**USE SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS DESCRIBING PERSONALITY**



Imagine for a moment how dull the world would be if there were only one word to voice a particular thought. If every person, place, or object could only be expressed with the same word over and over again, then reading, writing, and speaking would be extremely boring. Luckily, we have synonyms and antonyms to add spice and flavor to our communication skills.

So enjoy this manual and then get around for preparing your own list of Synonyms and Antonyms. There is no better way of boosting your words power. I have tried my best to make this manual as informative as possible. It will certainly help in broadening the horizons of your vocabulary knowledge.

**Importance of Learning Synonyms and Antonyms**

Language learners need to study a lot of words, including synonyms and antonyms, in order to understand English speech and writing. If you want to understand native speakers in conversation, watch films, read books, newspapers and magazines, you need to know as many words as possible. It is easier to understand and memorize words when they are organized in groups of related words, and synonyms can be arranged in groups easily

Synonyms are words that are similar or have a related meaning to another word. They can be lifesafer, especially when you want to avoid repeating the same words over and over. Also, sometimes the word you have in mind might not be the most appropriate word, which is while finding the right synonym can come in handy. Luckily, we do not have to go searching the recesses of our of our mind to come up with a list of synonyms.

There is a certain skill involved in choosing the most appropriate synonym, as not all are created equal. It is important to consider the connotation of the word because some synonyms can inject a different meaning that one intended.

For example, one synonym of “sad” is “gloomy”, however, this word carries a negative connotation. Depending on the circumstance you can use it, but if you just want to say that someone is “down”, then another synonym such as “blue” or “unhappy” would be more applicable.

Here is a list of adjectives and their synonyms that are commonly used to describe people:

fair – just, objective, impartial, unbiased;

funny – humorous, comical, hilarious, hysterical;

intelligent – smart, bright, brilliant, sharp;

positive – optimistic, cheerful, starry-eyed, sanguine.

**Synonyms Test**

Below there is a list of synonyms related to the adjectives above. Match the right synonym with one of the adjectives

1. Loaded a) sad

2. Disconsolate b) beautiful

3. Fit c) rich

4. Clever d) mean

5. Cute e) strong

6. Truthful f) funny

7. Beneficent g) intelligent

8. Convivial h) happy

9. Virulent i) honest

10. Reserved j) outgoing

11. Languid k) kind

12. Jocular l) hardworking

13. Benevolent m) lazy

14. Assiduous n) fair

15. Blissful o) introverted

Keys: 1-c, 2-a, 3-e, 4-g, 5-b, 6-I, 7-k, 8-j, 9-d, 10-o, 11-m, 12-f,13-n, 14-l, 15-h.

Strictly speaking, there are no synonyms that have completely the same meaning and can be interchangeable, at least in some meaning: big-large.

But there are always some shades of meaning to that of another word. Like synonyms, antonyms may have several meanings, and antonyms of some word may or may not be synonyms among themselves. For example, the opposites of the word “friendly”, the adjectives “unfriendly, hostile”, are synonyms, while the opposites of the word “short”, the adjectives “long, tall” are not synonyms.

Antonyms are easier to substitude than synonyms. In the case of adjectives, if you want to express the opposite you can often use the structure not+adjective as a substitude for an antonym: young-not young, fragile-not fragile.

Using an extended vocabulary can have many advantages. It may improve communication and self-confidence, as well as your relationships with people.

Not all words from a word group are perfect synonyms, so when you replace a word, make sure the synonym you use fits the context.

**Vocabulary List**

**Use These Adjectives to Describe Personality**

1. Abusive – violent, brutal, cruel, harsh, oppressive.

 Opposites: polite, kind.

1. Acceptable – adequate, reasonable, fair, good enough, sufficient, tolerable, passable.

Opposites: unacceptable.

1. Accomplished – skilled, skilful, talented, gifted, (informal) mean, nifty, crack, ace.
2. Addicted – dependent, obsessed, fanatical, passionate, (informal) hacked.
3. Adverse – harmful, dangerous, hostile, unfavorable, unfriendly, negative.

Opposites: favorable, beneficial

1. Affluent – wealthy, rich, prosperous, well off, well-to-do, of means, (informal)well heeled, made of money, loaded.

Opposites: poor.

