

# ENGLISH

**Grammar:** Vocabulary



# Homonyms and Homophones

## What are Homonyms and Homophones?

- In English, words which share the same spelling and pronunciation but have different meanings are known as **homonyms**.
- Similarly, words which share the same pronunciation but have different spellings and meanings are known as **homophones**.
- Both the terms are derived from the Greek root words *homo*, *nym* and *phone*.

Homo (same) + Nym (name)

=

Homonym (same name)

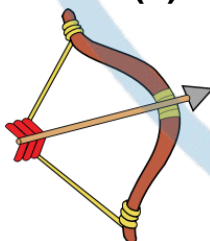
Homo (same) + Phone (sound)

=

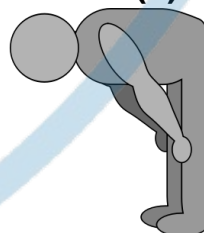
Homophone (same sound)

### Examples of Homonyms

**Bow (n)**



**Bow (v)**



**Cricket (n)**



**Cricket (n)**



**Rose (n)**



**Rose (v; past tense)**



## Examples of Homonyms in Sentences

1. Mala did not **bat** an eyelid.
1. The **bat** flew into the room.
2. The cat will **lie** on the rug.
2. I dislike people who **lie**.
3. The landlord was a **mean** person.
3. He did not **mean** to hurt his friend.
4. **Stalks** of wheat swayed in the fields.
4. The hapless woman realised she was being **stalked** by a stranger.
5. I **left** my purse in Mrs Mishra's house.
5. The spectators seated towards the **left** were very boisterous.

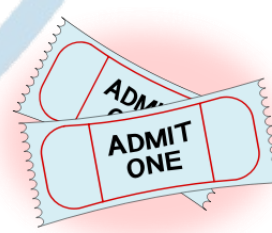


## Examples of Homophones

**Aloud**



**Allowed**



**Wine**



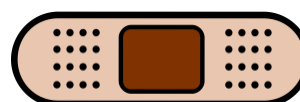
**Vine**



**Heel**



**Heal**



Which

Witch

WHICH?



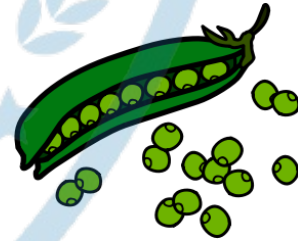
Sale

Sail



Peace

Peas



Banned

Band



Ate

Eight



## Examples of Homophones in Sentences

1. **Accept** this flower as a token of my gratitude.
1. **Except** for a few mistakes, Rahul's work is flawless.
  
2. The old lady **breaks** the twig into half.
2. The car swivelled around when its **brakes** failed.
  
3. The cat tiptoed on its **paws**.
3. The lawyer spoke after a long **pause**.
  
4. There are no **sellers** available at this moment.
4. Many of these old colonial style houses are equipped with **cellars**.
  
5. The lone sheep strayed away from its **herd**.
5. I **heard** what you said.
  
6. The master strategist used his **wiles** against the evil assassin.
6. It took us a **while** to realise that we were heading in the wrong direction.



## Commonly Confused Homophones

1. The Sharmas are proud of <b>there</b> daughter.	✗
1. The Sharmas are proud of <b>their</b> daughter.	✓
2. The subject <b>peaked</b> my interest.	✗
2. The subject <b>piqued</b> my interest.	✓
3. The employer wanted to know <b>weather</b> he could join immediately.	✗
3. The employer wanted to know <b>whether</b> he could join immediately	✓
4. The members gathered for the <b>bored</b> meeting.	✗
4. The members gathered for the <b>board</b> meeting.	✓

## Idioms, Phrases and Proverbs

### What are Idioms and Phrases?

In English, idioms, phrases and proverbs are used to enhance written and spoken communication.

- An idiom is a phrase whose figurative meaning is different from its literal meaning.
- A phrase can be a combination of a verb and an adverb, a verb and a preposition, and a verb with an adverb and a preposition.



- Both idioms and phrases can have literal and figurative meanings.
- The only way to learn idioms and phrases is by reading about them and using them as much as you can.

Let us look at some phrases and idioms.



