

Shades of Meaning

Circle the word in parentheses that matches the precise meaning of each underlined word.

1. In the arid soil, not one tree would grow. (dusty, scorched)

2. The task of sorting papers was so tedious that she fell asleep. (boring, repetitive)

3. There was a horrifying gouge in the surface of the antique table.

(mark, gash)

4. We meandered down the street, just taking our time.

(marched, strolled)

5. She decided not to make a hasty decision but to think about it.

(quick, brief)

6. The old horse shambled along, hardly able to lift its feet up.

(moved, shuffled)

7. The flood waters receded hour by hour. (decreased, subsided)

8. The boy felt abandoned when his friends ran off without him.

(deserted, left)