

opposites

Words that mean the **opposite** of each other are called **antonyms**. They may be nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs or prepositions, for example:

nouns

sunrise	sunset
stranger	friend
knowledge	ignorance

adjectives

white	black
hot	cold
right	left

verbs

arrive	leave
lose	find
offend	please
raise	lower

adverbs

generously	meanly
kindly	cruelly
strongly	weakly

prepositions

to	from
with	without
before	after

A word can have more than one antonym or opposite, for example:

hard (1) **soft, pliable.** (2) **easy, comfortable.** (3) **simple, uncomplicated.** (4) **easy-going.**

old (1) **young, youthful.** (2) **fresh, brand-new.**

open (1) **closed, shut.** (2) **private, secretive.** (3) **filled, taken.**

poor (1) **rich, wealthy.** (2) **good, excellent.** (3) **lucky, fortunate.**

Some **thesauruses**, which are reference books full of **synonyms** (words that mean the same thing), also give you lists of **antonyms** (opposites of the words).