### Phrases - Usage

**Act on** (produce effect) – The strong chemical acted on the marble surface.

**Add to** (increase) – The famine added to the misery of the farmers.

**Bear with** (tolerate) – She bore with the shortcomings of her children.

**Blow over** (to pass) – The wind blew over the fields.

**Bring on** (cause to bring) – Laziness brings on misfortune.

**Cast off** (abandon) – The son cast off his old parents.

**Fall out** (quarrel) – The partners fell out over disagreements on profit shares.

**Get through** (pass) – They got through the entrance examination.

**Hold up** (stop) – The traffic was held up for an hour after the accident.

**Lay up with** (confine to bed) – He is laid up in bed with fever.

**Look over** (examine carefully) – The supervisor looked over the checklists.

**Knocked about** (wander about) – Kevin knocked about the town on Sundays.

**Part with** (give up) – We parted with our land in hope of some fortune.

**Strike at** (aim at) – The clause strikes at concealing confidential information.

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### Phrases - Usage

**Think over** (consider) – Janet must think over her resignation before the meeting.

**Treat to** – Harold treated me to an ice cream on his birthday.

**Suffer from** – Mathew suffered from malnutrition while on war.

**Work up** (excite) – Gautam worked himself up into a fury during the debate.

**At best** – They were at best the most suitable candidates for the position.

**Yield to** (surrender) – Women yield to male dominance in some countries.

**Turn aside** (deviate) – She always turns aside from the main discussion during seminars.

**Anything but** (certainly not) – Shantaram was anything but a spy.

**At one's best** – Sharon was at her best today at the recitation competition.

**By far** – This is by far the scariest movie I have seen alone.

**For the most part** – The discussion was for the most part useful.

**In the guise of** – Saloni went to the party in the guise of a man.

**At loggerheads** (hostile) – Sameer and Arya are at logger heads with each other.

**On pretence of** - The shopkeeper troubled Shyam on pretence of giving him work.

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### Idioms - Usage

College was very interesting, but **the acid test** will come when I get a job.  
(The true test of the value or the quality of something)

It is mandatory. It is written **in black and white** in the contract.  
(With a written proof)

Natasha pretended to be sad, but her mother knew her tears were **crocodile tears**.  
(Pretend to be sad about something)

The employees were kept **in the dark** about the company's falling profits.  
(Not be informed about something that others know)

Of course, I am interested in the competition. I am **all ears!**  
(Listening very attentively)

Jayant's salary is so low that it is difficult for him to **make both ends meet**.  
(Live within one's income)

You **have the face** to come here after doing this to me?  
(Be bold)

Driving alone on this road is **playing with fire**.  
(Take risk)

Reactions to the campaign are arriving in **fits and starts**.  
(Not continuous)

She is rude to her parents, but they just **grin and bear it**.  
(Accept something bad without complaining)



### Idioms - Usage

I am writing about the issue, but I know it is **flogging a dead horse**.  
(Wasting time in something that will not succeed)

She came **in a huff** and ordered something to eat.  
(In an angry manner)

Saraswati cannot **take a joke** although she is famous for being cheerful in her group.  
(Accept being made fun of in good humour)

Now that the project has failed, be ready to **face the music**.  
(Accept unpleasant results of an action)

Aunt Kelly's dresses are so **out of date**.  
(Old-fashioned)

I'd like to **have a shot at** photography.  
(Try something for the first time)

We have been given only a day to rework on this. That's a **tall order**.  
(Be very difficult to do)

You mustn't tease him and **rub him the wrong way**.  
(To irritate someone)

Those chairs we bought from Kenya are now **white elephants**.  
(Something very expensive but a nuisance to keep)

Kevin won't believe that I am unwell until he sees me. He is such a **doubting Thomas**.  
(Someone who is always suspicious)



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## What are Proverbs?

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A proverb is a simple statement based on facts and experiences which expresses truth and gives advice on life. You may have heard several proverbs in your moral science class. Let us read some proverbs and understand their meanings.

***Fortune favours the brave.***

Luck is more likely to be with those who take risks.

***Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.***

You shouldn't plan how to utilise good results of something before those results have occurred.

***Honesty is the best policy.***

Even if it may be useful to tell a lie, you should always tell the truth.

***Slow and steady wins the race.***

Constant and regular work leads to better results.

***Empty vessels make the most noise.***

People who have little knowledge usually talk the most and make the greatest fuss.

***There is no such thing as a free lunch.***

Things which are offered free always have a hidden cost.

***God helps those who help themselves.***

Work hard to achieve your goals. Don't just wait for good things to happen to you.

***Practice makes perfect.***

You have to practice a skill a lot to become good at it.

***Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.***

Different people have different ideas about what's beautiful.

***Necessity is the mother of invention.***

When you are really in need, you think of creative solutions to your problems.

***A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.***

If one member of a team doesn't perform well, the whole team will fail.

## Why Use Idioms, Phrases and Proverbs?

### Figurative language

- uses fewer words to express more
- is used to share old wisdom and universal ideas
- helps break the monotony of normal writing
- makes writing more visual and enjoyable for readers
- makes the text colourful
- paints a mental picture of the writer's ideas for readers



## Prefix and Suffix

### English Affixes

- In any language, the system responsible for building vocabulary by affixing groups of words to **root words** or **base words** is known as the affixation system.

<u>Un</u> believ <u>able</u>	Non- <u>exist</u> ent
<u>Dig</u> ress <u>ion</u>	<u>A</u> social
Favour <u>able</u>	Youth <u>ful</u>

- This system is made of **prefixes, suffixes, root words** and **base words**.
- The knowledge of English affixation offers us a systematic and effective way of expanding our vocabulary without having to remember a large number of words at a time.
- Though many words in English do not have affixes (chair, bag, horse, time), there are many others which do (return, demonstration, undo).
- English borrows heavily from languages such as **Latin** and **Greek**.
- Most of the word roots in English can be traced back to these two languages.
- Through this chapter, we will learn the common prefixes, suffixes and root words which constitute English.