1. Aggressive – violent, confrontational, antagonistic.

Opposites: peaceful, laid-back.

1. Agile (she was as agile as a monkey) – nimble, lithe, acrobatic.

An agile mind – sharp, acute, perspective, quid.

Opposites: stiff, clumsy, dull.

1. Agreeable(man) – likeable, amiable, pleasant, nice, friendly, good-natured, sociable, genial.

Opposites: unpleasant.

1. Ailing – ill, sick, weak.

Opposites: healthy.

1. Aimless – purposeless, directionless, undirected.
2. Alert – 1) watchful, attentive, observant, (informal) keeping one’s eyes open; 2) mentally alert – quick-witted, sharp, bright, quick, perceptive.

Opposites: inattentive, dull.

1. Ambitious – aspiring, determined, motivated, energetic, committed, purposeful, (informal) go-ahead, go-getting.

Opposites: laid-back, easy.

1. Amusing – funny, comical, humorous, lighted-hearted, witty, entertaining.

Opposites: solemn, boring.

1. Angry – furious, enraged, infuriated, outraged, cross.

Opposites: good-humoured.

1. Antisocial – unsociable, unfriendly, uncommunicative, reclusive.

Opposites: acceptable, sociable.

1. Anxious- worried, fearful, uneasy, disturbed, nervous.

Opposites: confident, unconcerned.

1. Apathetic – uninterested, indifferent, unmoved, uninvolved.

Opposites: interested, involved, enthusiastic.

1. Appreciative – grateful, thankful, obliged, indebted.

Opposites: ungrateful.

1. Artistic – creative, imaginative, expressive, sensitive.

Opposites: unimaginative.

1. Attentive – (pupil) 1)alert, perceptive, observant, acute, aware, needful, focused, studious, diligent, conscientious, earnest. 2)the most attentive of husbands: considerate, thoughtful, kind, caring, solicitous, understanding, sympathetic.

Opposites: inattentive.

1. Attractive – good-looking, beautiful, pretty, handsome, lovely, stunning, striking, gorgeous,(English)bony.

Informal: (Brit.)fit, (Amer.)cute.

Attractive career – appealing, inviting, tempting, pleasing, interesting.

Opposites: unattractive, ugly, uninviting.

1. Austere(man) – severe, stern, strict, harsh, grim, cold, unfriendly.

Opposites: easy-going, friendly, extravagant.

1. Authoritarian – strict, autocratic, dictatorial, despotic, tyrannical, illiberal, undemocratic.

Opposites: bossy.

1. Avid – keen, eager, enthusiastic, ardent, passionate, devoted.

Opposites: apathetic.

1. Babyish – childish, infantile, juvenile, immature.

Opposites: mature.

1. Backward – (he was not backward displaying his talents )hesitant, reticent, reluctant, shy, diffident, timid.

Opposites: progressive, confident.

1. Bad – (bad guys) 1) wicked, evil, sinful, criminal, immortal, corrupt.

Informal: crooked, bent.

2) you are bad girl – naughty, badly behaved, disobedient, undisciplined, unruly.

Opposites: good, well behaved.

1. Bad-tempered – irritable, moody, ill-tempered, cross, grumpy.

Opposites: good-humoured, affable.

1. Bald – hairless, smooth, shaven, depilated.

Opposites: hairy.

1. Banal – unoriginal, unimaginative, stereotyped, boring, obvious.

Informal: corny.

Opposites: original.

1. Bare – (he was bare to the waist) naked, unclothed, undressed, nude.

Opposites: dressed.

1. Bashful – shy, reserved, timid, retiring, reluctant.

Opposites: confident, bold.

1. Beautiful – attractive, pretty, handsome, elegant, good-looking, lovely, charming, graceful, appealing, gorgeous, stunning, glamorous, stunning, (Engl.) bonny.

Informal: (Am.) cute.

Opposites: ugly.

1. Bedraggled – disheveled, disordered, untidy.

Opposites: neat.

1. Benevolent - kind, kind-hearted, good-natured, caring, altruistic, philanthropic.

Opposites: unkind.

