Word Family Practice: Related Word Forms

Directions for Word Family Practice: Fill in the blanks with the right member of each word family. (Use the words already given in *italics* as examples. Practice with each Word Family below:

1. Verb: (to) *support*

To support means to strengthen, uphold, or maintain. It does not mean to endure.
Noun (Concept): (same as verb): __________
Noun (Person): (+ -er): ____________
Adj: supportive
Negative adj.*: ____________
*(Un- is the most common negative prefix. If another negative is needed for one of the words in this exercise, I'll provide it for you.)*
Adj, from present participle (-ing) form: ____________

Example:
A __________ actor in a play does not have a major role, but he *supports* the main characters.
A. supporter
B. support
C. supporting
D. unsupportive

2. Verb: (to) *endure*

Noun: *endurance*
Adjective of capability: ____________
Neg. adj. of capability: *unendurable*
Adjective from pres. part. meaning long-lasting: ____________

Example:
The hardships the Pilgrims *endured* their first winter in America have become part of an *enduring* American belief that hard work and ________ lead to ultimate success.
A. endure
B. endurance
C. endurable
D. unendurable

3. Verb ‘to bear’

*To bear* means to endure (or to carry), and is not related to the large animal with the same name, although spelling and pronunciation are the same.
Adjective of capability: bearable
Neg. adj. of capability: _____________
Example/definition:
___________ and endurable are synonyms, both describing conditions that may be hard, but in which a person is able to stay alive and sane in spite of pain or difficulty.
A. Bear
B. Bearable
C. Unbearable
D. Unbearably

4. Adjective: Hard

Hard has two meanings: difficult-- the opposite of easy, or durable and unbreakable-- the opposite of soft.
Verb: (to) harden
Nouns: hardship (a difficult condition to endure), or hardness (a condition of firmness and unbreakability)
Adj: hard; Adj. from past participle: _________
Adv: also hard (Not hardly, which means scarcely or barely.)
Example and explanation: Someone who is “working ______” is working diligently or strenuously. Someone who is “hardly working” is not working very much—“hardly at all.”
A. harden
B. hardness
C. hard
D. hardly
The extra payment didn’t seem to cause economic _____________ (difficulty.)
A. harden
B. hardship
C. hardness
D. hardly

5. Verb: assist (means to help)

Noun (Concept): assistance
Noun (Person): assistant
Adj. from past participle.: _________
Neg. adj./past part.: _____________
Examples:
A lab _________ helps scientists with routine work in a laboratory. Older people who need care but not formal nursing often live in “assisted living facilities.”
A. assist
B. assistance
C. assistant
D. unassisted
6. Verb: To attend

To attend means to be present at school, work, or another event. It can also mean to care for or wait on someone’s needs.

Nouns (Concept): attendance (being present) or attention (alertness)
Noun (Person): attendant
Adj.: attentive (paying attention to the needs of others)
Neg. adj. from above: ___________ (also correct: inattentive)
2nd Neg. adj-- from past part.: unattended, which means unwatched or uncared for
Adverb from first adj above: ___________

Examples:
Students in the U.S. _______ school Monday through Friday. On the weekends they might _________ a game, a party, or church. Nurses and doctors _________ to the needs of their patients.
(All 3 answers are the same.)
A. attend  
B. attention  
C. attendants  
D. unattended
Flight _________ take care of passengers’ needs very attentively.
A. attend  
B. attention  
C. attendants  
D. unattended
Airports warn people, “Don’t leave your luggage ________.”
A. attend  
B. attention  
C. attendants  
D. unattended
School _________ goes down during flu season.
A. attendants  
B. attendance  
C. assistance  
D. assistants
Word Family Practice: Answers

Check your answers below (in **bold**.)

1. Verb: (to) **support**
   - Noun (Concept): (same as verb): **support**
   - Noun (Person): (+ -er): **supporter**
   - Adj: **supportive**
   - Negative adj.*: **unsupportive**
   - Adj, from present participle (-ing) form: **supporting**

   Example:
   A _________ actor in a play does not have a major role, but he supports the main characters.
   **C. supporting**

2. Verb: (to) **endure**
   - Noun: **endurance**
   - Adjective of capability: **endurable**
   - Neg. adj. of capability: **unendurable**
   - Adjective from pres. part. meaning long-lasting: **enduring**

   Example:
   The hardships the Pilgrims endured their first winter in America have become part of an enduring American belief that hard work and _________ lead to ultimate success.
   **B. endurance**

3. Verb ‘to bear’
   - Adjective of capability: **bearable**
   - Neg. adj. of capability: **unbearable**

   Example/definition:
   ____________ and **endurable** are synonyms, both describing conditions that may be hard, but in which a person is able to stay alive and sane in spite of pain or difficulty.
   **B. Bearable**

4. Adjective: **Hard**
   - Verb: (to) **harden**
   - Nouns: **hardsip** (a difficult condition to endure), **or hardness** (a condition of firmness and unbreakability)
   - Adj: **hard**; Adj. from past participle: **hardened**
   - Adv: also **hard** (Not hardly, which means scarcely or barely.)

   Example and explanation:
Someone who is “working _______” is working diligently or strenuously. Someone who is “hardly working” is not working very much—“hardly at all.”

C. hard
The extra payment didn’t seem to cause economic ______________ (difficulty.
B. hardship

5. Verb: assist (means to help)

Noun (Concept): assistance
Noun (Person): assistant
Adj. from past participle: assisted
Neg. adj./past part.: unassisted
Examples:
A lab __________ helps scientists with routine work in a laboratory. Older people who need care but not formal nursing often live in “assisted living facilities.”

C. assistant

6. Verb: To attend

To attend means to be present at school, work, or another event. It can also mean to care for or wait on someone’s needs.

Nouns (Concept): attendance (being present) or attention (alertness)
Noun (Person): attendant
Adj.: attentive (paying attention to the needs of others)
Neg. adj. from above: unattentive
2nd Neg. adj-- from past part.: unattended, which means unwatched or uncared for
Adverb from first adj above: attentively

Examples:
Students in the U.S. _______school Monday through Friday. On the weekends they might __________ a game, a party, or church. Nurses and doctors___________ to the needs of their patients.
(All 3 answers are the same.)

A. attend
Flight _______ take care of passengers’ needs very attentively.

C. attendants
Airports warn people, “Don’t leave your luggage __________.”

D. unattended
School __________ goes down during flu season

B. attendance