

Opposites

Exercise 1: Fill in the Blanks. Complete these sentences with the correct opposite:

1. The giant was very tall, but his friend was _____.
2. My ice cream was cold, but my soup was _____.
3. The rabbit runs fast, while the turtle moves _____.
4. In winter, the days are short and the nights are _____.
5. The baby's skin is smooth, but the tree bark is _____.
6. The entrance is at the front, and the _____ is at the back.
7. The new toy was expensive, but the old one was _____.
8. This math problem is easy, but that one is _____.
9. My brother likes sweet candies, but my sister prefers _____ foods.
10. The top shelf was full, but the bottom shelf was _____.

Exercise 2: Match the Pairs. Draw lines to match each word with its opposite:

- | | |
|--------|----------|
| brave | • dirty |
| clean | • dark |
| light | • weak |
| bright | • heavy |
| open | • closed |
| strong | • scared |
| above | • sour |
| sweet | • empty |
| full | • below |
| rich | • poor |

Exercise 3: Story Time! Read this story and circle all the opposites you find:

"One day, Sarah woke up early and saw that it was dark outside. She waited patiently until the sun rose and made everything bright. She opened her window to feel the warm air, but it was actually cold! 'What strange weather,' she thought. Her big sister came into her small room and said, 'Let's go out and play!'"

Exercise 4: Tricky Questions! These questions will make you think harder:

1. What's the opposite of "always"?

- never
- sometimes
- rarely

2. Can you find the opposite of "everything" in these words?

- something
- anything
- nothing

(Hint: If you have "everything," which word means you have zero things?)

3. What's special about these words? Do they have opposites?

- middle
- purple
- rectangle

(Hint: Not all words have clear opposites!)

4. Which pair shows the correct opposites?

- entrance - exit
- entrance - door
- entrance - window

(Hint: Think about how you use these words!)

Challenge Exercise: Create Your Own!

Write three sentences using pairs of opposites you've learned. Make them interesting and fun!

For example:

"The tiny ant carried a heavy load up the tall tree."

Remember!

- Some words can have more than one opposite depending on how they're used
- Not every word has an opposite

- Learning opposites helps you become a better writer and speaker

Test Yourself

How many opposites can you use in one sentence? Try to beat this:

"The old, slow turtle and the young, fast rabbit had a race from the bottom to the top of the hill."

Can you create an even better sentence using more opposites?

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Answer Key

Exercise 1: Fill in the Blanks

1. short
2. hot
3. slow
4. long
5. rough
6. exit
7. cheap
8. difficult
9. sour
10. empty

Exercise 2: Match the Pairs

- brave → scared
- clean → dirty
- light → heavy
- bright → dark
- open → closed
- strong → weak
- above → below
- sweet → sour
- full → empty
- rich → poor

Exercise 3: Story Time!

Opposites found in the story:

- early - (implied later)
- dark - bright
- warm - cold
- big - small

Exercise 4: Tricky Questions!

1. Answer: "never"

Explanation: "Always" means something happens 100% of the time, while "never" means something happens 0% of the time. Though "sometimes" and "rarely" are less frequent than "always," only "never" is its true opposite.

2. Answer: "nothing"

Explanation: "Everything" means all things, while "nothing" means zero things. "Something" and "anything" both indicate some amount of things, not the complete absence that makes it a true opposite.

3. Answer: These words don't have clear opposites because:

- "middle" is a position between two extremes
- "purple" is a specific color that doesn't have a natural opposite
- "rectangle" is a shape that doesn't have a contrasting opposite form

4. Answer: "entrance - exit"

Explanation: An entrance is where you go in, and an exit is where you go out. "Door" and "window" are related objects but not opposites of "entrance."

Challenge Exercise: Example Answers

Here are some possible sentences using multiple opposites:

1. "The tiny ant carried a heavy load up the tall tree."
2. "My old cat sleeps in the dark basement while my young dog plays in the bright attic."
3. "The poor student worked hard and became a rich teacher."

Test Yourself

Example sentence using multiple opposites:

"The old, slow turtle and the young, fast rabbit had a race from the bottom to the top of the hill."

More complex example:

"The weak, poor boy entered through the small door at sunrise, but the strong, rich man exited through the big gate at sunset."

Tips for parents:

- Encourage the child to create her own sentences using multiple opposites
- Ask the child to explain why certain words are opposites
- Challenge the child to find opposites in their reading materials
- Create fun games where the child needs to quickly respond with opposites
- Use pictures to help visual learners understand opposite concepts

Remember that some children might need extra help understanding that:

1. Context matters (like "light" can be the opposite of both "heavy" and "dark")
2. Some words have multiple opposites depending on usage
3. Not all words need to have opposites

4. Some opposites are more obvious than others

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