

Synonym Sets

Cards B01-B25 contain sets of synonyms.

Synonyms are words with similar meanings. For example, *fleeting*, *transient*, *ephemeral* and *evanescent* are all adjectives used to describe something short-lived.

If you can learn many such groups of words with related meanings you speed up the word-learning process. Associating a set of related words is like getting four or five words for the 'price' of one meaning!

The words *fleeting*, *transient*, *ephemeral* and *evanescent* are so similar in meaning that they are almost interchangeable. But not all the words in each set of synonyms have identical meanings – they are related but may be used in slightly different ways. For example, the words *abiding*, *eternal*, *perennial* and *durable* all mean 'long-lasting', and although you would describe some plastics as 'durable', you would not use any of the other words for that purpose.

You will learn these slightly different usages when you meet the words in your reading, and the tests we have provided will also help you appreciate the different ways the words in the synonym sets are used.

The words in each set are not necessarily the same part of speech: they can be adjectives, verbs or nouns. To help you we have color-coded the words:

Adjectives: **black**

Nouns: **gray**

Verbs: **blue**

Target:

Take two to three weeks to learn these 25 cards.

Take the tests on these cards as soon as you are ready. You can take the first test as soon as you have learned the first five cards.

- Test S01 relates to B01 – B05
- Test S02 relates to B06– B10
- Test S03 relates to B11 – B15
- Test S04 relates to B16 – B20
- Test S05 relates to B21 – B25

These tests are available at:

[http://www.major**tests**.com/word-focus/vocabulary-tests.php](http://www.majortests.com/word-focus/vocabulary-tests.php)

Synonym Sets**B 01***Using too many words:*

Loquacious	Circumlocutory	Prolix
Garrulous	Verbose	Voluble
Longwinded	Periphrastic	

Using few words:

Laconic	Taciturn	Curt	Mute
Concise	Pithy	Abrupt	Reticent
Uncommunicative	Succinct	Reserved	Terse

Synonym Sets**B 02***Concerned with praise:*

Revere	Worship	Commend	Salute
Extol	Laud	Eulogize	Acclaim
Accolade	Encomium	Plaudit	Hail

To say negative things about someone:

Decry	Deprecate	Vilify	Tirade
Revile	Slander	Censure	Malign
Derogate	Indict	Disparage	Execrate
Denigrate	Castigate	Denounce	Defame