**Synonym Practice**

**For grades 3-5**

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**Create by Amanda Zieba**

**Use these ten passages to help students practice replacing underlined words with synonyms. This product includes passages, word banks, answer recording blanks and an answer key. A great way to practice understanding the concept of synonyms and an opportunity to teach the use of context clues as well as a thesaurus!**

**Passage #1**

Word Bank

notify choice neared unseen quickly danger secretive filthy signaling trying answered important

On a dark and stormy night, a mysterious figure approached the castle. He rode his horse hastily up to the large oak doors. His fist pounded the door attempting to wake someone within. He had an urgent message. He stole a furtive glance behind and hoped someone would answer the door quickly. Suddenly he could hear hoof beats behind him on the bridge crossing the moat.

“Help!” he shouted trying to alert the guards to the incoming threat.

Unexpectedly someone tapped him on his boot. He looked down to see a dirty pair of hands motioning him to crawl beneath the moat bridge.

“What about my horse?” he asked.

“Leave him,” the hidden voice replied.

Feeling he had no other option, he followed the voice into the darkness.

**Record answers below.**

Approached: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hastily: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Attempting: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ urgent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Furitive: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ alert: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Threat: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dirty: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Motioning: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hidden: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Replied: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ option: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #2**

Word Bank

expert make ready loved teacher organized aspirations begin famous books materials future

Louise was excited about his upcoming cooking lesson. It was his dream to be a world renowned chef. He had always relished food and enjoyed helping his parents prepare their family meals. He was eager to take a major step toward becoming a professional chef. He straightened his white hat, tightened his apron and carefully arranged his utensils. Finally the instructor walked into the kitchen.

“Please turn to page 27 of your cooking manuals and we will commence with our first recipe!” she said

Louise checked over his ingredients list and compared it with the items he had brought with him. He noticed he was missing the most important item! It looked as if his cooking dreams were going up in smoke before he even got started.

**Record answers below.**

upcoming: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ renowned: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

relished: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ prepare: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

eager: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ professional: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

arranged: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instructor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

manuals: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ commence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ingredients: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dreams: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #3**

Word Bank

Abilities custody aids large make abundant enjoyable creatures fret thoughtful brutal fitting

Have you ever wondered how the animals that live in the zoo came to be there? Many of them live at the zoo in captivity because they suffered severe injuries while living in the wild. Living in the zoo has many benefits for them like access to plentiful food and a safe place to sleep.

The zoologists are very attentive and take a considerable amount of time to create an appropriate home for each animal. The animal caretakers also prepare fun and challenging activities for them to keep their animal skills sharp. So next time you go to the zoo, don’t worry about the animals! They are well cared for and live in a great home!

**Record answers below.**

animals: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ captivity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

severe: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ benefits: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

plentiful: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ attentive: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

considerable: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ create: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

appropriate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ fun: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

skills: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ worry: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #4**

Word Bank

Charitably replica found cause rebuilt latest Strong chance entrance construction hall spectacular

On his recent field trip to the museum, Ben discovered something amazing. The source of his enjoyment was a giant model dinosaur made up of bones found deep in the jungle far away. The centuries old bones had been generously donated by a famous scientist and then reconstructed in the museum’s main chamber. Ben’s attention was drawn to the gigantic structure the moment he walked in. He could even see it from the lobby as he waited for his teachers to pay the admission fee. As he looked up at the skeleton he wondered if it would be sturdy enough to climb on. One look at the security guard however and he decided not to risk it.

**Record answers below.**

recent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ discovered: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

amazing: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ source: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

model: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ generously: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

reconstructed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ chamber: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

structure: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ admission: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

sturdy: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ risk: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #5**

Word Bank

Perform custom enjoyable range trained skillful finished cheering end schedule marvelous yearly

Alone in her room, Karen carefully unpacked her violin. She practiced for 30 minutes every day, starting with basic scales and then moving to demonstrate more complicated pieces. Tonight her rehearsal time was especially important because tomorrow was the annual music festival concert. The show included a variety of entertaining performances. It was tradition to have the most accomplished musicians play the final song. Karen and the rest of her orchestra would be playing last. To conclude the concert was a great honor and Karen wanted to be sure she was not only ready, but also sounded her best. As she completed her practice routine she could almost hear the crowd congratulating her group on an outstanding performance.

**Record answers below.**

practiced: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ demonstrate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

annual: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ variety: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

entertaining: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tradition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

accomplished: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conclude: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

completed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ routine: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

congratulating: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ outstanding: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #6**

Word Bank

Many angry try focus panicked looked sick determined asked regular raise producing

Alexander was feeling queasy. He knew his boss would be furious if he had another bad day on the job. Despite Alexander’s frequent mistakes, he somehow still had a job. A typical shift had Alexander manufacturing 750 computer circuits. His boss had requested that he increase his production to 1,000 circuits. He glanced up at the clock. He had 30 minutes left before the end of day and he was 27 short! Alexander was frantic! What would he do? Maybe if he could concentrate for the next half hour he could make his deadline after all. Resolved to give it his best effort he bent back down over his work.

