

Application and Reasoning

Step 1: Synonyms

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 6: (6G6.1) [How words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms \[for example, big, large, little\]](#)

Terminology for pupils:

- (6G6.1) [synonym](#)

Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Reasoning)

Developing Order two synonyms from weakest to strongest and explain the order chosen. Simple, common vocabulary used.

Expected Order three synonyms from weakest to strongest and explain the order chosen. More complex, less common vocabulary used.

Greater Depth Order four synonyms from weakest to strongest and explain the order chosen. Very complex, challenging vocabulary used.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Application)

Developing Fill in the gap in a sentence with a synonym of a given word. Short sentences with simple, common vocabulary used.

Expected Fill in the gap in a sentence with a synonym of a given word. Longer sentences with more complex, less common vocabulary used.

Greater Depth Fill in the gap in a sentence with a synonym of a given word. Very long sentences with very complex, challenging vocabulary used.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Reasoning)

Developing Explain if a synonym makes sense in a particular context. Simple, common vocabulary used.

Expected Explain if a synonym makes sense in a particular context. More complex, less common vocabulary used.

Greater Depth Explain if a synonym makes sense in a particular context. Very complex, challenging vocabulary used.

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Application and Reasoning – Synonyms – Teaching Information

Application and Reasoning – Synonyms

1a. Put these synonyms in order from weakest to strongest. Explain the order you choose.

eat

devour



R

1b. Put these synonyms in order from weakest to strongest. Explain the order you choose.

grin

smile



R

2a. Fill in the gap in the sentence below with a synonym of 'push'.

I sometimes have to give my toy car a _____ to get it going.



A

2b. Fill in the gap in the sentence below with a synonym of 'blue'.

The bright _____ ocean stretched away as far as I could see.



A

3a. Find the synonym of 'said' in the sentence below. Does it make sense for that synonym to be used? Explain your answer.

“Come here!” shouted Ralph quietly.



R

3b. Find the synonym of 'walk' in the sentence below. Does it make sense for that synonym to be used? Explain your answer.

If I am late, I wander quickly, straight to school.



R

Application and Reasoning – Synonyms

4a. Put these synonyms in order from weakest to strongest. Explain the order you choose.

hungry

starving

peckish



R

4b. Put these synonyms in order from weakest to strongest. Explain the order you choose.

gaunt

lean

slender



R

5a. Fill in the gap in the sentence below with a synonym of 'companion'.

It was a shock when I realised Ty had become my closest _____ on the trip.



A

5b. Fill in the gap in the sentence below with a synonym of 'rude'.

People said that Mr Briggs was honest, but I just thought he was _____.



A

6a. Find the synonym of 'sneaked' in the sentence below. Does it make sense for that synonym to be used? Explain your answer.

The snake tiptoed up behind Ruth as she lay on the rug.



R

6b. Find the synonym of 'said' in the sentence below. Does it make sense for that synonym to be used? Explain your answer.

"I find it hard to believe that it was an accident," asked Nora with a frown.



R

Application and Reasoning – Synonyms

7a. Put these synonyms in order from weakest to strongest. Explain the order you choose.

restricted
claustrophobic
cramped
enclosed



R

7b. Put these synonyms in order from weakest to strongest. Explain the order you choose.

copious
ample
abundant
sufficient



R

8a. Fill in the gap in the sentence below with a synonym of 'despot'.

In her supporters' eyes, she is a decisive leader, but her opponents regard her as a modern _____.



A

8b. Fill in the gap in the sentence below with a synonym of 'irrevocable'.

If warnings are not heeded and targets not met, we will cause _____ damage to our already fragile planet.



A

9a. Find the synonym of 'entered' in the sentence below. Does it make sense for that synonym to be used? Explain your answer.

Renee infiltrated the office building every morning at 8.55am, greeting the security guard warmly.



R

9b. Find the synonym of 'took' in the sentence below. Does it make sense for that synonym to be used? Explain your answer.

William confiscated the tablets with a mouthful of water after every meal, as his doctor had suggested.



R

Application and Reasoning – Synonyms

Developing

- 1a. From weakest to strongest: 'eat', 'devour'. The word 'devour' means to eat wildly or quickly.
- 1b. From weakest to strongest: 'smile', 'grin'. The word 'grin' means to smile broadly.
- 2a. Any appropriate synonym of 'push' (shove, nudge, etc).
- 2b. Any appropriate synonym of 'blue' (azure, sapphire, etc).
- 3a. No, it does not make sense for the word 'shouted' to be used. It is too strong a synonym to pair with the adverb 'quietly'.
- 3b. No, it does not make sense for the word 'wander' to be used, as it implies a leisurely pace. It therefore does not make sense alongside the words 'quickly, straight to school'.

Expected

- 4a. From weakest to strongest: 'peckish', 'hungry', 'starving', because the words mean 'slightly hungry', 'hungry' and 'very hungry' respectively.
- 4b. From weakest to strongest: 'gaunt', 'slender', 'lean', because the words mean 'looking haggard', 'gracefully thin' and 'no extra fat' respectively.
- 5a. Any appropriate synonym of 'companion' (friend, ally, etc).
- 5b. Any appropriate synonym of 'rude' (boorish, impolite, etc).
- 6a. No, it does not make sense for the word 'tiptoed' to be used. Snakes do not have feet or toes.
- 6b. No, it does not make sense for the word 'asked' to be used. The spoken words are a statement, not a question, so they cannot be 'asked'.

Greater Depth

- 7a. Various answers, for example: cramped, enclosed, restricted, claustrophobic. Ensure answers are justified.
- 7b. Various answers, for example: sufficient, ample, abundant, copious. Ensure answers are justified.
- 8a. Any appropriate synonym of 'despot' (dictator, autocrat, etc).
- 8b. Any appropriate synonym of 'irrevocable' (irreversible, permanent, etc).
- 9a. No, it does not make sense for the word 'infiltrated' to be used, as it implies an element of secrecy or gradual sneaking. It therefore does not make sense alongside the final clause 'greeting the security guard warmly'.
- 9b. No, it does not make sense for the word 'confiscated' to be used. Confiscated is a synonym for the word 'took' when 'took' is used to mean 'stole' or 'removed'. In the given sentence, 'took' is used to mean 'consumed'.