Top Skills

Writing Skills

For Selective Schools and Scholarship Preparation

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A
FIVE SENSES
PUBLICATION

SAMPLE

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SAMPLE

*1. Use strong **adjectives** to exactly describe your characters in your stories. Choose the best **adjective** from the word bank to complete each sentence.*

generous	reliable	stubborn	bashful	amiable
elegant	diligent	gruff	loyal	moody

a. The detective regarded the young man as a _____ witness because his eyesight was very keen.

b. Susan is a _____ girl who loathes speaking in public.

c. My aunt always looks very _____ in her designer clothes.

d. A _____ student can count on doing well in exams.

e. The Senator was a _____ man who regularly gave large sums to charity.

f. We expect our friends to be _____ and not to reveal our secrets.

g. Mark can be very _____ and it is impossible to change his mind.

h. His friends become annoyed with him as he could be very _____.

i. Cassie is an _____ person who always has a smile on her face.

j. Grandpa can sometimes seem to be _____ but he is just a shy person.

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*2. Use a **Thesaurus** to find three better words for the **underlined** word in each sentence. Your new words must **match** the ideas in the sentence.*

a. My aunt and uncle from California are <u>nice</u> people.

- _____
- _____
- _____

b. The visitors looked over new building which was very <u>big</u>.

- _____
- _____
- _____

c. Roland was given a severe punishment for a <u>small</u> error.

- _____
- _____
- _____

d. Victor felt relieved after he had finished his <u>hard</u> task.

- _____
- _____
- _____

e. "Mary is a <u>good</u> friend," commented Lucy.

- _____
- _____
- _____

f. They were tired after their <u>big</u> journey.

- _____
- _____
- _____

SAMPLE

*1. A very common mistake in writing, is to change **tenses** of **verbs**. Verbs must be in the **same** tense. Rewrite these sentences so that all the verbs are in **past tense**.*

a. Humming to herself, Lucy brushed her hair and applies lightly perfumed lip gloss.

_____

_____

b. Edward was a frustrating person, and irritates his friends with his constantly changing moods.

_____

_____

c. I am sure that given a chance, the new worker would overcome his nervousness and prove to be a good choice.

_____

_____

d. The composer of this intriguing piece of music has no formal music training, but wrote many memorable songs.

_____

_____

e. Max enjoys chess but found it difficult to find an equal partner.

_____

_____

SAMPLE

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*2. Choose a **stronger verb** from the word bank to complete each sentence.*

regarded	examine	glared	glanced	surveyed
peer	witnessed	notice	gazed	glimpsed
spotted	studied	inspected	stared	watched

a. I tried desperately to _____ around Rose's shoulder.

b. Tom didn't _____ the cat sitting under his chair.

c. Carefully _____ the contract before you sign it.

d. Ellis _____ the arrogant new boy with open dislike.

e. The fan _____ at the rock star with fascination.

f. Alice _____ at the girl who made the unkind remark.

g. We _____ a serious car accident at that intersection.

h. The scientist _____ the virus under the microscope.

i. Mum _____ briefly at the note before signing it.

j. Last night, we _____ an absorbing television drama.

k. The detectives _____ the scene of the crime.

l. The explorers _____ the panorama before them.

m. The witnesses only _____ the mugger as he ran off.

n. I _____ at the exam question with mounting horror.

o. After an anxious night, we _____ the rescue helicopter.

SAMPLE

*1. Choose the correctly **spelled** word in each set of brackets.*

a. If they make us a good offer for the car, we will (except / accept) it.

b. The school's dance item for the festival was (exiting / exciting).

c. Kassim has been given a new (bicycle / bycycle) for his birthday.

d. The (propellor / propeller) of the light plane was damaged.

e. Don't be (embarrassed / embarassed) when you have to speak in public.

f. The traffic was asked to (proceed / precede) slowly.

g. Divide the papers into two (seperate / separate) bundles.

h. We are doing a project on local (goverment / government).

i. My uncle, Frank, is a well-known (jeweler / jeweller).

j. You need to do this task (immediatly / immediately).

k. Make sure you include enough (infermation / information) in your report.

l. The boy was knocked (unconscious / unconsious) in the fall.

m. The spy tried to (dissapear / disappear) in the crowd.

n. The (mechinary / machinery) ground to a halt.

o. Were you (successfull / successful) in your entrance test?