**Record answers below.**

sick: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ furious: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

frequent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ typical: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

manufacturing: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ requested: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

increase: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ glanced: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

frantic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ concentrate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

resolved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ effort: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #7**

Word Bank

King satisfy many deadly story protected finishing narrator cruel traveled fancy paradise

On Tuesday when Anna went to the library, a storyteller was just beginning a tale. The story was about a monarch named George. George lived in an oasis surrounded by numerous palm trees that sheltered his luxurious home from the harsh desert winds. George has a pet falcon with lethal talons. Together they roamed the desert, looking for water to quench their thirst. Anna wanted to stay to hear more of the story, but suddenly her cell phone rang. It was her father telling her to come home for dinner. Sadly she left the library and began to walk home, her imagination completing the rest of the story.

**Record answers below.**

storyteller: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tale: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

monarch: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ oasis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

numerous: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sheltered: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

luxurious: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ harsh: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

lethal: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ roamed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

quench: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ completing: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #8**

Word Bank

Crazy appetizing teachers obstacle carefully scared aid friends achievement mesa negative payment

Sadie stood looking at the challenge before her. The giant rock face looked absurd to even consider climbing, but she knew with the help of her companions surrounding her, it was possible. If only she were not afraid of heights. The compensation for reaching the top was not only the pride of the accomplishment, but also a delicious meal that had been prepared by their climbing instructors. It was all waiting for her at the top of the plateau. She knew that pessimistic thoughts would not help her, so she tried to stay positive. Sadie took a deep breath, cautiously reached for the rock face and began to climb.

**Record answers below.**

challenge: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ absurd: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

companions: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ afraid: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

compensation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ accomplishment: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

delicious: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instructors: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

plateau: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pessimistic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

help: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cautiously: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #9**

Word Bank

Huge hallway disciplined rushed persuade decrease distressed mistake began empty climb reveal

Jared was devastated. He’d never gotten a detention before. Until today. The whole thing was just a big misunderstanding and now he was being punished. It all started when Henry tried to coax him to show his answers for the math assignment. Jared didn’t know how to turn him down, so instead he decided to just run away. Jared bolted out of the classroom and dashed down a vacant hallway. As Jared was about to ascend the stairs Mr. Johnson stepped out and caught him. If only Henry had known how to reduce fractions none of this would have happened. Now Jared was stuck inside copying “I will not run in the corridor” a hundred times.

**Record answers below.**

devastated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ big: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

misunderstanding: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ punished: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

started: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ coax: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

show: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dashed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

vacant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ascend: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

reduce: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ corridor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passage #10**

Word Bank

Motivating gathered painful hurried energetically last gathered drifting anxiously training connecting undefeated

This was it. Tonight was the championship game. Lana sat in the locker room, nervously tapping her toes while the coach gave an inspiring pep talk. Seated on the bench, the team could hear the roar of the crowd as they assembled for the game. Lana’s mind was wandering over the past season and all of the agonizing work the team had put in… all of the conditioning, weight lifting, drill running and team bonding. So far the team was unbeaten and Lana was determined to keep it that way with another win tonight. It was time to get out on the court and play the final game of the season. Lana enthusiastically joined her teammates as they rushed out the door, ready to play.

**Record answers below.**

nervously: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ inspiring: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

assembled: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wandering: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

agonizing: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conditioning: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

bonding: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ unbeaten: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

determined: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ final: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

enthusiastically: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rushed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWER KEY**

**Passage #1 Answers (Synonyms replaced)**

On a dark and stormy night, a mysterious figure **neared** the castle. He rode his horse **quickly** up to the large oak doors. His fist pounded the door **trying** to wake someone within. He had an **important** message. He stole a **secretive** glance behind and hoped someone would answer the door quickly. Suddenly he could hear hoof beats behind him on the bridge crossing the moat.

“Help!” he shouted trying to **notify** the guards to the incoming **danger**.

Unexpectedly someone tapped him on his boot. He looked down to see a **filthy** pair of hands **signaling** him to crawl beneath the moat bridge.

“What about my horse?” he asked.

“Leave him,” the **unseen** voice **answered**.

Feeling he had no other **choice**, he followed the voice into the darkness.

**Passage #2 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

Louise was excited about his **future** cooking lesson. It was his dream to be a world **famous** chef. He had always **loved** food and enjoyed helping his parents **make** their family meals. He was **ready** to take a major step toward becoming an **expert** chef. He straightened his white hat, tightened his apron and carefully **organized** his utensils. Finally the **teacher** walked into the kitchen.

