

## Shaped By Words Answer Key

### 1. Cacophony

- Model Answer: Cacophony means a loud, harsh mixture of sounds. It carries a negative connotation, emphasizing unpleasant noise.
- *Teacher Note:* Look for recognition of discord or chaos in sound.

### 2. Obscured

- Model Answer: Obscured means hidden or concealed. Its connotation makes Alina seem withdrawn or hidden from others, suggesting shyness or hesitation.
- *Teacher Note:* Accept answers that link to concealment or emotional state.

### 3. Meticulous

- Model Answer: Meticulous means very careful and precise. It suggests the man is detail-oriented, perhaps overly so, implying rigidity or perfectionism.
- *Teacher Note:* Neutral to slightly negative connotation, depending on interpretation.

### 4. Interminable

- Model Answer: Interminable means endless or seemingly without end. It carries a negative connotation, creating a sense of monotony or overwhelm.
- *Teacher Note:* Students should connect word choice to mood.

### 5. Tenacious

- Model Answer: Tenacious means persistent or determined. It has a positive connotation, showing Alina's strength in holding onto her dream despite challenges.
- *Teacher Note:* Push students to see how positive connotation contrasts with earlier negatives.

### 6. Tone Shaping

- Model Answer: The author's word choices create a tone that feels tense, crowded, and uncertain but also determined. Harsh words like *cacophony* and *interminable* add negativity, while *tenacious* adds a note of hope, suggesting resilience amid struggle.
- *Teacher Note:* Strong answers should balance analysis of both negative and positive connotations.