

**Choose the answer that best completes the sentence or answers the question.**

1. If Toby acts in a *capricious* manner, he is being
  - a. outgoing
  - b. shy
  - c. unpredictable
  - d. friendly
2. Another word for *parable* is
  - a. secret
  - b. fable
  - c. chant
  - d. pair
3. Read this sentence.  
The *queue* of cars to board the ferry extended around the block.  
  
*Queue* means
  - a. line
  - b. incline
  - c. gap
  - d. group
4. One meaning for *distend* is
  - a. filter
  - b. collect
  - c. distance
  - d. inflate

Snowflakes start out as minuscule ice crystals, about the size of a speck of dust. The crystals cling to other crystals to form snowflakes, and then snowflakes connect with other snowflakes and *accumulate* on the ground. Factors such as air temperature and special atmospheric conditions *portend* whether snow, sleet, or freezing rain will occur. Plus, some say there is an *underlying* smell in the air when it's about to snow. If you like rather *irrelevant* but fun facts, look up information about snowfall totals. This is a *contentious* topic, since many states claim to receive the most snow each year. In fact, it's a source of pride. Just remember: If a large snowfall is predicted in your area, be sure to *hoard* plenty of food and other supplies!

5. If snowflakes *accumulate* (line 2), it means they
  - a. fall randomly
  - b. melt before they touch the ground
  - c. gather, heap up, or pile up
  - d. expand to a larger size
6. In line 3, *portend* is used to explain that
  - a. certain weather conditions indicate if it's going to snow
  - b. sleet, snow, and freezing rain are normal in winter
  - c. freezing rain is unusual during winter months
  - d. snowfall amounts vary by region
7. If something is *underlying* (line 4), it is
  - a. unknown
  - b. inflated
  - c. unusual
  - d. unseen
8. An *irrelevant* (line 5) fact could be
  - a. unimportant
  - b. rigid
  - c. necessary
  - d. possible
9. If a topic is NOT *contentious* (line 5), it is
  - a. pathetic
  - b. ridiculous
  - c. silly
  - d. uncontroversial
10. In line 7, *hoard* means to
  - a. heat
  - b. collect
  - c. cook
  - d. use up

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**Answer Section**

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|------------|--------|
| 1. ANS: C  | PTS: 1 |
| 2. ANS: B  | PTS: 1 |
| 3. ANS: A  | PTS: 1 |
| 4. ANS: D  | PTS: 1 |
| 5. ANS: C  | PTS: 1 |
| 6. ANS: A  | PTS: 1 |
| 7. ANS: D  | PTS: 1 |
| 8. ANS: A  | PTS: 1 |
| 9. ANS: D  | PTS: 1 |
| 10. ANS: B | PTS: 1 |