

The many meanings of *make*

Name _____

Date _____

DIRECTIONS

The word *make* is printed in bold in every sentence below. Read each group and notice how its meaning shifts — and how the sign changes along with it. Then write your own sentences on the blank lines.

1 BUILD OR CONSTRUCT

to put something together out of materials

- ♦ We decided to **make** a ladder from scrap lumber.
- ♦ Do you know how to **make** a stone into a weapon?

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2 FORCE

to get someone to do something they do not want to do

- ♦ **Make** him obey.
- ♦ You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot **make** him drink.
- ♦ “Go ahead, **make** me...”

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3 CAUSE

to bring about a result

- ♦ Heat **makes** a gas expand.
 - ♦ The boy **makes** trouble wherever he goes!
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4 PREPARE

to get something ready

- ♦ Excuse me while I **make** a bed for our guest.
 - ♦ You **make** the fire while I prepare the food.
 - ♦ I need to **make** my plans for the trip.
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5 ESTIMATE OR JUDGE

to guess at a number, or to identify something from evidence

- ♦ What would you **make** this temperature to be?
 - ♦ I would **make** that to be a DC-3 by its sound.
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6 TURN OUT TO BE

to grow into something in the future

- ♦ He will **make** a fine doctor.
 - ♦ You will **make** a good interpreter in the future.
 - ♦ This is going to **make** a beautiful garden.
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7 EARN OR SCORE

to gain money or points

- ♦ Tommy **made** three runs in the baseball game.
 - ♦ She **made** two tricks in bridge.
 - ♦ Sometimes it is difficult to **make** money honestly.
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8 SATISFY OR DELIGHT

to turn someone's whole day around

- ♦ That **makes** my day!
 - ♦ A simple hug and a kind word can **make** the day for someone.
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9 COVER DISTANCE

to travel a distance, or to keep up a speed

- ♦ They expect to **make** 200 miles before sunset.
- ♦ His car was **making** 80 miles an hour.
- ♦ We sure are **making** good time.

10 BRAND OR KIND

the maker or style of a manufactured thing

- ♦ I dislike the **make** of his coat.
- ♦ That is a famous **make** of shirt.

CHALLENGE

One of these groups is different from all the others in a way that has nothing to do with meaning: in nine groups *make* is a verb, and in one it is a noun. Find the odd group out, then write a sentence of your own using *make* as a noun and one using it as a verb.

THINK ABOUT IT

All ten groups use the same English word, but they do not share the same meaning — and in ASL they do not share the same sign. Choose one of your own sentences from each group and be ready to sign it for the class.