

VOCABULARY

3.1. SYNONYMS

Words with similar meanings are called synonyms. But nothing in nature is hundred percent similar to anything else. For example, a tree has numerous leaves. At a distance, the leaves appear similar. If we closely examine any two leaves of the same tree, we find that the two leaves are distinct from each other. The same principle applies to synonyms. There cannot be hundred percent similarity between two words. Therefore, a word which is more than fifty percent similar in meaning is called synonym for that word. It is very important to check as to how far two words are close to each other. Then comes the grammatical status of that word, *i.e.*, the synonym of a noun must be noun, of adjective should be adjective; of verb ought to be verb; of adverb must be adverb, and so on.

A. Synonyms of Nouns

act	– deed	cure	– remedy
admission	– entry	defect	– fault
affection	– love	desire	– wish
beginning	– start	display	– exhibition
behaviour	– conduct	donation	– contribution
cause	– reason	earnings	– income
chance	– opportunity	envy	– jealousy
character	– nature	evidence	– proof
consequence	– result	freedom	– liberty
conversation	– talk	grief	– sorrow
competition	– contest	harm	– injury
hunger	– starvation	odour	– smell
idea	– thought	pleasure	– satisfaction
intention	– purpose	principle	– rule
journey	– trip	riches	– wealth
judgement	– verdict	strength	– power
knowledge	– learning	subject	– topic
midday	– noon	system	– method
misery	– unhappiness	value	– worth

B. Synonyms of Adjectives

accurate	– exact	fertile	– productive
alert	– watchful	frightened	– scared
annual	– yearly	furious	– angry
anxious	– worried	hard	– difficult
attractive	– pretty	hardworking	– industrious
awful	– terrible	ignorant	– stupid
brave	– courageous	jealous	– envious
bright	– intelligent	kind	– charitable
cautious	– careful	loyal	– faithful
clear	– distinct	mean	– stingy
clumsy	– awkward	necessary	– essential
coarse	– rough	normal	– usual
common	– ordinary	old	– elderly
confident	– hopeful	polite	– courteous
damp	– moist	safe	– secure
desperate	– hopeless	similar	– alike
diligent	– hard-working	strong	– powerful
doubtful	– uncertain	tired	– weary
energetic	– active	transparent	– clear
fair	– just	wasteful	– extravagant

C. Synonyms of Verbs

abandon	– leave	confess	– admit
aid	– help	control	– manage
allow	– let	cure	– heal
acquire	– get	decrease	– reduce
ask	– inquire	design	– plan
build	– construct	educate	– teach
buy	– purchase	find	– discover
capture	– seize	finish	– complete
choose	– select	forgive	– pardon
glance	– look	reside	– stay
hate	– dislike	reveal	– show
hurt	– harm	search	– seek
imagine	– think	start	– begin
increase	– enlarge	surround	– encircle
leave	– depart	try	– attempt
own	– possess	vanish	– disappear
protect	– defend	want	– need
receive	– stay	watch	– look

D. Synonyms of Adverbs

almost	– nearly	generously	– liberally
annually	– yearly	gravely	– seriously
certainly	– surely	happily	– joyfully
clearly	– plainly	immediately	– instantly
cleverly	– skifully	incorrectly	– wrongly
completely	– totally	intentionally	– purposely
correctly	– properly	powerfully	– strongly
formerly	– previously	rapidly	– quickly
frankly	– honestly	sincerely	– truly
frequently	– often		

3.2. ANTONYMS

Antonym refers to a word that means the opposite of another word. For example, the opposite of modern is ancient. But some words have two antonyms: The word 'old' has two possible antonyms: 'young' and 'new'; but the contexts of their uses are different. It is important to know the context and situation of every antonym. The antonym of noun must be noun, of verb should be verb, of adjective should be adjective, and of adverb should be adverb.

Antonyms can be formed in the following ways:

1. by adding a prefix to the given word
2. by changing the prefix of a given word
3. by changing the suffix of a given word
4. by a completely new word

Examples

1. By adding a prefix

able	– unable	honest	– dishonest
load	– unload	obey	– disobey
accurate	– inaccurate	behave	– misbehave
complete	– incomplete	understand	– misunderstand
possible	– impossible	legal	– illegal
patient	– impatient	legible	– illegible
regular	– irregular	smoker	– non-smoker
responsible	– irresponsible	citizen	– non-citizen
climax	– anticlimax	ordinary	– extraordinary

2. By changing the prefix

absent	– present	emigrant	– immigrant
ascend	– descend	encourage	– discourage
export	– import	include	– exclude
external	– internal	minimum	– maximum
increase	– decrease	pro-China	– anti-China

3. By changing the suffix

harm	– harmless	employers	– employee
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lively	—	lifeless
sensible	—	senseless

A. Antonyms of Nouns

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liquid	—	solid
master	—	servant
mountain	—	valley
native	—	foreigner
past	—	future
poverty	—	wealth
question	—	answer
sale	—	purchase
summer	—	winter
tenant	—	landlord
victory	—	defeat
war	—	peace
weakness	—	strength
youth	—	age

B. Antonyms of Adjectives

hollow	—	solid
inferior	—	superior
innocent	—	guilty
kind	—	cruel
lazy	—	hardworking
modern	—	old-fashioned
moving	—	stationary
neat	—	untidy
negative	—	positive
public	—	private
raw	—	cooked
safe	—	dangerous
senior	—	junior
sharp	—	blunt
unique	—	common
vacant	—	full
wasteful	—	economical
weak	—	strong

C. Antonyms of Verbs

give — take, receive
hit — miss