

# BASIC SYNONYMS IN ENGLISH YOU SHOULD KNOW

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## Basic Synonyms in English You Should Know

Synonyms are words that are similar, or have a related meaning, to another word. They can be lifesavers when you want to avoid repeating the same word over and over. Also, sometimes the word you have in mind might not be the most appropriate word, which is why finding the right synonym can come in handy.

The word comes from Ancient Greek *sýn* (σύν; "with") and *ónoma* (ὄνομα; "name"). An example of synonyms are the words *begin*, *start*, *commence*, and *initiate*. Words can be synonymous when meant in certain senses, even if they are not synonymous in all of their senses. For example, if one talks about a *long time* or an *extended time*, *long* and *extended* are synonymous within that context. Synonyms with exact meaning share a seme or denotational sememe, whereas those with inexactly similar meanings share a broader denotational or connotational sememe and thus overlap within a semantic field.



Occasionally, cuneiform text scribes encounter difficult or rare words. The list on this clay tablet explain such words. From the library of Ashurbanipal at Nineveh (modern-day Ninawa Governorate, Iraq), northern Mesopotamia. Neo-Assyrian period, 7th century BCE. (The British Museum, London)

## Word

## Synonym

A	
<b>about</b>	approximately
<b>abstract</b>	summary
<b>to accomplish</b>	to achieve
<b>to accumulate</b>	to build up
<b>to administer</b>	to manage
<b>to admit</b>	to confess
<b>almost</b>	nearly
<b>animated</b>	lively
<b>to annoy</b>	to irritate, to bother
<b>to answer</b>	to reply
<b>anyway</b>	besides
<b>apparent</b>	obvious
<b>to appear</b>	to seem
<b>applicable</b>	relevant
<b>appreciable</b>	considerable

<b>ardour</b>	passion
<b>arise</b>	occur
<b>aromatic</b>	fragrant
<b>to arrive</b>	to reach
<b>artful</b>	crafty
<b>association</b>	organization
<b>to assure</b>	to guarantee
<b>attractive</b>	appealing
<b>away</b>	absent
<b>awful</b>	terrible
<b>B</b>	
<b>backbone</b>	spine
<b>backside</b>	behind, bottom
<b>bad (not good)</b>	poor, naughty
<b>ballot</b>	poll
<b>to bear on sth.</b>	to affect
<b>to beat</b>	to defeat
<b>becoming</b>	fitting
<b>to begin</b>	to start

<b>to behave</b>	to act
<b>believable</b>	plausible
<b>belly</b>	stomach
<b>bendy</b>	flexible
<b>beneficiant</b>	generous
<b>beneficial</b>	favourable
<b>bid</b>	tender
<b>bizarre</b>	weird
<b>blameless</b>	innocent
<b>bloodbath</b>	massacre
<b>bloodless</b>	cold
<b>branch</b>	department
<b>brave</b>	courageous
<b>to bring sth. back</b>	to reintroduce
<b>to bring sth. on</b>	to cause
<b>to bring sb. up</b>	to raise
<b>brow</b>	forehead
<b>bum</b>	backside, behind, bottom
<b>business</b>	commerce, trade

<b>busy (telephone)</b>	engaged
<b>C</b>	
<b>candy</b>	sweet
<b>to categorize</b>	to classify
<b>to categorise</b>	
<b>charter</b>	constitution
<b>cheesy</b>	corny, tacky
<b>chiefly</b>	mainly
<b>choosy</b>	picky
<b>to chop</b>	to cut
<b>chorus</b>	refrain
<b>citation</b>	quotation
<b>to cite</b>	to quote
<b>class</b>	lesson, course
<b>clerk</b>	receptionist
<b>clever</b>	intelligent
<b>to close</b>	to shut
<b>coiffure</b>	hairstyle
<b>to collapse</b>	to break down

<b>to collect</b>	to gather
<b>comfort</b>	consolation
<b>comic</b>	comedian
<b>commencement</b>	graduation
<b>complete</b>	total
<b>completely</b>	totally
<b>concord</b>	harmony
<b>to condemn</b>	to sentence
<b>confederate</b>	accomplice
<b>to confine</b>	to restrict
<b>conflict</b>	clash
<b>to conform</b>	to comply
<b>to confuse</b>	to mix up
<b>to connect</b>	to associate, to put through (telephone)
<b>considerate</b>	thoughtful
<b>constancy</b>	fidelity
<b>constant</b>	fixed
<b>constitution</b>	structure
<b>construction (lit.)</b>	interpretation

