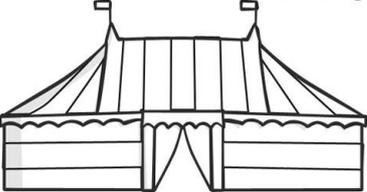


Alternative Words for Fun

Name: Date:



The circus was fun

Describe the circus using more descriptive words than **fun**.

- The circus was _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Alternative Words for Good

Name: Date:



Describe the holiday using more descriptive words than **good**.

- My holiday was
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Alternative Words for Happy

Name: Date:



Describe the children using more descriptive words than **happy**.
What are the children thinking? How do you think they feel?

- The children are _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Alternative Words for Nice

Name: Date:



Describe the cake using more descriptive words than **nice**.
Think about the taste and smell. How does it makes you feel?

- This cake is _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Alternative Words for Sad

Name: Date:



Describe the boy using more descriptive words than **sad**.
How do you think the boy feels?

- The boy is _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Don't Say Said!

DON'T USE SAID!

Don't say said!

Try whispered or stuttered,

Or stammered or yelled,

Uttered or laughed,

Giggled, exclaimed, whooped or howled!

But don't use SAID!

Never say said,

Use screamed, shrieked

Cheered or sobbed.

Try whimpered, whined,

Moaned or groaned!

But don't use SAID!

Don't say said,

Try whooped or screeched,

Or snorted or wailed,

Chanted or hummed,

Bellowed, drawled, ranted or gossiped,

But don't use SAID!

Never say said,

Use questioned or answered,

Or chattered or cried,

Nattered or raved

Grunted, growled, snivelled or snarled,

But don't use SAID!



overjoyed pretty jolly tremendous
enjoyable eager superb cheerful
pleasant lovely
stunning **happy** ecstatic
content
lively fantastic pleased thrilled
captivated gleeful terrific

first of all after a short time
after that following
finally **next** suddenly
just then after a while
before long a little later
meanwhile

bewildered heartbroken alone
grumpy glum angry sorrowful
bitter distressed
cheerless **sad** bored
horrible dreadful ignored gloomy
empty awful terrible hurting

called whispered stated sounded
cried mentioned chattered
exclaimed chuckled
wailed **said** giggled
announced yelled moaned groaned
chanted bellowed joked grumbled

huge mammoth tiny compact
colossal immense miniature dinky
weighty tall mini limited
great **big/small** minute
enormous massive narrow little
towering vast teeny short
gigantic measly baby

ran departed leapt stamped
wandered fled approached searched
crept **went** skipped
strolled dashed limped scurried
rushed hobbled
jumped crawled stomped danced

extremely seriously enormously
massively outstandingly highly
deeply **very** super
greatly unusually
vastly most truly
unbelievably especially hugely

looked at caught sight of discovered
glimpsed found
glanced at **saw** spotted
eyed sighted
noticed recognised observed

Learning Objective: UKS2 - to use a thesaurus

Idea

Differentiation

Have a **weekly synonym challenge**. Pick a word at random from your marking or a guided reading text and ask the class to find as many alternatives as they can using a thesaurus. They could work in teams to complete our

Set a given number of synonyms as a target for **better readers/writers**. Even make it a competition!
For **less able**, children can work together to build their synonym bank.

Dedicate a corner of your VCOP wall to synonyms for common overused words (e.g. mad/bad/sad) and remind children to look there when they're writing
This is great for developing reporting verbs in dialogue, for example. *How many ways can we avoid saying 'said'?*
They could use these to create their own versions of our

When you mark **weaker writers'** work, guide them in your comments to your class to support their editing/improvement time.

Use a **thesaurus in combination with a dictionary**, so they find meanings for new words/phrases as well. Children often use words from the thesaurus inappropriately, because they're not aware that the meaning isn't exactly the same as the word they're trying to replace.

This is harder for **lower ability** readers, who may need to practise this skill several times as a guided group before they are confident.

When marking, **highlight an unambitious word choice** in their work, to be upgraded using a thesaurus during improvement time. Use the same highlighter colour every time, so your class knows that (e.g.) purple means "Use a thesaurus to make this word better please."

To practise this, use our differentiated range of

Be a better writer than... When reading your class story, point out an uninspiring/repeated description or use of 'said' and challenge them to improve the author's

choice. They love the feeling of upgrading something already published!

Try it - have you ever counted how many times Harry Potter's scar 'seared', he 'stowed' his wand or that Dumbledore's eyes 'twinkled'? Now there's an author in desperate need of a thesaurus!

Thesaurus Challenge



Today's word is...

Using Higher Level Vocabulary: Fiction Writing To Replace Said

added

answered

argued

asked

asserted

barked

bellowed

barked

bellowed

cried

roared

screeched

shouted

yelled

complained

groaned

moaned

sighed

snivelled

wailed

whined

mumbled

murmured

muttered

whimpered

whispered

commented

answered

asked

enquired

queried

questioned

replied

responded

argued

asserted

declared

insisted

retorted

snapped

suggested

added

commented

continued

elaborated

explained

remarked

suggested