1. Big – (a big man) well-built, tall, huge, fat, stout,

(my big brother) grown-up, adult, mature, grown, elder, older.

Opposites: small, little, younger.

1. Blind – sightless, unsighted.

Opposites: sighted.

1. Bloodthirsty – murderous, violent, savage, brutal.
2. Bluff – plain-spoken, straightforward, frank, open.

Informal: upfront.

Opposites: guarded, secretive.

1. Boastful – bragging, bumptious, cocky, conceited.

Opposites: modest.

1. Bony – skinny, thin, underweight.

Opposites: plump.

1. Boring – tedious, dull, unimaginative, characterless, unexciting, tiresome, soul-destroying.

Opposites: interesting, exciting.

1. Bossy – pushy, imperious, dictatorial, authoritarian.

Opposites: submissive.

1. Brash – self-assertive, pushy, cocky, self-confident, arrogant.

Opposites: meek.

1. Brave – courageous, heroic, fearless, daring.

Opposites: cowardly.

1. Brilliant(student) – clever, bright, intelligent, smart, talented, gifted, skilful.

Opposites: stupid, undistinguished.

1. Calm(she seemed very calm) – relaxed, untroubled, unexcitable, unemotional.

Opposites: excited, nervous, stormy.

1. Capable – able, competent, effective, proficient, accomplished, experienced, skilful, talented, gifted.

Opposites: incompetent.

1. Capricious – unpredictable, fickle, wayward.

Opposites: consistent.

1. Carefree – unworried, untroubled, relaxed, free and easy, easy-going.

Opposites: troubled.

1. Careful – cautious, alert, attentive.

Opposites: careless, extravagant.

1. Careless – inattentive, irresponsible, reckless.

Opposites: careful, attentive.

1. Charismatic – charming, glamorous.
2. Charitable – 1) generous, open-handed, munificent,2) (he was charitable in his judgements) liberal, tolerant, sympathetic, understanding, forgiving.

Opposites: mean, harsh.

1. Charming – delightful, lovely, adorable, attractive, good-looking.
2. Cheerful – (he arrived looking cheerful) happy, jolly, merry, bright, sunny, good-humoured.
3. Churlish – rude, ill-mannered, discourteous, impolite, inconsiderate.

Opposites: polite.,

1. Clumsy – (she was terribly clumsy) awkward, uncoordinated, graceless, inelegant, unskillful.

Opposites: graceful, handy.

1. Cocky –arrogant, self-important, boastful, egotistical.

Opposites: modest.

1. Compassionate – sympathetic, understanding, caring, sensitive, loving, kind.

Opposites: unsympathetic, uncaring.

1. Congenial – (very congenial people) sociable, hospitable, friendly.

Opposites: unpleasant.

1. Conscientious – diligent, industrious, dedicated, hard-working.

Opposites: casual.

1. Courteous – polite, well-mannered, respectful, behaved, considerate.

Opposites: rude.

1. Cowardly – fait-hearted, timid, fearful.

Opposites: brave.

1. Crazy – 1) mad, insane, unbalanced,2) (he is crazy about her) passionate, very keen, enthusiastic, fanatical.

Opposites: sane, sensible, apathetic.

1. Creative – inventive, imaginative, original, inspired.

Opposites: unimaginative.

1. Cruel – (a cruel man) brutal, savage, ruthless, inhumane.

Opposites: compassionate.

1. Cute – endearing, adorable, lovable, sweet, lovely, delightful, dear.

Opposites: ugly.

1. Cynical – doubtful, suspicious, disbelieving, pessimistic.

Opposites: idealistic, optimistic.

1. Deceitful – dishonest, untruthful, insincere, two-faced, double-dealing,(informal)sneaky, tricky.

Opposites: honest.

1. Defiant – disobedient, resistant, obstinate.

Opposites: cooperative.

1. Delicate – (his wife is very delicate) sickly, unhealthy, frail, weak.
2. Delightful – charming, appealing, sweet, cute.
3. Depressed – (he felt lonely and depressed) sad, unhappy, miserable, gloomy.

Opposites – cheerful.

1. Desirable(a very desirable woman) – attractive, beautiful, pretty, irresistible,(informal) sexy.

Opposites – ugly.

