

Name:

Date:

CONCEPT VOCABULARY AND WORD STUDY

## The Metamorphosis

Franz Kafka

### WORD LIST

distress	aversion	listlessly	amelioration	asphyxiation	travail
----------	----------	------------	--------------	--------------	---------

**A. DIRECTIONS:** In each of the following items, think about the meaning of the italicized word or phrase, and then answer the question.

1. David lost his favorite guitar, which caused him much *distress*. How would you describe David's mood? Explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. If you love broccoli, do you have an *aversion* to it? Explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Geena, barely having the energy to get out of bed, wandered *listlessly* around her house. Is Geena walking around excitedly? How do you know?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. True or false: People working for the *amelioration* of the condition of their town after a storm would be seen picking up debris, fixing broken windows, and helping storefronts repair damage. Explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Has someone experiencing *asphyxiation* lost the ability to swallow? Explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. For Craig, the *travail* of carrying his friend three miles through the forest was forgotten when they reached the camp. Would you say that carrying his friend was easy for Craig? Explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

**B. WORD STUDY:** A word's **denotation** is its dictionary definition. The associations or feelings that a word suggests are its **connotations**. Words with close meanings can express different degrees of an idea. For example, *mad* refers to anger; *furious* and *irate* describe the same idea with more intensity. Below, provide three synonyms for each of the following words, varying in intensity, from weakest to strongest.

1. *brave*                      1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_
2. *scared*                    1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_