

Meanings in Opposition

Teaching Vocabulary Using Structural Techniques

This unit involves the teaching of 80 “SAT” words over a six week period. It could be stretched out a bit more, to perhaps 12 weeks, depending on the comprehension levels of the students, but the daily overhead assignments cover six weeks. One technique of stretching may involve having students cover the same words two weeks in a row (e.g., so that the week one words would be used for the first week and repeated in the second), allowing for re-teaching and solid learning. This is, of course, up to the teacher.

On the following page, the theory is discussed, justifying this new method of vocabulary instruction as a valid tool for language instruction overall.

**A Pathos Learning Packet for the
Daily Overhead Assignment**

OPPOSITIONS-BASED VOCABULARY

THEORY

A major idea behind the critical theory of structuralism concerns the concept that no word can exist without an opposite. Another (Hegelian) way of putting it: alongside thesis exists antithesis. However, this idea goes way back to even the ancient Buddhist paradigm that all is known and understood only through a categorical elimination of what something is not. With that basic concept in mind, this Daily Overhead Assignment has been created to facilitate the learning of difficult “SAT” words in a very short amount of time—through a structuralist approach.

In essence, students learn the meaning of words in relation to synonyms and antonyms simultaneously. Further, whereas successful vocabulary-based lessons typically group words with some sort of connection to each other (i.e., with like roots or affixes, concepts, or etymology) that decrease the plethora of definitions to several, thereby filling mnemonic associations with as many words as possible, here the concept of mnemonic association loading it is taken and fully utilized.

At its root this theory is structuralism. As a critical theory, structuralism tenuously clings to other theories and disciplines (like anthropology) for literary applicability. But for studying vocabulary, it remains unexplored with definite potential. This applications exercise is a rudimentary attempt at exploring the possibilities behind the ideas that 1) everything may be defined by its opposite, and 2) all complex ideas can be expressed through a cluster of one or more simple ideas.

Modern language theory teaches that vocabulary must be taught through a context to be adequately learned. This module and its foundational principles completely adhere to that premise.

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

In this set of five-minute, beginning-of-the-period lessons, a one-word common word association is made—one for every four SAT words. Words that are almost identical in concept yet can be expressed with a definition that is, oddly enough, shorter than each of the four original words it defines, will be learned much faster and cleaner even than learning through word parts.

In fact, where word-parts study breaks down—where you encounter such words as “stalwart” or “elated” where three or more word associations and word part definitions are difficult to find and associate—this method excels. Studying affixes and roots, broken down into, say, Greek- and Latin-based words and word parts is great particularly for the sciences. (exo: *Latin*: outside, outer, surface [exoskeleton, exoparasite, exogamy . . .]). But so many “SAT” words do not easily fall into a word parts study where a handful of high-level words fall under a single affix or root.

This, I believe, is where Oppositional Vocabulary comes into play. Take all the SAT words from a list, separate those that can be studied well with affixes, and you will find that the vast majority of words that are left over can be severally grouped to very simple concepts, like happy, sad, above, below, etc... And since words—and definitions—are easiest to remember as sets of opposites (after all, what is up without down?) the definitions and words are grouped this way. This increases what the teacher can do with the words to what may be limitless combinations of activities.

Keep in mind, the student is making **associations** between the meanings; often the meanings given in the exercises are **not** exact definitions. A good exercise for students would be to look up exact definitions and compare them to the associations given.

Week 1

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

GOOD

EVIL

STRONG

WEAK

Define the words below using the above four words.

1. pernicious (per-nish'-us)	<i>GOOD</i>	Evil
2. flaccid (flak'-sid)	<i>EVIL</i>	Weak
3. puissant (pwee'-sent)	<i>STRONG</i>	Strong
4. benevolent (ben-ev'-o-lent)	<i>WEAK</i>	good

1. inept (in-ept')	<i>GOOD</i>	Weak
2. amiable (ay'-mee-uh-bull)	<i>EVIL</i>	Good
3. impregnable	<i>STRONG</i>	Strong
4. noxious (nok'-shus)	<i>WEAK</i>	evil

1. altruistic (all-true-ist'-ik)	<i>GOOD</i>	Good
2. incompetent (in-kom'-pih-tent)	<i>EVIL</i>	Weak
3. malevolent (muh-lev'-uh-lent)	<i>STRONG</i>	Evil
4. indomitable (in-dahm'-it-a-bull)	<i>WEAK</i>	strong

1. beneficent (ben-eff'-ih-sent)	<i>GOOD</i>	Good
2. stalwart	<i>EVIL</i>	Strong
3. demoniacal (deem-un-nih'-uh-kull)	<i>STRONG</i>	Evil
4. infirm	<i>WEAK</i>	weak

QUIZ: Write the word, its definition from the box, and a sentence using the word.

1. beneficent
2. altruistic
3. inept
4. pernicious
5. stalwart
6. infirm
7. malevolent
8. puissant
9. indomitable
10. flaccid

GOOD
EVIL
STRONG
WEAK

1. Good
2. Good
3. Weak
4. Evil
5. Strong
6. Weak
7. Evil
8. Strong
9. Strong
10. weak

Week 2

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

OLD YOUNG HAPPY SAD

Define the words below using the above four words.

