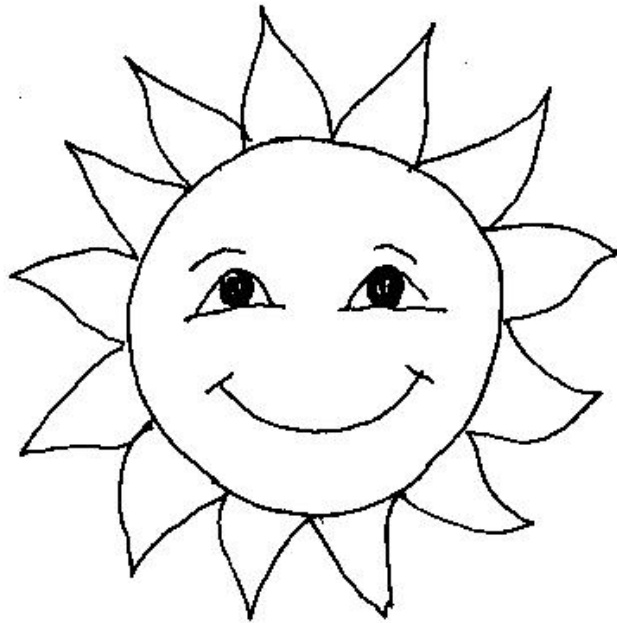


5

Module 8

# English

## Using Synonyms



Australian Government  
AusAID



## To the Learner

Dear Learner,

How are you today? You have already learned how to use context to get meaning of words that have multiple meanings. This time you will learn how to use synonyms of words.

Get ready now!



## Let's Learn This

This module will help you learn how to use words with exactly the same or similar meaning. Synonyms are words with the same or similar meanings.



## Let's Try This

Read each sentence below. Underline the synonym that best fits the sentence.

1. The authorities (a. finished b. stopped) the show when the riot began.
2. It was almost impossible to swim in the (a. icy b. cool) water.
3. The little girl was happy to receive the (a. gifts b. donation) from her parents.
4. Joseph was (a. sick b. crippled) so he went around in a wheelchair.
5. During the Halloween party, the children wore (a. covers b. masks).
6. The scientists (a. extracted b. pulled) juice from rare plants.

\* Where your answers like these? ( stopped, icy, gifts, crippled, masks, extracted )

\* Don't worry if you don't get all the correct answers. This module will help you use words with similar or same meanings.



## Let's Study This

Read the paragraph.

### A Visit at the Hospital

When we visited the hospital for the old people, I felt very sad. Their families do not visit them. I also heard that some of them died without seeing their loved ones before passing away. It was so sorrowful.

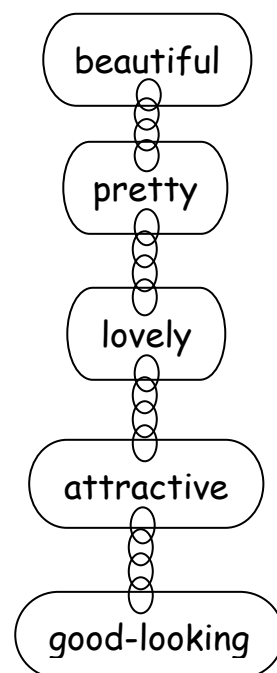
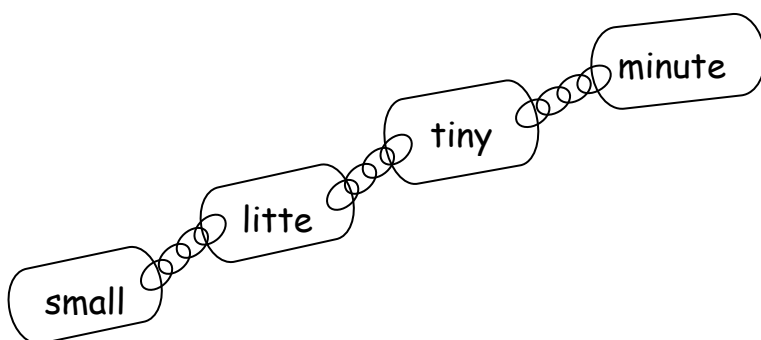
I also saw one woman who cried and told me that she's very glad to have a visitor. I was really happy. At least I made one person smile.

