

GED 2002 Teachers' Handbook of Lesson Plans

Area/Skill - LA, Writing	Cognitive Skill Level - Application	Correlation to Framework - 01.01	Lesson Number - 03
<p>Activity Title - Using Antonyms and Synonyms</p> <p>Goal/Objective</p> <p>To understand how antonyms and synonyms can improve student writing</p> <p>Lesson Outline</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Often GED students will use the same words over and over in their writing, because they have a limited vocabulary. This can impact their score on the essay portion of the GED Language Arts, Writing Test. One standard that is assessed on the essay rubric is Word Choice. The more appropriate the word choices students make the more effective is their writing. This lesson has been designed to provide students with a basic understanding of antonyms and synonyms so they can improve their level of word choice.</p> <p>Activity</p> <p>Provide students with the following definitions.</p> <p>Antonym—a word directly opposed to a given word, the opposite Synonym—a word that means the same as a given word</p> <p>Have students brainstorm a list of words. Give each student a thesaurus and have them identify an antonym and/or synonym for each word. Explain that using a thesaurus can help them learn new ways of saying things. Give students the Antonym and Synonym worksheet and have them complete the worksheet.</p> <p>Debriefing/Evaluation Activity</p> <p>Review the students responses to the Antonym and Synonym Worksheet. Address with students any problems they may have had in using the thesaurus.</p>			<p>Materials/Texts/Realia/Handouts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handout—Antonyms and Synonyms • Thesaurus for each student or for teams • Chart paper and markers • Paper and pencils • Newspaper, magazine articles • Bell for extension activity
			<p>Extension Activity</p> <p>Conduct an Antonym/Synonym bee. Develop a list of key words. Divide the class into teams of 2. Write a word on the overhead or board and have students ring a bell when they have an antonym and synonym for the word. The team with the most correct responses wins.</p>
			<p>ESE/ESOL Accommodations</p> <p>Pair students who need help with another student who will help them.</p> <p>Provide a peer helper for those students who need help.</p> <p>Have students write the word in one color and use other colors for the antonym and synonym.</p>
<p>Real-Life Connection</p> <p>Give the students an article from a local newspaper, brochure, or other print material. Help students find 10 “key” words in the article. Have the students rewrite the article by replacing the key words with synonyms.</p>			

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Activity Title— Using Antonyms and Synonyms

Introduction

Say: Many time when we write, we use the same words over and over. We use them because they are comfortable. However, this can pose a problem when you are writing your essay for the GED Language Arts, Writing Test. This can impact your score on the essay portion of the GED Language Arts, Writing Test. One standard that is assessed on the essay rubric is Word Choice. The more appropriate the word choices you make the more effective your writing will be. A basic understanding of antonyms and synonyms can help you improve your level of word choice.

Main Activity

Say: Today your are going to use a thesaurus to help improve and expand your word choices. *Ask:* How many of you have ever used a thesaurus? Can you tell me what it is? Demonstrate how to use the Thesaurus using a simple word . *Ask:* Can you give me a definition for the word Antonym? Synonym? Provide students with the following definitions.

Antonym—a word directly opposed to a given word, the opposite

Synonym—a word that means the same as a given word

Have students brainstorm a list of 20 words. Give each student a thesaurus and have them identify an antonym and/or synonym for each word on the list. *Say:* Using a thesaurus can help you learn new ways for saying things. It will also help you grow your vocabulary. Distribute the Antonym and Synonym worksheet and have the complete the worksheet.

Debriefing/Evaluation Activity

Review the students' responses to the Antonym and Synonym Worksheet. Address with students any problems they may have had in using the thesaurus.

Synonyms and Antonyms Worksheet

Define synonym:

Write a synonym for each of the following words. If you have difficulty in identifying a synonym, use the Thesaurus.

scared =

ridiculous =

pretty =

silly =

skinny =

angry =

old =

kind =

friendly =

flat =

Define antonym:

Write the antonym for the following words. If you have difficulty in identifying an antonym, use the Thesaurus.

fat =

tall =

slow =

wide =

smooth =

flat =

shiny =

run =

sick =

dirty =