

Equivocation Drill

INSTRUCTIONS

Identify the word that changed in meaning throughout each argument or debate. Write the word you identify in the blank below the argument or debate.

1. This seal kept the letter unopened for thousands of years. Performing a task so well deserves a reward, so we will certainly give the seal a few fish tonight.

WORD THAT CHANGED IN MEANING _____

2. Mean girls always roll their eyes as they call Hannah a colorful character. So, Hannah's outfit for next week's soiree will undoubtedly employ many hues.

WORD THAT CHANGED IN MEANING _____

3. A mole recently infiltrated our base of operations. Infiltrations must be met head-on and those responsible must be terminated. Therefore, we should visit Home Depot and get a garden vermin trap.

WORD THAT CHANGED IN MEANING _____

4. **Shauna:** I don't know what you're trying to get at. This memo is opaque.
Babcock: I don't know why you'd expect to be able to see through my memo. I quit.

WORD THAT CHANGED IN MEANING _____

5. Karl is a super rich guy. Last I checked, he made billions when his company went public last year. Thus, we can expect him to be delicious when we kill him and eat him at the harvest festival.

WORD THAT CHANGED IN MEANING _____

6. Shoshanna is drawn toward products with strong values. Following this principle, we can expect Shoshanna to prefer Roasted Green Salsa X; it's more flavorful than similar roasted green salsas that sell for double the price, a great value. Therefore, Roasted Green Salsa X is always helping others.

WORD THAT CHANGED IN MEANING _____

Equivocation Drill ANSWER KEY

1. Word that changed in meaning: **seal**
In the beginning of the argument, it means dried wax that holds envelopes closed. At the end, it refers to a marine creature.

2. Word that changed in meaning: **colorful**
In the beginning of the argument, it means lively and possibly disreputable. At the end, it means containing many colors.

3. Word that changed in meaning: **mole**
In the beginning of the argument, it means spy. At the end, it means small furry animal.

4. Word that changed in meaning: **opaque**
In the beginning of the debate, it means hard to understand. At the end, it means not transparent.

5. Word that changed in meaning: **rich**
In the beginning of the argument, it means wealthy. At the end, it means flavorful.

6. Word that changed in meaning: **value**
In the beginning of the argument, it means getting a great deal. At the end, it means having upright moral character.