



## **Synonyms and Antonyms**

### **Identify and write synonyms and antonyms**

**Learning Notes** This Vocabulary lesson pack contains eleven exercises on identifying and writing synonyms and antonyms. Each worksheet can be used over a period of consecutive days either as warm-up, practice or review.

**Teaching Tip** Have students use different colored highlighters to distinguish between synonyms and antonyms. Have students use a thesaurus to look up additional synonyms and antonyms for each exercise and a dictionary to look up any unknown words. **(Visual, Tactile)**

**Modifications and/or Extensions** To modify these exercises, read each set of four words given and have students choose the two words that are either synonyms or antonyms. Create teams and give points to the teams that answer correctly. Discuss answers. To extend these exercises, have students create a comic strip, poem or narrative that includes synonyms and antonyms. Instruct students to highlight the synonyms and antonyms.

#### **Recommended Exercises**

*Introductory:* Exercises on Dictionary Skills, Definitions and Descriptive Adjectives

*Follow-up:* Exercises on Analogies, Homophones and Words with Multiple Meanings

**The Lessons included in this pack are as follows:**

**Relationships: Synonyms, Antonyms**

From the EPS book *Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

The following focus on identifying correct synonyms or antonyms

**Words: 'reluctant,' 'prohibit'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Circle two words that are synonyms; circle two antonyms

**Words: 'lengthen,' 'despair'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Circle two words that are synonyms; circle two antonyms

**Words: 'snout,' 'gorge'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Circle two words that are synonyms; circle two antonyms

**Words: 'associate,' 'transform'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Circle two words in a group of four that are synonyms

**Words: 'investigate,' 'fracture'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Circle two words that are synonyms; circle two antonyms

**Words: 'guardian,' 'hoist'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Circle two words that are synonyms; circle two antonyms

**Designate as Synonym or Antonym**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

The following focus on identifying synonyms and antonyms

**Words: 'resemblance,' 'somber'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Find and circle two words that are synonyms or antonyms

**Words: 'perish,' 'molten'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Find and circle two words that are synonyms or antonyms

**Words: 'refuse,' 'compassionate'**

*Wordly Wise 3000 Book 2*

Find and circle two words that are synonyms or antonyms

LESSON LOGIC an online service of EPS

Our most popular K-6 series in vocabulary, phonics, spelling, writing,  
and reading comprehension made available online.

**[www.lessonlogic.com](http://www.lessonlogic.com)**

Words that have the same meaning are called **synonyms**.

Examples:     little — small  
                       woman — lady  
                       over — above

- For each word in Column A, find a synonym in Column B. Write the number of the synonym next to the word.

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
frighten	_____	1. earth
harm	_____	2. scare
grateful	_____	3. peacefulness
make	_____	4. build
loyal	_____	5. great
world	_____	6. piece
powerful	_____	7. damage
blackness	_____	8. correct
wonderful	_____	9. strong
fearless	_____	10. thankful
right	_____	11. gladness
calmness	_____	12. darkness
useless	_____	13. worthless
part	_____	14. faithful
happiness	_____	15. brave

Words that have the opposite meaning are called **antonyms**.

Examples:     little — big  
                       woman — man  
                       over — under

- For each word in Column A, find an antonym in Column B. Write the number of the antonym next to the word in Column A.

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
day	_____	1. release
damage	_____	2. night
beautiful	_____	3. thanklessness
harmful	_____	4. ugly
helpful	_____	5. fearlessly
happiness	_____	6. loosen
speechless	_____	7. fix
capture	_____	8. harmless
difference	_____	9. talkative
thankfulness	_____	10. sadness
cheap	_____	11. lightness
tighten	_____	12. expensive
neatness	_____	13. helpless
fearfully	_____	14. sameness
heaviness	_____	15. messiness

## Same or Different Meanings

**Directions:** *Fast* and *quick* have the same meaning. Circle the pairs below that also have the same meaning.

### Set I

1. (fast—quick)
2. bright—shiny
3. bell—clock
4. sad—unhappy
5. hide—seek
6. hungry—thirsty
7. object—thing
8. look at—watch
9. dog—cat
10. want—desire

### Set II

1. thick—wide
2. save—keep
3. buy—sell
4. hill—mountain
5. car—automobile
6. rush—hurry
7. shop—store
8. draw—paint
9. happy—glad
10. sky—cloud

**Directions:** Can you think of another word with the same meaning? The first one is done for you.

over \_\_\_\_\_ above \_\_\_\_\_

build \_\_\_\_\_

angry \_\_\_\_\_

hold \_\_\_\_\_

clean \_\_\_\_\_

## Same or Different Meanings

**Directions: The first word in each problem is underlined. Circle another word in the row that has the same meaning as the underlined word.**

1. grab            throw    snatch    run    close    hang
2. fight            enemy    battle    sword    talk    soldier
3. mend            fix    buy    find    live    travel
4. knock            hit    window    door    plant    lock
5. harm            illness    accident    injury    help    charm
6. bun            fruit    soup    roll    cookie    beverage
7. help            cheer    fool    aid    hurt    tease
8. push            crush    pat    shove    bring    lift
9. haul            drag    store    clean    heap    distant
10. scream            music    yell    grip    bind
11. dunk            slide    trap    reach    dip    weigh

# Opposites

The opposite of *empty* is *full*; the opposite of *black* is *white*.

