Y6 Synonyms Antonyms

KS2 Y6 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Order these synonyms from weakest to strongest: furious, annoyed, cross.

Step 1 · Which is mildest?

annoyed

Step 2 · Which is in the middle?

cross

Step 3 · Which is strongest?

furious

Answer: annoyed → cross → furious

Check: Choosing the right strength makes writing precise.

2. Now try one with the steps

Give an antonym for 'visible' using a prefix.

Step 1 · Which negative prefixes do we know?

Step 2 · Which one fits 'visible'?

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What is a synonym?

2. What is an antonym?

3. Give a synonym for 'tired'.

4. Give an antonym for 'generous'.

5. Write the antonym of 'honest' using a prefix.

6. Write the antonym of 'possible' using a prefix.

7. Synonyms or antonyms? 'expand' and 'shrink'

8. Synonyms or antonyms? 'reply' and 'respond'

9. Order from weakest to strongest: boiling, warm, hot

10. Which synonym for 'thin' has the most positive connotation: scrawny, slender, bony?

11. Replace 'big' with a more precise synonym: 'The whale was big.'

12. Give a formal synonym for 'start'.

13. Why might a writer choose 'nosy' rather than 'curious' to describe a neighbour?

14. Give an antonym for 'arrive' and use it in a sentence.

4. Before you hand it in

Picking the longest word from a thesaurus: 'The cat was gargantuan' (meaning a bit fat).
The cat was plump.

Ignoring connotation: 'My kind grandad is so stingy with sweets.'
My kind grandad is careful with sweets.

Inventing antonyms with the wrong prefix: 'unpossible', 'dishappy'

impossible, unhappy. Check in a dictionary.

Thinking every word has an antonym: 'What is the antonym of 'table'?'

Choose words with a clear opposite: open / close, full / empty.