

Name _____



Verbal Reasoning Drill

Directions: Choose the best answer for each question. Circle its letter. Select the word or phrase that most precisely fits the context. These questions mirror standardized test-style vocabulary items.

1. The scientist remained _____ about the early results, noting that additional trials were required before drawing conclusions.
 - A. jubilant
 - B. skeptical
 - C. impulsive
 - D. complacent
2. Although the proposal was innovative, the board found it _____ because it lacked a clear funding plan.
 - A. compelling
 - B. viable
 - C. deficient
 - D. transparent
3. The author's argument gains strength from its _____ structure, which guides readers logically from claim to evidence.
 - A. erratic
 - B. meticulous
 - C. superficial
 - D. ambiguous
4. The mayor attempted to _____ public concern by releasing detailed reports and holding open forums.
 - A. exacerbate
 - B. placate
 - C. disregard
 - D. inflame
5. Her explanation was so _____ that even complex ideas seemed straightforward.
 - A. opaque
 - B. convoluted
 - C. lucid
 - D. tentative

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Closest Meaning: Choose the answer choice closest in meaning to the **bold** word as used in the sentence.

1. The editor criticized the article for its **redundant** phrasing.
 - A. unclear
 - B. repetitive
 - C. offensive
 - D. brief
2. The committee praised the student's **initiative** in organizing the fundraiser.
 - A. hesitation
 - B. authority
 - C. self direction
 - D. obedience
3. The speaker's tone grew **acerbic** as the debate intensified.
 - A. humorous
 - B. sharp
 - C. hesitant
 - D. calm
4. The plan was abandoned due to **logistical** challenges related to transportation and staffing.
 - A. financial
 - B. emotional
 - C. practical
 - D. ethical
5. The novelist is known for **evocative** descriptions that appeal to the senses.
 - A. confusing
 - B. imaginative
 - C. stimulating
 - D. excessive