

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Word Upgrade Answer Key

(Note: Multiple correct revisions are possible. Samples are provided.)

1. The big storm made a loud **boom/thunderclap/roar** that scared everyone.
2. Mia wore a very **elegant/beautiful/stylish** dress to the school play.
3. The teacher was **frustrated/angry/upset** because the class forgot their homework.
4. Oliver walked **slowly/at a crawl/at a sluggish pace** across the street.
5. The dog was **gentle/friendly/playful** to the little children.
6. We had a **snack/meal/sandwich** to eat before the game.
7. The runner felt **exhausted/tired/drained** after finishing the marathon.
8. Sophia gave a **wide/bright/joyful** smile when she won the contest.
9. The book was **dull/uninteresting/tedious**, so no one liked it.
10. The fireman used a **hose/extinguisher/water cannon** to put out the large fire.

### Teacher Notes/Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Students practice **choosing precise vocabulary** instead of vague, overused, or incorrect words.
- **Common Vague Words to Replace:** good, nice, thing, bad, big, small.
- **Tips for Instruction:**
  - Encourage students to “zoom in” on meaning: ask, *What exactly was good, bad, big, nice?*
  - Offer a class-generated “better words” list to display as a resource.
  - Remind students that stronger word choice makes writing **clearer and more descriptive**.
- **Extension Idea:** Take a short draft paragraph from student writing and have them highlight vague words, then replace each with a stronger choice.