

Language concepts and examples.

Synonyms: Words that have the same or nearly the same meaning.

raven and *black*

Antonyms: Words that have opposite meanings.

mingle and *separate*

Homophones: Words that sound the same but may be spelled differently and have different meanings.

would and *wood*; *which* and *witch*

Neologisms: New words that enter our vocabulary through extensive usage or for new inventions.

bytes, *silicon*

Portmanteaus: New words formed by combining two existing words and omitting some of the letters.

breakfast + *lunch* = *brunch*; *smoke* + *fog* = *smog*

Acronyms: Words formed from initials of other words.

NATO = North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Euphemisms: A more pleasant sounding word used in place of a word with negative connotations.

administrative assistant instead of *secretary*

Oxymoron: Two contradictory words or ideas used together in a word or phrase.

jumbo shrimp; *awfully good*; *plastic silverware*

Regionalisms: Words associated with particular geographic regions.

couch or *sofa*; *pop* or *soda*; *griddle cakes* or *pancakes*

Puns: Humorous expressions that highlight the multiple meanings of a word or two words that sound alike.

Fruit *flies* like a banana.

Onomatopoeia: Words that sound like their meanings.

Sploosh went the fish through the water!