

Name _____

Using Precise Language

Practice

Write your answers on the lines and then print this page.

- A. Read each word in the first column of the table below. Write three synonyms for each word. Then write three adjectives or adverbs that could be used to describe the word. The first one has been done for you

Word	Synonyms	Adjectives/Adverbs
run (verb)	jog, trot, dash	quickly, slowly, fast
jump (verb)		
laugh (verb)		
flower (noun)		
building (noun)		
person (noun)		

- B. Read the story below about an orange grove in Florida. Replace each of the bold-faced words with a more precise word that conveys the sense of urgency the writer is trying to express. Write the words on the lines below. You may use a dictionary or thesaurus to help you.

That evening everyone was **very** quiet at dinner. Marisol **looked** around the table at each of her relatives, trying to figure out the mystery of what was upsetting them. Suddenly Uncle Carlos rose and touched the window with his hand, as if he were checking its temperature. Just then a man **came** through the door. Marisol recognized him as one of the workers from the orange grove.

“Excuse me, sir!” the man said. “We’ve done what we can, and we’re ready when you want to **look at** things.”

Uncle Carlos **left** his meal and **walked** from the house. After a moment, the other family members followed him. Juliana explained the situation to Marisol as they **moved** with the others toward the orange grove.

Name _____

“Normally it’s really hot in Florida, but sometimes in the winter the temperature drops,” Juliana said, her voice quavering. “We’ve lost a lot of oranges the past few years, so we need a good season this year.”

“Oh, no!” Marisol now comprehended what her aunt and uncle had been whispering about earlier.

As the group reached the first row of orange trees, Marisol saw that the **big** fans had been turned on and were whirring noisily. Sprinklers coated the oranges with water. If the temperature stayed at freezing for only a few hours, most of the oranges could be saved.

1. very _____
2. looked _____
3. came _____
4. look at _____
5. left _____
6. walked _____
7. moved _____
8. big _____