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.

ANSWER KEY # Word Power Sort

GRADE 5 · 5.RV.1.H

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