1. Determined – purposeful, persistent, dedicated.

Opposites – irresolute.

1. Devoted – dedicated, committed, faithful, loving.
2. Difficult (child) – troublesome, tiresome, demanding, fussy.

Opposites – easy, simple.

1. Dignified – noble, majestic, impressive.
2. Disabled – handicapped, incapacitated.

Opposites – able-bodied.

1. Disappointed – upset, dissatisfied, discouraged, downhearted.

Opposites – delighted.

1. Disobedient – naughty, unruly, troublesome.

Opposites – obedient.

1. Dubious(businessman) – suspicious, unreliable, questionable.
2. Efficient(secretary) – competent, capable, skilful, organized.

Opposites – inefficient, incompetent.

1. Energetic – active, lively, dynamic, tireless, enthusiastic.

Opposites – gentle, half-hearted.

1. Faithful – (assistant) loyal, true, devoted, dedicated, trusty, dependable, reliable.

Opposites – disloyal, inaccurate.

1. Famous – well-known, prominent, famed, popular, noted, distinguished.

Opposites – unknown.

1. Frank – (he was quite frank with me) candid, direct, open, plain, honest.
2. Friendly –amiable, companionable, sociable, hospitable, affable.

Opposites – unfriendly, hostile.

1. Furious – (he was furious when we told him) very angry, enraged, outraged, infuriated.

Opposites – pleased, calm.

1. Generous – liberal, lavish, unselfish, open-handed.

Opposites – mean, selfish.

1. Gloomy – (Joanna looked gloomy) depressed, downhearted, dispirited.

Opposites – cheerful, optimistic.

1. Glamorous – beautiful, elegant, chic, stylish, fashionable.
2. Gorgeous – good-looking, attractive, beautiful, pretty, handsome, lovely, stunning.

Opposites – ugly.

1. Gracious – courteous, polite, tactful, kind, hospitable.

Opposites – ungracious.

1. Grateful – thankful, appreciative, obliged.
2. Handsome – (a man) good-looking, attractive, striking.

Opposites – ugly.

1. Happy – cheerful, merry, joyful, carefree, content, mirthful, unbeatable.
2. Healthy – (baby) well, fit, strong.
3. Honest – upright, honourable, principled, scrupulous, trustworthy, fair.

Opposites – dishonest.

1. Honourable – (man) honest, moral, respectable, noble, fair.
2. Hospitable – welcoming, friendly, sociable, gracious.
3. Humorous – amusing, funny, comic, witty.

Opposites – serious.

1. Ignorant – (an ignorant country girl) uneducated, illiterate, unsophisticated.

Opposites –educated.

1. Imaginative – creative, original, innovative.
2. Impatient – nervous, anxious.

Opposites – patient, calm.

1. Impolite – rude, bad-mannered, ill-mannered, cheeky.

Opposites – polite.

1. Insecure – (an insecure young man) unconfident, uncertain, unsure, hesitant.
2. Intellectual –(man) learned, erudite, scholarly, bookish.

Opposites – stupid.

1. Intense – (a very intense young man) passionate, eager, committed.

Opposites – apathetic.

1. Intimate- (an intimate friend) close, dear, cherished.

Opposites – distant, formal.

1. Irresponsible – careless, unwise, foolish, unreliable.

Opposites – responsible.

1. Jealous 1) (lover) – suspicious, distrustful.

2) (jealous of his brother) – envious, green with envy.

Opposites – trusting, proud.

1. Jolly – happy, cheer, merry, sunny, joyful.

Opposites – miserable.

1. Kind(a kind and caring person) – good-natured, kind-hearted, affectionate, warm, considerate, sympathetic, amiable, thoughtful.

Opposites – unkind.

1. Lazy – idle, indolent, work-shy, shiftless.

Opposites – industrious.

1. Loving – affectionate, devoted, tender, passionate.

Opposites – cold, cruel.

1. Mad – 1) (He was killed by his mad brother) insane, deranged, crazed, lunatic. 2) (informal) (I am still mad at him) – angry, furious, enraged.
2. Mature(woman) – adult, grown, fully grown.

Opposites – immature

1. Mean 1) (he is too mean to leave a tip) – miserly, niggardly, cheese-paring. 2) unfriendly, unpleasant, bad-tempered, difficult.