1. disconsolate (dis-kon'-suh-lit)	<i>OLD</i>	Sad
2. elated	<i>YOUNG</i>	Happy -
3. callow (kal'-oh)	<i>HAPPY</i>	Young - (immature)
4. archaic (ar-kay'-ik)	<i>SAD</i>	old

1. jocund (jok'-und)	<i>OLD</i>	Happy
2. crone	<i>YOUNG</i>	Old -
3. adolescent (ad-o-less'-ant)	<i>HAPPY</i>	Young (teen)
4. sullen	<i>SAD</i>	Sad

1. maudlin (mod'-lin)	<i>OLD</i>	Sad
2. superannuated (soo-per-an'-yoo-ayt-id)	<i>YOUNG</i>	Old
3. infantile	<i>HAPPY</i>	Young -
4. buoyant (boy'-ant)	<i>SAD</i>	Happy +

1. jubilant	<i>OLD</i>	Happy
2. puerile (pyoor'-ul)	<i>YOUNG</i>	Young - (childish)
3. decrepit (de-krep'-ant)	<i>HAPPY</i>	Old (weak) -
4. dejected	<i>SAD</i>	sad

<p>QUIZ: Write the word, its definition from the box, and a sentence using the word.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. jubilant 2. puerile 3. decrepit 4. dejected 5. maudlin 6. superannuated 7. disconsolate 8. elated 9. jocund 10. sullen 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 20px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;"> <p>OLD</p> <p>YOUNG</p> <p>HAPPY</p> <p>SAD</p> </div>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Happy 2. Young 3. Old 4. Sad 5. Sad 6. old 7. Sad 8. Happy 9. Happy 10. sad
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Week 3

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

THIN

FAT

FLATTER

INSULT

Define the words below using the above four words. Also, label the word as either having a positive slant (+), a negative slant (-) or no slant (=).

1. rotund (roh-tund')	<i>THIN</i>	fat
2. svelte (sfelt')	<i>FAT</i>	Thin +
3. adulation (ad-yoo-lay'-shun)	<i>FLATTERY</i>	praise +
4. scorn	<i>INSULT</i>	Insult +

1. insolent (in'-soh-lent)	<i>THIN</i>	Insult (rude) -
2. obese (oh-bees')	<i>FAT</i>	fat -
3. gaunt	<i>FLATTER</i>	Thin (-)
4. ingratiate (in-gra'-she-ayt)	<i>INSULT</i>	Praise (Flatter)

1. fulsome (fool'-sum)	<i>THIN</i>	Praising (Flattering) -
2. affront (uh-frunt')	<i>FAT</i>	Insult -
3. corpulent (kor'-pyew-lent)	<i>FLATTERING</i>	fat -
4. emaciated (e-may'-see-ayt-id)	<i>INSULT</i>	

1. cadaverous (kuh-dahv'-er-us)	<i>THIN</i>	Thin -
2. obsequious (ub-seek'-wee-us)	<i>FAT</i>	Praising (Flattering) -
3. turgid (tur'-jid)	<i>FLATTERING</i>	fat (bloated)
4. disparage (dis-per'-ij)	<i>INSULT</i>	

<p>QUIZ: Write the word, its definition from the box, and a sentence using the word.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> obsequious corpulent adulation svelte disparage insolent affront fulsome emaciated turgid 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 20px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>THIN</p> <p>FAT</p> <p>FLATTER</p> <p>INSULT</p> </div>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> flatter Fat flatter Thin Insult Insult(ing) Insult flatter Thin Fat (full)
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Week 4

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

ANGRY CALM PLEASURE PAIN

Define the words below using the above four words.

1. livid	<i>ANGRY</i>	Angry
2. dolor (doh'-ler)	<i>CALM</i>	Pain
3. quiescent (kwee-es'-ant)	<i>PLEASURE</i>	Calm
4. relish	<i>PAIN</i>	(To) pleasure (in)

1. delection (deh-lek'shun)	<i>ANGRY</i>	Pleasure
2. torminous (tor'-min-us)	<i>CALM</i>	Pain(ful)
3. irascible (er-as'-uh-bull)	<i>PLEASURE</i>	Angry
4. serene (suh-reen')	<i>PAIN</i>	calm

1. reposed	<i>ANGRY</i>	Calm
2. petulant (petch'-yoo-lent)	<i>CALM</i>	Angry
3. affliction	<i>PLEASURE</i>	Pain
4. gratification (grat-uh-fuh-kay'-shun)	<i>PAIN</i>	pleasure

1. placid (plass'-id)	<i>ANGRY</i>	Calm
2. enrapture	<i>CALM</i>	Pleasure
3. malaise (mah-layz')	<i>PLEASURE</i>	Pain
4. animosity (an-uh-moss'-it-ee)	<i>PAIN</i>	Anger

<p>QUIZ: Write the word, its definition from the box, and a sentence using the word.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> animosity malaise petulant reposed torminous irascible delection dolor quiescent affliction 	<p>ANGRY</p> <p>CALM</p> <p>PLEASURE</p> <p>PAIN</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Anger Pain Anger Calm Pain Angry Pleasure Pain Calm pain
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Week 5

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

LAZY ACTIVE TOUCHING APART

Define the words below using the above four words. Write a sentence using the word.