<b>to consult</b>	to refer to
<b>contemporary</b>	modern
<b>continuous</b>	continual
<b>contrary</b>	opposite
<b>convention</b>	conference
<b>to convey</b>	to communicate
<b>to cope</b>	to manage
<b>correct</b>	right
<b>couch</b>	sofa
<b>crook</b>	criminal
<b>crusade</b>	campaign
<b>cube</b>	dice
<b>curative</b>	healing
<b>curler</b>	roller
<b>cussed</b>	stubborn
<b>D</b>	
<b>dash</b>	sprint
<b>daybreak</b>	dawn
<b>deceptive</b>	misleading



<b>decontrol</b>	deregulate
<b>dedicated</b>	committed
<b>to deduce</b>	to infer
<b>defective</b>	faulty
<b>deliberate</b>	planned
<b>deliberately</b>	intentionally
<b>delicate</b>	fragile
<b>to demonstrate</b>	to protest
<b>to denationalize</b>	
<b>to denationalise</b>	to privatize
<b>denims</b>	jeans
<b>to denote</b>	to indicate, to represent
<b>to deprave</b>	to corrupt
<b>depraved</b>	wicked, evil
<b>to desert</b>	to abandon
<b>deserted</b>	abandoned
<b>destiny</b>	fate
<b>detached</b>	indifferent
<b>devil</b>	satan

<b>dicy</b>	risky
<b>to differentiate</b>	to distinguish
<b>to diminish</b>	to decrease
<b>disadvantaged</b>	deprived
<b>disagreeable</b>	unpleasant
<b>to disappear</b>	to vanish
<b>disaster</b>	catastrophe
<b>to disclaim</b>	to deny
<b>to disclose</b>	to reveal
<b>discount</b>	reduction
<b>disgrace</b>	shame
<b>domesticate</b>	cultivate
<b>dossier</b>	file
<b>dubious</b>	doubtful
<b>dull (person)</b>	stupid
<b>E</b>	
<b>eager</b>	keen
<b>earth</b>	soil
<b>economic</b>	profitable

<b>egocentric</b>	selfish
<b>to elevate</b>	to raise, to promote
<b>to emphasise</b>	to stress
<b>to emphasize</b>	
<b>to encounter</b>	to come across
<b>enormous</b>	huge, immense
<b>to enquire</b>	to investigate
<b>equity</b>	fairness
<b>especially</b>	particularly
<b>essential</b>	fundamental
<b>to establish</b>	to set up
<b>to evaluate</b>	to assess
<b>everlasting</b>	eternal
<b>exactly</b>	precisely
<b>except</b>	apart from
<b>to expire</b>	to run out
<b>to explode</b>	to blow up
<b>extra</b>	additional
<b>F</b>	

<b>to fabricate</b>	to manufacture
<b>famous</b>	famed, renowned
<b>fanatic</b>	enthusiast
<b>fantastic</b>	great, brilliant
<b>to float</b>	to drift
<b>fool</b>	idiot
<b>foolish</b>	silly
<b>forehead</b>	brow
<b>to foretell</b>	to predict
<b>formerly</b>	previously
<b>fortunate</b>	lucky
<b>foxy</b>	cunning
<b>foyer</b>	lobby
<b>fragrance</b>	perfume
<b>French dressing</b>	vinaigrette
<b>to function</b>	to operate
<b>Word</b>	<b>Synonym</b>
<b>G</b>	
<b>garbage</b>	rubbish

<b>garbage can</b>	trashcan
<b>gay</b>	homosexual
<b>to glitter</b>	to sparkle
<b>to grab</b>	to seize
<b>grasping</b>	greedy
<b>gratis</b>	free of charge
<b>gratuity</b>	tip
<b>gravestone</b>	headstone
<b>to grouse</b>	to grumble
<b>gut</b>	intestine
<b>H</b>	
<b>hall</b>	corridor
<b>to hand sth. out</b>	to distribute
<b>handsome</b>	good-looking
<b>hang-out</b>	haunt
<b>happily</b>	fortunately
<b>hard</b>	tough
<b>hashish</b>	cannabis
<b>to hawk</b>	to peddle

<b>to hazard</b>	to endanger
<b>hearsay</b>	rumour
<b>hermetic</b>	airtight
<b>highbrow</b>	intellectual
<b>hint</b>	trace, tip
<b>hole</b>	gap
<b>home</b>	domestic
<b>homicide</b>	murder
<b>housebreaking</b>	burglary
<b>hunger</b>	starvation
<b>to hurry</b>	to rush
<b>hypothesis</b>	speculation
<b>I</b>	
<b>idler</b>	loafer
<b>if</b>	whether
<b>to ignore</b>	to disregard
<b>illiberal</b>	intolerant
<b>to illuminate</b>	to clarify; to light up
<b>to illustrate</b>	to demonstrate

