

D. It makes the puppy seem graceful and healthy.

4. Coach Rivera called Maya *determined* because she kept practicing her serve after everyone else had gone home. If he had called her *stubborn* instead, how would the sentence usually come across?

A. It would mean that Maya stopped practicing her serve.

B. It would mean the same thing and give the same feeling.

C. It would make the coach sound even prouder of Maya.

D. It would sound like a complaint about Maya instead of praise.

5. A sports reporter wants to praise a runner who is very thin and fit. Which two words should the reporter use? Select two.

☐ A. bony ☐ B. skeletal ☐ C. lean

☐ D. gangly ☐ E. slender

6. The owner of a bakery is writing a sign to bring customers inside. Which sign makes the smell sound inviting?

A. Come in and enjoy the aroma of fresh cinnamon rolls!

B. Come in and enjoy the reek of fresh cinnamon rolls!

C. Come in and enjoy the stink of fresh cinnamon rolls!

D. Come in and enjoy the stench of fresh cinnamon rolls!

7. Two friends describe the same classmate, who always shares his opinions in class. Priya calls him *confident*. Leo calls him *arrogant*. What does Leo's word choice show?

A. Leo has a negative opinion of the classmate, while Priya's word is positive.

B. Leo and Priya feel exactly the same way about him.

C. Leo thinks the classmate is shy and quiet.

D. Leo admires the classmate even more than Priya does.

8. The art teacher loved Sofia's painting of a purple tree with clocks for leaves, so she hung it in the front hall. Which word would clearly praise the painting's unusual design?

A. odd B. unique C. strange D. weird

9. Each sentence tells how Mateo walked to the front office. Which sentence shows that he was angry?

A. Mateo stomped down the hall to the front office.

B. Mateo trudged down the hall to the front office.

C. Mateo tiptoed down the hall to the front office.

D. Mateo strolled down the hall to the front office.

10. Read this short description of a park:

"The park was quiet that afternoon. Ducks floated across the pond, and an old man dozed on a bench in the sun."

Which last sentence fits the feeling of the description?

A. A breeze drifted through the trees. B. A breeze tore through the trees.

C. A breeze whipped through the trees. D. A breeze roared through the trees.