Shades of Meaning

Practice

Print this page and then write your answers.

A. Complete each sequence below. Consider the shades of meaning when putting the words in order.

1. Add the following words in the correct order to the sequence: angry, annoyed, furious.
   - bothered → ________ → ________ → ________ → enraged

2. Add the following words in the correct order to the sequence: scared, terrified, worried.
   - concerned → ________ → ________ → ________ → hysterical

3. Add the following words in the correct order to the sequence: joyful, pleased, thrilled.
   - ________ → upbeat → happy → ________ → ________

B. You can better understand shades of meaning by using similar words in context. Read the passage below. After you read, insert onto each line one of three words listed above the passage. Be sure to consider the shades of meaning when deciding which word best fits the context of that part of the story.

When Beth first heard the rumor about the accident, she was ________ what to think about it. The next two people who told her the rumor were people she did not trust. So then she became a bit more ________. As more people spread the ridiculous rumor, the more ________ she became that the story could be true.