1. contiguous (kun-tig'-yoo-us)	<i>LAZY</i>	Touching
2. segregated (seg'-ruh-gayt-id)	<i>ACTIVE</i>	Apart
3. indolent (in'-duh-lent)	<i>TOUCHING</i>	Lazy
4. diligent (dil'-uh-jint)	<i>APART</i>	active

1. torpid (tor'-pid)	<i>LAZY</i>	Lazy
2. tangent (tan'-jint)	<i>ACTIVE</i>	Touching
3. animated	<i>TOUCHING</i>	Active
4. insulated (in'-syoo-layt-id)	<i>APART</i>	apart

1. disjunctive (dis-junct'-iv)	<i>LAZY</i>	Apart
2. lethargic (luh-thar'-jik)	<i>ACTIVE</i>	Lazy
3. proximate (prox'-ih-mit)	<i>TOUCHING</i>	Touching
4. brisk	<i>APART</i>	Active

1. adjunct (aa'-junct)	<i>LAZY</i>	Touching (subordinate)
2. effervescent (eff-ur-vess'-int)	<i>ACTIVE</i>	Active
3. listless	<i>TOUCHING</i>	Lazy
4. severance (sev'-rins)	<i>APART</i>	apart

<p>QUIZ: Write the word, its definition from the box, and a sentence using the word.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> severance adjunct effervescent proximate disjunctive torpid tangent contiguous segregated indolent 	<p>LAZY</p> <p>ACTIVE</p> <p>TOUCHING</p> <p>APART</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Apart Touching Active Touching Apart Lazy Touching Touching Apart lazy
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MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

REVIEW (Week 6)

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

GOOD / EVIL / STRONG / WEAK

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. pernicious | 7. flaccid | 12. puissant |
| 2. benevolent | 8. inept | 13. amiable |
| 3. impregnable | 9. noxious | 14. altruistic |
| 4. incompetent | 10. malevolent | 15. indomitable |
| 5. beneficent | 11. stalwart | 16. demoniacal |
| 6. infirm | | |

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

OLD / YOUNG / HAPPY / SAD

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. disconsolate | 7. elated | 12. callow |
| 2. archaic | 8. jocund | 13. crone |
| 3. adolescent | 9. sullen | 14. maudlin |
| 4. superannuated | 10. infantile | 15. buoyant |
| 5. jubilant | 11. puerile | 16. decrepit |
| 6. dejected | | |

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

THIN / FAT / FLATTER / INSULT

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. rotund | 7. svelte | 12. adulation |
| 2. scorn | 8. insolent | 13. obese |
| 3. gaunt | 9. ingratiate | 14. fulsome |
| 4. affront | 10. corpulent | 15. emaciated |
| 5. cadaverous | 11. obsequious | 16. turgid |
| 6. disparage | | |

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

ANGRY / CALM / PLEASURE / PAIN

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. livid | 7. dolor | 12. quiescent |
| 2. relish | 8. delection | 13. torminous |
| 3. irascible | 9. serene | 14. reposed |
| 4. petulant | 10. affliction | 15. gratification |
| 5. placid | 11. enrapture | 16. malaise |
| 6. animosity | | |

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

LAZY / ACTIVE / TOUCHING / APART

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. contiguous | 7. segregated | 12. indolent |
| 2. diligent | 8. torpid | 13. tangent |
| 3. animated | 9. insulated | 14. disjunctive |
| 4. lethargic | 10. proximate | 15. brisk |
| 5. adjunct | 11. effervescent | 16. listless |
| 6. severance | | |

Application & Context (Week 1)

Write the sentences. Choose the BEST word for each sentence from each list below.

pernicious	Tending to cause death or serious injury; deadly:
flaccid	Lacking firmness
puissant	powerful
benevolent	good-natured

1. . . .And their tongues they lolled into the air, _____ and foamy, like a mad dog's hanging.
2. His was a landscape of _____ codgers, nurturing moms, adorable dogs.
3. Tamburlaine the Great became a most _____ and mighty Monarch.
4. "AH, these cigarettes!" Porfiry Petrovitch ejaculated at last, having lighted one. "They are _____ . . ."

amiable	Friendly and agreeable in disposition; good-natured
noxious	Harmful to living things; injurious to health
inept	Displaying a lack of judgment, sense, or reason; foolish
impregnable	invincible; unconquerable

5. The island of Sardinia has been cursed with a _____ air and an ill-cultivated soil.
6. Abracadabra was the magical formula used by the Gnostics to invoke the aid of _____ spirits to ward off disease and affliction.
7. Zizka made Tábor in Bohemia into an almost _____ fortress and led the troops in their victory.
8. Due to his _____ leadership and anti-Communist fervor, he was forced to leave the country

altruistic	Unselfish concern for the welfare of others; selflessness.
incompetent	Inadequate for or unsuited to a particular purpose or application.
malevolent	Having an evil or harmful influence
indomitable	Incapable of being overcome, subdued, or vanquished

9. Weak and _____, he left the government in the hands of his brother-in-law, Boris
10. Would you know the secret of popularity? It is unconsciousness of self and _____ interest.
11. To fight like a Briton is to fight with _____ courage.
12. Disease and death were and are attributed to the workings of _____ beings, spirits, or forces.

beneficent	Characterized by or performing acts of kindness or charity.
stalwart	Having or marked by imposing physical strength.
demoniacal	Of, resembling, or suggestive of a devil; fiendish
infirm	Weak in body, especially from old age or disease; feeble

13. Bentsen was a _____ defender of Texas business interests.
14. At the moment when the horror of the scene was at its height, a _____ laugh burst from his lips.
15. Set was a sun god of Egypt who gradually degenerated from being a _____ deity into being a god of evil and darkness.
16. The old man, however _____, was able to card the wool, as he sate in the corner by the fireside.

