

LO: To order words according to shades of meaning.

FACT: Did you know that Inuit people have over 300 words for snow? **Why** do you think that is?

Although there may be many different words for the same thing, there are usually slight differences in meaning. For example, ‘**cross**’ and ‘**furious**’ both mean angry, but ‘**furious**’ means more angry than ‘**cross**’ does.

Read these lists of words carefully. You need to put them in order according to their meaning. **Ask yourself** ‘Which word has the strongest meaning? Which has the weakest meaning?’ **Write** the weakest words first.

1. Grumpy, cross, furious
2. Eat, gobble, nibble
3. Sip, swig, swallow, gulp
4. Wreck, destroy, damage
5. Shining, sparkling, glittering, dazzling
6. Pretend, fake, phoney
7. Boring, dull, tedious, uninteresting.
8. Lump, particle, speck, chunk
9. Great, big, enormous, gigantic
10. Awake, sleepy, tired, asleep



Task 2:

Complete these sentences with the strongest word in each set.

1. John the door loudly.
[shut, slammed, banged]
2. The towels were _____.
[hairy, scratchy, rough]
3. May’s weather was _____.
[scorching, hot warm]
4. “What do you think you are doing?” _____ the referee.
[whispered, snapped, yelled]
5. Joe was _____ when his puppy went missing.
[sad, depressed, tearful, heartbroken]

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Task 3

Make a list of all the words you know that mean 'happy'.

Write them in order from weakest to strongest.

Task 4

Use some of your words to fill in the spaces in these sentences. Make sure you choose the most appropriate word for the sentence. **[you are only allowed to use 'happy' once!]**

1. Reg looked out of the window and was _____ to see a thin layer of snow.
2. Mary was absolutely _____ when she won the lottery.
3. Max wasn't very _____ when he realised he'd left his homework at home.
4. Mrs Brown was _____ when she watched her son in the school play.
5. Mr Alan was _____ with the school report.
6. After twenty years, John was _____ to see his brother from Australia.