

Antonyms

An antonym of a given word is a word that has an opposite meaning. For example, "small" is an antonym for "large."

It may be helpful to develop a series of flash cards. On the front of the card print a word, such as "ridicule." On the back print an antonym for the word on the front, such as "praise."

Be sure that both words are at the student's appropriate learning level. Vocabulary words can be taken from the student's textbooks or from a teacher's vocabulary list.

An effective method of learning antonyms is by creating a chart similar to the one below. After students complete the chart, they should study the words, their definitions, and their antonyms.

Spelling word: inanimate

Definition: Something that is not living.

Antonym: alive

At the end of the week you can create a matching quiz. For instance:

Directions: Match the words to their correct antonyms.

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| 1. buoyant | A. quiet |
| 2. talkative | B. dirty |
| 3. sanitary | C. sinking |