

Synonyms



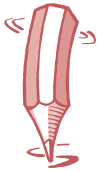
Synonyms are words that **mean the same** or **nearly the same**. Many words have synonyms, and this is useful. You don't need to use the same word again and again – instead, you can use a synonym.

For example: He walked along the **dark** path until he came to the **dark** building. The sky above was **dark**.

It sounds much better if you write:

He walked along the **shadowy** path until he came to the **unlit** building. The sky above was **gloomy**.

Shadowy, unlit and gloomy are synonyms for dark.



1. Match up pairs of words that have the **same or similar meanings**. Write the pairs of **synonyms** in the column on the right.

amusing	adore
angry	penniless
strong	intelligent
stop	humorous
clever	assist
like	prevent
poor	powerful
help	annoyed

<u>amusing</u>	and	<u>humorous</u>
_____	and	_____
_____	and	_____
_____	and	_____
_____	and	_____
_____	and	_____
_____	and	_____
_____	and	_____



2. Write down a **synonym** for each of these words.

a) great _____

d) little _____

b) horrible _____

e) stupid _____

c) rich _____

f) quiet _____

Did you know...



English has lots of words that mean nearly the same thing because it is a mixture of many languages. Some words used today existed in Old English, others were added by the Vikings – and more by the Normans when they invaded in 1066. Some of the words added by the Normans meant the same as words that already existed. All the words became part of the language and are still used today.