

## Dedication

To my family and good friends for their love and support.  
-Helen

## Introduction

Vocabulary development is an essential component of daily classroom instruction that all teachers target to increase reading comprehension and oral/written language expression. *Synonyms Galore!* is a resource book providing direct instruction to broaden students' word knowledge and language expression.

*Synonyms Galore!* presents useful synonyms for adjectives, verbs, and nouns in our everyday language. The lessons teach synonyms in context and reinforce usage with practice exercises. Each lesson concludes with an enrichment activity for teachers to use with capable students ready for more complex synonyms. Students gain a wealth of synonyms to replace commonly overused words such as big, little, happy, etc. *Synonyms Galore!* is written in a user friendly way to build student comfort with new words.

Use this resource with an entire class, small groups, or a one-on-one teaching situation. Teacher modeling and discussion to note varying degrees of usage for particular words are important to lesson instruction.



# Parent Letter

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Homework Helper:

Your child is currently working on synonyms in \_\_\_\_\_ class. Attached are activities for home practice.

- Please complete the attached exercises with your child and return to me by \_\_\_\_\_.
- Complete the attached exercises and keep them at home.
- Check your child's work (the attached exercises) after he/she completes it and return it to me by \_\_\_\_\_.

Enjoy discovering fun with synonyms! Thank you.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Helper's Signature

# Synonyms - Adjectives

Synonyms are words that mean the same, or nearly the same.

## Lesson 1

- interesting – fascinating, stimulating, engrossing
- famous – popular, celebrated, prominent
- hungry – famished, ravenous, starving
- lazy – idle, unmotivated
- safe – secure, protected, harmless

## Lesson 2

- empty – vacant, bare, hollow
- fast – swift, rapid, speedy
- high – towering, lofty, elevated
- careful – cautious, alert, thorough
- strong – robust, mighty, sturdy

## Lesson 3

- thin – slender, slim, scrawny
- weak – feeble, frail, flimsy
- right – correct, accurate, proper
- hard – solid, firm, complicated
- large – grand, great, enormous

## Lesson 4

- soft – plush, cushiony, spongy
- loud – blaring, roaring
- curious – inquisitive, questioning, peculiar
- quiet – calm, tranquil, composed
- busy – active, occupied

## Lesson 5

- old – aged, elderly, antique
- dirty – filthy, grimy, soiled
- funny – amusing, humorous, witty
- enough – sufficient, adequate
- different – various, distinct

## Lesson 6

- tired – weary, exhausted, sleepy
- mean – cruel, vicious, malicious
- sad – gloomy, depressed, blue
- worried – anxious, uneasy, troubled
- smart – bright, clever, intelligent

## Lesson 7

- scared – fearful, alarmed, frightened
- comfortable – cozy, relaxing, snug
- wet – damp, soggy, drenched
- shy – timid, bashful, reserved
- fancy – extravagant, luxurious, skillful

## Lesson 8

- pretty – attractive, exquisite
- excited – enthusiastic, eager, thrilled
- ugly – hideous, unsightly, repulsive
- hot – sweltering, spicy
- plain – simple, ordinary, uncomplicated

## Lesson 9

- happy – content, elated
- brave – courageous, bold, heroic
- sure – certain, positive, definite
- shiny – glossy, glistening, polished
- wild – ferocious, untamed, savage

## Lesson 10

- fat – plump, stout, bulky
- first – initial, primary, original
- rich – wealthy, affluent, prosperous
- nice – pleasant, delightful, agreeable
- big – huge, enormous, vast

## Lesson 11

- bad – awful, nasty, mischievous
- hurt – wounded, injured, abused
- rough – bumpy, uneven, difficult
- true – correct, accurate, loyal
- crazy – absurd, foolish, ridiculous



# Lesson 1 - Synonyms - Adjectives

**Instructions:** Below are additional synonyms to use for the words in this lesson. Read these sentences with your teacher/helper and discuss the situations for using these words.

- interesting**      The book was so engrossing that I forgot to take the dog outside.
- famous**          Dr. Ben Carson is a prominent doctor at Johns Hopkins Hospital.
- hungry**          Let's help the starving children of the world.
- lazy**              Jessie is unmotivated and will not complete the project.
- safe**              The neighbors should not be afraid of the harmless dog.