Application & Context (Week 2)

Write the sentences. Choose the BEST word for each sentence from each list below.

disconsolate	Seeming beyond consolation; extremely dejected
elated	To make proud or joyful
callow	Lacking adult maturity or experience; immature
archaic	Of, relating to, or characteristic of a much earlier, often more primitive period

1. He was altogether, a very clean, decent, _____ young man.
2. Becky felt as if she could bless the people out of the carriage windows, so _____ was she in spirit.
3. Up a _____ straggling village street I saw the tired troops
4. According to tradition he was the builder of the original _____ temple of Artemis at Ephesus.

jocund	lighthearted in disposition, character, or quality
crone	An ugly, withered old woman; a hag
adolescent	A young person who has undergone puberty but not reached full maturity
sullen	Showing a brooding ill humor or silent resentment

5. A gangling _____ was transfigured into a handsome adult.
6. The more Thor tightened his hold on the old _____ the firmer she stood.
7. . . . they on their mirth and dance Intent, with _____ music charm his ear.
8. . . . and _____ faces white as chalk, Hankering for wreaths and tombs and hearses.

maudlin	Effusively or tearfully sentimental
superannuated	To allow to retire on a pension because of age or infirmity.
infantile	Displaying or suggesting a lack of maturity; extremely childish
buoyant	Lighthearted

9. He makes it a rule always to give shelter and maintenance to his _____ servants.
10. . . . as best may please a _____ Spirit, and a heart at ease.
11. I have thus continued _____ in appearance, though full of years and experience.
12. I sadly retired to bed in a most _____ state of mind.

jubilant	Exultingly joyful
puerile	Belonging to childhood; juvenile
decrepit	Weakened, worn out, impaired, or broken down by old age
dejected	Being in low spirits; depressed

13. The potion was designed to restore an old man, _____ with age, to vigorous youth.
14. Although the boy had a _____ attitude about some things, he was mature about others.
15. Mr. Everett became frustrated and _____ when he saw the grades from the previous exam.
16. I hear the _____ shouts of millions of men—I hear LIBERTY!

Forming Synonyms (Week 3)

THIN

FAT

FLATTER

INSULT

Based on what you know about the definitions of these words, use all the words in the list to show their best synonyms. Fill all of the blanks below with the words in the box—do not look at your lists of words and definitions. Do not use any words more than once. Use them all.:

rotund (roh-tund')	svelte (sfelt')	adulation (ad-yoo-lay'-shun)
scorn	insolent (in'-soh-lent)	obese (oh-bees')
gaunt	ingratiate (in-gra'-she-ayt)	fulsome (fool'-sum)
affront (uh-frunt')	corpulent (kor'-pyew-lent)	emaciated (e-may'-see-ayt-id)
cadaverous (kuh-dahv'-er-us)	obsequious (ub-seek'-wee-us)	turgid (tur'-jid)
disparage (dis-per'-ij)		

Words that are synonyms (have basically the same meaning):

basic definition:

example: dolor = affliction (pain)

1 _____ = _____ (_____)

2 _____ = _____ (_____)

3 _____ = _____ (_____)

4 _____ = _____ (_____)

5 _____ = _____ (_____)

6 _____ = _____ (_____)

7 _____ = _____ (_____)

8 _____ = _____ (_____)

Forming Antonyms (Week 4)

ANGRY CALM PLEASURE PAIN

Based on what you know about the definitions of these words, use all the words in the list to show their best antonyms. Fill all of the blanks below with the words in the box—do not look at your lists of words and definitions. Do not use any words more than once. Use them all.:

livid
relish
irascible (er-as'-uh-bull)
petulant (petch'-yoo-lent)
placid (plass'-id)
animosity (an-uh-moss'-it-ee)

dolor (doh'-ler)
delection (deh-lek'shun)
serene
affliction
enrapture

quiescent (kwee-es'-ant)
torminous (tor'-min-us)
reposed
gratification
malaise (mah-layz')

Words that are antonyms (have basically the opposite meanings):

basic definitions:

example: obese vs gaunt

(fat / thin)

1 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

2 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

3 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

4 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

5 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

6 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

7 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

8 _____ vs _____

(_____ / _____)

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

REVIEW

Directions: Write a one word definition from the box for each word listed below.