<b>to imagine</b>	to suppose, to assume
<b>to imitate</b>	to mimic
<b>immediate</b>	instant
<b>immobile</b>	motionless
<b>immoderate</b>	excessive
<b>immodest</b>	conceited
<b>to impact</b>	to affect
<b>impartial</b>	neutral
<b>impasse</b>	deadlock
<b>impassive</b>	emotionless
<b>to impeach</b>	to question
<b>impediment</b>	obstacle
<b>imperative</b>	vital
<b>impolite</b>	rude
<b>incidentally</b>	by the way
<b>inconsiderate</b>	thoughtless
<b>indisputable</b>	undeniable
<b>infamous</b>	notorious
<b>infantile</b>	childish

<b>to infect</b>	to contaminate
<b>inflexible</b>	rigid
<b>inflow</b>	influx
<b>informal</b>	casual
<b>infrequent</b>	rare
<b>inheritor</b>	heir
<b>innocent</b>	harmless
<b>insolvent</b>	bankrupt
<b>to inspect</b>	to examine
<b>instinct</b>	intuition
<b>instructions</b>	directions
<b>insufferable</b>	unbearable
<b>insufficient</b>	inadequate
<b>insupportable</b>	intolerable
<b>insurgent</b>	rebel
<b>intellectual</b>	mental
<b>to intend</b>	to mean
<b>to intensify</b>	to heighten
<b>interplay</b>	interaction



<b>inventory</b>	stock
<b>invoice</b>	bill
<b>to involve</b>	to entail
<b>isolated</b>	loney
<b>J</b>	
<b>jealous</b>	envious
<b>joy</b>	delight
<b>K</b>	
<b>knowingly</b>	deliberately
<b>L</b>	
<b>lacking</b>	missing
<b>last</b>	final
<b>leading</b>	main
<b>to learn</b>	to memorize
<b>legitimate</b>	valid, lega
<b>lethal</b>	deadly
<b>liveable</b>	habitable
<b>livid</b>	furious
<b>loopy</b>	crazy

<b>lousy</b>	awful
<b>lucid</b>	clear
<b>M</b>	
<b>mackintosh</b>	waterproof coat
<b>madness</b>	insanity
<b>magician</b>	conjuror
<b>magistrate</b>	Justice of the Peace
<b>to magnify</b>	to exaggerate
<b>to maintain</b>	to preserve
<b>manmade</b>	artificial
<b>mannequin</b>	model
<b>material</b>	fabric
<b>matters</b>	things
<b>maybe</b>	perhaps, possibly
<b>in the meantime</b>	meanwhile
<b>measure</b>	degree
<b>meeting</b>	assembly
<b>mendacity</b>	lying
<b>merciless</b>	cruel

<b>middleman</b>	intermediary
<b>midway</b>	halfway
<b>to migrate</b>	emigrate
<b>mild</b>	gentle
<b>to mimic</b>	to imitate
<b>mind</b>	intellect
<b>mindless</b>	senseless
<b>to minimize</b>	to play down
<b>to mirror</b>	to reflect
<b>to misconceive</b>	to misunderstand
<b>miserable</b>	depressing
<b>misery</b>	distress
<b>misread</b>	misinterpret
<b>missing</b>	lost
<b>mistrust</b>	distrust
<b>moment</b>	occasion
<b>moderately</b>	reasonably
<b>modern</b>	contemporary
<b>more and more</b>	increasingly

<b>moreover</b>	in addition
<b>movie</b>	film
<b>murderer</b>	assassin
<b>N</b>	
<b>naked</b>	bare
<b>nameless</b>	anonymous
<b>napkin</b>	serviette
<b>to narrate</b>	to relate
<b>a narrative</b>	a story
<b>a native</b>	a local
<b>to near</b>	to approach
<b>necessary</b>	essential
<b>nightfall</b>	dusk
<b>nobility</b>	the Aristocracy
<b>to nominate</b>	to appoint
<b>non-stop</b>	continuous
<b>noon</b>	midday
<b>noted</b>	famous
<b>to notify</b>	to inform

<b>notwithstanding</b>	however
<b>nugatory</b>	worthless
<b>numerous</b>	many
<b>O</b>	
<b>obdurate</b>	stubborn
<b>object</b>	thing
<b>obligatory</b>	compulsory
<b>oblique</b>	indirect
<b>omnipotent</b>	all-powerful
<b>obsolete</b>	out of date
<b>off-season</b>	low season
<b>to operate</b>	to function
<b>organic</b>	biological
<b>ornament</b>	decoration
<b>outside</b>	external
<b>to overhaul</b>	to overtake
<b>to overlook</b>	to miss
<b>overseas</b>	abroad
<b>to oversee</b>	to supervise

