1.9 Synonyms and Antonyms: Test Pack

GL ASSESSMENT / CSSE 11+ Entrance English (GL Assessment / CSSE style) · about 20 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Keeper of Blackrock Point

Source written for Revision Library (original, copyright-free). Fictional narrative created for 11+ synonym and antonym practice. Any resemblance to real people or places is coincidental.

Maya had never seen a building so ancient. The lighthouse at Blackrock Point rose from the cliff like a solitary tooth, its whitewashed walls scarred by a century of salt wind. She was reluctant to climb the spiral staircase at first, for the old caretaker had warned her that the top step was treacherous, but curiosity soon overcame her caution.

Inside, the air smelled of rust and rain. Cobwebs draped the iron railings like grey lace, and her footsteps echoed in the vast emptiness of the stairwell. Halfway up, she paused to rest, her legs aching, and peered through a narrow window at the churning sea below. Waves battered the rocks with a ferocious energy, throwing spray high into the pale morning sky.

At the summit, the great lamp stood silent, its glass lens dull with dust, though it had once flashed a brilliant warning to sailors for thirty miles around. Maya ran her fingers along the brass fittings, imagining the keeper who had tended this light every night for forty years, utterly devoted to his solitary task. A folded scrap of paper had been wedged behind a pipe, and she eased it free. The message, though faded almost to nothing, was still legible: a single line of verse about the sea's ancient, restless patience.

Maya tucked the fragment into her pocket. As she descended, the ordinary world outside seemed suddenly diminished, as though the lighthouse had granted her a secret she would carry for the rest of her life.

1 Add the correct prefix (un-, dis-, im-, ir- or in-) to form the antonym (opposite) of each word below.

(a) POSSIBLE **(1)**

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(b) HONEST **(1)**

(c) RESPONSIBLE **(1)**

(d) COMPLETE **(1)**

(e) KIND **(1)**

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2 State whether each pair of words below are SYNONYMS (similar meaning) or ANTONYMS (opposite meaning).

(a) brave / courageous **(1)**

(b) transparent / opaque **(1)**

(c) frugal / thrifty **(1)**

(d) permanent / transient **(1)**

(e) meticulous / careless **(1)**

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3 Each question below gives four near-synonyms. Choose the word in brackets that best matches the description of tone given.

(a) Choose the most complimentary word for someone with an elegant, thin figure: (skinny / gaunt / slender / scrawny) **(1)**

- ☐ A) skinny
- ☐ B) gaunt
- ☐ C) slender
- ☐ D) scrawny

(b) Choose the word that presents sensible saving in a positive light: (mean / stingy / frugal / tight-fisted) **(1)**

- ☐ A) mean
- ☐ B) stingy
- ☐ C) frugal
- ☐ D) tight-fisted

(c) Choose the word that shows confident, positive leadership: (bossy / aggressive / assertive / pushy) **(1)**

- ☐ A) bossy
- ☐ B) aggressive
- ☐ C) assertive
- ☐ D) pushy

(d) Choose the most neutral, positive word for someone who wants to learn about others: (nosy / prying / curious / interfering) **(1)**

- ☐ A) nosy
- ☐ B) prying
- ☐ C) curious
- ☐ D) interfering

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4 Choose the option most nearly OPPOSITE in meaning to the word in capitals.

(a) GENEROUS **(1)**

- ☐ A) kind
- ☐ B) mean
- ☐ C) wealthy
- ☐ D) polite

(b) TRANQUIL **(1)**

- ☐ A) calm
- ☐ B) chaotic
- ☐ C) quiet
- ☐ D) still

(c) TRANSPARENT **(1)**

- ☐ A) clear
- ☐ B) opaque
- ☐ C) glassy
- ☐ D) visible

(d) RELUCTANT **(1)**

- ☐ A) hesitant
- ☐ B) eager
- ☐ C) unwilling
- ☐ D) shy

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Mark scheme · 1.9 Synonyms and Antonyms: Test Pack

Question 1

(a) impossible cao **B1**

(a) Answer: impossible

(b) dishonest cao **B1**

(b) Answer: dishonest

(c) irresponsible cao **B1**

(c) Answer: irresponsible

(d) incomplete cao **B1**

(d) Answer: incomplete

(e) unkind cao **B1**

(e) Answer: unkind

Question 2

(a) synonyms cao **B1**

(a) Answer: synonyms

(b) antonyms cao **B1**

(b) Answer: antonyms

(c) synonyms cao **B1**

(c) Answer: synonyms

(d) antonyms cao **B1**

(d) Answer: antonyms

(e) antonyms cao **B1**

(e) Answer: antonyms

Question 3

(a) C cao **B1**

(a) Answer: C) slender

(b) C cao **B1**

(b) Answer: C) frugal

(c) C cao **B1**

(c) Answer: C) assertive

(d) C cao **B1**

(d) Answer: C) curious

Question 4

(a) B cao **B1**

(a) Answer: B) mean

(b) B cao **B1**

(b) Answer: B) chaotic

(c) B cao **B1**

(c) Answer: B) opaque

(d) B cao **B1**

(d) Answer: B) eager

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