Meaning Match

Use each sentence to test a word's meaning.

3.LF.14.a "Determine meaning of words using synonyms in context."

NAME _____ DATE _____

SAME MEANING

Read the sentence to figure out the bold word. Circle SAME if the word after the equal sign could take its place without changing the meaning.

The **sleepy** puppy yawned. sleepy = drowsy?

DIFFERENT MEANING

Circle DIFFERENT if the word after the equal sign would change the sentence's meaning.

The **muddy** boots left tracks. muddy = clean?

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle SAME or DIFFERENT for each item; for Part 2, choose two items and explain how the sentences helped you decide.

1. The **ancient** tree had grown for hundreds of years. ancient = old? SAME DIFFERENT

2. The **silent** room had no sound. silent = quiet? SAME DIFFERENT

3. The **light** box was easy to lift. light = bright? SAME DIFFERENT

4. The **rapid** river rushed past us. rapid = fast? SAME DIFFERENT

5. The **enormous** pumpkin was too big to carry. enormous = huge? SAME DIFFERENT

6. The **glad** child smiled when her friend arrived. glad = happy? SAME DIFFERENT

7. The **sharp** knife cut the apple easily. sharp = dull? SAME DIFFERENT

8. The **empty** basket had nothing inside. empty = full? SAME DIFFERENT

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new example for SAME and one for DIFFERENT; in each, underline the word you are testing and add a possible meaning after an equal sign.

SAME

DIFFERENT

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences using cool with different meanings, and give a synonym for cool in each sentence.

ANSWER KEY # Meaning Match

GRADE 3 · 3.LF.14.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The **ancient** tree had grown for hundreds of years. ancient = old?	**SAME**	Hundreds of years shows that ancient means old.
2	The **silent** room had no sound. silent = quiet?	**SAME**	No sound shows that silent means quiet.
3	The **light** box was easy to lift. light = bright?	**DIFFERENT**	Easy to lift shows that light describes weight, not brightness.
4	The **rapid** river rushed past us. rapid = fast?	**SAME**	Rushed shows that rapid means fast.
5	The **enormous** pumpkin was too big to carry. enormous = huge?	**SAME**	Too big to carry shows that enormous means huge.
6	The **glad** child smiled when her friend arrived. glad = happy?	**SAME**	Smiled shows that glad means happy.
7	The **sharp** knife cut the apple easily. sharp = dull?	**DIFFERENT**	A knife that cuts easily is sharp, not dull.
8	The **empty** basket had nothing inside. empty = full?	**DIFFERENT**	Nothing inside shows that empty does not mean full.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **SAME**: The cheerful singer smiled all morning. cheerful = joyful?
- **DIFFERENT**: The wet towel dripped on the floor. wet = dry?

Challenge: The cool breeze felt chilly on my face. The cool magic trick was amazing.

For Part 2, a student might explain that “hundreds of years” supports old for item 1. For item 3, “easy to lift” points to weight, so bright does not fit.