

Varied Fluency

Step 3: Synonyms and Antonyms

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 6: (6G6.1) [How words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms \[for example, big, large, little\]](#)

Terminology for pupils:

- (6G6.1)
- (6G6.1)

Differentiation:

Developing Questions to support the use of synonyms and antonyms. Vocabulary based on Year 3 and 4 statutory spellings.

Expected Questions to support the use of synonyms and antonyms. Vocabulary based on Year 5 and 6 statutory spellings.

Greater Depth Questions to support the use of synonyms and antonyms. Includes unfamiliar and challenging vocabulary.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

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Synonyms and Antonyms

Synonyms and Antonyms

1a. Is each of the words below a synonym or antonym of 'difficult'?

easy

hard

tricky



VF

1b. Is each of the words below a synonym or antonym of 'great'?

good

awful

awesome



VF

2a. Is each word in the table a synonym of, antonym of, or unrelated to the word 'strange'? Tick the correct places in the table.

<u>Word</u>	<u>Synonym</u>	<u>Antonym</u>	<u>Unrelated</u>
odd			
cold			
normal			



VF

2b. Is each word in the table a synonym of, antonym of, or unrelated to the word 'quickly'? Tick the correct places in the table.

<u>Word</u>	<u>Synonym</u>	<u>Antonym</u>	<u>Unrelated</u>
happily			
swiftly			
slowly			



VF

3a. Write a synonym and antonym of the word below.

complete



VF

3b. Write a synonym and antonym of the word below.

break



VF

4a. Circle the pair of synonyms and their antonym in the paragraph below.

The train was arriving soon. Mark was coming home for Christmas. Karen was going to meet him at the station.



VF

4b. Circle the pair of synonyms and their antonym in the paragraph below.

Perhaps I should do more exercise. Maybe I should eat better too. I definitely need to be healthier.



VF

Synonyms and Antonyms

Synonyms and Antonyms

5a. Is each of the words below a synonym or antonym of 'excellent'?

outstanding

poor

superb

dreadful



VF

5b. Is each of the words below a synonym or antonym of 'vicious'?

nasty

thoughtful

kind

cruel



VF

6a. Is each word in the table a synonym of, antonym of, or unrelated to the word 'sincere'? Tick the correct places in the table.

Word	Synonym	Antonym	Unrelated
interfere			
genuine			
dishonest			
truthful			



VF

6b. Is each word in the table a synonym of, antonym of, or unrelated to the word 'descent'? Tick the correct places in the table.

Word	Synonym	Antonym	Unrelated
drop			
powerful			
ascent			
climb			



VF

7a. Write a synonym and antonym of the word below.

tough



VF

7b. Write a synonym and antonym of the word below.

innocent



VF

8a. Circle the pair of synonyms and their antonym in the paragraph below.

"I'm able to finish it," gasped Will.
"No. Your leg is incapable of getting you to the top!" said Doc.
He was almost certain Will would be unable to walk.



VF

8b. Circle the pair of synonyms and their antonym in the paragraph below.

"These jeans are a real bargain," said Sally. "They are so cheap!"
"Wow, you're right. The last pair I bought were a rip-off!" replied Leanne.



VF

Synonyms and Antonyms

Synonyms and Antonyms

9a. Is each of the words below a synonym or antonym of 'courageous'?

audacious **cowardly**
spineless **gallant**
valiant



VF

9b. Is each of the words below a synonym or antonym of 'despondent'?

ecstatic **jubilant**
disconsolate **crestfallen**
demoralized



VF

10a. Is each word in the table a synonym of, antonym of, or unrelated to the word 'melodramatic'? Tick the correct places in the table.

Word	Synonym	Antonym	Unrelated
restrained			
theatrical			
overemotional			
histrionic			
quizzical			



VF

10b. Is each word in the table a synonym of, antonym of, or unrelated to the word 'gregarious'? Tick the correct places in the table.

Word	Synonym	Antonym	Unrelated
sociable			
convivial			
penniless			
atrocious			
antisocial			



VF

11a. Write a synonym and antonym of the word below.

tentatively



VF

11b. Write a synonym and antonym of the word below.

unassuming



VF

12a. Circle the pair of synonyms and their antonym in the paragraph below.

Sadie has an irrepressible desire to help people who are in dire need. Her untameable energy has seen her through situations which might have halted the impetus of a more suppressible spirit.



VF

12b. Circle the pair of synonyms and their antonym in the paragraph below.

The radio show often turned into a monologue, with only Scott knowing what to say. However, a passionate dialogue broke out between him and Suri when a soliloquy by Shakespeare was mentioned.



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Varied Fluency Synonyms and Antonyms

Developing

- 1a. Synonyms: hard, tricky
Antonyms: easy
- 2a. odd: synonym
cold: unrelated
normal: antonym
- 3a. Various answers, for example:
synonyms – finish, whole, done
antonyms – incomplete, lacking, partial
- 4a. Synonyms: arriving, coming
Antonym: going

Expected

- 5a. Synonyms: outstanding, superb
Antonyms: poor, dreadful
- 6a. interfere: unrelated
genuine: synonym
dishonest: antonym
truthful: synonym.
- 7a. Various answers, for example:
synonyms – strong, sturdy, resilient
antonyms – weak, fragile, flimsy
- 8a. Synonyms: incapable, unable
Antonym: able

Greater Depth

- 9a. Synonyms: audacious, gallant, valiant
Antonyms: cowardly, spineless
- 10a. restrained: antonym
theatrical: synonym
overemotional: synonym
histrionic: synonym
quizzical: unrelated
- 11a. Various answers, for example:
synonyms – hesitantly, cautiously, timidly
antonyms – boldly, confidently, bravely
- 12a. Synonyms: irrepressible, untameable
Antonym: suppressible

Varied Fluency Synonyms and Antonyms

Developing

- 1b. Synonyms: good, awesome
Antonyms: awful
- 2b. happily: unrelated
swiftly: synonym
slowly: antonym
- 3b. Various answers, for example:
synonyms – smash, shatter, rest
antonyms – mend, repair, fix
- 4b. Synonyms: perhaps, maybe
Antonym: definitely

Expected

- 5b. Synonyms: nasty, cruel
Antonyms: kind, thoughtful
- 6b. drop: synonym
powerful: unrelated
ascent: antonym
climb: antonym
- 7b. Various answers, for example:
synonyms – blameless, guilt-free, naive
antonyms – guilty, sinful, to blame
- 8b. Synonyms: bargain, cheap
Antonym: rip-off

Greater Depth

- 9b. Synonyms: disconsolate, crestfallen, demoralized
Antonyms: ecstatic, jubilant
- 10b. sociable: synonym
convivial: synonym
penniless: unrelated
atrocious: unrelated
antisocial: antonym.
- 11b. Various answers, for example:
synonyms – modest, meek, humble
antonyms – arrogant, overconfident, conceited
- 12b. Synonyms: monologue, soliloquy
Antonym: dialogue