



CLASS 5 ENGLISH · 2026-27

Class 5 English Vocabulary Worksheet

Synonyms, antonyms, homophones and idioms

26

QUESTIONS

25

MINUTES

5

EXERCISES

This belongs to _____ Date _____

WHAT YOU'LL GET GOOD AT

- Give a synonym and an antonym for a familiar word.
- Choose the correct homophone for a sentence.
- Explain what a common idiom means.

Take your time, and have a go at every one. If you get stuck, look at the orange box — Ollie has already done one for you.

Class 5 English Vocabulary Worksheet

Synonyms, antonyms, homophones and idioms · 26 questions · tick each box as you finish

Exercise 1 of 5 · 6 questions Write a synonym (a word with a similar meaning).

☐

WRITE THE ANSWER

1) happy

2) big

3) quick

4) brave

5) difficult

6) beautiful

Exercise 2 of 5 · 6 questions Write an antonym (a word with the opposite meaning).

☐

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

ancient -> modern. Notice the words on this list are harder than 'big/small'. At Class 5 the pairs move beyond the obvious ones, so if a word is unfamiliar, work out what it means first - you cannot find the opposite of a word you do not know.

1) ancient

2) shallow

3) generous

4) arrive

5) victory

6) increase

Exercise 3 of 5 · 6 questions Choose the correct word.

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

'The dog wagged (its / it's) tail' -> its. Here is the test that always works: it's is short for 'it is'. Read the sentence with 'it is' in place - 'the dog wagged it is tail' is nonsense, so the answer is its. Same for you're (you are) and they're (they are).

1) I can (hear / here) the bell.

2) (Their / There / They're) house is at the end of the road.

3) The dog wagged (its / it's) tail.

4) She wrote a letter to (her / here) cousin.

5) (Your / You're) going to be late.

6) We went to the shop to buy (flour / flower).

Exercise 4 of 5 · 5 questions What does each idiom mean?

MATCH THE PAIRS

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

Idioms cannot be worked out from the individual words - 'a piece of cake' has nothing to do with cake. They have to be learned as whole phrases, which is why they are worth meeting a few at a time rather than in long lists.

1) A piece of cake

2) Once in a blue moon

3) Under the weather

4) Let the cat out of the bag

5) Break the ice

Exercise 5 of 5 · 3 questions Work out the underlined word's meaning from the sentence.

WRITE THE ANSWER

1) The room was so cramped that we could barely move.

2) She was reluctant to speak, and stayed quiet for a long time.

3) The old bridge was fragile, so only one person crossed at a time.



All done? How did that feel?

Colour in a star. Three stars means you could teach it to someone else.



Tricky · Getting there · Easy now



Answer key

For grown-ups

Class 5 English Vocabulary Worksheet · keep this page back until your child has finished.

1. Write a synonym (a word with a similar meaning).

- 1) glad / cheerful / pleased
- 2) large / huge / enormous
- 3) fast / rapid / swift
- 4) courageous / bold / fearless
- 5) hard / tough / challenging
- 6) lovely / pretty / attractive

2. Write an antonym (a word with the opposite meaning).

- 1) modern / new
- 2) deep
- 3) selfish / mean / stingy
- 4) depart / leave
- 5) defeat / loss
- 6) decrease / reduce

3. Choose the correct word.

- 1) hear
- 2) Their
- 3) its
- 4) her
- 5) You're
- 6) flour

4. What does each idiom mean?

- 1) A piece of cake - very easy
- 2) Once in a blue moon - very rarely
- 3) Under the weather - feeling unwell
- 4) Let the cat out of the bag - reveal a secret
- 5) Break the ice - start a conversation in an awkward situation

5. Work out the underlined word's meaning from the sentence.

- 1) cramped = very small or crowded (clue: they could barely move)
- 2) reluctant = unwilling or hesitant (clue: she stayed quiet)
- 3) fragile = easily broken or weak (clue: only one person could cross)

WHILE YOUR CHILD WORKS

- The it's/its test is the most useful thing here: replace with 'it is' and see if the sentence still makes sense. It works every time and it removes the guesswork permanently.
- Idioms have to be learned whole - they cannot be reasoned out. A few at a time, met in real sentences, works far better than a list of twenty.
- For working out words from context, the clue is almost always in the rest of the sentence. Ask what the sentence tells us about the word rather than reaching for a dictionary.

**Spotted a gap while marking?**

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