

KS2 English Quiz - Improving Vocabulary 01 (Questions)

This KS2 English quiz challenges you in improving vocabulary. One part of improving vocabulary is learning to spell correctly. Have you ever looked at a dictionary and wondered if anyone could possibly know all the words it contains? There are at least 250,000 words in English - so you'll have quite a task to learn them all! English uses so many words that, although a word might have many synonyms, each has a slightly different meaning. You can nearly always find a word to say exactly what you want to say. So, no more excuses for boring word choices!

By improving your vocabulary, you will have a better understanding of the English language and be able to write much more interesting stories.

Stretch your vocabulary by trying this English quiz.

1. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The boys *walked* home because they were eager to try out their new game.



- crept
- raced
- shuffled
- wandered

2. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. Lizzie *said* that she had a secret to tell us.



- announced
- told
- smiled
- questioned

3. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The family *left* the rubbish from their picnic.



- spilled
- quit
- stopped
- abandoned

4. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. Tom was *happy* to be offered such an important role in the school play.



- overjoyed
- delighted
- glad
- All of the above

5. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The children were *tired* after climbing the mountain.



- bored
- weary
- irritated
- worried

7. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The class *liked* those hot, sunny days when they were allowed to play cricket all afternoon.



- enjoyed
- admired
- agreed
- gained

9. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The clown's tricks made the children roll around, *laughing*, while the adults couldn't help but *laugh*.



- smiling, roar
- giggling, chuckle
- crying, shriek
- happy, smirk

6. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The girls were *sad* when their cat went missing.



- humiliated
- dreadful
- downhearted
- furious

8. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The sun's hot rays *shone* all afternoon.



- glistened
- lit
- glowed
- blazed

10. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The dog's loud barking just made the baby *cry* even more loudly.



- snivel
- simper
- howl
- snuffle

KS2 English Quiz - Improving Vocabulary 01 (Answers)

1. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The boys *walked* home because they were eager to try out their new game.



- crept
- raced
- shuffled
- wandered

The boys *raced* home because they were eager to try out their new game. 'Raced' is an improvement for the less vivid 'walked'.

3. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The family *left* the rubbish from their picnic.



- spilled
- quit
- stopped
- abandoned

The family *abandoned* the rubbish from their picnic.

2. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. Lizzie *said* that she had a secret to tell us.



- announced
- told
- smiled
- questioned

Lizzie *announced* that she had a secret to tell us.

4. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. Tom was *happy* to be offered such an important role in the school play.



- overjoyed
- delighted
- glad
- All of the above

'Happy' is one of the most overused words in English - try to build up a collection of words which are more specific. For example, do 'glad' and 'delighted' mean exactly the same level of happiness?

5. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The children were *tired* after climbing the mountain.



- bored
- weary
- irritated
- worried

The children were weary after climbing the mountain.

7. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The class *liked* those hot, sunny days when they were allowed to play cricket all afternoon.



- enjoyed
- admired
- agreed
- gained

The class enjoyed those hot, sunny days when they were allowed to play cricket all afternoon. To make the verb stronger, you could also use 'cherished' or 'treasured' or 'prized' (although it's important to sound reasonable, too!).

6. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The girls were *sad* when their cat went missing.



- humiliated
- dreadful
- downhearted
- furious

The girls were downhearted when their cat went missing. The other words are excellent vocabulary choices, but they do not have the same meaning as 'sad' in this sentence.

8. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The sun's hot rays *shone* all afternoon.



- glistened
- lit
- glowed
- blazed

The sun's hot rays blazed all afternoon. 'Hot rays' requires a strong word, like 'blazed'. 'Glowed' could be used if the sun was described as having 'gentle rays'.

9. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The clown's tricks made the children roll around, *laughing*, while the adults couldn't help but *laugh*.



- smiling, roar
- giggling, chuckle
- crying, shriek
- happy, smirk

The clown's tricks made the children roll around, giggling, while the adults couldn't help but chuckle.

10. Without changing the meaning of the sentence, choose the best replacement for the word in italics. The dog's loud barking just made the baby *cry* even more loudly.



- snivel
- simper
- howl
- snuffle

The dog's loud barking just made the baby howl even more loudly.