GOOD	EVIL	STRONG	WEAK	OLD	YOUNG	THIN
FAT	FLATTER	INSULT	ANGRY	CALM	PLEASURE	PAIN
LAZY	ACTIVE	TOUCHING	APART	HAPPY	SAD	

- petulant (petch'-yoo-lent)
- affliction
- gratification
- contiguous (kun-tig'-yoo-us)
- segregated (seg'-ruh-gayt-id)
- indolent (in'-duh-lent)
- diligent (dil'-uh-jint)
- torpid (tor'-pid)
- tangent (tan'-jint)
- animated
- insulated (in'-syoo-layt-id)
- disjunctive (dis-junct'-iv)
- lethargic (luh-thar'-jik)
- proximate (prox'-ih-mit)
- brisk
- adjunct (aa'-junct)
- effervescent (eff-ur-vees'-int)
- indomitable (in-dahm'-it-a-bull)
- impregnable
- noxious (nok'-shus)
- altruistic (all-true-ist'-ik)
- incompetent (in-kom'-pih-tent)
- malevolent (muh-lev'-uh-lent)
- reposed
- placid (plass'-id)
- enrapture
- malaise (mah-layz')
- animosity (an-uh-moss'-it-ee)
- infirm
- listless
- pernicious (per-nish'-us)
- flaccid (flak'-sid)
- puissant (pwee'-sent)
- gaunt
- ingratiate (in-gra'-she-ayt)
- fulsome (fool'-sum)
- relish
- delection (deh-lek'shun)
- torminous (tor'-min-us)
- benevolent (ben-ev'-o-lent)
- inept (in-ept')
- amiable
- cadaverous (kuh-dahv'-er-us)
- obsequious (ub-seek'-wee-us)
- turgid (tur'-jid)
- disparage (dis-per'-ij)
- livid
- severance (sev'-rins)
- beneficent (ben-eff'-ih-sent)
- stalwart
- demoniacal
- disconsolate (dis-kon'-suh-lit)
- elated
- callow (kal'-oh)
- archaic (ar-kay'-ik)
- jocund (jok'-und)
- crone
- adolescent (ad-o-less'-ant)
- sullen
- maudlin (mod'-lin)
- superannuated
- infantile
- buoyant (boy'-ant)
- jubilant
- puerile (pyoor'-ul)
- decrepit (de-krep'-ant)
- rotund (roh-tund')
- svelte (sfelt')
- adulation (ad-yoo-lay'-shun)
- affront (uh-frunt')
- corpulent (kor'-pyew-lent)
- emaciated (e-may'-see-ayt-id)
- dolor (doh'-ler)
- quiescent (kwee-es'-ant)
- dejected
- scorn
- insolent (in'-soh-lent)
- obese (oh-bees')
- irascible (er-as'-uh-bull)
- 80.** serene

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

EXAM

Directions: Write a one word definition from the box for each word listed below.

GOOD	EVIL	STRONG	WEAK	OLD	YOUNG	THIN
FAT	FLATTER	INSULT	ANGRY	CALM	PLEASURE	PAIN
LAZY	ACTIVE	TOUCHING	APART	HAPPY	SAD	

1. petulant
2. contiguous
3. indolent
4. torpid
5. tangent
6. insulated
7. disjunctive
8. proximate
9. brisk
10. adjunct
11. effervescent
12. impregnable
13. noxious
14. incompetent
15. reposed
16. enrapture
17. animosity
18. listless
19. flaccid
20. puissant
21. gaunt
22. fulsome
23. relish
24. inept
25. amiable
26. cadaverous
27. obsequious
28. disparage
29. livid
30. severance
31. beneficent
32. stalwart
33. demoniacal
34. elated
35. callow
36. jocund
37. crone
38. sullen
39. maudlin
40. infantile
41. jubilant
42. rotund
43. adulation
44. affront
45. emaciated
46. quiescent
47. dejected
48. scorn
49. obese
50. serene

GOOD

STRONG

OLD

THIN

FLATTER

ANGRY

PLEASURE

LAZY

TOUCHING

HAPPY

EVIL

WEAK

YOUNG

FAT

INSULT

CALM

PAIN

ACTIVE

APART

SAD

(for overhead reference as needed)

Keys

Application & Context (Week 1)

KEY

Write the sentences. Choose the BEST word for each sentence from each list below.

pernicious	Tending to cause death or serious injury; deadly:
flaccid	Lacking firmness
puissant	powerful
benevolent	good-natured

1. . . .And their tongues they lolled into the air, **flaccid** and foamy, like a mad dog's hanging.
 2. His was a landscape of **benevolent** codgers, nurturing moms, adorable dogs.
 3. Tamburlaine the Great became a most **puissant** and mighty Monarch.
 4. "AH, these cigarettes!" Porfiry Petrovitch ejaculated at last, having lighted one. "They are **pernicious** . . ."
-

amiable	Friendly and agreeable in disposition; good-natured
noxious	Harmful to living things; injurious to health
inept	Displaying a lack of judgment, sense, or reason; foolish
impregnable	invincible; unconquerable

