

# Topic 1: Synonyms and Antonyms

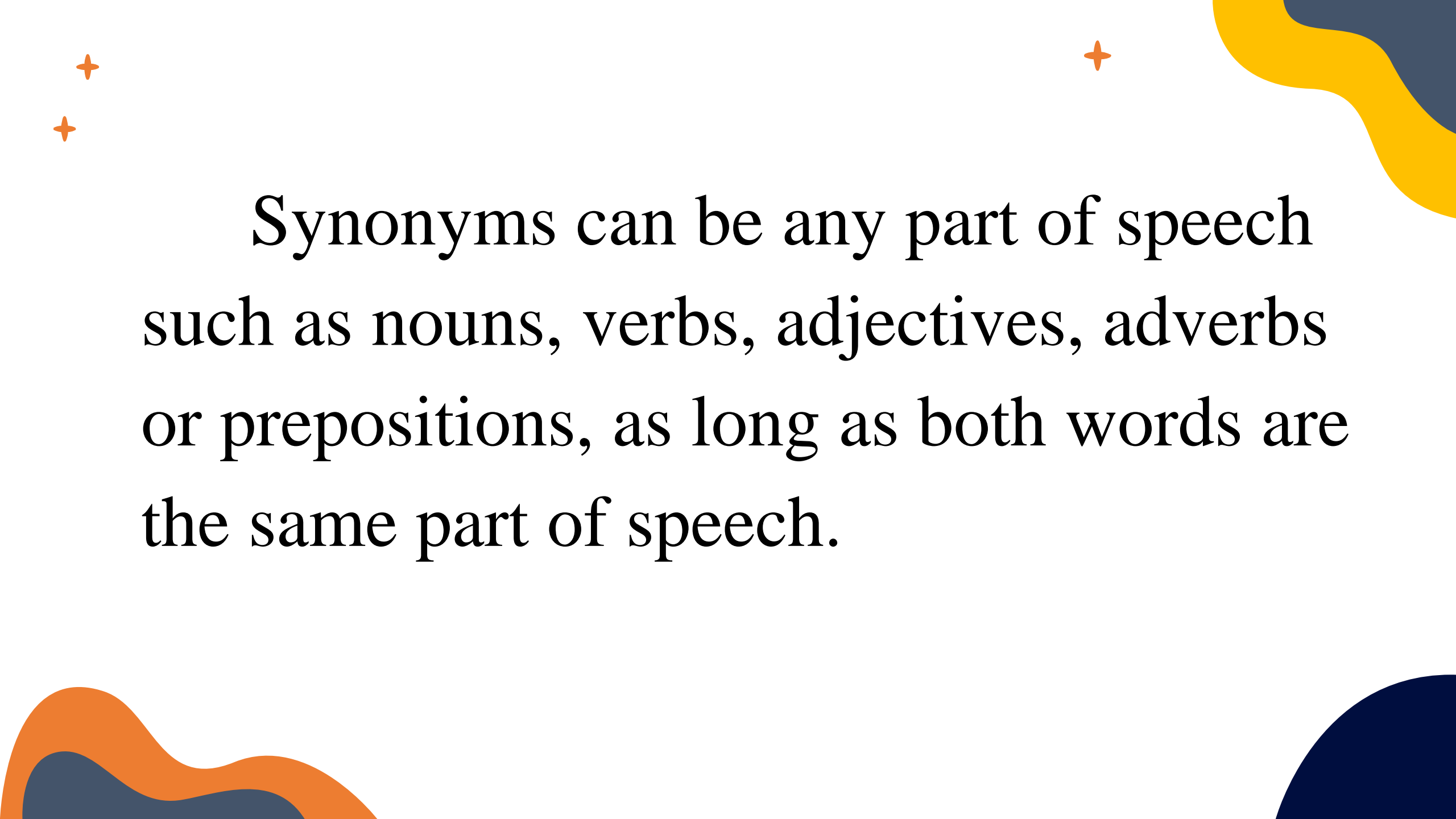
**EN110**



# ✦ SYNONYMS: ✦

Synonyms are words which are related to each other or simply have the same meaning.

Words that are synonyms are said to be *synonymous*, and the state of being a synonym is called *synonymy*.



Synonyms can be any part of speech such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs or prepositions, as long as both words are the same part of speech.



# Here are some example of English synonyms:

Verb – “buy” and “purchase”

Adjective – “big” and “large”

Adverb – “quickly” and “speedily”

Preposition – “on” and “upon”

+ +  
+ Note that synonyms are defined with respect to certain senses of words;

For instance, *pupil* is not synonymous with *student*.

Likewise, he *expired* means the same as he *died*, yet my passport has *expired* cannot be replaced by my passport has *died*.

## SAMPLE ANSWERS:

- + Beautiful: attractive, pretty, lovely, stunning
- + Fair: just, objective, impartial, unbiased
- Funny: humorous, comical, hilarious, hysterical
- Happy: content, joyful, mirthful, upbeat
- Hardworking: diligent, determined, industrious, enterprising
- Honest: honorable, fair, sincere, trustworthy
- Intelligent: smart, bright, brilliant, sharp
- Introverted: shy, bashful, quiet, withdrawn
- Kind: thoughtful, considerate, amiable, gracious

+ Silence – quiet  
+ Thrilled – excited  
Melancholy – sad  
Scream – yell  
Huge – gigantic  
Small – tiny  
Skilled – talented  
Novice – rookie  
Teach – instruct  
Ocean – sea  
Often – frequently

+ offend - insult  
help - aid  
fight - argue  
war - battle  
offbeat - unconventional  
winner - champion  
ridiculous - absurd  
fall - autumn  
strange - odd  
stinky - smelly  
start – begin



# ANTONYM:



Antonyms are words which are *opposite* in their meanings.

Antonyms are not related to each other.







# CATEGORIES OF ANTONYM:



1. Graded Antonyms – a word pairs whose meanings are opposite and which lie on a continuous spectrum

Ex: hot - cold



# EXAMPLES:

Fat – skinny

Young – old

Happy – sad

Hard – soft

Last – first

Foolish – wise

Fast – slow

Warm – cool

Wide – narrow

Abundant – scarce

Joy - grief

Dark - sight

Dangerous - safe

Early - late

Empty - full

Pretty - ugly

Bad - good

Soft - hard

Worried - calm

Smart - dumb

# CATEGORIES OF ANTONYM:

2. Complementary Antonyms – words have a relationship where there are no middle ground. There are only two possibilities, either one or the other.

Ex: push - pull

# EXAMPLES:

Man – woman

sink - float

Push – pull

true - false

Dead – alive

left - right

Off – on

pass - fail

Day – night

exit - entrance

# CATEGORIES OF ANTONYM:

3. Relational Antonyms – are sometimes considered a subcategory of complementary antonyms. With these pairs, for there to be a relationship, both must exist.

Ex: husband - wife



# EXAMPLES:



Husband – wife

teach - learn

Doctor – patient

give - receive

Buy – sell

servant - master

Predator – prey

borrow - lend

Above – below

come - go





END OF Topic 1

**EN110**

