

Antonyms

Antonyms are words that mean the opposite or nearly the opposite of each other for one meaning. Both synonyms and antonyms are often used in tests and language drills.

Below is a list of common antonyms. Please refer to district adopted materials for words specific to each grade level.

above – below
absent – present
accident – intent
accomplishment – failure
achieve – fail
add – subtract
adjacent – distant
admire – detest
admit – reject
adore – hate
advance – retreat
affirm – deny
afraid – confident
after – before
aid – hinder
alarm – comfort
alert – asleep
alive – dead
allow – forbid
alone – together
amateur – professional
amuse – bore
ancient – modern
annoy – soothe
answer – question
apparent – obscure
argue – agree
arrive – depart
arrogant – humble
ascend – descend
attack – defend
attract – repel
awake – asleep
awkward – graceful

back – front
bad – good
bare – covered
beautiful – ugly
before – after
bent – straight
better – worse
big – little

birth – death
bitter – sweet
black – white
blunt – sharp
body – soul
bold – timid
bottom – top
brave – cowardly
break – repair
brief – long
bright – dull
bring – remove
boy – girl
busy – idle
buy – sell

capture – release
cause – effect
cautious – careless
center – edge
change – remain
cheap – expensive
child – adult
chilly – warm
clean – dirty
close – open
cold – hot
command – obey
complex – simple
compliment – insult
constant – variable
continue – interrupt
cool – warm
copy – original
countrymen – foreigner
crazy – sane
crooked – straight
cruel – kind
cry – laugh
curse – bless

damage – improve
dark – light

dawn – sunset
day – night
deep – shallow
destroy – create
difficult – easy
dim – bright
divide – unite
doubt – trust
drunk – sober
dull – sharp
dumb – smart

earth – sky
east – west
easy – hard
elementary – advanced
end – begin
even – odd
evening – morning
evil – good
exceptional – common
expand – shrink

fail – pass
failure – success
false – true
famous – unknown
fancy – plain
fast – slow
fat – thin
fiction – fact
find – lose
finish – start
firm – flabby
fix – break
follow – lead
forgive – blame
forward – backward
free – restricted
fresh – stale
friend – enemy
funny – sad
full – empty