5. The island of Sardinia has been cursed with a **noxious** air and an ill-cultivated soil.
 6. Abracadabra was the magical formula used by the Gnostics to invoke the aid of **amiable** spirits to ward off disease and affliction.
 7. Zizka made Tábor in Bohemia into an almost **impregnable** fortress and led the troops in their victory.
 8. Due to his **inept** leadership and anti-Communist fervor, he was forced to leave the country
-

altruistic	Unselfish concern for the welfare of others; selflessness.
incompetent	Inadequate for or unsuited to a particular purpose or application.
malevolent	Having an evil or harmful influence
indomitable	Incapable of being overcome, subdued, or vanquished

9. Weak and **incompetent**, he left the government in the hands of his brother-in-law, Boris
 10. Would you know the secret of popularity? It is unconsciousness of self and **altruistic** interest.
 11. To fight like a Briton is to fight with **indomitable** courage.
 12. Disease and death were and are attributed to the workings of **malevolent** beings, spirits, or forces.
-

beneficent	Characterized by or performing acts of kindness or charity.
stalwart	Having or marked by imposing physical strength.
demoniacal	Of, resembling, or suggestive of a devil; fiendish
beneficent	Weak in body, especially from old age or disease; feeble

13. Bentsen was a **stalwart** defender of Texas business interests.
14. At the moment when the horror of the scene was at its height, a **demoniacal** laugh burst from his lips.
15. Set was a sun god of Egypt who gradually degenerated from being a **beneficent** deity into being a god of evil and darkness.
16. The old man, however **beneficent**, was able to card the wool, as he sat in the corner by the fireside.

Application & Context (Week 2)

KEY

Write the sentences. Choose the BEST word for each sentence from each list below.

disconsolate	Seeming beyond consolation; extremely dejected
elated	To make proud or joyful
callow	Lacking adult maturity or experience; immature
archaic	Of, relating to, or characteristic of a much earlier, often more primitive period

1. He was altogether, a very clean, decent, **callow** young man.
 2. Becky felt as if she could bless the people out of the carriage windows, so **elated** was she in spirit.
 3. Up a **disconsolate** straggling village street I saw the tired troops.
 4. According to tradition, he was the builder of the original **archaic** temple of Artemis at Ephesus.
-

jocund	lighthearted in disposition, character, or quality
crone	An ugly, withered old woman; a hag
adolescent	A young person who has undergone puberty but not reached full maturity
sullen	Showing a brooding ill humor or silent resentment

5. A gangling **adolescent** was transfigured into a handsome adult.
 6. The more Thor tightened his hold on the old **crone**, the firmer she stood.
 7. They on their mirth and dance Intent, with **jocund** music charm his ear.
 8. . . . And **sullen** faces white as chalk, Hankering for wreaths and tombs and hearses.
-

maudlin	Effusively or tearfully sentimental
superannuated	To allow to retire on a pension because of age or infirmity.
infantile	Displaying or suggesting a lack of maturity; extremely childish
buoyant	Lighthearted

9. He makes it a rule always to give shelter and maintenance to his **superannuated** servants.
 10. . . . as best may please a **buoyant** Spirit, and a heart at ease.
 11. I have thus continued **infantile** in appearance, though full of years and experience.
 12. I sadly retired to bed in a most **maudlin** state of mind.
-

jubilant	Exultingly joyful
puerile	Belonging to childhood; juvenile
decrepit	Weakened, worn out, impaired, or broken down by old age
dejected	Being in low spirits; depressed

13. The potion was designed to restore an old man, **decrepit** with age, to vigorous youth.
14. Although the boy had a **puerile** attitude about some things, he was mature about others.
15. Mr. Everett became frustrated and **dejected** when he saw the grades from the previous exam.
16. I hear the **jubilant** shouts of millions of men—I hear LIBERTY!

Forming Synonyms (Week 3)

KEY

THIN

FAT

FLATTER

INSULT

Based on what you know about the definitions of these words, use all the words in the list to show their best synonyms. Fill all of the blanks below with the words in the box—do not look at your lists of words and definitions. Do not use any words more than once. Use them all.:

rotund (roh-tund')

scorn

gaunt

affront (uh-frunt')

cadaverous (kuh-dahv'-er-us)

disparage (dis-per'-ij)

svelte (sfelt')

insolent (in'-soh-lent)

ingratiate (in-gra'-she-ayt)

corpulent (kor'-pyew-lent)

obsequious (ub-seek'-wee-us)

adulation (ad-yoo-lay'-shun)

obese (oh-bees')

fulsome (fool'-sum)

emaciated (e-may'-see-ayt-id)

turgid (tur'-jid)

Words that are synonyms (have basically the same meaning):

(answers will vary)

basic definition:

example: dolor = affliction (pain)

1. rotund = corpulent (fat)
2. obese = turgid (fat)
3. emaciated = svelte (thin)
4. gaunt = cadaverous (thin)
5. disparage = affront (insult)
6. scorn = insolent (insult)
7. adulation = fulsome (flatter)
8. ingratiate = obsequious (flatter)

Forming Antonyms (Week 4)

KEY

ANGRY CALM PLEASURE PAIN

Based on what you know about the definitions of these words, use all the words in the list to show their best antonyms. Fill all of the blanks below with the words in the box—do not look at your lists of words and definitions. Do not use any words more than once. Use them all.:

livid
relish
irascible (er-as'-uh-bull)
petulant (petch'-yoo-lent)
placid (plass'-id)
animosity (an-uh-moss'-it-ee)

dolor (doh'-ler)
delection (deh-lek'shun)
serene
affliction
enrapture

quiescent (kwee-es'-ant)
torminous (tor'-min-us)
reposed
gratification
malaise (mah-layz')