Opposites – generous.

1. Merry – cheerful, sunny, smiling, lively, carefree, joyful.

Opposites – miserable.

1. Naïve – innocent, inexperienced, immature.

Opposites – worldly.

1. Naughty – disobedient, bad, delinquent, undisciplined, disruptive.

Opposites – well-behaved.

1. Nervous – anxious, tense, excitable.

Opposites – relaxed, calm.

1. Nice – pleasant, agreeable, charming, sympathetic.

Opposites – unpleasant.

1. Noble – aristocratic, blue-blooded, high-born, titled.

Opposites – humble.

1. Obedient – complaint, good, law-abiding.

Opposites – rebellious.

1. Outgoing –extrovert, unreserved, affectionate, sociable, friendly, warm.

Opposites – introvert.

1. Outstanding – excellent, marvelous, wonderful, exceptional.
2. Patient – tolerant, long-suffering, understanding.
3. Persuasive – convincing, effective, forceful, powerful, impressive.

Opposites – unconvincing.

1. Pleased – happy, glad, grateful, thankful, satisfied.

Opposites – unhappy.

1. Plump – fat, round, stout, overweight.

Opposites – thin.

1. Polite – well-mannered, courteous, respectful, well behaved, gracious, tactful.

Opposites – rude.

1. Prominent – important, well known, distinguished, notable, noted, celebrated, famous.

Opposites – unknown.

1. Qualified (engineer) – professional, certified, chattered.

Opposites – unqualified.

1. Realistic – (you’ve got to be realistic) practical, pragmatic, sensible, down-to-earth.

Opposites – idealistic.

1. Rebellious (adolescent) – defiant, disobedient, unruly.

Opposites – loyal.

1. Reckless – careless, thoughtless, impulsive, irresponsible.

Opposites – cautious.

1. Refined(lady) – cultivated, elegant, sophisticated, polite, gracious, well-bred.
2. Reliable - dependable, faithful, true, loyal, unfailing.

Opposites – unreliable.

1. Religious(person) – devout, reverent, godly, God-fearing, churchgoing.

Opposites – atheistic.

1. Reluctant – unwilling, resistant, opposed, hesitant.

Opposites – willing, eager.

1. Remarkable – extraordinary, outstanding, notable, unusual.

Opposites – ordinary.

1. Reserved – (Steve is rather reserved) uncommunicative, shy, timid.

Opposites – outgoing.

1. Respectful – dutiful, polite, courteous, gracious.

Opposites – rude.

1. Responsible – in charge of, in control of, liable for.

Opposites – irresponsible.

1. Restful – calm, peaceful, undisturbed.

Opposites – exciting.

1. Restless – (Maria was restless.) uneasy, nervous, anxious.
2. Restrained – (Julia was quite restrained.) self-controlled, steady, unemotional.
3. Retired – (retired teacher) former.
4. Revolting – disgusting, nasty, offensive.

Opposites – attractive, pleasant.

1. Rich(people) – wealthy, well off, affluent, well-to-do.

Opposites – poor.

1. Rude – ill-mannered, impolite, abusive, discourteous.

Opposites – calm.

1. Ruthless – merciless, cruel, heartless, cold-blooded, cold-hearted.

Opposites – merciful.

1. Sad – unhappy, sorrowful, miserable, gloomy, heartbroken.

Opposites – happy, cheerful, fortunate.

1. Safe (driver) – cautious, prudent, careful, conservative.
2. Sceptical – doubtful, cynical, distrustful, suspicious, disbelieving, unconvinced.

Opposites – certain, convinced.

1. Secretive – uncommunicative, secret, close to one’s chest, tight-lipped.

Opposites – open, communicative.

1. Selfish - obsessed, wrapped-up in oneself, mean, greedy.

Opposites – altruistic.

1. Sensational – (She looks sensational.) gorgeous, stunning, wonderful, excellent, (informal) great, terrific, fantastic, fabulous.

Opposites – unremarkable.

1. Senseless – pointless, useless, foolish, insane, stupid, illogical.

Opposites – wise.

