

# **OGUN DIGICLASS**

**CLASS: SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**TOPIC: SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS**

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

definition of synonym.

how synonyms are formed.

definition of antonyms

how antonyms are formed and generally to acquire new words in day to day use of English language.

# DEFINITION OF SYNONYM

Synonyms are lexical items that generally have equivalent meanings. It can also be defined as words which have similar or nearly the same meaning as another one in the same language. Although, synonyms are similar words, it should be noted however there is no word that actually has the same meaning. Each synonym has its own individual meaning. No matter how identical they are, there would still be a little difference in meaning.



# EXAMPLES OF SYNONYM(VERB)

Synonyms are commonly found in the following parts of speech :verbs,  
nouns and adjectives.

**VERBS:** under verbs the following are some examples:

- o **arrest** - apprehend, catch, capture, seize.
- o **beg** - implore, beseech, entreat, supplicate, solicit, ask.
- o **confess** - admit, apologize, own, acknowledge
- o **control** - govern, administer, supervise, rule, reign, oversee, manage.
- o **decrease** - curtail, reduce, lessen, diminish, contract.

- **disown** - disclaim, deny, disavow.
- **explain** - elucidate, expound, define, depict, elaborate.
- **fortell** - predict, presage, herald.
- **get** - achieve, gain, secure, acquire, attain, earn, procure
- **increase** - expand, enlarge, magnify, extend, amplify, multiply
- **teach** - educate, train, instruct, guide, enlighten.
- **admire** - esteem, cherish, love, like, value.

# EXAMPLES OF SYNONYM(NOUN)

## NOUNS

- clothes - attires, reinment
- concussion - disorder, chaos, pandemonium
- danger - risk, jeopardy, peril, hazard, vulnerability.
- disaster - calamity, misfortune, adversity, mishap, catastrophe
- enemy - foe, opponent, adversity, antagonist

- feeling - emotion, passion, agitation, tremor.
- fight - combat, contest, battle, struggle, conflict, strife, contention.
- residence - home, abode, habitation, dwelling, domicile.
- sin - offence, transgression, misdemeanor, misconduct, misbehaviour.
- strength - power, energy, stamina, vigour, vitality.
- hope - confidence, optimism, expectancy, anxiety.
- riot - insurrection, revolt, mutiny, uprising, rebellion.

# EXAMPLES OF SYNONYM(ADJECTIVE)

## ADJECTIVES

- ❑ big - huge, great, enormous, vast, gigantic, large, immense.
- ❑ brave - bold, courageous, daring, dauntless,
- ❑ intrepid, fearless.
- ❑ clever - witty, brainy, ingenious, crafty, capable.
- ❑ costly - dear, expensive, priceless, invaluable, precious, sterling.
- ❑ dishonest - fraudulent, unjust, deceitful, deceptive, unscrupulous, unfair.



- ❑ famous - renowned, eminent, distinguished, illustrious, celebrated.
- ❑ frank - sincere, open, straightforward, candid, outspoken, ingenious.
- ❑ hardworking - diligent, sedulous, industrious.
- ❑ lazy, idle, indolent, sluggish, inert, inactive, slothful.
- ❑ proud, arrogant, pompous, egotistic, conceited.
- ❑ sad - unhappy, downcast, dejected, sorrowful, pensive.
- ❑ polite - courteous, wel-bred, affable, civil, polished.

# ANTONYMS

## ANTONYMS

Antonyms are words which are opposite to each other. The formation of antonyms varies from word to word. For example, some have similar forms with only the prefix or suffix changed  
e.g. legal - illegal, import - export, useful - useless.

However, care should be taken in ensuring that the word given as a synonym to another one is in the same part of speech, tense and number with each other. For example if the word is a noun, it's antonym should also be a noun, if it is plural, it's antonym should also be in plural form and so on.

# EXAMPLES OF ANTONYM (VERB)

## VERBS

	Word	Opposite
1.	advance	retreat/retire
2.	ascend	descend
3.	enjoy	dislike
4.	exonerate	condemn
5.	fail	succed/pass
6.	improve	deteriorate
7.	rectify	refute
8.	punish	pardon/forgive
9.	smile	frown
10.	rise	fall/sink
11.	release	detain/confide.
12.	rejoice	morn /grieve

# EXAMPLES OF ANTONYM (NOUN)

Word	Opposite
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- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. ability      | disability  |
| 2. blessing     | curse       |
| 3. antonym.     | synonym     |
| 4. caution      | reckless    |
| 5. construction | destruction |
| 6. danger       | safety      |
| 7. failure      | success     |
| 8. knowledge    | ignorance   |
| 9. miser        | spendthrift |
| 10. wealth      | poverty     |
| 11. wisdom      | fooly       |
| 12. virtue      | vice.       |

# EXAMPLES OF ANTONYM (ADJECTIVE)

	<b>Word</b>	<b>Opposite</b>
1.	beautiful	ugly
2.	clever	foolish/stupid
3.	daily	nightly
4.	courage	fearful /timid
5.	compulsory	voluntary/optional
6.	prudent	foolish/unwise
7.	invaluable	worthless
8.	likeable	detestable
9.	obscure	obvious
10.	prosperous	indigent/needy
11.	smart	sluggish
12.	submissive	intractable
13.	convenient	inconvenient
14.	visible	invisible
15.	potent	impotent

# EXAMPLES OF ANTONYM (ADJECTIVE) cont.

## Word

## Opposite

- |     |             |               |
|-----|-------------|---------------|
| 16. | accountable | unaccountable |
| 17. | rational    | irrational    |
| 18. | regular     | irregular     |
| 19. | legal       | Illegal       |
| 20. | logical     | illogical     |

# PAST QUESTIONS (ASSIGNMENT)

From the words lettered A to D below each of the following sentences, choose the word or group of words that is nearest in meaning to the underlined word as it is used in the sentence.

1. The most prevalent disease in Africa is malaria. (a) isolated (b) common (c) extraordinary (d) dangerous.
2. Elena was a virile young man. (a) delicate (b) feeble (c) puny (d) vigorous.
3. The impudent student was ordered to leave the classroom. (a) quarrelsome (b) noisy (c) disrespectful (d) lazy.
4. You have misconstrued my statement by your reaction (a) rejected (b) misinterpreted (c) distracted (d) dismissed
5. Sometimes referees take controversial decisions during matches. (a) harmonious (b) debatable (c) unilateral (d) secret.

# PAST QUESTIONS (ASSIGNMENT) cont.

In each of the following sentences there is a word or group of words underlined and one gap. From the words or group of words lettered A to D, choose the one that is **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the defined words or group of words and that will, at the same time correctly fill the gap in the sentence.

6. The doctor said the antibiotic might deteriorate his condition, not..... it. (a) stabilize (b) improve (c) worsen (d) impede.
7. The religious leaders prayed for a quick..... of the political impasse. (a) suspension (b) agreement (c) resolution (d) release.
8. My father who is meticulous dislikes..... people. (a) suspicious (b) careless (c) rash (d) lawless.
9. The President has decided to shelve the decision, so don't attempt to.... it. (a) implement (b) cancel (c) postpone (d) neglect.
10. This house which was sealed off years ago has now been..... (a) re-opened (b) rebuilt (c) re-roofed (d) restored.