

Word Power Sort

Notice how words can sound stronger or milder.

5.RV.1.H "Distinguish shades of meaning among verbs and adjectives."

NAME _____

DATE _____

MORE INTENSE

An intense verb or adjective shows a stronger action, feeling, or quality. It has more force than a milder word.

The audience roared.

MILDER

A mild verb or adjective shows a gentler action, feeling, or quality. It has less force than an intense word.

The audience clapped.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle INTENSE or MILD for each item, then choose two items and explain what makes each word show more or less intensity.

1. furious

INTENSE

MILD

2. chilly

INTENSE

MILD

3. tiptoed

INTENSE

MILD

4. stomped

INTENSE

MILD

5. starving

INTENSE

MILD

6. hungry

INTENSE

MILD

7. freezing

INTENSE

MILD

8. angry

INTENSE

MILD

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 INTENSE example and one new MILD example.

INTENSE _____

MILD _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about the same event. Use an INTENSE word in one sentence and a MILD word in the other.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	furious	INTENSE	Furious is a stronger feeling of anger than angry.
2	chilly	MILD	Chilly describes a less severe cold than freezing.
3	tiptoed	MILD	Tiptoed shows a gentle, quiet way of walking.
4	stomped	INTENSE	Stomped shows a forceful way of walking.
5	starving	INTENSE	Starving is a stronger condition of hunger than hungry.
6	hungry	MILD	Hungry shows less need for food than starving.
7	freezing	INTENSE	Freezing describes stronger cold than chilly.
8	angry	MILD	Angry is a less intense feeling than furious.

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)

- **INTENSE:** The volcano erupted.
- **MILD:** The leaves drifted.

Challenge: The crowd roared after the winning goal. The crowd clapped after the winning goal.

Accept reasonable student examples when the word clearly shows a stronger or gentler shade of meaning. For Part 2, students should name the word and explain its level of force, feeling, or quality.