

Name _____

Inferred Meanings



DIRECTIONS: Use context clues to infer the meaning of each bold word. Then look up each word in the dictionary to verify that your answer is correct.

1. Martha **engendered** fear of the dark in her daughter by refusing to let her use a night light.

prevented

caused to exist

allowed

2. I was unable to **pacify** George after Jim upset him.

discourage

calm down

pity

3. Tim is too **indolent** to look for a job, let alone be able to keep one.

lazy

rude

hungry

4. Helen's **supercilious** attitude makes it hard for people to like her.

witty

haughty

sweet

5. Please don't **squander** these materials. I paid a lot for them.

use

destroy

waste

6. I like you, but I don't return your **ardent** feelings. I'm sorry.

hardworking

regretful

passionate