

The Types of lexical relations —

— ¹ Synonyms —

Synonyms are two or more forms with very closely related meanings, which are often, but not always, inter-substitutable in sentences.

For example:-

- broad = wide , hide = conceal
 - almost = nearly , cab = taxi ,
 - Liberty = freedom , answer = reply.
- E.g. of synonymy are in para

The idea of "sameness of meaning" used in discussing synonymy is not necessarily total sameness.

There are many occasions when one word is appropriate in a sentence, but its synonyms would be add.

For example:-

The word "answer" fit in the sentence Cathy had only one "answer" correct in the test. Its near synonymy would "reply" would sound add.

Antonymy

Two forms with opposite meanings are called "antonymy".

For example:

quick = slow, big = small
long = short, rich = poor,
happy = sad, hot = cold, old = young,
male = female, true = false,
alive = dead.

Antonyms are divided into two ^{parts}

(i) — Gradable antonyms

(ii) — Ungradable antonyms

↓
(complementary pairs)

→ Gradable antonyms :-

Words with opposite meaning a long a scale such as the pair
big = small, can be used in

comparative constructions like
bigger than - smaller than.

Negative of one member of
the gradable pair does not
necessarily imply the other.

For example :-

Dog is not old, it does
not mean that dog is young.

→ Non-gradable antonyms:-

Words which are direct
opposites. Such antonyms have
complementary pairs, comparative
constructions and negative of
one member does imply the
other.

For example :-

The person is not
dead does indeed mean
that person is live.