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ANSWERS

Unit 1: **1**.a. reliable b. bashful c. elegant d. diligent e. generous f. loyal g. stubborn h. moody i. amiable j. gruff **2**. Suitable words are – a. pleasant / charming / interesting b. massive / spacious / grand c. slight / unimportant / trivial d. difficult / tiring / lengthy e. loyal / dependable / reliable f. extensive / difficult / exciting

Unit 2: **1**. a. Humming to herself, Lucy brushed her hair and applied lightly perfumed lip gloss. b. Edward was a frustrating person and irritated his friends with his constantly changing moods. c. I was sure that given a chance, the new worker would overcome his nervousness and prove to be a good choice. d. The composer of this intriguing piece of music had no formal training but wrote many memorable songs. e. Max enjoyed chess but found it difficult to find an equal partner. **2**. a. peer b. notice c. examine d. regarded e. gazed f. glared g. witnessed h. studied i. glanced j. watched k. inspected l. surveyed m. glimpsed n. stared o. spotted

Unit 3: **1**. a. accept b. exciting c. bicycle d. propeller e. embarrassed f. proceed g. separate h. government i. jeweller j. immediately k. information l. unconscious m. disappear n. machinery o. successful

2. The children woke early on the day of **their** hike. Quickly, they dressed, gathered together their **equipment** and ate a hasty **breakfast** of **porridge** and toast. **They** were bubbling over with **excitement** at the thought of their long-**planned** trip,
"**It's** a **perfect** day for our **excursion** to the National Park," **exclaimed** Luke, as they departed, **waving** to **their** mother. The **weather** was clear and fine, and **there** was no **sign** of a cloud in the sky. Paul, their teenage **cousin**, who was the leader, kept up a **fierce** pace but the others had no **difficulty** keeping up. After two **kilometres**, they paused beside a **stream** for a **brief** rest before **resuming** their **trek**.

Unit 4: (Suggested answers) **1**. a. At last, the prince journeyed to his homeland once again. b. All night long, the old lady worried about the problem and did not sleep. c. The hikers could not be sure about the best path to take. d. Into the dark cavern, stumbled the little band of travellers. e. The foolish student shouldn't have been there in the first place. f. Setting your goal is necessary for any chance of success. g. The ball struck the goal post and fell to one side. h. Across the park, strolled my brother and his friends.

(Suggested answers.) **2**.a. Deep in thought, he was surprised by the dog's sudden growl.
b. Rushing into the room, I tripped over a chair. c. I saw an ultra-light aircraft soaring across the sky. d. I saw an interesting beetle hidden under a rock. e. He found a bag of money which had been stolen in a robbery. f. I feared that my new top, borrowed by my sister, was lost. g. The boy found a gold ring abandoned in the rubbish tip. h. When I was eating a take-away meal the unusual flavour surprised me. i. As we were sailing across the lake, the moon appeared huge to us.

Unit 7: **1**.a. gruffly b. impolitely c. dishonourably d. extravagantly e. contritely f. copiously g. inconspicuously h. proudly i. sadly j. unmistakably k. peacefully l. smilingly
2. apprehensively, Apparently, sympathetically, well, shrilly, restlessly, momentarily, vacantly, stupidly, often, probably, suddenly, sternly, mockingly, never, slowly.

Unit 8: **1**. a. I think I'd better concentrate on perfecting my skills. b. Robert, as captain, often raises his team's spirit. c. Alanna, a shy girl, would not be a good choice as leader. d. "Isn't Luke going on the excursion?" asked Brian. e. The girls chosen are Lucy, Amand and Josie. f. Please pack sleeping bags, towels and spare clothes. g. "Whose jacket is this?" asked Mrs Walters. h. Suddenly, a roar erupted from the clump of bushes. i. Joshua lives in Sanderson Street, West Launceston. j. We knew, of course, who had painted the signs.

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