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## Prefixes

- A prefix is a group of letters which is fixed at the beginning of the root or base word.
- The term 'prefix' is derived from the Greek root words 'pre' which means 'before' and 'fix' which literally means 'to fix'.

<b>Un</b> certain	<b>Ir</b> replaceable	<b>Bi</b> focal
<b>Anti</b> social	<b>Mis</b> understand	<b>Re</b> treat
<b>Sub</b> tract	<b>Ambi</b> valent	<b>Pro</b> ceed

## Functions of Prefixes

- Prefixes can indicate the presence or absence of an idea.

<b>A</b> moral (without morals)	<b>Non</b> -existent (not existing)
<b>Un</b> important (trifling)	<b>In</b> corporated (taken in)

- Prefixes can indicate position.

<b>De</b> throned (off the throne)	<b>Sub</b> marine (under water)
<b>Super</b> impose (kept on top)	<b>Para</b> military (alongside military)

- Prefixes can also indicate characteristics or qualities.

<b>Anti</b> bacterial (resistant to bacteria)	<b>Bi</b> annual (twice every year)
<b>Con</b> genital (with birth)	<b>Trans</b> parent (can see across)

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## List of Common English Prefixes

Prefix	Meaning	Words	Prefix	Meaning	Words
a-, an-	Not, without	Amoral Amorphous Anarchy	anti-, ant-	Against	Antibacterial Antipathy Antagonist
ante-	Before	Antechamber Ante mortem Ante bellum	auto-	Self	Automatic Autocrat Autonomy
bi-	Two	Biannual Bicycle Binoculars	bio-	Life	Biology Biotic Biogenetics
co-, com-, con-	Together, Joint	Cooperate Company Conjoined	contra-	Against	Contradict Contravene Contravene Contrast
demi-	Half	Demigod	de-	Down	Decrease Decline Degrade
dis-	Off	Dispose Disappear Disturb	e-, ex-	Out	Eject Express Extract
en-	To do, to put	Endanger Enchanted Enable	extra-	Beyond	Extra-terrestrial Extracurricular

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Prefix	Meaning	Words	Prefix	Meaning	Words
hemi-	Half	Hemisphere Hemicycle	hepta-	Seven	Heptagon Heptarchy
hyper-	Over	Hyperbole Hyperactive Hyperlink	in-, ill-, ir-, im-	Not	Incapable Illogical Irrelevant Impossible
in-, im-	Inside/into	Internal Indoctrinate Impregnate	inter-	Between	Interschool International Interconnected
mono-	Single/one	Monogram Monarch Monopoly	mega-	Huge	Megawatts Megabyte Megacity
micro-	Small	Microscope Microbiology Microorganism	non-	Not, without	Nonstop Nonsense Non- vegetarian
omni-	All	Omnipotent Omniscient Omnipresent	ob-	Bad, wrong	Obstruct Obnoxious Obdurate
para-	Along	Paramilitary Parallel Parapet	pre-	Before	Prevent Prepare Predict
post-	After	Postcolonial Post mortem Post-partum	poly-	Many	Polygon Polyglot Polymath
re-	Again	Replay Regain Return	retro-	Back	Retrogress Retrograde
sub-	Under	Subway Subtract submarine	super-	Over, above	Supersede Superman Superfluous
syn-, sym-	Together	Synthesis Synchronise Sympathy	semi-	Half	Semicircle Semisolid Semisweet



Prefix	Meaning	Words	Prefix	Meaning	Words
tri-	Three	Tricycle Triangle Trinity	tetra-	Four	Tetra pack Tetrapod Tetrad
trans-	Across	Transparent Translucent Transport	uni-	One	Unity Unicycle Universe
un-	Not	Unfinished Unspoken Uninterrupted	zoo-	Animal	Zoophilic Zoology Zoo

## Suffixes

- A suffix is a group of words which is fixed at the end of the root or base word.
- The term suffix is derived from the Greek root words 'sub' which means 'under' and 'fix' which literally means 'to fix'.

Gener <u>ous</u>	Happi <u>ness</u>
Decen <u>cy</u>	Grate <u>ful</u>

## Functions of Suffixes

- Suffixes can change the part of speech of a particular word.

Adequ <u>ate</u> (adjective)	Adequ <u>acy</u> (noun)	Adequately <u>ly</u> (adverb)
Toler <u>able</u> (adjective)	Tolerati <u>on</u> (noun)	Toler <u>ate</u> (verb)
Supre <u>me</u> (adjective)	Suprem <u>acy</u> (noun)	Supremely <u>ly</u> (adverb)
Demonstr <u>able</u> (adjective)	Demonstrati <u>on</u> (noun)	Demonstr <u>ate</u> (verb)

- Suffixes can indicate the number of the noun whether it is singular or plural.

