

Intensifying Adjectives and Qualifiers

Part 1: Collocation Matching

Instructions: Strong adjectives cannot be modified by ordinary intensifiers like *very*. Match each strong adjective on the left with its correct extreme modifier on the right.

1. _____ Exhausted
2. _____ Astonished
3. _____ Impeccable
4. _____ Devastating
5. _____ Ridiculous

- A. Utterly
- B. Completely
- C. Absolutely
- D. Totally
- E. Perfectly

Part 2: Error Correction

Instructions: Each of the following sentences contains an error regarding the pairing of adjectives and qualifiers or the misuse of grading scales. Identify the mistake and rewrite the sentence correctly.

1. **Sentence:** The view from the penthouse suite was very gorgeous, taking our breath away.
○ **Correction:** _____
2. **Sentence:** His proposal for the restructuring of the corporate budget was utterly sensible and practical.
○ **Correction:** _____
3. **Sentence:** We were completely terrified when the turbulence hit mid-flight.
○ **Correction:** _____
4. **Sentence:** The legal brief was a bit incomplete, missing crucial citations from the supreme court.
○ **Correction:** _____

Part 3: Transformation and Nuance

Instructions: Rewrite the sentences using an appropriate advanced qualifier and a strong (ungradable) adjective that captures the exact meaning of the original phrase in parentheses.

1. **Original:** The noise coming from the street construction outside was extremely loud. (Use: *deafening*. Deafening means a sound is extremely loud or earsplitting, making it hard or impossible to hear other noises.)
 - **Rewrite:** _____
2. **Original:** Her performance in the leading role was very impressive and nearly flawless. (Use: *flawless*. Flawless means having no defects, faults, or mistakes.)
 - **Rewrite:** _____
3. **Original:** The scale of the humanitarian crisis in the region is very massive. (Use: *colossal*. Colossal means extremely large, gigantic, or of a scale approaching the stupendous.)
 - **Rewrite:** _____
4. **Original:** After running the marathon in 40-degree heat, I felt extremely tired. (Use: *shattered / exhausted*. Shattered means broken into many small pieces, or feeling completely exhausted, shocked, and upset.)
 - **Rewrite:** _____

Part 4: Contextual Cloze

Instructions: Fill in the gaps with a suitable qualifier (e.g., *virtually*, *deeply*, *completely*, *utterly*, *slightly*) or intensifying adjective. Choose the option that best fits the register of the text.

The quarterly financial review proved to be a (1) _____ disappointment for investors. Management had promised growth, but the reality was (2) _____ different from their optimistic projections. While the logistics sector showed (3) _____ improvement, international sales were (4) _____ nonexistent due to unexpected trade tariffs. Analysts described the CEO's quarterly defense as (5) _____ absurd, noting that the company's long-term survival now looks (6) _____ perilous.