

Vocabulary Strategy

ANALOGIES

Vocabulary **analogies** show similar relationships between pairs of words. You read the following examples as “*diminutive is to mouse as prodigious is to elephant*” and “*submissive is to curtsy as aggressive is to punch*.” In the first analogy, the pairs of words have a size relationship: just as a mouse is diminutive in size, an elephant is prodigious in size. In the second analogy, the relationship is one of example or illustration: just as a curtsy is an example of a submissive act, a punch is an example of an aggressive act.

DIMINUTIVE : MOUSE : : prodigious : elephant

SUBMISSIVE : CURTSY : : aggressive : punch

A. Directions: Circle the word which makes the relationship of the second pair most like the relationship of the pair of words in capital letters. If you are unsure of the meaning of any word here, check a dictionary.

1. CONJECTURE : FACT : : guess : _____
(a) knowledge, (b) chance, (c) certainty, (d) proven
2. ANIMOSITY : HATRED : : affection : _____
(a) hostility, (b) friendship, (c) indifference, (d) greeting
3. DIVERSE : PARALLEL : : contrasting : _____
(a) original, (b) similar, (c) distinct, (d) haphazard
4. MOCK : SNIDE : : praise : _____
(a) irreverent, (b) virulent, (c) honest, (d) amicable
5. FERVENT : WEARY : : enthusiastic _____
(a) fatigued, (b) content, (c) excited, (d) amused

B. Directions: Complete each analogy by filling in the blank. Use a dictionary if you are unsure of the meaning of any word.

6. Posterity is to future as ancestor is to _____
7. Ocean is to immense as puddle is to _____
8. Awful is to stench as pleasant is to _____
9. Razor is to sharp as cacophony is to _____
10. Astute is to shrewd as erudite is to _____