**P**

<b>painting</b>	portray
<b>paper money</b>	notes
<b>particular</b>	specific
<b>passable</b>	satisfactory
<b>pattern</b>	sample
<b>peaceable</b>	peaceful
<b>perception</b>	insight
<b>phantasm</b>	illusion
<b>pocket book</b>	notebook
<b>poisonous</b>	toxic
<b>possibility</b>	opportunity
<b>post-mortem</b>	autopsy
<b>practically</b>	virtually
<b>praise</b>	compliment
<b>precedence</b>	priority
<b>precept</b>	principle
<b>precis</b>	summary
<b>pressing</b>	urgent

<b>previous</b>	preceding
<b>priority</b>	precedence
<b>prompt</b>	immediate
<b>prosperous</b>	affluent
<b>to provide</b>	to supply
<b>provided</b>	if
<b>to put sth. back</b>	to postpone
<b>Q</b>	
<b>to quake</b>	to tremble
<b>quite</b>	fairly
<b>R</b>	
<b>reasonable</b>	fair
<b>to receive</b>	to get
<b>refrain</b>	chorus
<b>reliable</b>	dependable
<b>religious</b>	devout
<b>remainder</b>	the rest
<b>remark</b>	comment
<b>reminiscence</b>	memory

<b>remorse</b>	regret
<b>remoted</b>	isolated
<b>removable</b>	detachable
<b>to renew</b>	to resume
<b>to renounce</b>	to give up
<b>repute</b>	reputation
<b>to respond</b>	to reply
<b>revolting</b>	disgusting
<b>rubbish</b>	nonsense
<b>rude</b>	impolite
<b>to rue</b>	to regret
<b>S</b>	
<b>sacristy</b>	vestry
<b>satisfied</b>	convinced
<b>scarcity</b>	shortage
<b>scrumptious</b>	delicious
<b>second</b>	moment
<b>to select</b>	to choose
<b>selection</b>	choice



<b>self-assured</b>	confident
<b>signal</b>	sign
<b>significant</b>	meaningful
<b>silly</b>	foolish
<b>sincere</b>	honest
<b>skull</b>	cranium
<b>soiled</b>	dirty
<b>spotlight</b>	highlight
<b>stable</b>	steady
<b>steady</b>	regular
<b>stupid</b>	silly
<b>substantially</b>	considerably
<b>suggest</b>	propose
<b>sundown</b>	sunset
<b>sunrise</b>	dawn
<b>sure</b>	certain
<b>surroundings</b>	environment
<b>to survive</b>	to outlive
<b>to symbolize</b>	to represent

<b>T</b>	
<b>tailored</b>	tailor-made
<b>temper</b>	mood
<b>terror</b>	terrorism
<b>testament</b>	testimony
<b>today</b>	nowadays
<b>torpid</b>	lethargic
<b>touchdown</b>	landing
<b>touchy</b>	sensitive
<b>to transform</b>	to convert
<b>transitory</b>	temporary
<b>transparent</b>	obvious
<b>trustworthy</b>	reliable
<b>twister</b>	tornado
<b>twosome</b>	pair
<b>U</b>	
<b>ultimate</b>	final
<b>uncared for</b>	neglected
<b>uncommon</b>	unusual

<b>uncooked</b>	raw
<b>undeniable</b>	indisputable
<b>understandable</b>	comprehensible
<b>unforeseen</b>	unexpected
<b>unfortunate</b>	unlucky
<b>unhurt</b>	unharmed
<b>uninjured</b>	unhurt
<b>unlawful</b>	illegal
<b>unmarried</b>	single
<b>unstated</b>	unspoken
<b>untimely</b>	premature
<b>untrue</b>	unfaithful
<b>unusual</b>	strange
<b>unvoiced</b>	voiceless
<b>uprising</b>	rebellion
<b>usually</b>	generally, normally
<b>v</b>	
<b>vacancy</b>	emptiness
<b>to vacuum</b>	to Hoover

<b>vague</b>	indistinct
<b>vain</b>	useless
<b>valueless</b>	worthless
<b>to vanquish</b>	to conquer
<b>to vary</b>	to differ
<b>vast</b>	huge
<b>virtue</b>	advantage
<b>to visualize</b>	to imagine
<b>W</b>	
<b>warranty</b>	guarantee
<b>well mannered</b>	polite
<b>well timed</b>	timely
<b>winery</b>	vineyard
<b>to withstand</b>	to resist
<b>Z</b>	
<b>zenith</b>	peak