

Antonyms and Synonyms – Introduction

Types of Activities

- **Say It Again** (pages 19-22)
Synonym substitution is a crucial metalinguistic skill. Using synonyms correctly allows students to paraphrase and comprehend information successfully. These pages will help students practice identifying synonym pairs in context.
- **Grid Activities** (pages 23-25)
These pages can be used in a variety of ways. Students can simply locate the pairs of synonyms and antonyms in these grids and list them on another sheet of paper. You may also present the activity as a competitive game. Provide game tokens and a die, and then choose a direction for students to move around the grid (top to bottom, side to side). When a player lands on a word on the grid, she finds the other half of its pair on the board and writes her initials in each box on the grid. The game continues until all the boxes on the grid have been initialed. (As students roll the die and move, have them skip over boxes that have already been initialed.)
- **Pie Charts** (pages 26-29)
In these activities, students are challenged to match synonym and antonym pairs. Remind students that each word can only be used once. Encourage them to scrutinize their choices and use trial and error to complete the activity.

IEP Goals and Objectives:

- The student will identify grade- and age-appropriate antonyms and synonyms with 90% accuracy.
- The student will label grade- and age-appropriate antonyms and synonyms with 80% accuracy.
- The student will accurately substitute synonyms in context with 80% accuracy.
- The student will identify correct paraphrasing of sentences/paragraphs with 90% accuracy.

Statements to Motivate

- Synonyms and antonyms help make your verbal and written language more expressive and creative.
- If a word is on the tip of your tongue but you can't find it, use the word's synonym instead.
- There are often many ways to say the same thing. Your reading and verbal comprehension will be better if you know different ways of saying the same thing. You're more likely to understand what you are reading and what others are saying.

say it again

You can use different words to say the same thing. Two words that mean about the same are called *synonyms*.

➔ Underline the word in each sentence that can be replaced by the synonym in the right-hand column. The first one is done for you.

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. The book's <u>conclusion</u> was lengthy. | ending |
| 2. My estimate of the answer was correct. | guess |
| 3. Round your solution to the nearest whole number. | answer |
| 4. Your belief about a subject is not always right. | opinion |
| 5. Eight is more than three. | greater |
| 6. The magician made the rabbit disappear. | vanish |
| 7. Her community is nice and quiet. | neighborhood |
| 8. The location for the movie <i>Star Wars</i> is outer space. | setting |
| 9. Thomas Edison was the creator of many things. | inventor |
| 10. I didn't make one mistake on the math test. | error |

describe it

You can use phrases to accurately describe things.

- ▲ Circle all the phrases that can describe a **courthouse**.
- ▲ Underline all the phrases that can describe a **sentence**.
- ▲ Put a box around all the phrases that can describe a **reptile**.
- ▲ Cross out all the phrases that can describe a **tusk**.

Note: You should mark all the phrases at least once. Some phrases may be marked more than once.

an important
building

includes a noun and
a verb

protrudes from a
walrus' mouth

a location

cold-blooded

includes lizards and
tortoises

requires order

protrudes from an
elephant's mouth

have rough exteriors

rules are
enforced

where a
judge works

first letter
capitalized

where juries do
work

punctuation is
necessary

made up of cells

your best language

It's best to use the most specific words when describing something. Circle the phrase that most accurately describes each item. The first one is done for you.

item	descriptive phrases	
1. ostrich	has feathers	a flightless bird
2. noun	a word	person, place, or thing
3. solid	something you can feel	state of matter that is not liquid or gas
4. Washington, D.C.	important city	capital of the U.S.A.
5. triceratops	large, extinct animal	three-horned dinosaur
6. praying mantis	green animal	long-legged insect
7. cola	cold beverage	brown soda
8. freedom	good feeling	liberty and independence
9. election	annual event	a vote to choose leaders
10. rock and roll	loud, energetic music	type of song
11. sweatshirt	long-sleeved clothing	warm, heavy type of shirt
12. snake	long, thin animal	legless reptile
13. Internet	informational resource	place to look up stuff
14. 3	small prime number	number after 2
15. soccer	activity that uses a ball	world's most popular sport