Fox (singular)	Fox <u>es</u> (plural)
Ox (singular)	Ox <u>en</u> (plural)

- Suffixes can indicate the tense of verbs.

Toast (present)	Toasted (past)
Freeze (present)	Freezing (continuous)

## List of Common English Suffixes

Suffix	Meaning	Words	Suffix	Meaning	Words
-able (adj)	Having the quality	Unspeakable Admirable Amicable	-acy (n)	Quality	Delicacy Privacy Accuracy
-est (adj)	Highest degree	Biggest Greatest Fastest	-ance, -ence (n)	State or quality	Maintenance Absence Difference
-dom (n)	Place or state	Freedom Kingdom Boredom	-ful (adj)	Full of	Graceful Tactful Beautiful
-er, -or, -eer, -ier (n)	Doer, one who	Trainer Actor Charioteer Chocolatier	-ism (n)	Belief system	Capitalism Hinduism Marxism
-ist (n)	One who	Pianist Terrorist Chemist	-ity, -ty (n)	Quality of	Duplicity Ability Enmity
-ish (adj)	Like	Ticklish Boyish Reddish	-less (adj)	Without	Fearless Blameless Toothless
-ly (adv)	In the manner of	Beautifully Sadly Slowly	-hood (n)	State	Childhood Neighbourhood Sainthood
-ate (v)	To do/make	Create Elevate Punctuate	-en (v)	To make/become	Enliven Frozen Sunken
-kin (n)	A person	Bumpkin	-ed (v)	To do/make	Toiled Cooked Walked
-ee (n)	A person who	Employee Divorcee Examinee	-fy, -ify (v)	To do/make	Verify Clarify Horrify

-ward	In the direction of	Eastwards Towards Downwards	-ean, -ian (adj)	To have the quality	Vegetarian Herculean Cyclopean
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## Root Words and Base Words

- Root words and base words are the parts which contain the primary meaning of the word.
- Prefixes and suffixes are added to the root and base words to create new words and ideas.

### Root Word

- A root word cannot stand on its own as an independent word.
- It needs the addition of the prefix or the suffix for the completion of its meaning.
- For example, let us take the words Geologist and Carnivorous.

Geo -	-log-	-ist	Carni-	-vor -	-ous-
(root)	(root)	(suffix)	(root)	(root)	(suffix)

- In the above cases, the roots **geo-**, **-log-**, **-carni-** and **-vor-** cannot stand alone as individual words.
- They are therefore known as root words.

### Base Word

- A base word, unlike a root word, can stand on its own like an independent word.
- It does not need the addition of the prefix or the suffix to function as a stand-alone word.
- For example, let us take the words Undo, Precook, Counterattack and Superscript.

Pre	cook	Counter	attack	Super	script
(prefix)	(base word)	(prefix)	(base word)	(prefix)	(base word)

- In the above cases, **do**, **cook**, **attack** and **script** can all function as meaningful words.
- They are therefore known as base words.

## List of Common Root Words and Base Words

Root	Meaning	Words	Root	Meaning	Words
-acr-, -ac-	Sharp, bitter	Acrid Acronym Acute	-ami-, -amo-	Love	Amiable Amicable Amorous
-ambi-, -amphi-	Both	Ambivalent Amphibious	-aster-	Star	Asteroid Disaster Astrology
-bene -	Good	Benevolent Benefit Benign	-chrono-	Time	Chronology Chronicle Synchronise
-circ-	Around	Circumnavigate Circumstances Circumference	-dict-	Speak	Dictate Dictator Diction
-duc-	Lead	Duct Abduct Induct	-gen-	Create/birth	Hydrogen Generate Gene
-geo-	Earth	Geography Geologist	-graph-	Write	Calligraphy Graphology
-jur-, -jus-, - jud-	law	Jury Justice Judge	-log-, -logy- - ist	Study	Biology Zoology Psychologist
-luc-	Light	Translucent Lucid	-man-	Hand	Manacles Manuscript Manual
-mis-	Hatred, wrong	Misanthrope Misinform Mistake	-mit-, -mis-	Allow	Permit Admit Transmission
-path-	Feel	Sympathy Empathy Antipathy	-phil-	Love	Philosopher Philology Bibliophile
-photo-	Light	Photosynthesis Photograph Photon	-scribe-	Write	Scribe Scribble Inscribe

-sent-, -sense-	Feel	Sentimental Sensational Sensible	-tele-	Long distance	Telephone Telescope Television
-terr-	Land, ground	Territory Terrestrial Terrace	-vac-	Empty	Vacation Vacant Evacuate
-vid-, -vis-	See	Video Visual Visible	-vol-	Fly	volley

## How to Use the Affixation System

- Thorough knowledge of the English affixation system helps us in guessing the meaning of the word purely by the means of its prefix-root-suffix structure.
- Because of the limitations of our memory, it is not easy to remember a large number of words at a time.
- We may find it difficult to associate the meaning of the word with its structure.

Word	Meaning
Subterranean	Underground

- With the knowledge of the affixation system, we can guess the meaning of the given word.

