

# How to get synonyms/antonyms from NLTK WordNet in Python?

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WordNet is a large lexical database of English. Nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs are grouped into sets of cognitive synonyms (synsets), each expressing a distinct concept. Synsets are interlinked by means of conceptual-semantic and lexical relations.

**WordNet's structure makes it a useful tool for computational linguistics and natural language processing.**

WordNet superficially resembles a thesaurus, in that it groups words together based on their meanings. However, there are some important distinctions.

- First, WordNet interlinks not just word forms—strings of letters—but specific senses of words. As a result, words that are found in close proximity to one another in the network are semantically disambiguated.
- Second, WordNet labels the semantic relations among words, whereas the groupings of words in a thesaurus does not follow any explicit pattern other than meaning similarity.

```
from nltk.corpus import wordnet

syns = wordnet.synsets("`"program"`)

print``(syns[``0``].name())

print``(syns[``0``].lemmas()[``0``].name())

print``(syns[``0``].definition())

print``(syns[``0``].examples())
```

**The output will look like:**

plan.n.01

plan

a series of steps to be carried out or goals to be accomplished

['they drew up a six-step plan', 'they discussed plans for a new bond issue']

Next, how might we discern synonyms and antonyms to a word? The lemmas will be synonyms, and then you can use `.antonyms` to find the antonyms to the lemmas. As such, we can populate some lists like:

```

import nltk

from nltk.corpus import wordnet

synonyms = []

antonyms = []

for syn in wordnet.synsets(``"good"``):

    for l in syn.lemmas():

        synonyms.append(l.name())

        if l.antonyms():

            antonyms.append(l.antonyms()[``0``].name())

print``(``set``(synonyms))

print``(``set``(antonyms))

```

### The output will be two sets of synonyms and antonyms

{'beneficial', 'just', 'upright', 'thoroughly', 'in\_force', 'well', 'skilful', 'skillful', 'sound', 'unspoiled', 'expert', 'proficient', 'in\_effect', 'honorable', 'adept', 'secure', 'commodity', 'estimable', 'soundly', 'right', 'respectable', 'good', 'serious', 'ripe', 'salutary', 'dear', 'practiced', 'goodness', 'safe', 'effective', 'unspoil', 'dependable', 'undecomposed', 'honest', 'full', 'near', 'trade\_good'} {'evil', 'evilness', 'bad', 'badness', 'ill'}

### Now , let's compare the similarity index of any two words

```

import nltk

from nltk.corpus import wordnet

w1 = wordnet.synset(``'run.v.01'``)

w2 = wordnet.synset(``'sprint.v.01'``)

print``(w1.wup_similarity(w2))

```

Output:

0.857142857143

```

w1 = wordnet.synset(``'ship.n.01'``)

w2 = wordnet.synset(``'boat.n.01'``)

```

```
print``(w1.wup_similarity(w2))
```

Output:

0.9090909090909091