

Name _____ Date _____

Word Choice

Directions: Choose the most effective word or phrase within the context suggested by the sentence(s).

- After an exhausting all-nighter to finish Professor Clark's research paper, we found his dull lecture the next morning _____.
 - uplifting
 - excruciating
 - inspiring
- After Betsy's last purchase of a lemon—and the dealership's unwillingness to repair problems that she thought the warranty covered—Betsy _____ the contract for her new car before she signed it.
 - scrutinized
 - skimmed
 - glanced at
- Walter winced as he tasted the sauce, shook his head, and sighed. His _____ for Loretta's cooking was obvious.
 - horror
 - excitement
 - disdain
- The students wished Professor Davis gave _____ directions for essays. Instead, the assignment sheets are pages long and chocked full of requirements.
 - complicated
 - wide
 - succinct
- Sara was filled with _____, for she had emailed Professor Carson to explain that she was too ill to attend class but then ran into him at the Student Center, a tennis racquet in her hand.
 - trepidation
 - mirth
 - brevity
- Simon had to _____ his cell phone after it rang for the third time in class.
 - relinquish
 - amputate
 - postpone

7. Roger's car holds four people comfortably, but he stuffed nine classmates into the little vehicle. Larissa had difficulty _____ herself from the backseat when they arrived at her house.
- A. modifying
 - B. hovering
 - C. extricating
8. Winston read his essay with a ruler, scrutinizing each line for errors. When he finished, he read it again just as carefully. We found his behavior _____, but teachers loved his control of grammar.
- A. punitive
 - B. redundant
 - C. lackadaisical
9. Larry dyed his hair blue and green and painted his face and torso in the same school colors. In addition, he wore flippers on his feet and hands. When his girlfriend Maria saw his game-day preparations, she gasped and declared them _____.
- A. subdued
 - B. ostentatious
 - C. pedestrian
10. We followed the guide down the stairs to the floor below the lobby. Then we toured the _____ storerooms where the museum kept priceless treasures not on display.
- A. subterranean
 - B. lofty
 - C. incapacitated



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