**Instructions:** Choose the synonym from the Word Bank to replace the underlined word. Write your answer in the blank.

## Word Bank

harmless    unmotivated    starving    prominent    engrossing

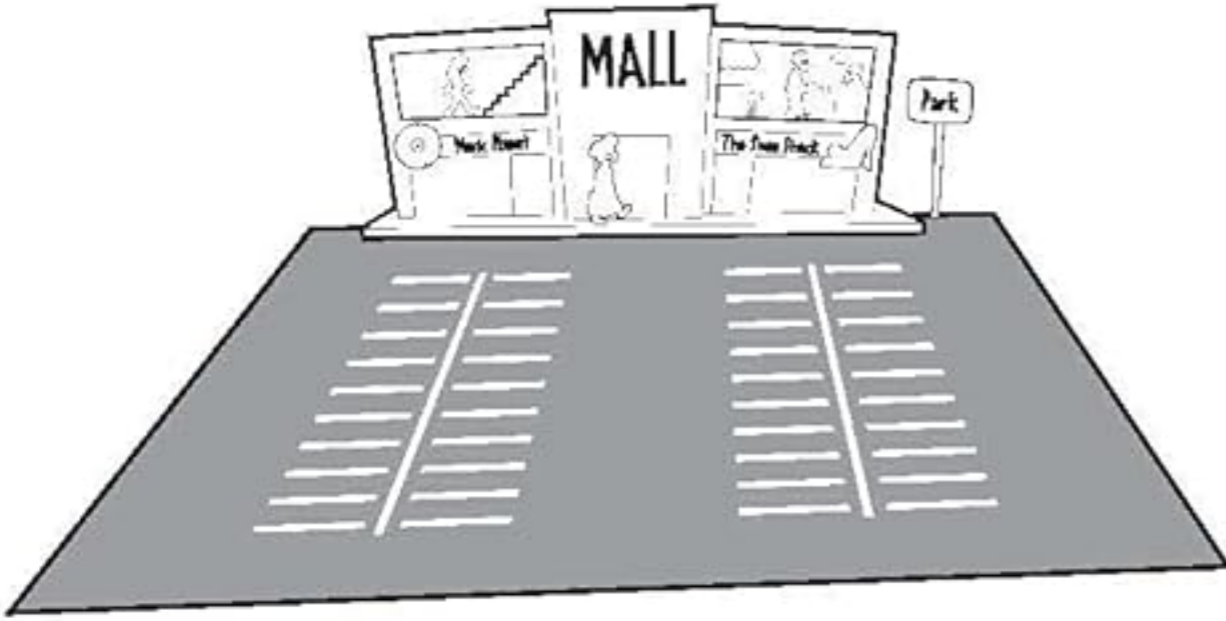
1. a thin, hungry dog \_\_\_\_\_
2. an interesting TV program \_\_\_\_\_
3. a famous lawyer \_\_\_\_\_
4. a safe animal to touch \_\_\_\_\_
5. a(an) lazy student \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Circle the best answer(s) for each question.

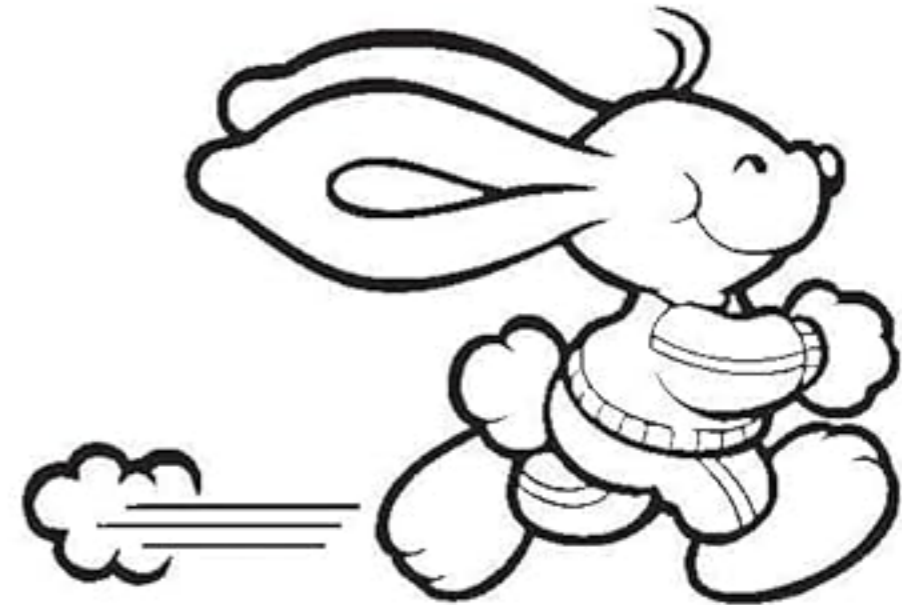
1. Who comes from a prominent family?  
a. Bugs Bunny                      b. Queen Elizabeth                      c. Uncle Harry
2. What is the best food for a starving dog?  
a. chocolate cake                      b. milk                      c. dog food
3. What is an engrossing topic for students?  
a. space and planets                      b. boiling an egg                      c. sweeping the floor
4. What happens to an unmotivated worker on his job?  
a. he gets a pay raise                      b. he gets an award                      c. he gets fired
5. Which ingredients are harmless to put in your food?  
a. salt                      b. pepper                      c. poison