Answer the questions.

1. Why did the author feel sad when she visited the hospital for the old people?
2. Why was the old woman in the hospital glad?
  - What are the underlined words in the paragraphs?  
sad – sorrowful  
glad – happy
  - Do these words have the same meaning?  
Yes. Sad and sorrowful mean the same.  
Glad and happy have the same meaning, too.
  - What do we call the words with the same meaning?  
Words with the same meaning are called synonyms.

A reading selection will not be interesting if you keep repeating the same words several times. A paragraph, on a story will become dull and monotonous. Thus, the readers would opt to stop at one point or get another material that will sustain their interest. One way to avoid this is to use synonyms.

Synonyms are words with exactly the same or similar meaning. Some words have many synonyms. Others have only one or two. Observe the linked words below. The links from that synonym chain.



- More examples:
  - bucket – pail
  - happy – cheerful
  - dirty – messy
  - noisy – loud
  - bright – shiny
  - sad – unhappy
  - significant – important
  - delicious – tasty
  - clean – neat
  - radiant – glowing
  - intelligent – bright
  - destroys – ruins
  - keep – retain
  - disease – ailment



## Let's Do This

A. Complete the series of three synonyms by choosing the correct word from the choices given. Write your answer in the blank.


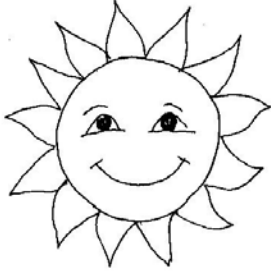




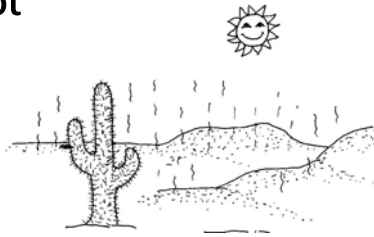

1. tough , difficult , \_\_\_\_\_ (hard, easy, wide)
2. talk , tell , \_\_\_\_\_ (sing, shout, say)
3. make , compose , \_\_\_\_\_ (explore, create, carry)
4. house , dwelling , \_\_\_\_\_ (live, rent, home)
5. cry , wail , \_\_\_\_\_ (weep, laugh, sleep)
6. mix , blend , \_\_\_\_\_ (flavor, cook, combine)

\* Finished? Check your answers against the answer key.

\* If your score is 4–6, “That’s Best Already” but if your score is 3 and below, challenge yourself in this next activity.

**B. Directions:** Choose the word from the word box that could replace the **boldfaced** word in each sentence. Write the word on the line.

fortunate	discovered	grimy	ancient
sizzling	entire	select	chuckle

<p>1. The dinosaur bones were <b>old</b>.</p>  <p>_____</p>	<p>2. We were <b>lucky</b> that it didn't rain.</p>  <p>_____</p>
<p>3. After playing football, my clothes were <b>dirty</b>.</p>  <p>_____</p>	<p>4. That joke made me <b>laugh</b>.</p>  <p>_____</p>
<p>5. I rode my bike the <b>whole</b> way home.</p>  <p>_____</p>	<p>6. I had to <b>choose</b> a book for my report.</p>  <p>_____</p>
<p>7. It was a <b>hot</b> day in the desert.</p>  <p>_____</p>	<p>8. I found the missing puzzle piece on the floor.</p>  <p>_____</p>



## Let's Do More

Match the words on the left with their synonyms on the right.  
The first one has been done for you.

- |            |   |            |
|------------|---|------------|
| 1. tired   | ● | ● loud     |
| 2. start   | ● | ● busy     |
| 3. fire    | ● | ● large    |
| 4. drink   | ● | ● begin    |
| 5. big     | ● | ● sleepy   |
| 6. crowded | ● | ● beverage |
| 7. noisy   | ● | ● flames   |
|            |   | ● boring   |

- \* Are you done?
- \* Look at the answer key again then check your work.
- \* How much did you get?
- \* Write your score inside the ribbon.
- \* If your score is 4–6 then you really understood our lesson. Excellent!
- \* If your score is 3 and below you have to review first the “Let’s Study This“ before doing the next activity.

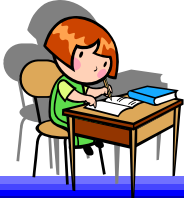




## Let's Remember This

What are synonyms?