Prefix	Root	Suffix
Sub-	-terran-	-ean
(under)	(ground)	(adj)

The meaning of the above word is 'Underground', and it is used as an adjective.

Thus, to have a rich vocabulary, students should learn **the prefix-root-suffix** method. It is an interesting way to expand your vocabulary with little effort. Students who are well-versed with the affixation system find it easier to tackle difficult words and are more confident about their word usage. It will definitely give you an edge over the others when it comes to words.

# Synonyms and Antonyms

## What are Synonyms?

**Synonyms** are words or phrases which are used as substitutes for another. Sometimes, synonyms need not mean exactly the same as the other word. They can also be a close substitute for the other word.

Synonyms can belong to any word category:

Category	Word	Synonym	Synonym
<b>Noun</b>	Pauper	Destitute	Beggar
<b>Adjective</b>	Bright	Dazzling	Luminous
<b>Verb</b>	Laugh	Chuckle	Snigger
<b>Adverb</b>	Beautifully	Exquisitely	Charmingly

## Why do Synonyms Exist?

English is a language which has many influences since it has evolved in a natural manner. Today, it is a combination of languages such as Latin, Greek, Celtic, French, Scandinavian and even Hindi. Some words in English are adopted from these languages in addition to the ones which already exist. For example, **mansion** is a word which is adopted from French. At the same time, its synonym **bungalow** is taken from Hindi.

## What are the Uses of Synonyms?

Why are synonyms used when one word can convey the idea perfectly? Let us find out.

### Situation

Let us consider the words **check** and **investigate**. Though both the words are synonyms of each other, we cannot substitute one for the other in certain situations.

Examples:

<p><b>A</b> I will <b>check</b> if there is something to eat in the kitchen.</p>	<p><b>B</b> I will <b>investigate</b> if there is something to eat in the kitchen.</p>
<p><b>C</b> Inspector Sahasrabuddhe will <b>check</b> the robbery attempt.</p>	<p><b>D</b> Inspector Sahasrabuddhe will <b>investigate</b> the robbery attempt</p>

In the above examples, the usage of the word **check** in sentence A seems appropriate. Its synonym **investigate** sounds awkward and pompous in sentence B. Similarly, in sentence C the word **check** lacks the force of the word **investigate** which is used in sentence D. In conclusion, we can say that it is the situation that dictates which word or its synonym has to be used.

### Tone

Sometimes a word does not do justice to the emotion behind it. The tone or the emotion behind a person's voice can also dictate which word has to be used.

Examples: **Dislike, hate, despise**

- A. Manohar **dislikes** peas. (Does not like peas)

B. Manohar **hates** peas. (Intensely dislikes peas)

C. Manohar **despises** peas. (Has a very strong and personal hatred towards peas)



Although the three highlighted words are synonyms, they have different tonalities. Hence, one cannot use the word **dislike** to describe a very strong and personal hatred.

### Sound

We use a certain word instead of its synonym because it sounds more pleasing.

Examples:

A. A **confederacy** of **dunces**

B. A **group** of **idiots**

In the above examples, **group** and **idiots** are synonyms of **confederacy** and **dunces**, respectively. Sentence A sounds more appealing than sentence B because of the choice of words. Hence, it is important that we use synonyms sometimes to make sentences sound more pleasing.

We can conclude by saying that synonyms make the language rich in meaning by adding variety to it. It also helps the speakers express themselves better and more clearly. The speakers can assess the situation and use appropriate words to deliver the exact message they wish to express.



## What are Antonyms?

In contrast with synonyms, **antonyms** are words or phrases which are opposite in meaning to another. This may sound strange, but often, to understand a word better, we have to look at its antonym. We learn the meaning of the word by understanding how it contrasts with its antonym.

Example:  
 Cantankerous: kan'taŋk(ə)rəs  
 Opposite of good-natured

Sometimes, to understand a word better, it is important that we look up its antonym along with its synonym. Like synonyms, there can be more than one antonym for a given word.

Category	Word	Antonym	Antonym
Noun	Odour	Fragrance	Aroma
Adjective	Jubilant	Morose	Depressed
Verb	Create	Destroy	Annihilate
Adverb	Excitedly	Nervously	Anxiously

## What are the Different Types of Antonyms?

There are three basic types of antonyms:

- Gradable antonyms
- Complementary antonyms
- Relational antonyms

### Gradable Antonyms

Gradable antonyms are words which are the extreme opposites of each other. Imagine a spectrum or a scale. Gradable antonyms will be at equal distances from the centre on the scale. However, these words may have a spectrum of words between them. All these words may exist together on the same scale.



In the above example, **hot** is the polar opposite of the word **cold**. But together, they exist on the same spectrum as **warm** and **cool**. Let us look at more examples of gradable antonyms.

Good	Bad	Depressed	Joyful	Intelligent	Foolish
Evil	Saintly	Young	Old	Excited	Bored



### Complementary Antonyms

Unlike gradable antonyms which have a spectrum of words between them, complementary antonyms are words which express two extreme ideas without the possibility of 'middle' words. They do not lie on a continuous scale and are the exact opposites of each other.