## Lesson 2 - Synonyms - Adjectives

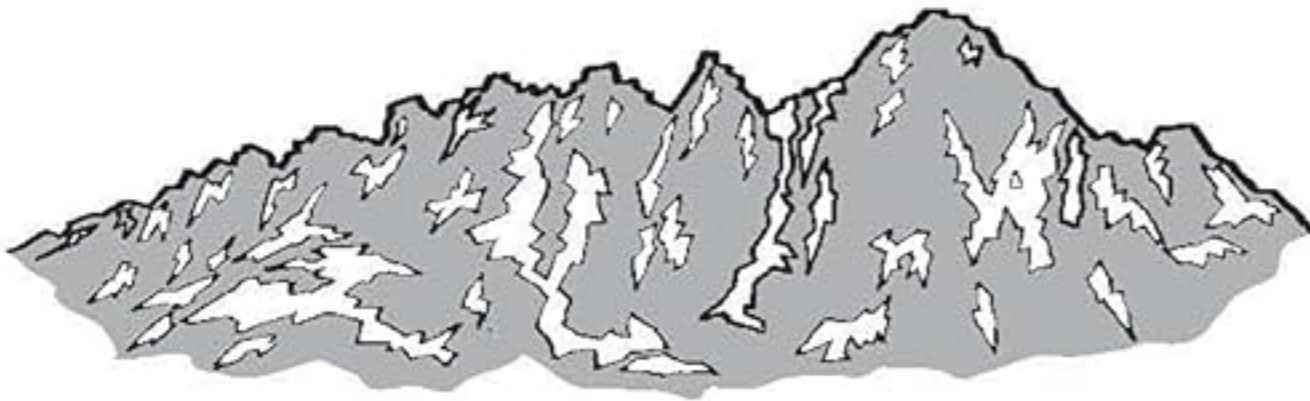
**Instructions:** Cut on the dotted line to make review cards for this lesson. Read each sentence with the underlined word. Then, read the sentence again, replacing the underlined word with the word(s) in parentheses.



The parking lot is empty (*vacant, bare*).



The fast (*swift, rapid*) rabbit was hard to catch.



We have a wonderful view of those high (*lofty, towering*) mountains.



A (An) careful (*cautious, alert*) person looks both ways before crossing the street.



Did you see that strong (*robust, mighty*) young man lift weights?

### Synonyms – Adjectives Lesson 2

empty – vacant, bare

fast – swift, rapid

high – lofty, towering

careful – cautious, alert

strong – robust, mighty

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Helper \_\_\_\_\_

# Lesson 14 - Synonyms - Verbs

**Instructions:** Use the Word Bank to fill in synonyms for the underlined word in each sentence.

### Word Bank

annoy    express    weep    nap    slices  
disturb    state    carves    snooze

1. Do you sleep in the afternoon?    n \_ \_    |    s \_ o \_ \_ e
2. "Why does she bother me?" asked Rhonda.    \_ n \_ o \_    |    d \_ \_ t \_ r \_
3. The chef cuts the meat into thick pieces.    s \_ i \_ \_ s    |    \_ a \_ \_ es
4. The grandchildren cry when Grandma goes back home.    \_ e \_ p
5. The teacher wants us to talk (about) our ideas for the project.    \_ xp \_ \_ ss    |    s \_ a \_ e

**Instructions:** Use the Word Bank to fill in the missing synonym that best completes each sentence.

### Word Bank

carves    weeps    expresses    disturb    snoozes



1. Dad \_\_\_\_\_ in the hammock.  
(sleeps)



2. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ Mom while she is talking on the phone.  
(bother)



3. Jesse \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of the movie.  
(cries)



4. Mrs. Ramirez \_\_\_\_\_ her ideas for a city park.  
(states)



5. The sculptor \_\_\_\_\_ a boat from the piece of wood.  
(cuts)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Helper \_\_\_\_\_

# Lesson 14 - Synonyms - Verbs

**Instructions:** Circle the best answer(s) for each question.

1. Where is a good place to nap?  
a. school    b. work    c. home
2. Which materials can you carve?  
a. stone    b. clay    c. water
3. Which word means the same as weep?  
a. jump    b. cry    c. sleep
4. How do you feel when someone annoys you?  
a. angry    b. happy    c. upset
5. In the phrase "state the information," what does state mean?  
a. search    b. grab    c. say

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**Instructions:** Read the sentences below. Circle "True" if the statement is true and "False" if the statement is false.

- |   |      |       |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. Loud noises <u>disturb</u> people.                           | True | False |
| 2. Preschoolers <u>snooze</u> during their nap at school.       | True | False |
| 3. A hammer is a good tool to <u>slice</u> bread.               | True | False |
| 4. Babies <u>nap</u> in a crib.                                 | True | False |
| 5. Sometimes, puppies <u>weep</u> when they leave their mother. | True | False |
| 6. A sculptor <u>carves</u> the wood block into a statue.       | True | False |
| 7. People <u>express</u> ideas by writing or speaking.          | True | False |
| 8. Some little brothers like to <u>annoy</u> their sisters.     | True | False |