- Synonyms are words with the same or similar meanings.
- Some words have many synonyms. Others have only one or two.



## Let's Test Ourselves

A. Which pair of words in each number contains synonyms? Underline them.

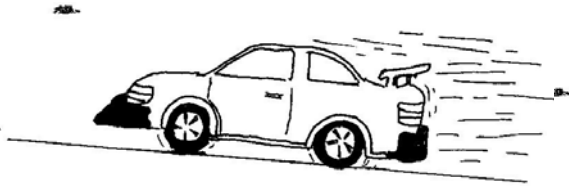
- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. a. mall-garden       | c. bad-evil        |
| b. cloud-rain           | d. hand-signal     |
| 2. a. strike-hit        | c. base-ball       |
| b. throw-catch          | d. bat-run         |
| 3. a. ask-answer        | c. carry-heavy     |
| b. shout-yell           | d. recall-remember |
| 4. a. water-land        | c. air-fly         |
| b. fire-wood            | d. ground-soil     |
| 5. a. enough-sufficient | c. few-many        |
| b. many-big             | d. sad-fave        |
| 6. a. round-circle      | c. shape-color     |
| b. egg-yolk             | d. size-small      |

B. Directions: Select the synonyms for the first word in each row.

- |                  |          |             |            |            |       |
|------------------|----------|-------------|------------|------------|-------|
| 1. <u>fast</u>   | quick    | hard        | swift      | speedy     | small |
| 2. <u>bright</u> | dazzling | dull        | glittering | sparkling  |       |
| 3. <u>friend</u> | stranger | enemy       | chum       | pal        | buddy |
| 4. <u>scary</u>  | scream   | frightening | rough      | terrifying |       |
| 5. <u>throw</u>  | fling    | carry       | hurl       | toss       | catch |



C. Directions: Look at the pictures below. Using the words you selected, write a list of synonyms to describe each picture.



1. fast

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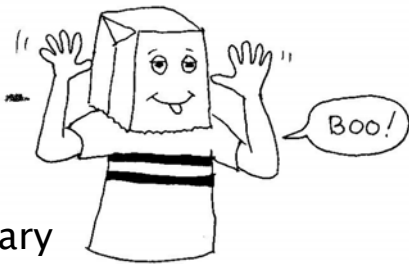
2. bright

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3. friend

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4. scary

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5. throw

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- \* Finished? Check your answers again in the answer key.
- \* If your score is 12–16, proceed to the next module.
- \* If your score is 11 and below answer Let's Enrich Ourselves.



## Let's Enrich Ourselves

Directions: Circle a word or a phrase in each sentence that is a synonym of a word in the box. Write the synonym on the line.

challenged	shocked	shivering	frightened
perish	thaw	chart	

Example: A fish out of water will quickly (die.) perish

1. The ice cream is beginning to (melt) \_\_\_\_\_
2. I was (amazed) when I saw how he looked. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The puppy was (trembling) with excitement. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Are you trying to (scare) me? \_\_\_\_\_
5. They (dared) us to enter the contest. \_\_\_\_\_
6. He made a (list) of different kinds of birds. \_\_\_\_\_

\* Finished? Look at the answer key again then check your answers.

\* How much did you get? You're great! Job well done.



## Answer Key

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### Let's Do This

- A. 1. hard  
2. say  
3. create  
4. home  
5. weep  
6. combine

- B. 1. ancient  
2. fortunate  
3. grimy  
4. chuckle  
5. entire  
6. select  
7. sizzling  
8. discovered

### Let's Do More

1. begin  
2. flames  
3. beverage  
4. large  
5. busy  
6. loud

### Let's Test Ourselves

- A. 1. c  
2. a  
3. b  
4. d  
5. a  
6. a

### Let's Enrich Ourselves

1. thaw  
2. shocked  
3. shivering  
4. frighten  
5. challenged  
6. chart

- B. 1. quick, swift, speedy  
2. dazzling, glittering, sparkling  
3. chum, pal, buddy  
4. frightening, terrifying  
5. fling, hurl, toss

- C. 1. quick  
swift  
speedy
2. dazzling  
glittering  
sparkling
3. chum  
pal  
buddy
4. frightening  
terrifying
5. fling  
hurl  
toss