Let us look at a few examples of complementary antonyms.

Inhale	Exhale	Dead	Alive	Exit	Enter	Right	Wrong
Vacant	Occupied	Similar	Different	Sink	Float	Married	Single

### Relational Antonyms

Relational antonyms are words which are opposite to each other by the virtue of their relationship alone. One finds meaning through the existence of the other. For example, the word **up** exists in relation to the word **down**.

Let us look at a few examples of relational antonyms.

Teacher	Student	Husband	Wife	Slave	Master	Parent	Child
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Predator	Prey	North	South

## Synonyms and Antonyms

We shall now look at common synonyms and antonyms used in everyday life.

### able (adj)

#### Synonyms

good                      skilled                      adequate

#### Antonyms

disinclined              unskilled                      inadequate

### abnormal (adj)

#### Synonyms

unusual                      anomalous                      weird

#### Antonyms

usual                      normal                      common

### accomplish (v)

#### Synonyms

do                      finish                      attain

#### Antonyms

begin                      halt                      destroy

### abandon (v)

#### Synonyms

leave                      neglect                      drop

#### Antonyms

take up                      pursue                      adopt

### amusement (n)

#### Synonym

delight                      enjoyment                      glee

#### Antonym

boredom                      gloom                      sadness

### baffle (v)

#### Synonym

amaze                      mystify                      confuse

#### Antonym

clarify                      clear up                      explain

### baleful (adj)

#### Synonyms

deadly                      dangerous                      evil

#### Antonyms

harmless                      safe

### banal (adj)

#### Synonyms

boring                      common                      bland

#### Antonyms

interesting                      origin                      new

### banish (v)

#### Synonyms

dismiss                      dispel                      remove

#### Antonym

accept                      admit                      allow

### coarse (adj)

#### Synonyms

rough                      bumpy                      rugged

#### Antonyms

smooth                      refined                      fine

### candid (adj)

#### Synonyms

frank                      honest                      sincere

#### Antonyms

biased                      devious                      false

### chaos (n)

#### Synonyms

turmoil                      disarray                      disorder

#### Antonyms

harmony                      organisation                      orderliness

### celestial (adj)

#### Synonyms

heavenly                      angelic                      holy

#### Antonyms

awful                      bad                      horrible

### cease (v)

#### Synonyms

stop                      halt                      discontinue

#### Antonyms

begin                      continue                      do

<b><u>deadly (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
dangerous	cruel	destructive
<b>Antonym</b>		
safe	kind	strong

<b><u>dumb (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
mute	quite	mum
<b>Antonyms</b>		
sharp	talkative	speaking

<b><u>depart (v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
leave	escape	exit
<b>Antonyms</b>		
arrive	come	enter

<b><u>decay (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
decompose	rot	break down
<b>Antonyms</b>		
grow	build	mature

<b><u>detailed (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
accurate	complex	exact
<b>Antonyms</b>		
inaccurate	simple	false

<b><u>demise (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
death	end	downfall
<b>Antonyms</b>		
birth	start	rise

<b><u>endure (v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
bear	brave	face
<b>Antonyms</b>		
halt	refuse	deny

<b><u>eccentric (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
strange	outlandish	odd
<b>Antonyms</b>		
common	familiar	ordinary

<b><u>edible (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
eatable	consumable	savoury
<b>Antonyms</b>		
inedible	unpalatable	harmful

<b><u>fabricate (v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
create	concoct	make
<b>Antonyms</b>		
demolish	ruin	destroy

<b><u>fact (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
evidence	information	matter
<b>Antonyms</b>		
lie	fabrication	

<b><u>fallible (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
faulty	incorrect	imperfect
<b>Antonyms</b>		
perfect	correct	perfect

<b><u>flabbergasted (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
surprised	taken aback	dumbfounded
<b>Antonyms</b>		
bored	clarified	explain

<b><u>faction (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
part	bloc	sect
<b>Antonyms</b>		
whole	entirety	unity

<b><u>general (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
broad	generic	commonplace
<b>Antonyms</b>		
specific	different	extraordinary

<b><u>garb (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
clothes	disguise	garments
<b>Antonyms</b>		
reality		

<b><u>garnish (v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
decorate	adorn	enhance
<b>Antonyms</b>		
ruin	disfigure	worsen

<b><u>gloat (v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
brag	exult	relish
<b>Antonyms</b>		
be sad	be glum	be upset

<b><u>gaudy (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
bright	flashy	garish
<b>Antonyms</b>		
dull	refined	modest

<b><u>genial (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
friendly	amiable	cheerful
<b>Antonyms</b>		
hostile	rude	nasty

<b><u>hasty (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
impatient	hurried	reckless
<b>Antonyms</b>		
patient	cautious	slow

<b><u>habitual (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
chronic	addicted	
<b>Antonyms</b>		
temporary	inhabitual	infrequent

