

Name _____

Verifying Inferred Meaning



Directions: Read each sentence. What do you think the bold word means? Use a dictionary to verify your inferences.

1. As a result of my father's stern and generally **formidable** nature, I grew up to be a person who seldom took chances or defied the expectations of others.

Inferred Meaning: _____ Were you correct? _____

2. My mother has finally pushed me over the edge with her **inane** advice about things she clearly does not understand.

Inferred Meaning: _____ Were you correct? _____

3. They say my teacher is smart, but some of the things he says are founded on **spurious** reasoning, at best.

Inferred Meaning: _____ Were you correct? _____

4. When my brother won the high school spelling bee at the age of eight, my parents **extolled** his victory for months.

Inferred Meaning: _____ Were you correct? _____

5. I seem to have an **innate** capacity for empathy. I cannot remember a time when I didn't share in the feelings of those around me.

Inferred Meaning: _____ Were you correct? _____