

## Lexical Inference Lab Answer Key

1. **provisional**: Temporary or conditional; dependent on meeting specific requirements.
2. **attenuated**: Reduced in strength or intensity.
3. **myopic**: Narrow-minded; lacking long-term or broad perspective.
4. **tenuous**: Weakly supported; fragile or uncertain.
5. **incremental**: Occurring in small, gradual steps.
6. **procedural**: Related to formal processes or rules rather than content.
7. **conservative**: Cautious; deliberately restrained to avoid error.
8. **salient**: Highly important or noticeable in context.

### Teacher's Guide

- Purpose: Develop **advanced inference** skills by extracting word meaning from dense academic and professional contexts.
- Time: 10 to 15 minutes; designed to fit on one page.
- What to look for:
  - Definitions should reflect context, not dictionary memorization.
  - Students should reference implied clues such as conditions, contrasts, or outcomes.
- Differentiation:
  - Support: Allow students to underline the phrase that signals meaning before writing.
  - Challenge: Require students to name the discipline suggested by the sentence and explain how it shapes meaning.
- Engagement:
  - Pair check: Students compare inferred meanings and defend differences using evidence from the sentence.
- Extension:
  - Writing transfer: Students replace one bolded word with a near-synonym and explain how the meaning subtly changes.