<b><u>hale (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
healthy	fit	robust
<b>Antonyms</b>		
unhealthy	unfit	sick

<b><u>industrious (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
hardworking	diligent	productive
<b>Antonyms</b>		
lazy	inactive	negligent

<b><u>invite(v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
call	attract	persuade
<b>Antonyms</b>		
discourage	ignore	reject

<b><u>ignite (v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
set ablaze	burn	kindle
<b>Antonyms</b>		
put out	extinguish	quench

<b><u>jest (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
joke	fun	gag
<b>Antonyms</b>		
seriousness	work	gravity

<b><u>jibe (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
insult	remark	abuse
<b>Antonyms</b>		
appreciation	flattery	honour

<b><u>joyial (adj)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
happy	joyful	blissful
<b>Antonyms</b>		
morose	sad	depressed

<b><u>kindle (v)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
stoke	light	ignite
<b>Antonyms</b>		
put out	extinguish	snuff

<b><u>king (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
emperor	Ruler	Monarch
<b>Antonyms</b>		
subject		

<b><u>knack (n)</u></b>		
<b>Synonyms</b>		
expertise	flair	skill
<b>Antonyms</b>		
inability	ineptitude	incapacity

**lavish (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 generous      luxuriant      grand  
**Antonyms**  
 modest      austere      economical

**liberal (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 free      broadminded      flexible  
**Antonyms**  
 orthodox      narrow minded      rigid

**linger (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 stay      remain      persist  
**Antonyms**  
 vanish      go      leave

**misogamist (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 marriage hater      sceptic      pessimist  
**Antonyms**  
 believer of marriage      confident      optimist

**monotony (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 boredom      dullness      routine  
**Antonyms**  
 excitement      change      variety

**meagre (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 less      few      insufficient  
**Antonyms**  
 much      many      sufficient

**neglect (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 leave      abandon      carelessness  
**Antonyms**  
 take up      adopt      care

**negotiate (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 agree      discuss      consult  
**Antonyms**  
 disagree      block      ignore

**naïve (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 innocent      simple      ignorant  
**Antonyms**  
 artful      cunning      smart

**object (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 disagree      contradict      clash  
**Antonyms**  
 agree      accept      approve

**omnipotent (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 all powerful      almighty      supreme  
**Antonyms**  
 weak      impotent      feeble

**onset (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 starting      beginning      birth  
**Antonyms**  
 end      finish line      death

**philanthropist (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 generous      social servant      humanitarian  
**Antonyms**  
 villain      malefactor      antisocial person

**pessimist (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 cynic      worrier      complainer  
**Antonyms**  
 optimist      positive person      hoper

**precise (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 exact                      same                      accurate  
**Antonyms**  
 imprecise                uncertain                inaccurate

**quest (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 expedition                search                      adventure  
**Antonyms**  
 retreat                      retirement                withdrawal

**reveal (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 show                      expose                      divulge  
**Antonyms**  
 hide                      withhold                conceal

**recount (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 convey                      narrate                      describe  
**Antonyms**  
 repress                      hide                      conceal

**rural (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 simple                      village-like                rustic  
**Antonyms**  
 urban                      modern                      civic

**scrupulous (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 moral                      upright                      precise  
**Antonyms**  
 unscrupulous                dishonest                careless

**scurry (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 run                      scamper                      hurry  
**Antonyms**  
 dawdle                      stay                      walk

**simpleton (n)**  
**Synonyms**  
 simple-minded                foolish                      gullible  
 person  
**Antonyms**  
 smart                      sophisticated                cunning

**tender (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 soft                      delicate                      raw  
**Antonyms**  
 hardened                rough                      calloused

**trot (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 walk briskly                jog                      hurry  
**Antonyms**  
 dawdle                      stop                      walk slowly

**timid (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 frightened                meek                      fearful  
**Antonyms**  
 brave                      brazen                      audacious

**unanimous (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 together                      united                      collective  
**Antonyms**  
 single-handed                alone                      divided

**unruly (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 uncontrollable                unmanageable                lawless  
**Antonyms**  
 disciplined                controllable                calm

**unique (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 one of a kind                special                      peculiar  
**Antonyms**  
 common                      banal                      similar

**vain (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
 self-absorbed                self-                      arrogant

**vacate (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
 retreat                      empty                      depart

**Antonyms**  
obsessed  
humble      modest      shy

**Antonyms**  
arrive      occupy      come

**vibrant (adj)**  
**Synonyms**  
colourful      exciting      lively  
**Antonyms**  
dull      boring      monotonous

**wander (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
roam      walk around      stray  
**Antonyms**  
go directly

**withhold (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
keep back      conceal      not give  
**Antonyms**  
give      show      exhibit

**wrangle (v)**  
**Synonyms**  
fight      quarrel      brawl  
**Antonym**  
agree      concede      get along



# The Same Word Used as Different Parts of Speech

## Content and Function Words

In English, a word can be either a content word or a function word.

