



Choose your own starter

Oxymoron: Combines two contradictory words into a striking phrase, e.g. *Living death* or *working holiday*. **Mix and match.**

jumbo	children
pretty	dirt
alone	evil
pure	ugly
long	fortune
white	gold
new	sweat
small	pessimist
deafening	silence
cold	shrimp
adult	night
clever	together
bright	tradition
meaningful	shorts
happy	chaos
clean	idiot
organised	nonsense

Emotive language: Words can be powerful; they can make us feel different emotions. **Here are some synonyms for common words, rank them in order from mildest (1) to strongest (6)**

throw, hurl, shy, chuck, fling, toss	evil, cruel, nasty, merciless, harsh, barbaric
friend, love, treasure, honey, dear, darling	event, situation, catastrophe, misfortune, accident, crisis
cut, slash, pierce, rip, chop, stab	hit, wallop, slap, beat, smack, hammer
unpleasant, awful, ghastly, abominable, horrible, bad,	criminal, thief, con man, robber, pickpocket, mugger

Synonyms: The most overused verb in English is 'get'. **Suggest alternative phrases for the following:**

Get up!	Get away!	Get back!
Get over!	Get down!	Get on!
Get round!	Get under there!	Get along!

Semantic fields: A group of words in a text that are related to the same topic; they belong to a semantic field. **Make a list of words from the semantic fields given. Include nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs.**

Flowers/plants	sport	holiday
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Extended metaphor: A metaphor can be developed in a poem or prose by continuing the same theme. This is often achieved by using several words from one semantic field. **Use one of the lists above and include as many of them as possible as you describe two people and the relationship between them.**

Comparatives and Superlatives: When we compare two things by using an adjective, we use the comparative form. This usually means adding '-er' to the word or 'more' before it. Superlatives take '-est' or 'most'. **Fill in the table and insert the correct form of adjective or adverb.**

	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
BAD	worse	worst
AMAZING		
LITTLE		
ORGANISED		
CLEVER		

Thomas and his mates were playing (peacefully) than on any other day of that week. He though his mother was the (good)mother in the whole world. She was (thin).....and (pretty)..... than the woman next door and certainly (lively)..... His family was not the (poor) in the street. His father was doing (good) at work these days.

Language signposts: When writing an essay you organise your ideas into paragraphs; these should run smoothly on from one to the next using linking words or connectives, these are called markers/signposts. In their simplest form, signposts are connectives of one or two words. *Firstly, next* and *finally* are basic markers but there are many more sophisticated phrases you can use.

Basic connective	signpost
Firstly,	<i>From the outset,</i>
My next point is...	<i>Another major area of concern is...</i>
Try these:	
Also,	My conclusion is...
That's why	For example,
But	Secondly,
Other people might think	Lastly,

Personification: A specific kind of metaphor in which objects are described with vocabulary usually reserved for humans. **Write a sentence using personification for each:**

Tractor	Grass	Computer	Traffic jam
Microwave	Car	Spoon	City