Words that are antonyms (have basically the opposite meanings):

(answers will vary)

basic definitions:

example: obese vs gaunt

(fat / thin)

- | | | | |
|------------------|----|------------|-----------------|
| 1. livid | vs | placid | (angry/calm) |
| 2. petulent | vs | serene | (angry/calm) |
| 3. irascible | vs | quiescent | (angry/calm) |
| 4. animosity | vs | reposed | (angry/calm) |
| 5. relish | vs | dolor | (pleasure/pain) |
| 6. enrapture | vs | torminous | (pleasure/pain) |
| 7. gratification | vs | malaise | (pleasure/pain) |
| 8. delection | vs | affliction | (pleasure/pain) |

Creating Analogies (Week 5)

KEY

LAZY

ACTIVE

TOUCHING

APART

contiguous (kun-tig'-yoo-us)

diligent (dil'-uh-jint)

animated

lethargic (luh-thar'-jik)

adjunct (aa'-junct)

severance (sev'-rins)

segregated (seg'-ruh-gayt-id)

torpid (tor'-pid)

insulated (in'-syoo-layt-id)

proximate (prox'-ih-mit)

effervescent (eff-ur-vess'-int)

indolent (in'-duh-lent)

tangent (tan'-jint)

disjunctive (dis-junct'-iv)

brisk

listless

Create four best analogies from the entire list above and show the meanings of the words. Do not use any words more than once. Use them all.

Example:

benevolent : pernicious :: puissant : flaccid
(GOOD) (EVIL) (STRONG) (WEAK)

(answers will vary)

1. Contiguous : tangent :: effervescent : brisk
(touching) (touching) (active) (active)

2. Disjunctive : proximate :: listless : diligent
(apart) (touching) (lazy) (active)

3. Indolent : lethargic :: insulated : segregated
(lazy) (lazy) (apart) (apart)

4. Torpid : animated :: adjunct : severance
(lazy) (active) (touching) (apart)

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

REVIEW (Week 6) **KEY**

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

GOOD / EVIL / STRONG / WEAK

e	1. pernicious	w	7. flaccid	s	12. puissant
g	2. benevolent	w	8. inept	g	13. amiable
s	3. impregnable	e	9. noxious	g	14. altruistic
w	4. incompetent	e	10. malevolent	s	15. indomitable
g	5. beneficent	s	11. stalwart	e	16. demoniacal
w	6. infirm				

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

OLD / YOUNG / HAPPY / SAD

s	1. disconsolate	h	7. elated	y	12. callow
o	2. archaic	h	8. jocund	o	13. crone
y	3. adolescent	s	9. sullen	s	14. maudlin
o	4. superannuated	y	10. infantile	h	15. buoyant
h	5. jubilant	y	11. puerile	o	16. decrepit
s	6. dejected				

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

THIN / FAT / FLATTER / INSULT

fat	1. rotund	t	7. svelte	fl	12. adulation
i	2. scorn	i	8. insolent	fat	13. obese
t	3. gaunt	fl	9. ingratiate	fl	14. fulsome
i	4. affront	fat	10. corpulent	t	15. emaciated
t	5. cadaverous	fl	11. obsequious	fat	16. turgid
i	6. disparage				

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

ANGRY / CALM / PLEASURE / PAIN

a	1. livid	pa	7. dolor	c	12. quiescent
pl	2. relish	pl	8. delection	pa	13. torminous
a	3. irascible	c	9. serene	c	14. reposed
a	4. petulant	pa	10. affliction	pl	15. gratification
c	5. placid	pl	11. enrapture	pa	16. malaise
a	6. animosity				

Write the associated definition by the number of the word.

LAZY / ACTIVE / TOUCHING / APART

t	1. contiguous	ap	7. segregated	l	12. indolent
ac	2. diligent	l	8. torpid	t	13. tangent
ac	3. animated	ap	9. insulated	ap	14. disjunctive
l	4. lethargic	t	10. proximate	ac	15. brisk
t	5. adjunct	ac	11. effervescent	l	16. listless
ap	6. severance				

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

REVIEW

Directions: Write a one word definition from the box for each word listed below.

