

ENGLISH · Y3–Y6

# Vocabulary & Word Choice

Knowledge Organiser — Y3–Y6

## Key vocabulary concepts

1

### Synonym

A word that means the same (or similar) as another.

*Example: happy → joyful, elated, content, cheerful*

2

### Antonym

A word that means the opposite.

*Example: hot → cold; brave → cowardly; ancient → modern*

3

### Connotation

The feeling or idea a word suggests beyond its literal meaning.

*Example: 'home' suggests warmth; 'house' is neutral*

4

### Denotation

The literal, dictionary meaning of a word.

*Example: 'snake' = a reptile with no legs*

5

### Word family

Words that share a common root.

*Example: sign, signal, signature, signify, significant*

6

### Prefix

Letters added to the **BEGINNING** of a word to change its meaning.

*Example: un- (unkind), pre- (preview), dis- (disagree), mis- (mistake)*



7

**Suffix**

Letters added to the END of a word.

*Example: -ful (hopeful), -less (hopeless), -ness (kindness), -tion (action)*

**Word choices for writing**

Upgrade your verbs, adjectives, and

- INSTEAD OF SAID: whispered, muttered, declared, insisted, exclaimed, murmured, announced, hissed
- INSTEAD OF WALKED: strode, shuffled, crept, marched, trudged, stumbled, tiptoed, staggered
- INSTEAD OF BIG: enormous, vast, towering, immense, colossal, mammoth, gigantic, hefty
- INSTEAD OF SMALL: tiny, minute, miniature, microscopic, petite, slight, compact
- INSTEAD OF HAPPY: elated, delighted, overjoyed, content, jubilant, ecstatic, thrilled
- INSTEAD OF SAD: miserable, despondent, heartbroken, melancholy, gloomy, devastated
- INSTEAD OF QUICKLY: swiftly, rapidly, urgently, frantically, hastily, briskly
- RULE: choose words for their connotation as well as their meaning. 'Slender' and 'scrawny' both mean thin — very different feelings.