1. Sensible – practical, realistic, responsible, reasonable, logical, wise.
2. Sensitive – (she’s sensitive to changes in temperature) reactive to, aware of, affected by.
3. Sensual – (a very sensual woman) passionate, sexual, physical.

Opposite – passionless.

1. Shy – bashful, timid, reserved.

Opposite – confident.

1. Simple – (simple country people) unpretentious, unsophisticated, ordinary.

 Opposite – sophisticated.

1. Sincere – (a sincere person) honest, truthful, frank, direct.
2. Single – unmarried, a bachelor, a spinster.

 Opposite – married.

1. Skinny – thin, underweight, bony.
2. Slim – slender, thin.
3. Sluggish – lacking in energy, lifeless, inactive, slow.

 Opposite – vigorous.

1. Sly – (she’s very sly) cunning, tricky.

 Opposite – open.

1. Smart – 1)well-dressed, stylish, chic, fashionable, elegant.

2 (He is very smart.) clever, bright, intelligent, quick-witted, shrewd.

Opposites- 1) untidy, 2) stupid.

1. Sneaky- sly, crafty, cunning, deceitful.

Opposites – honest.

1. Sociable – friendly, companionable, warm.

Opposites – unfriendly.

1. Solemn – (He looked very solemn) –serious, unsmiling, humourless.

Opposites – light-hearted.

1. Sophisticated – (a sophisticated woman) worldly-wise, experienced, cultured, refined.

Opposites – naïve

1. Special – (a very special person) exceptional, unusual, outstanding, unique.

Opposites – ordinary.

1. Sporty – athletic, fit, active, energetic.

Opposites – unfit, lazy.

1. Strict – (strict parents) stern, severe, harsh.

Opposites – liberal.

1. Strong –powerful, athletic, stable, secure, solid, tough.

Opposites –weak.

1. Stubborn –obstinate, strong-willed, inflexible, uncompromising, informal.

Opposites – compliant, removable.

1. Stunning – beautiful, lovely, glorious, wonderful, fine, delightful.

Informal – fantastic, terrific, divine, gorgeous.

1. Stupid- unintelligent, foolish, slow, idiotic.

Opposites –intelligent, sensible.

1. Successful – (a successful designer) prosperous, affluent, wealthy, rich, famous, respected
2. Sympathetic –(a sympathetic listener) compassionate, caring, concerned, understanding, sensitive, supportive.

Opposites – unsympathetic, unfeeling, unlikeable.

1. Talented – gifted, skilful, accomplished, brilliant..

Opposites – untalented, inept.

1. Talkative – chatty, voluble, communicative.

Informal - mouthy

Opposites – taciturn.

1. Tedious- boring, dull, repetitive, lifeless, uninteresting, unexciting, uninspiring.

Informal – deadly.

Opposites – exciting.

1. Thankful –grateful, pleased, glad.
2. Tidy –(a very tidy person) organized, neat, methodical.

Opposites – messy, disorganized.

1. Timid – fearful, faint-hearted, nervous, scared, shy.

Opposites – bold.

1. Tolerant – open-minded, broad-minded, patient, long-suffering, charitable, easy-going.

Opposites – intolerant, strict.

1. Ugly – unattractive, ill-favoured, plain, horrible.

Opposites – beautiful, pleasant.

1. Ungainly – awkward, clumsy, graceless, inelegant, uncoordinated.

Opposites – graceful.

1. Upset – distressed, troubled, disturbed, anxious, shaken, saddened, grieved, unsettled.

Opposites – calm.

1. Worthy – (a worthy citizen) good, righteous, virtuous, moral, upright, respectable, principled, reputable.

Opposites – disreputable.

1. Young – 1) (young people) youthful, juvenile, junior, adolescent, teenage.

2) (she is very young for her age) immature, childish, inexperienced, naïve, green.

Opposites – old, mature.

Using an extended vocabulary can have many advantages. It may improve communication and self-confidence, as well as your relationships with people.

Not all words from a word group are perfect synonyms, so when you replace a word, make sure the synonym you use fits the context.

Synonyms are words that have the same meaning as one another, ”robust” is a synonym for “fat”. A good way to reinforce synonyms for children and help them critically expand their vocabulary is to have them play synonym games. These games will encourage them to think independently and apply their English knowledge in a fun way.