Opposites are as different as they can be.

*Empty* is the least amount, *full* is the most amount;  
*black* is the darkest color, *white* is the lightest color.

**Directions: Give an opposite for each of the following words.**

1. up \_\_\_\_\_ 2. stop \_\_\_\_\_

3. yes \_\_\_\_\_ 4. wet \_\_\_\_\_

5. thin \_\_\_\_\_ 6. work \_\_\_\_\_

7. dark \_\_\_\_\_ 8. loud \_\_\_\_\_

9. high \_\_\_\_\_ 10. cry \_\_\_\_\_

11. bumpy \_\_\_\_\_ 12. wild \_\_\_\_\_

13. day \_\_\_\_\_ 14. break \_\_\_\_\_

15. cold \_\_\_\_\_ 16. soft \_\_\_\_\_

17. light \_\_\_\_\_ 18. new \_\_\_\_\_

19. little \_\_\_\_\_ 20. loose \_\_\_\_\_

# Opposites

**Directions: In each row there is one word that is the opposite of the underlined word. Find this opposite. Circle it.**

1. end            result    way    start    edge    item
2. yell            whisper    drink    weep    laugh    sigh
3. mean            crazy    angry    quiet    kind    lazy
4. sharp            pretty    nimble    boring    dull    brisk
5. melt            pester    listen    cover    guard    freeze
6. near            long    far    happy    tricky    alone
7. tall            wide    deep    thin    short    long
8. lost            soft    found    long    eager    wish
9. slow            quiet    near    glad    quick    sleepy
10. deep            useful    high    narrow    shallow    thick
11. easy            hard    bright    short    big    early
12. skinny            long    hungry    fat    afraid    tall

## Synonyms

A word that has the same or almost the same meaning as another is called a **synonym**. *Under* and *beneath* are synonyms, for example.

**Directions:** Some of the following pairs of words are synonyms, and some are not. Label the pairs of synonyms **S** and the pairs that are not synonyms **NS**.

- |       |                    |       |                   |
|-------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|
| _____ | 1. roof—ceiling    | _____ | 11. key—clasp     |
| _____ | 2. honest—truthful | _____ | 12. late—last     |
| _____ | 3. box—crate       | _____ | 13. idea—thought  |
| _____ | 4. when—then       | _____ | 14. level—flat    |
| _____ | 5. worker—servant  | _____ | 15. jump—past     |
| _____ | 6. destroy—ruin    | _____ | 16. pair—couple   |
| _____ | 7. bulge—burst     | _____ | 17. heavy—full    |
| _____ | 8. blank—empty     | _____ | 18. make—create   |
| _____ | 9. fang—tooth      | _____ | 19. wide—deep     |
| _____ | 10. stroke—push    | _____ | 20. continue—stop |

## Synonyms and Antonyms

A word opposite in meaning to another word is called an **antonym**. *Tiny* and *gigantic* are antonyms, for example.

**Directions:** Some of the following pairs of words are synonyms and some are antonyms. Label the synonyms **S** and the antonyms **A**.

- |       |                      |
|-------|----------------------|
| _____ | 1. hate—love         |
| _____ | 2. frightened—scared |
| _____ | 3. squirm—wiggle     |
| _____ | 4. energetic—tired   |
| _____ | 5. timid—bold        |
| _____ | 6. win—lose          |
| _____ | 7. silly—foolish     |
| _____ | 8. kind—cruel        |

# Synonyms and Antonyms

**Directions:** Some of the following pairs of words are synonyms, some are antonyms, and some do not have either type of relationship. Label the synonyms *S*, the antonyms *A*, and the other pairs *O*.

- |       |                 |       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|
| _____ | 1. shake—quiver | _____ | 6. task—job     |
| _____ | 2. pair—bunch   | _____ | 7. never—always |
| _____ | 3. talk—discuss | _____ | 8. follow—wait  |
| _____ | 4. wood—plant   | _____ | 9. stove—fire   |
| _____ | 5. slow—fast    | _____ | 10. hurry—rush  |

1. Some of the following pairs of words are synonyms and some are not. Put a star by each pair of synonyms.

weak—strong	silence—stillness	start—beginning
pants—trousers	prank—trick	extra—enough
boring—dull	fast—rapid	drag—pull
end—middle	make—create	clever—rapid

2. Circle any word in the following list that is a synonym for *argue*. You may need to look up words you do not know in a dictionary.

quarrel	ask	select
disapprove	begin	reason
dislike	haggle	persuade
wrangle	command	indicate
squabble	bicker	dispute
explain	introduce	talk

3. Underline any word in the following list that is a synonym for *fearful*.

proud	scary	horrible
sturdy	energetic	eager
terrible	frightening	tense
honest	strong	famous

4. Give at least two synonyms for each word. Then check with the dictionary or with your classmates to see how many synonyms you can find for each word.

tired \_\_\_\_\_

boring \_\_\_\_\_

lift \_\_\_\_\_

sad \_\_\_\_\_