### Content Words Show Information and Meaning

Nouns	house, Pavan, summer, student
Main Verbs	swim, race, eat, frighten
Adjectives	beautiful, thin, expensive, naughty
Adverbs	fast, carefully, late, often

### Function Words Make our Sentences Grammatically Correct

Auxiliary Verbs	do, be, have
Articles	a, an, the
Conjunctions	and, but, for, though
Prepositions	in, on, over, beside
Pronouns	you, him, her, they

The combination of these words helps us to form different sentence structures.

*They have a beautiful house.*

*Do you know you are thin because you eat fast?*

*What a naughty student Pavan is!*

*They often swim in the lake during summer.*



## Parts of Speech

Form and content words are further classified into different classes called parts of speech. There are eight parts of speech in English:

1. Noun
2. Adjective
3. Pronoun
4. Verb
5. Adverb
6. Preposition
7. Conjunction
8. Interjection

The same word can belong to different parts of speech according to how it is used in sentences. Let us see how.

*Above*

*The stars are above. (Adverb)*

*The founders' authority is above the management's. (Preposition)*

*Rewrite the above examples. (Adjective)*

*Our luck comes from above. (Noun)*

The function of a word in a given sentence determines which part of speech it belongs to.

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## Identifying the Function of a Word

A word used as a **noun** in a sentence will answer the question 'what?' and will usually be the subject of the sentence.

If the word is used as an **adjective**, it will answer the question 'what kind of/how much?' and will describe the noun/s in the sentence.

When used as an **adverb**, a word will answer the question 'how?' and will tell you more about the verb in a sentence.

Let us look at a few examples:

### Round

**Adjective**

I have a round dining table. (**what kind of table?**)

**Noun**

Cut the candles into rounds. (**into what?**)

**Adverb**

An eagle circled round overhead. (**how did it circle?**)

A word used as a **verb** will show an action performed by the noun.

A word which is used as a **preposition** will show location, time and movement.

A word used as a **conjunction** will connect phrases and sentences.

Let us look at a few examples:

### Except

**Verb**

If we except Sumed, all are to be blamed.

**Preposition**

All the soldiers returned except Hemant.

**Conjunction**

I didn't say anything except that you are unwell.

## Adverb or Preposition?

Some words can be used as both prepositions and adverbs.

### Before

**Preposition**  
**Adverb**

She had to rest before her flight.  
We have met each other before.

### After

**Preposition**  
**Adverb**

Shortly after Partition, they moved to Pakistan.  
The Duke died soon after.

### Near

**Preposition**  
**Adverb**

His house is near the bank.  
A building crashed somewhere near.

### Like

**Preposition**  
**Adverb**

Do not shout like that.  
And then he said I was right! I was like so shocked!

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## Noun or Verb?

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Some words can be used both as nouns and verbs.

### Race

**Noun** Wasim won the race by a margin of 2 seconds.  
**Verb** The children were asked to race towards the finishing line.

### Love

**Noun** Mother's love is selfless.  
**Verb** I love eating fresh fruits.

### Box

**Noun** Do not touch the orange box.  
**Verb** I will box your ears if you don't listen to me.

### Grace

**Noun** Ishani performed her dance with grace.  
**Verb** Please grace the occasion with your presence.

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The following are some commonly used words which can be used as different parts of speech.

### All

<b>Adjective</b>	<u>All</u> children are requested to maintain silence.
<b>Adverb</b>	She was <u>all</u> alone in that dingy lane.
<b>Pronoun</b>	<u>All</u> spoke in his favour.
<b>Noun</b>	<u>All</u> was lost in the war.

### Better

<b>Adjective</b>	We are hoping for <u>better</u> facilities here.
<b>Adverb</b>	I am sure you know <u>better</u> .
<b>Noun</b>	The sooner the <u>better</u> .
<b>Verb</b>	His account can hardly be <u>bettered</u> .

### Down

<b>Adverb</b>	Sit <u>down</u> and stop shouting.
<b>Preposition</b>	The drawer came crashing <u>down</u> the stairs.
<b>Adjective</b>	I have to catch the <u>down</u> train in twenty minutes.
<b>Verb</b>	<u>Down</u> with the injustice!
<b>Noun</b>	They have had many ups and <u>downs</u> in life.

### Either

<b>Adjective</b>	<u>Either</u> offer is good enough.
<b>Conjunction</b>	Ravi must <u>either</u> sign the contract or quit.
<b>Pronoun</b>	They must <u>either</u> beg or starve.

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**For**

**Preposition**  
**Conjunction**

She writes books for children.  
Thank Mr Shah, for he saved the day.

**Much**

**Adjective**  
**Adverb**  
**Pronoun**

There was much sense in what you said.  
Did it hurt very much?  
You must bear much of the blame.

**Neither**

**Conjunction**  
**Adjective**  
**Pronoun**

Gauri will neither come home nor stay at your place.  
Neither side was prepared for the war.  
Neither of us believes you.

**Once**

**Adverb**  
**Conjunction**  
**Noun**

She was young and beautiful once.  
Once the juice was served, breakfast began.  
Can you support me for once?

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