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| **Grammar Masters: Teacher’s Notes**  **Topic: Antonym and Synonym** |
| A synonym is a word that means exactly the same as, or very nearly the same as, another word in the same language. For example, "close" is a synonym of "shut".  Note that a synonym may share an identical meaning with another word, but the two words are not necessarily interchangeable. For example, "blow up" and "explode" have the same meaning, but "blow up" is informal (used more in speech) and "explode" is more formal (used more in writing and careful speech).  Here are some more examples of synonyms:   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **synonyms** | | | **part of speech** | | close | shut |  | verb | | blow up | explode |  | verb | | blow up | inflate |  | verb | | shallow | superficial |  | adjective | | eager | earnest | keen | adjective | | spontaneous | impromptu | unplanned | adjective |   An antonym is a word that means the opposite of another word. For example "bad" is an antonym of "good". Here are some more examples:   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **prefix** | **antonyms** | | **part of speech** | |  | good | bad | adjective | | small | big | adjective | | easy | hard difficult | adjective | | soft | hard | adjective | | male | female | adjective noun | | up | down | preposition adverb | | go | come | verb | | made by adding prefix un- | able | unable | adjective | | selfish | unselfish | adjective | | do | undo | verb | | made by adding prefix in- | decent | indecent | adjective | | tolerant | intolerant | adjective | | human | inhuman | adjective | | made by adding prefix non- | conformist | nonconformist | adjective noun | | essential | nonessential | adjective noun | | sense | nonsense | noun | |

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