

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Hemingway vs. House Cats: The 12th Grade Adjective Showdown

Assess basic recall of descriptive, quantitative, and demonstrative modifiers within complex literary and philosophical contexts.

1. In the phrase 'the burgeoning geopolitical crisis,' which word functions as a descriptive adjective characterizing the state of the noun?

Answer: B) Burgeoning

'Burgeoning' is a descriptive adjective that indicates the crisis is growing or expanding rapidly.

2. True or False: In a research paper discussing 'that specific methodology,' the word 'that' serves as a demonstrative adjective.

Answer: A) True

'That' is a demonstrative adjective because it specifies which particular methodology is being referenced.

3. Choose the most appropriate quantitative adjective to complete this sentence reflecting a state of scarcity: 'The colony collapsed after a ____ winter left them with no grain.'

Answer: C) Meager

'Meager' is a quantitative adjective that specifically denotes a lack of quantity or substance.

4. Identify the superlative adjective used to evaluate architectural merit in the following sentence: 'The cathedral's nave was the loftiest achievement of the Gothic era.'

Answer: B) Loftiest

'Loftiest' is a superlative adjective, indicated by the '-est' suffix, denoting the highest degree of height.

5. In the SAT-level sentence, 'Some contemporary critics argue the prose is archaic,' the word 'some' is a quantitative adjective.

Answer: A) True

'Some' describes an indefinite quantity of critics, making it a quantitative adjective.

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6. Which comparative adjective correctly completes this analysis of two legal precedents? 'The 1954 ruling was ____ in scope than the 1896 decision.'

Answer: C) Broader

'Broader' is the correct comparative form used to compare the scope of two specific things.

7. In the phrase 'the former president and the latter candidate,' which word acts as a sequential demonstrative adjective?

Answer: A) Former

'Former' is a demonstrative adjective used to specify order or sequence in high-level writing.

8. Identify the descriptive adjective in this existentialist quote: 'Man is condemned to be free; because once thrown into the world, he is responsible for everything he does.'

Answer: A) Responsible

'Responsible' is a descriptive adjective modifying the pronoun 'he' by describing his state of being.

9. True or False: In the phrase 'the most luminous star,' the word 'most' turns the descriptive adjective 'luminous' into a superlative form.

Answer: A) True

Multi-syllable adjectives often use 'most' to create the superlative degree instead of an '-est' suffix.

10. Which of these is a quantitative adjective indicating an uncountable or massive amount, as used in scientific discourse?

Answer: A) Substantial

'Substantial' is a quantitative adjective used to describe a considerable or large amount of something.