GOOD	EVIL	STRONG	WEAK	OLD	YOUNG	THIN
FAT	FLATTER	INSULT	ANGRY	CALM	PLEASURE	PAIN
LAZY	ACTIVE	TOUCHING	APART	HAPPY	SAD	

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. petulant (petch'-yoo-lent) | angry | 41. inept (in-ept') | weak |
| 2. affliction | pain | 42. amiable | happy |
| 3. gratification | pleasure | 43. cadaverous (kuh-dahv'-er-us) | thin |
| 4. contiguous (kun-tig'-yoo-us) | touching | 44. obsequious (ub-seek'-wee-us) | flatter |
| 5. segregated (seg'-ruh-gayt-id) | apart | 45. turgid (tur'-jid) | fat |
| 6. indolent (in'-duh-lent) | lazy | 46. disparage (dis-per'-ij) | insult |
| 7. diligent (dil'-uh-jint) | active | 47. livid | anger |
| 8. torpid (tor'-pid) | lazy | 48. severance (sev'-rins) | apart |
| 9. tangential (tan'-jint) | touching | 49. beneficent (ben-eff'-ih-sent) | good |
| 10. animated | active | 50. stalwart | strong |
| 11. insulated (in'-syoo-layt-id) | apart | 51. demoniacal | evil |
| 12. disjunctive (dis-junct'-iv) | apart | 52. disconsolate (dis-kon'-suh-lit) | sad |
| 13. lethargic (luh-thar'-jik) | lazy | 53. elated | happy |
| 14. proximate (prox'-ih-mit) | touching | 54. callow (kal'-oh) | young |
| 15. brisk | active | 55. archaic (ar-kay'-ik) | old |
| 16. adjunct (aa'-junct) | touching | 56. jocund (jok'-und) | happy |
| 17. effervescent (eff-ur-vees'-int) | active | 57. crone | old |
| 18. indomitable (in-dahm'-it-a-bull) | strong | 58. adolescent (ad-o-less'-ant) | young |
| 19. impregnable | strong | 59. sullen | sad |
| 20. noxious (nok'-shus) | evil | 60. maudlin (mod'-lin) | sad |
| 21. altruistic (all-true-ist'-ik) | good | 61. superannuated | old |
| 22. incompetent (in-kom'-pih-tent) | weak | 62. infantile | young |
| 23. malevolent (muh-lev'-uh-lent) | evil | 63. buoyant (boy'-ant) | happy |
| 24. reposed | calm | 64. jubilant | happy |
| 25. placid (plass'-id) | calm | 65. puerile (pyoor'-ul) | young |
| 26. enrapture | pleasure | 66. decrepit (de-krep'-ant) | old |
| 27. malaise (mah-layz') | pain | 67. rotund (roh-tund') | fat |
| 28. animosity (an-uh-moss'-it-ee) | anger | 68. svelte (sfelt') | thin |
| 29. infirm | weak | 69. adulation (ad-yoo-lay'-shun) | flatter |
| 30. listless | lazy | 70. affront (uh-frunt') | insult |
| 31. pernicious (per-nish'-us) | evil | 71. corpulent (kor'-pyew-lent) | fat |
| 32. flaccid (flak'-sid) | weak | 72. emaciated (e-may'-see-ayt-id) | thin |
| 33. puissant (pwee'-sent) | strong | 73. dolor (doh'-ler) | pain |
| 34. gaunt | thin | 74. quiescent (kwee-es'-ant) | calm |
| 35. ingratiate (in-gra'-she-ayt) | flatter | 75. dejected | sad |
| 36. fulsome (fool'-sum) | flatter | 76. scorn | insult |
| 37. relish | pleasure | 77. insolent (in'-soh-lent) | lazy |
| 38. delection (deh-lek'shun) | pleasure | 78. obese (oh-bees') | fat |
| 39. torminous (tor'-min-us) | pain | 79. irascible (er-as'-uh-bull) | angry |
| 40. benevolent (ben-ev'-o-lent) | good | 80. Serene (suh-reen') | calm |

MEANINGS IN OPPOSITION

EXAM

Key

Directions: Write a one word definition from the box for each word listed below.

GOOD	EVIL	STRONG	WEAK	OLD	YOUNG	THIN
FAT	FLATTER	INSULT	ANGRY	CALM	PLEASURE	PAIN
LAZY	ACTIVE	TOUCHING	APART	HAPPY	SAD	

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------|----------------|---------|
| 1. petulant | Angry | 26. cadaverous | Thin |
| 2. contiguous | Touching | 27. obsequious | Flatter |
| 3. indolent | Lazy | 28. disparage | Insult |
| 4. torpid | Lazy | 29. livid | Angry |
| 5. tangent | Touching | 30. severance | Apart |
| 6. insulated | Apart | 31. beneficent | Good |
| 7. disjunctive | Apart | 32. stalwart | Strong |
| 8. proximate | Touching | 33. demoniacal | Evil |
| 9. brisk | Active | 34. elated | Happy |
| 10. adjunct | Touching | 35. callow | Young |
| 11. effervescent | Active | 36. jocund | Happy |
| 12. impregnable | Strong | 37. crone | Old |
| 13. noxious | Evil | 38. sullen | Sad |
| 14. incompetent | Weak | 39. maudlin | Sad |
| 15. reposed | Calm | 40. infantile | Young |
| 16. enrapture | Pleasure | 41. jubilant | Happy |
| 17. animosity | Angry | 42. rotund | Fat |
| 18. listless | Lazy | 43. adulation | Flatter |
| 19. flaccid | Weak | 44. affront | Insult |
| 20. puissant | Strong | 45. emaciated | Thin |
| 21. gaunt | Thin | 46. quiescent | Calm |
| 22. fulsome | Flatter | 47. dejected | Sad |
| 23. relish | Pleasure | 48. scorn | Insult |
| 24. inept | Weak | 49. obese | Fat |
| 25. amiable | Good | 50. serene | Calm |