

Shades of Meaning: Which Word?

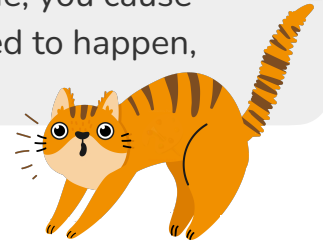
Some words are alike and have small differences in meaning. These differences are called **shades of meaning**. Think about the words **surprise** and **startle**.

Both words mean *to cause something unexpected to happen*, but in different ways.

If you **surprise** someone, you cause something unexpected to happen, usually in a good way.



If you **startle** someone, you cause something unexpected to happen, usually in a bad way.



It's more enjoyable to be surprised.

Directions: Read each question and circle your answer.

1. Who would you rather listen to?

a. someone talking

b. someone complaining

2. Who would you rather have as a friend?

a. someone nosy

b. someone interested

3. Which is slower?

a. someone crawling

b. someone jogging

4. Which would you rather complete?

a. something simple

b. something boring

5. Which takes longer to dry?

a. something wet

b. something soaked

6. Which is more polite?

a. someone staring

b. someone looking

7. Who shows more excitement?

a. someone eager

b. someone ready

8. Which is colder?

a. somewhere chilly

b. somewhere freezing