

Shades of Meaning: Order Words by Intensity

Many words are similar but have subtle differences in meaning. You can think of these differences as **shades of meaning**. When writing, it's important to consider the different shades of meaning between words. Choosing a word that is more precise or descriptive can help you express your ideas more clearly and accurately.

Look at each group of words below. Then put them in order from least intense to most intense.



Ex.	bawl cry whimper	whimper	cry	bawl
1.	disgusting revolting unpleasant			
2.	astounded shocked startled			
3.	agony distress misery			
4.	abundant excessive sufficient			
5.	carelessly casually haphazardly			
6.	delighted ecstatic pleased			
7.	accident disaster mishap			
8.	command instruct tell			
9.	adore appreciate worship			
10.	crucial dire important			