

Name _____

Power Ladder Answer Key

1. cool - chilly - freezing
2. see - glance - stare
3. content - pleased - thrilled
4. annoyed - irritated - furious
5. sleepy - weary - exhausted
6. quick - speedy - rapid
7. uneasy - nervous - terrified
8. notable - essential - critical

Teacher's Guide

- **Using this worksheet**
 - Review that synonyms can share meaning but differ in **strength or intensity**.
 - Model one example by discussing how emotion, action, or degree changes meaning.
 - Encourage students to say each word aloud and compare how strong it feels.
- **Differentiation**
 - Support: Allow students to use a simple scale labeled weak, medium, strong.
 - Challenge: Ask students to find a fourth word that would fit between two levels.
- **Engagement**
 - Turn each set into a quick class vote and discuss disagreements using evidence.
 - Have students act out words silently to show differences in intensity.
- **Extension**
 - Students write three sentences using one word from a set, increasing intensity each time.
 - Create a personal intensity ladder by adding new synonym sets from independent reading.