

Name _____

Date _____

Word Relationship: Synonyms and Antonyms

Definition

Synonyms are words that have the same or similar meanings. **Antonyms** are words with opposite meanings. Both relationships help writers build vocabulary and choose precise words.

Example

Word	Synonym	Antonym
happy	joyful	sad
big	large	small
beautiful	attractive	ugly

Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions

1. In the sentence "The Pamir Plateau's elevation is not moderate but rather _____," which word would be an antonym to "moderate"?

- A. Average
- B. Extreme
- C. Typical
- D. Standard

2. Scientists describe the climate of the Pamir Plateau as "harsh." Which of the following is a synonym for "harsh" in this context?

- A. Mild
- B. Pleasant
- C. Severe
- D. Temperate

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3. The Pamir Mountains formed when the Indian subcontinent _____ with the Eurasian tectonic plate. Which word accurately describes this geological process?

- A. Separated (antonym)
- B. Collided (accurate term)
- C. Avoided (antonym)
- D. Bypassed (antonym)

4. The valleys of the Pamir Plateau are described as "verdant" in certain seasons. Which of the following is an antonym for "verdant"?

- A. Lush
- B. Fertile
- C. Barren
- D. Green

5. The geological uplift of the Pamir Plateau has been ongoing for millions of years. Which term is a synonym for "ongoing"?

- A. Interrupted
- B. Continuous
- C. Finished
- D. Terminated

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Part 2: Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by choosing either a synonym or antonym for the bolded word as indicated in parentheses.

1. The Pamir Plateau's ancient (synonym) _____ rock formations provide geologists with valuable information about Earth's history.
2. Unlike the abundance (antonym) _____ of vegetation at lower elevations, the highest regions of the Pamir Plateau support only specialized alpine plants.
3. While many mountain ranges have jagged (synonym) _____ peaks, parts of the Pamir Plateau feature remarkably flat summit surfaces.
4. The Pamir Plateau experiences minimal (antonym) _____ temperature variations between day and night due to the thin atmosphere at high elevations.
5. The convergence (synonym) _____ of multiple mountain ranges at the Pamir Knot creates one of the most complex geological structures on Earth.

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Word Relationship: Synonyms and Antonyms – Answer Key**Part 1: Multiple Choice**

1. B. Extreme (This is the antonym of "moderate" - indicating something far from average)
2. C. Severe (This is a synonym for "harsh" in describing difficult climate conditions)
3. B. Collided (This is the accurate geological term, while the others are antonyms or inaccurate)
4. C. Barren (This is an antonym for "verdant" which means green and lush with vegetation)
5. B. Continuous (This is a synonym for "ongoing" - indicating something that continues without interruption)

Part 2: Fill in the Blank

1. primeval (or prehistoric, primordial, archaic) - synonym for "ancient"
2. scarcity (or shortage, dearth, lack) - antonym for "abundance"
3. rugged (or craggy, serrated, sharp) - synonym for "jagged"
4. extreme (or substantial, significant, considerable) - antonym for "minimal"
5. intersection (or junction, meeting, collision) - synonym for "convergence"