

Name _____

Date _____ Answer Key _____

Describe the Difference Between Related Words #2

Some words are similar to each other but have small differences that can change the tone or meaning of a sentence. These small differences are called **shades of meaning**.

For example, **graze** and **devour** both mean to consume food. However, to **graze** is to eat a small amount over an extended period of time, while to **devour** is to take in a large amount of food in a short amount of time.

Explain the difference between the related words in each pair.

1. to **soothe** someone vs. to **appease** someone: **You soothe someone to make them feel better. You appease someone to lessen their anger.**
2. an **assortment** of items vs. a **collection** of items: **An assortment is more mixed and less related. A collection is more related and carefully organized.**
3. an **intriguing** story vs. an **interesting** story: **Intriguing indicates an air of mystery and a desire to know more, while interesting simply means the story is engaging.**
4. going on a **quest** vs. going on a **journey**: **A quest is a trip where you seek something specific, but a journey doesn't require having a specific goal in mind.**
5. a **vague** explanation vs. an **evasive** explanation: **Vague simply means unclear, while evasive indicates that the speaker is intentionally leaving out crucial information.**
6. to **feed** vs. to **nourish**: **Feed simply means to provide with something to eat, while nourish implies care and nurturing, especially to foster growth and well-being.**

Draw pictures to show the difference between the related words below.

a grove	a thicket
Drawings will vary, but a grove should feature a small group of trees without undergrowth.	Drawings will vary, but a thicket should feature a dense growth of shrubbery or small trees.