



Opposites

rich _____

long _____

high _____

north _____

cloudy _____

lazy _____

male _____

first _____

modern _____

nice _____

fat _____

intelligent _____

interesting _____

sick _____

early _____

curly _____

full _____

off _____

cold _____

best _____

clean _____

far _____

wet _____

happy _____

good _____

easy _____

front _____

fast _____

pretty _____

east _____

married _____

round _____

black _____

big _____

sweet _____

alive _____

beautiful _____

cheap _____

left _____

old _____

light _____

polite _____

quiet _____

safe _____

soft _____

true _____

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Opposites

This writing activity helps to increase the vocabulary of lower-level students by practicing adjectives and their opposites.

Before class, make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Procedure

Start the activity by saying each adjective and asking for synonyms or examples of its meaning. Students will need to know the meaning of all the words before they can proceed with the activity.

Divide the class into groups of four and give each student a copy of the worksheet.

Read an adjective at random from the worksheet. The first group to give an appropriate opposite gets a point. For an extra point, ask the group to use the opposite adjective in a sentence. All of the students then write down the adjective on their worksheet

The group with the most points at the end is the winner.

After the game has been completed, ask the students to write ten sentences using two adjectives from the worksheet in each sentence, e.g. The pretty girl drove a black sports car.

Next, split the students into pairs. Have the students exchange their sentences with their partner and change the adjectives in the sentences to their opposites, e.g. The ugly girl drove a white sports car.

Finally, ask the pairs to create a short story using the adjectives from the worksheet.

Answer Key

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| rich - poor | long - short |
| high - low | north - south |
| cloudy - sunny/clear | lazy - hardworking |
| male - female | first - last |
| modern - traditional | nice - nasty |
| fat - thin | intelligent - stupid |
| interesting - boring | sick - healthy |
| early - late | curly - straight |
| full - empty | off - on |
| cold - hot | best - worst |
| clean - dirty | far - near |
| wet - dry | happy - sad/unhappy |
| good - bad | easy - difficult |
| front - back | fast - slow |
| pretty - plain/ugly | east - west |
| married - single | round - square |
| black - white | big - little/small |
| sweet - sour/bitter | alive - dead |
| beautiful - ugly | cheap - expensive |
| left - right | old - new/young |
| light - heavy | polite - rude/impolite |
| quiet - noisy | safe - dangerous |
| soft - hard | true - false |