Meaning Matchup

Sort word pairs by how their meanings connect.

4.LF.10.c "Use the relationships between synonyms, antonyms, and homographs to increase understanding of word meanings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

SYNONYMS

Synonyms are words with the same or nearly the same meaning.

shout / yell

ANTONYMS

Antonyms are words with opposite meanings.

clean / dirty

1 SORT

8 items

Circle SYNONYMS or ANTONYMS for each numbered pair, then choose two pairs for Part 2 and explain how you know each answer is correct.

1.	tiny / small	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS
2.	begin / start	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS
3.	bright / dim	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS
4.	quiet / silent	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS
5.	early / late	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS
6.	smooth / rough	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS
7.	brave / bold	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS
8.	quick / fast	SYNONYMS ANTONYMS

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new pair of synonyms and one new pair of antonyms that do not appear above.

SYNONYMS _____

ANTONYMS _____

CHALLENGE

Use your new synonym pair to write a sentence, then replace one word with its synonym to write a second sentence with the same meaning.

ANSWER KEY

Meaning Matchup

GRADE 4 · 4.LF.10.c

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	tiny / small	**SYNONYMS**	Both words mean very little in size.
2	begin / start	**SYNONYMS**	Both words mean to do something from its first point.
3	bright / dim	**ANTONYMS**	The words describe opposite amounts of light.
4	quiet / silent	**SYNONYMS**	Both words describe little or no sound.
5	early / late	**ANTONYMS**	The words describe opposite times in relation to when something is expected.
6	smooth / rough	**ANTONYMS**	The words describe opposite surface textures.
7	brave / bold	**SYNONYMS**	Both words can describe someone who acts with courage.
8	quick / fast	**SYNONYMS**	Both words can mean moving at a high speed.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **SYNONYMS**: happy / glad
- **ANTONYMS**: open / closed

Challenge: The puppy was happy to see us. The puppy was glad to see us.

For Part 2, accept explanations that accurately compare the meanings of two chosen pairs. For example, tiny and small have similar meanings, while bright and dim describe opposite amounts of light.