**Learn Synonyms and Antonyms Playing Games**

1. *SYNONYM TEAMS*

Divide your class in two or more team. These teams can be any size you want; the smaller the teams, the more of them will be. Indeed, you can even have children work independently. Give each child a piece of paper and a pen and callout a word. The children need to write down as many synonyms for that word as possible in the timeframe given. The more (correct) words they can write down, the more points they get. Repeat for a few different words.

1. *ROUNDABOUT*

Take as many pieces of paper as there are students and write a word on each one. Place each word on a desk and have the children stand up. Blow a whistle, sound a buzzer, or otherwise indicate the start of the round , and give the students 10 to 15 seconds(depending on their proficiency) to write down a synonym for the word on the card. Blow the whistle at the end of the round and have every student move in the same direction to the next card, where they need to write a new synonym if they can.

1. *SYNONYM STORIES*

Read a short story to your class, but pause and choose words for them to change the synonyms – do not pause on “is” as this is sure to result in blank stares. As they change words, write the new word on a Post-It note and paste it over the old one. Once you finish the story, re-read it with the synonyms in place. This will inspire discussion as to how synonyms can often have similar meanings to one another but not necessarily exactly the same meaning.

1. *SYNONYM PARTNERS*

Write synonyms on 3 by 5 index cards, again with the same number of cards as you have a match, so one card could say ‘screen ‘ while another says ‘monitor’ and so on. Give each child a card and have them mill around the room, looking for their partner, have them sit down. Once everyone is seated, all of the children should come up to the front with their partner and read their words out one at a time.

1. *SYNONYM CROSSWORD PUZZLE*

Prepare a synonym crossword puzzle and allow students to work with a group. List the clues for ‘Across and Down’ as the synonym of ‘For example ‘, the synonym of ‘start’ would be ‘begin’ and the synonym of ‘throw’ would be ‘toss’. Include a word bank of words that are in the crosswords. This activity can be set up as a contest, with the group that finds the correct solution first the winner.

1. *SEDENTARY ACTIVITIES*

While activities done in the seat may not be as much fun as others, children can still learn about synonyms and antonyms by sitting quietly. Make a worksheet for your students, giving them a list of words and asking them to come up with an antonym and synonym for each one. If you feel this may be too difficult, include a word bank. You can ask students to match words by a column of words column of antonyms and asking students to draw lines between the words and their antonyms. Repeat this with a list of words and synonyms.

1. *SYNONYM GO FISH*

Write a list of synonym pairs on the board, and have students copy each word on an index card. Word pairs might be ‘big, large’, ‘close, near’, and ‘quick, fast’. Continue until you have at least 15 pairs (30 cards). Ask the students to work with a partner; instruct the students to place the index cards to his partner. Students play the game like Go Fish, by matching synonyms in their hand and putting aside the synonym pairs. If a student has no more pairs, he picks a card. The partner with the most pairs at the end of the game wins.

1. *SYNONYM WEB*

Graphic organizers are a good way for students to visualize curriculum material. For second graders, a ‘star’ synonym web graphic organizer by putting a circle in the center of a letter-sized sheet of paper. The vocabulary word is then written in the circle. Have students draw lines radiating from the circle with another, smaller circle at the end of each line. Synonyms for the center word are placed in the circles surrounding the center Vocabulary word. For example, if the center word is ‘little’ surrounding words might be ‘tiny’, ‘small’ and ‘miniature’. Students may know ‘tiny’ and ‘small’, but you might have to suggest ‘miniature’ for second graders.

1. *SYNONYM PAIRS*

This takes a little time to set up but lasts for a long time-especially if you can laminate the work.

Based on the card game pairs, write a selection of synonyms on separate pieces, e.g. big, large, happy, jolly etc. In pairs or small groups the children place all the cards face down on the table. The first player pick a card and reads it, he or she then picks the second card. If it is the correct synonym, the child keeps both cards and has another go. If the word is not a synonym, they put both cards back on the table face down and the next child has a go. The child with the most cards at the end wins.

This encourages the child to think about words and use a dictionary to look up the ones he or she doesn’t know. Obviously the more able the child is the more difficult the words are.

