

2

Synonyms



WHAT IS A SYNONYM?

It may be referred to as a word that has a similar or identical meaning as a particular word. If joyful and happy have the same meaning, then 'joyful' can be called the synonym of happy and *vice versa*.

What is the importance of synonyms?

Usage of synonyms is a sign of a wide vocabulary. They can also help prevent the redundancy of words in your writing. Questions based on synonyms/words with similar meanings are common in GATE and other engineering exams.

Following are some important synonyms

WORD	MEANING	SYNONYMS
Ability	A skill to do something well	Skill, capability, competence, talent
Anger	A feeling of annoyance or displeasure	Annoyance, irritation, fury, rage, resentment
Annoy	To make someone feel slightly irritated	Irritate, bother, bug, displease
Answer	To reply to a question	Reply, response, acknowledgement
Ask	To question someone or get them to do something	Ask, demand, beg, request
Aware	To know information about something	Aware, alert, informed, mindful, conscious
Beginner	A person who is new at something	Apprentice, novice, learner
Break	To divide something into pieces, usually by force	Burst, crack, smash
Careful	Showing attention to all details	Thorough, conscientious, painstaking
Cautious	Careful and not willing to take any risk	Careful, vigilant, wary, secretive, prudent, cagey
Change	To bring about a difference in something	Convert, alter, modify, shift, transform, vary
Collect	To bring together things	Assemble, gather, hoard
Complain	To express annoyance or dissatisfaction about something	Grumble, protest, object, whine



WORD	MEANING	SYNONYMS
Correct	Accurate, true, without any mistake	True, exact, accurate
Courage	Ability to deal with a dangerous situation without fear	Nerve, guts, bravery
Defeat	To succeed against someone	Thrash, conquer, beat, overcome, triumph
Dirty	Not clear or untidy	Squalid, untidy, grubby, filthy, grimy, soiled
Disagree	To not have the same opinion as someone else	Dispute, contradict, differ, argue
Dislike	Not liking someone or something	Hatred, disgust, hate
Easy	The quality of not being difficult	Uncomplicated, simple, straightforward
Famous	Known by many people	Renowned, notorious, infamous, well-known
Fatal	Causing death	Deadly, mortal, terminal, lethal
Follow	To come after something	Pursue, stalk, chase
Fragile	Easily breakable	Breakable, flimsy, delicate
Friend	A person known and liked	Mate, pal, companion, acquaintance
Funny	Something that makes people laugh	Humorous, hilarious, comical, witty
Give	To pass to someone else	Present, donate, grant, confer
Good	The quality of being of suitable standard	Satisfactory, excellent, acceptable, wonderful
Habit	Something that is done regularly by someone	Custom, practice, routine, tradition
Hard	Not easy	Tough, tricky, awkward, difficult
Harm	Causing someone or something injury	Wound, damage, hurt, injure



WORD	MEANING	SYNONYMS
Increase	Become higher in number or amount	Extend, enlarge, expand
Intelligent	Able to understand things well	Talented, gifted, bright, able, clever
Kill	To cause something to die	Put down, slaughter, assassinate, murder, kill, execute
Lack	Be short of something	Deficiency, deficit, shortage
Leader	In charge of something	Captain, supervisor, incharge, manager, boss
Like	To have good feelings about something	Appreciate, love, enjoy
Love	To have a strong feeling of liking for someone or something	Infatuation, passion, affection, fondness, liking
Mistake	Something that is wrong	Slip, blunder, error
Moving	Something that causes strong emotions	Touching, stirring, emotional
Necessary	Important	Required, essential, vital
New	Something made recently	Original, innovative, novel
Noisy	Making a lot of noise	Piercing, rowdy, deafening, loud
Now	At this point in time	Immediately, instantly, presently, promptly
Occasional	Something that happens sometimes	Intermittent, odd, periodic
Often	On many occasions	Regularly, frequently, repeatedly, again-and-again
Old	Dating back to a long time ago	Antique, old-fashioned, ancient, elderly
Protect	Keep something safe	Shield, guard, defend, shelter
Pull	To move something towards yourself	Haul, tug, jerk, tow, drag, draw



WORD	MEANING	SYNONYMS
Quiet	Not making any noise	Inaudible, non-communicative, noiseless, silent, peaceful
Raise	To bring something to a higher level	Elevate, hoist, lift, pick up
Sad	Not feeling cheerful	Miserable, depressed, fed up, unhappy
Shine	To be bright	Glitter, glow, dazzle, blaze
Smell	A sense through the nose	Odour, aroma, stink, scent
Strong	Having a lot of strength or power	Mighty, fit, sturdy, powerful
Stupid	Not sensible	Silly, senseless, irresponsible, foolish
Suggest	To make a recommendation	Recommend, propose, advise
Teach	To show to instruct someone how to do something	Instruct, educate, train, coach, tutor
Temporary	Lasting only a short period of time	Short-lived, passing, fleeting
Think	To have a thought or opinion about something	Work out, figure out, conclude, assume, reason
Type	A group of things with similar characteristics	Category, genre, species, sort, kind
Unattractive	Not attractive	Plain, hideous, ugly, unsightly
Uncertain	Not sure about something	In doubt, sceptical, dubious, doubtful, unsure
Usual	Common in most occasions	Customary, normal, routine, traditional
Very	Signifies the intensity of an adjective or adverb	Remarkably, extremely, exceptionally
Watch	To notice something	Look, stare, observe
Weak	Not strong	Unhealthy, feeble, frail
Wet	Covered in or absorbed liquid	Soaking, damp, waterlogged, moist
Worry	A cause of consistent thought	Responsibility, anxiety, burden, problem



PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Write the synonym of the given words. (The words can have more than one synonym.)

1. Old	
2. Ambitious	
3. Effortless	
4. Depraved	
5. Dauntless	
6. Interesting	
7. Kill	
8. Predicament	
9. Strange	

10. Ugly	
11. Scared	
12. Factual	
13. Natty	
14. Impish	
15. Miniature	
16. Corpulent	
17. Droll	
18. Abhor	
19. Succour	
20. Afflict	

SOLUTIONS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Aged/worn/used/dilapidated | 12. Correct/accurate/true |
| 2. Hanking/purposeful/aggressive | 13. Neat/trip/smart |
| 3. Easy | 14. Mischievous/naughty/prankish/sportive/waggish |
| 4. Corrupt/spoiled | 15. Tiny/little/diminutive |
| 5. Brave/intrepid/courageous/fearless | 16. Fat/plump/thick |
| 6. Fascinating/intelligent | 17. Humorous/amusing/laughable |
| 7. Slay/demolish/ruin | 18. Hate/despise/loathe |
| 8. Quandary/dilemma/plight | 19. Help/assist/encourage/aid |
| 9. Peculiar/unusual/unfamiliar | 20. Distress/pain/damage/hurt |
| 10. Hideous/horrible/monstrous | |
| 11. Fearful/unnerved/insecure | |