“Please turn to page 27 of your cooking **books** and we will **begin** with our first recipe!” she said

Louise checked over his **materials** list and compared it with the items he had brought with him. He noticed he was missing the most important item! It looked as if his cooking **aspirations** were going up in smoke before he even got started.

**Passage #3 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

Have you ever wondered how the **creatures** that live in the zoo came to be there? Many of them live at the zoo in **custody** because they suffered **brutal** injuries while living in the wild. Living in the zoo has many **aids** for them like access to **abundant** food and a safe place to sleep.

The zoologists are very **thoughtful** and take a **large** amount of time to **make** a **fitting** home for each animal. The animal caretakers also prepare **enjoyable** and challenging activities for them to keep their animal **abilities** sharp. So next time you go to the zoo, don’t **fret** about the animals! They are well cared for and live in a great home!

**Passage #4 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

On his **latest** field trip to the museum, Ben **found** something **spectacular**. The **cause** of his enjoyment was a giant **replica** dinosaur made up of bones found deep in the jungle far away. The centuries old bones had been **charitably** donated by a famous scientist and then **rebuilt** in the museum’s main **hall**. Ben’s attention was drawn to the gigantic **construction** the moment he walked in. He could even see it from the lobby as he waited for his teachers to pay the **entrance** fee. As he looked up at the skeleton he wondered if it would be **strong** enough to climb on. One look at the security guard however and he decided not to **chance** it.

**Passage #5 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

Alone in her room, Karen carefully unpacked her violin. She **trained** for 30 minutes every day, starting with basic scales and then moving to **perform** more complicated pieces. Tonight her rehearsal time was especially important because tomorrow was the **yearly** music festival concert. The show included a **range** of **enjoyable** performances. It was **custom** to have the most **skillful** musicians play the final song. Karen and the rest of her orchestra would be playing last. To **end** the concert was a great honor and Karen wanted to be sure she was not only ready, but also sounded her best. As she **finished** her practice **schedule** she could almost hear the crowd **cheering** her group on a **marvelous** performance.

**Passage #6 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

Alexander was feeling **sick**. He knew his boss would be **angry** if he had another bad day on the job. Despite Alexander’s **many** mistakes, he somehow still had a job. A **regular** shift had Alexander **producing** 750 computer circuits. His boss had **asked** that he **raise** his production to 1,000 circuits. He **looked** up at the clock. He had 30 minutes left before the end of day and he was 27 short! Alexander was **panicked**! What would he do? Maybe if he could **focus** for the next half hour he could make his deadline after all. **Determined** to give it his best **try** he bent back down over his work.

**Passage #7 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

On Tuesday when Anna went to the library, a **narrator** was just beginning a **story**. The story was about a **king** named George. George lived in a **paradise** surrounded by **many** palm trees that **protected** his **fancy** home from the **cruel** desert winds. George has a pet falcon with **deadly** talons. Together they **traveled** the desert, looking for water to **satisfy** their thirst. Anna wanted to stay to hear more of the story, but suddenly her cell phone rang. It was her father telling her to come home for dinner. Sadly she left the library and began to walk home, her imagination **finishing** the rest of the story.

**Passage #8 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

Sadie stood looking at the **obstacle** before her. The giant rock face looked **crazy** to even consider climbing, but she knew with the help of her **friends** surrounding her, it was possible. If only she were not **scared** of heights. The **payment** for reaching the top was not only the pride of the **achievement**, but also an **appetizing** meal that had been prepared by their climbing **teachers**. It was all waiting for her at the top of the **mesa**. She knew that **negative** thoughts would not **aid** her, so she tried to stay positive. Sadie took a deep breath, **carefully** reached for the rock face and began to climb.

**Passage #9 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

Jared was **distressed**. He’d never gotten a detention before. Until today. The whole thing was just a **huge** **mistake** and now he was being **disciplined**. It all **began** when Henry tried to **persuade** him to **reveal** his answers for the math assignment. Jared didn’t know how to turn him down, so instead he decided to just run away. Jared bolted out of the classroom and **rushed** down an **empty** hallway. As Jared was about to **climb** the stairs Mr. Johnson stepped out and caught him. If only Henry had known how to **decrease** fractions none of this would have happened. Now Jared was stuck inside copying “I will not run in the **hallway**” a hundred times.

**Passage #10 Answers (synonyms replaced)**

This was it. Tonight was the championship game. Lana sat in the locker room, **anxiously** tapping her toes while the coach gave a **motivating** pep talk. Seated on the bench, the team could hear the roar of the crowd as they **gathered** for the game. Lana’s mind was **drifting** over the past season and all of the **painful** work the team had put in… all of the **training**, weight lifting, drill running and team **connecting**. So far the team was **undefeated** and Lana was **resolved** to keep it that way with another win tonight. It was time to get out on the court and play the **last** game of the season. Lana **energetically** joined her teammates as they **hurried** out the door, ready to play.

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