1. *UNDERSTAND THE MEANING*

The following activity develops the children’s understanding the meanings of the synonyms and antonyms, while increasing their range of vocabulary.

1. Begin by explaining the two terms, giving examples to illustrate the point.
2. Have a list of words which have lots of synonyms or antonyms. Some are listed here:

 STRONG BIG HAPPY SHORT SOFT FAST EASY

 FAT NICE NEW GOOD QUIET BRIGHT WARM.

1. Split the class into an even number of groups “Synonyms” and half of the groups “Antonyms”.
2. Say one of the words on your list. Each group then has to think of as many synonyms and antonyms for that word as possible (depending on the group’s label given earlier).Children can have a fixed time limit to do this, or can continue until they run out of words.
3. Now count up the number of words each group has produced and award points to the group with the longest list.
4. Repeat using different words. You could also swap the groups, so the “Synonyms” groups now find antonyms and vice versa.

**Do Some Exercises**

You can suggest your students to do some exercises to improve their skills.

**Directions: choose the best synonym for each word.**

Kind Difficult

*A*. Nice *A*. Hard

*B*. Wild *B*. Simple

*C*. Funny *C*. Easy

*D*. Best *D*. Short

Glad Fast

*A*. Broken *A*. Quick

*B*. Happy *B*. Kind

*C*. Open *C*. Heavy

*D*. Round *D*. Small

Tiny Great

*A*. Very soft *A*. Very soft

*B*. Very happy *B*. Very loud

*C*. Very thick *C*. Very hard

*D*. Very small *D*. Very good

Tired Unhappy

*A*. Kind *A*. Playful

*B*. Worn out *B*. Alive

*C*. Ready *C*. Sad

*D*. Angry *D*. Safe

**Choose the correct synonym from four options:**

1. He is a fast runner.
2. Quick
3. Energetic
4. Slow
5. Calm
6. I am terrible at Maths.
7. Good
8. Awful
9. Great
10. Fantasti
11. Do you think I am stupid?
12. Dumb
13. Brilliant
14. Intelligent
15. Fast
16. My girlfriend is very pretty.
17. Ugly
18. Beautiful
19. Strange
20. Stupid

**Choose the correct antonym from the four options:**

1. He is tall.
2. Short
3. Huge
4. Big
5. Hungry
6. She is foolish.
7. Dumb
8. Brainy
9. Idiotic
10. Wise
11. Why are you being so arrogant?
12. Snooty
13. Humble
14. Stupid
15. Cunning

**Choose the correct synonym for each term**.

1. Necessary
2. Ineffable
3. Needed
4. Independent
5. Autonomous
6. Alone
7. Just
8. Envious
9. Honorable
10. Deceitful
11. Untruthful
12. Clemency
13. Jealous
14. Envious
15. Peril
16. Joyful
17. Sad
18. Carefree
19. Youthful
20. Aged
21. Juvenile
22. Amusing
23. Funny
24. Tolerant
25. Creative
26. Inventive
27. Hard-working
28. Attractive
29. Ugly
30. Pretty

**How many of these personality adjectives do you know? Match the word to its closest synonym:**

1. Neat 2. Intelligent

tasty dumb

scruffy dark

slim boastful

tidy bright

3. Stingy 4. Happy

generous kind

angry morbid

quiet cheerful

tight-fisted affectionate

5. Loving 6. Brave

friendly aggressive

sexy courageous

feminine cowardly

affectionate active

7.Boring 8. Easy-going

dull laid-back

sleepy moronic

dark rich

serious honest

9. Delicate 10. Chatty

sensitive reserved

dry talkative

romantic loud

honest busy

The Synonyms and Antonyms form an integral part of the English Language. Acquaintance with the vocabulary of the English Language is a necessity for effective expression your opinion.

Learning synonyms and antonyms should be a part of all vocabulary building processes.

Why? Well, there are a number of reasons.

First, it increases the number of words we retain.

Second, they are easier to learn and remember than other non-related words due to the relationship they have with each other.

Third, knowing many different synonyms and antonyms can help you improve your writing skills. The trick is known to choose the right word unless you actually know it.

So you need to be familiar with many words, and know how and when to use each of them.