SYNONYMS

Synonyms are words that have similar meanings. Dictionaries often use synonyms in their definitions. There are whole books of synonyms and special reference works, such as the thesaurus, that have clusters of words or phrases, all with similar meanings. These are particularly useful in finding just the right word when writing.

| able-capable-competent | danger-peril-hazard |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| abrupt- sudden- hasty | decrease-lessen-diminish |
| achieve- accomplish- attain | defect-flaw-blemish |
| add-total-sum up | delay-postpone-procrastinate |
| after-following-subsequent | different-varied- diverse |
| aim-purpose-goal | disaster- calamity- catastrophe |
| all-every-entire | divide- separate- split |
| allow-permit- grant | during-while-at the same |
| anger- rage- fury | dwell- live- reside |
| answer-response-reply | expected-anticipated-suppose |
| arrive-reach-get to | eat-consume-devour |
| ask-question-interrogate | effort-exertion-endeavor |
| astonish-surprise-amaze | end-finish-complete |
| dull-boring-drab | energy-power-strength |
| back-rear-behind | enough-adequate-sufficient |
| bear-endure-tolerate | error-mistake-fallacy |
| before-prior to-in front of | explain-expound-elucidate |
| begin-start-initiate | agreement-pact-treaty |
| below-under-beneath | faith- trust- reliance |
| birth-origin-genesis | fat- plump- stout |
| border- edge- margin | fetch-bring-retrieve |
| bother-annoy-pester | find-locate-discover |
| boy-lad-youth | fix-repair-mend |
| brave-courageous-daring | flat-level- flush |
| bulge-swell- protrude | food- nourishment-sustenance |
| busy-occupied-engaged | form-shape-make up |
| rough-harsh-coarse | fragile- delicate- breakable |
| call-shout-yell | freedom-independence-liberty |
| calm-composed-serene | frequent-often- many times |
| car-auto-vehicle | suggest-advise-recommend |
| carry- tote- lug | gay-lively-vivacious |
| careful-cautious-prudent | gift- present-donation |
| change-vary-alter | give- grant- hand over |
| charm-fascinate-enchant | glum-morose-sullen |
| cheat-deceive- swindle | go-leave-depart |
| children-youngsters-tots | grateful-appreciative-thankful |
| city- borough- town | great- grand-large |

| close-shut-seal | grow- mature-develop |
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| consent- agree- acquiesce | clothing-garment-dress |
| continue- persevere- persist | happy- glad- joyous |
| country- nation- state | hard- difficult- troublesome |
| cure- heal- restore | hate-detest-despise |
| have- own- possess | occur-happen-take place |
| heal-mend-cure | often-frequently-repeatedly |
| have-own-possess | occur-happen-take place |
| heal- mend- cure | often- frequently- repeatedly |
| help-aid-assist | old-aged-ancient |
| hide- conceal- secrete | omit-delete-remove |
| high –tall-lofty | one-single- unit |
| hold-grasp-clutch | open-unlock-unseal |
| hurry- rush-accelerate | ornament-decoration-adornment |
| notice-observe-detect | outlive-survive-outlast |
| idea- thought-concept | quarrel-argue-fight |
| ill-sick- indisposed | page- sheet- leaf |
| income- revenue, earnings | pain- ache- hurt |
| injure-wound- hurt | pair-couple- duo |
| hesitate-halt-falter | pardon- forgive-excuse |
| job- work- occupation | part- portion- piece |
| junk- rubbish- waste | peak-summit-top |
| just- fair- right | people- public- populace |
| diluted-watery-weaken | play- frolic- romp |
| keep-hold- retain | praise-acclaim- applaud |
| key-answer-solution | primary- chief- principal |
| kind-considerate-helpful | prohibit- forbid -restrict |
| kill- slaughter- murder | put- place- locate |
| large- big- enormous | raid- attack- invade |
| last- endure- persist | reckless- careless- rash |
| late- tardy- delayed | remote- distant- secluded |
| learn- acquire- understand | renew-restore- revive |
| leave- depart- go away | respect- honor- revive |
| like- enjoy- be fond of | revise- alter- correct |
| listen- hear- attend | right- correct- proper |
| little- small- petite | adore-love-like |
| long- lengthy- drawn out | say- state- remark |
| look-glance- see | seem- appear- look |
| airy-ventilate-wind | sell- vend- market |
| mad-crazy- insane | shame- humiliation- mortification |
| make- build- construct | show – demonstrate- display |
| many- multitudinous- numerous | sorry-regretful- penitent |
| marvelous- wonderful- extraordinary | speed- hast- hurry |
| mean-stand for-denote | start- begin- commence |
| mend- repair- restore | still-unmoving- silent |
| mond repair restore | Julia di |

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| method- way- manner | stop-halt-end |
| might-may- perhaps | story-tale-account |
| mistake- error- blunder | strength- power- energy |
| move- transport- propel | supply- provide- furnish |
| advance-promote-forward | surpass- exceed- outdo |
| name- title-designation | forgive-excuse-pardon |
| near-close by-vicinity | take- grab- seize |
| need- require- want | tense- taut- rigid |
| new- fresh- recent | terrify- frighten-alarm |
| noise-uproar-clamor | thanks- gratitude- appreciation |
| novice- beginner- learner | thaw- melt- dissolve |
| thief- robber- crook | use- operate- employ |
| thin- slender- slim | vacant-empty- unoccupied |
| think-slender-contemplate | value- worth- price |
| time-period-season | vast- huge- immense |
| timid-small- diminutive | victor- winner- champion |
| trial- test- experiment | favor-prefer-approve |
| true-faithful-loyal | walk- stroll-saunter |
| try-attempt- endeavor | want- desire- crave |
| turn-resolve-pivot | waver- fluctuate-vacillate |
| revise-rewrite-rework | weak- feeble-impotent |
| ugly-homely- plain | wealth, riches- fortune |
| understand- comprehend- discern | word- term-expression |
| unify- consolidate- combine | work-labor-toil |
| uproar- tumult- pandemonium | world-globe-earth |
| urge-press-exhort | write- record- draft |
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Note: If there is a need to add to this list, please do so. It is very important to know that being exposed to a myriad of synonyms will help your students on the ACT Aspire. Also, becoming knowledgeable of many synonyms will help your students to expand their vocabulary and overall **reading comprehension.**