

Name _____

Subtle Distinctions

Directions: Read each sentence or short passage carefully. Decide whether **beside** or **besides** best fits the context based on meaning. Then, explain in one short phrase how the meaning changes if the other preposition were used instead.



1. The historian stood _____ the ancient map, tracing routes that explorers once traveled.

2. _____ her degree in environmental science, she has years of experience working in conservation.

3. The two professors sat _____ each other, debating philosophy with quiet intensity.

4. _____ financial concerns, the company faced a serious public relations crisis.

5. The lighthouse stood _____ the stormy sea, its light slicing through the darkness.

6. _____ the moral issue, there was also a question of legality in the decision.

7. The artist placed a small sculpture _____ her newest painting to complete the display.

8. _____ the main argument, the author included several thought-provoking examples.
