

Diction ③

NAME: _____
DATE: / /
WEEK: : PERIOD: #

Consider:

An aged man is but a paltry thing
A **tattered** coat upon a stick....

— W. B. Yeats, "Sailing to Byzantium"

Discuss:

1. What picture is created by the use of the word *tattered*?
2. By understanding the connotations of the word *tattered*, what do we understand about the persona's attitude toward *an aged man*?

Apply:

3. List three adjectives that can be used to describe a pair of shoes. Each adjective should connote a different feeling about the shoes. Discuss your list with a partner. Share one of the best adjectives with the class.

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Consider:

The man sighed **hugely**.

— E. Annie Proulx, *The Shipping News*

Discuss:

1. What does it mean to sigh hugely?
2. How would the meaning of the sentence change if we rewrote it as:
*The man sighed **loudly**.*

Apply:

3. Fill in the blank below with an adverb:

The man coughed _____.

Your adverb should make the cough express an attitude. For example, the cough could express contempt, desperation, or propriety. Do not state the attitude. Instead, let the adverb imply it. Share your sentence with the class.