Word Pair Detectives

Find out how two words are related.

L.2.5.a "Demonstrate understanding of words by relating them to their synonyms and antonyms."

NAME _____ DATE _____

SYNONYMS

Synonyms mean the same or almost the same thing.

quiet and silent

ANTONYMS

Antonyms have opposite meanings.

early and late

1 SORT

8 items

Read each numbered pair, then circle SAME or OPPOSITE.

1. 1. big and large — SAME / OPPOSITE

2. 2. happy and glad — SAME / OPPOSITE

3. 3. hot and cold — SAME / OPPOSITE

4. 4. quick and fast — SAME / OPPOSITE

5. 5. clean and dirty — SAME / OPPOSITE

6. 6. up and down — SAME / OPPOSITE

7. 7. small and tiny — SAME / OPPOSITE

8. 8. angry and mad — SAME / OPPOSITE

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

Part 2 PROVE IT: Pick two numbered pairs and write how you know where each belongs. Part 3 MAKE YOUR OWN: Write one new pair of synonyms and one new pair of antonyms.

SAME _____

OPPOSITE _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one word. Write a synonym for it and an antonym for it. Label each pair SAME or OPPOSITE.

ANSWER KEY

Word Pair Detectives

GRADE 2 · L.2.5.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	1. big and large	**SAME**	Both words mean great in size.
2	2. happy and glad	**SAME**	Both words describe feeling pleased.
3	3. hot and cold	**OPPOSITE**	The words describe opposite temperatures.
4	4. quick and fast	**SAME**	Both words can mean moving in little time.
5	5. clean and dirty	**OPPOSITE**	The words have opposite meanings.
6	6. up and down	**OPPOSITE**	The words name opposite directions.
7	7. small and tiny	**SAME**	Both words describe little size.
8	8. angry and mad	**SAME**	Both words can describe feeling upset.

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)

- **SAME**: kind and nice
- **OPPOSITE**: full and empty

Challenge: Word: wet. SAME: wet and damp. OPPOSITE: wet and dry.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify a shared meaning or show how the meanings are opposite. For Part 3, accept any accurate new word pairs.