

Name: _____ Date: _____

1E Pick the Winner

anguish / boisterous / capacity / commentary / continuous / cumulative / erupt / factor / inept / intimidate / marvel / maximum / painstaking / restrain / unanimous

Circle the word that best fits into the sentence. Then write a sentence below that uses the word you didn't pick in a meaningful way.

1. Marcus had to get off of the computer at the public library when he reached the **(maximum OR continuous)** amount of time that he's allowed to surf the web.

2. _____
3. Jessica felt that the Fourth of July fireworks display was a **(capacity OR marvel)**.

4. _____
5. When Deion was finally grounded for a month by his parents, it was a result of many **(painstaking OR cumulative)** negative acts.

6. _____
7. Hunter **(erupted OR intimidated)** with excitement when he scored the game-winning soccer goal.

8. _____
9. At tribal council, the voting result was one vote short of **(inept OR unanimous)**, but it was still enough to get rid of the weakest player.

10. _____

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1F Draw the Relationship

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In each grouping of eight words below, draw straight lines between the synonyms (words that mean similar things) and squiggly lines between any antonyms (words that mean nearly opposite things). Every word should have at least one line connected to it. Some may have more.

1

reason	explanation	increasing	commentary
boisterous			calm
	cumulative	factor	

.....

2

everyone agrees	restrain	unanimous	intimidate
erupt			bully
	hold back	explode	

.....

3

comfort	marvel	painstaking	maximum
careless			anguish
	small amount	awesome sight	

.....

4

stopped	amount	clumsy	inept
boisterous			continuous
	capacity	noisy	

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1G Understanding What You Read

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Read the passage below. Then answer the questions.

Early one morning in the spring of 1980, a single event changed the landscape of the northwestern United States. Mount St. (Saint) Helens, an active volcano located in Washington state, erupted. The explosion wasn't a surprise. Scientists had been painstakingly watching the volcano and conducting tests. They knew it was about to blow.

The boisterous eruption that morning came as a result of years of cumulative magma buildup deep within the volcano itself. It was also caused by a small earthquake deep within the ground, which forced the magma and gases up to the top of the volcano.

What happened next? The entire top of Mount St. Helens blew off, sending rocks, lava, and ash everywhere. When the north side of the volcano fell, it resulted in the largest landslide ever recorded in the history of The United States.

Immediately after the volcanic eruption, news crews arrived to provide commentary to the entire world, describing what had just taken place. The newscasters offered safety tips for everyone in the area, because volcanic ash was still falling from the sky like snowflakes. The ash even traveled a maximum distance of 500 miles and rained down on people in Colorado. As the people marveled at the sight of the enormous volcano smoking, rescue teams were busy trying to locate and save the people lost amid the rocks and ash.

In all, the powerful blast killed 57 people and many thousands of animals. Scientists later estimated that the eruption was 27,000 times as powerful as the atomic bombs used in World War II, a reminder to all of us that nature's power is enormous.

Today, Mount St. Helens looks very different than it did before 1980. Where the peak of the volcano once stood, there is now a crater, a hole that stretches over a mile wide. As a result, the volcano is more than a thousand feet shorter than it once was. Mount St. Helens is still active today. In fact, the volcano has erupted 40 times since 1980, but no blast has been even close to the size of that huge explosion that shook the United States.

1. According to the text, Mount St. Helens is

- (A) an inactive volcano in Washington, DC
- (B) a huge mountain in Colorado
- (C) an active volcano in Washington state
- (D) an active volcano in Colorado

2. The explosion in 1980 was

- (A) a surprise to most scientists
- (B) the result of pressure released from an earthquake
- (C) the biggest volcanic explosion the world had ever seen
- (D) more deadly than every natural disaster since

3. In the line that says "ash was still pouring from the sky like snowflakes," why might the author decide to describe the ash using this comparison?

- (A) She wanted to let the reader know it was very cold at the time.
- (B) She wanted to explain that the volcano kicked up lots of snowflakes that fell on the landscape, along with the ash.
- (C) She wanted to let the readers picture the ash falling from the sky, in case they weren't sure what it looked like.
- (D) She always dreamed of being a poet.

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4. Which statement is NOT true?

- (A) Volcanic ash traveled as far as Colorado.
- (B) The TV news helped provide safety information to people.
- (C) The eruption was much stronger than the force of atomic bombs.
- (D) Mount St. Helens killed 57 scientists.

5. The passage is most likely

- (A) a true story written by someone just before they were killed by the volcano
- (B) a made-up story by a talented author
- (C) a report by someone who wants to bomb volcanoes before they can erupt
- (D) a true story written by someone around the year 2007

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1H Thinking Creatively

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Answer each question below. Don't be afraid to think creatively.

1. How could you feel **anguish** and joy at the same time?

2. What do you think is the biggest **factor** for getting good grades in school?

3. Besides the word **commentary**, list two more words that start with "com." Do they relate to *commentary* at all?

4. Briefly describe the idea behind a made-up book called *The **Boisterous** Factor*.

5. Describe a **restraint** on students at school that you wish you could change.

Word Breakdown

The word *painstaking* is pretty interesting. It's really just two words put together: "pains" and "taking." So if you do something *painstakingly*, you are just "taking pains" to do it correctly. You'll do it correctly even if it hurts. The underground rapper C-Rayz Walz uses the word to describe the hip-hop game: "The game is painstaking, I remain ancient."

The word *anguish* comes from an old French word "anguisse," which means "a choking sensation." So when you feel anguish it's almost like feeling you're choking. The rapper Talib Kweli uses the word in his song "Love Language." He notes that his raps are full of love and language, while others rap from "pain and anguish."