**Synonyms** are words which mean the same or nearly the same as each other.

- For example: synonyms for **happy** include **cheerful, joyful, lively, genial,** and **vivacious.**
- Synonyms for **miserable** include **unhappy, sad, sorrowful, dejected, downcast,** and **despondent.**

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**Rhyming Synonyms**

Can you find synonyms to fill the gaps in this poem? The poem is written in pairs of lines which rhyme, known as rhyming couplets. So the words you find to end the lines of each couplet must rhyme, as *glad* and *sad* do in the first two lines.

I am pleased. I am **glad.**

I am miserable. I am **sad.**

1. I am inquisitive. I am ................................................

I am angry. I am .........................................................

2. I am colossal. I am .....................................................

I am frenzied. I am .................................................

3. I am savage. I am ....................................................

I am meek. I am ..........................................................

4. I am watchful. I am ...................................................

I am fearsome. I am ..................................................

5. I am impudent. I am .............................................

I am sly. I am ...........................................................

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**Did you know?**

The word **thesaurus** comes from a **Greek** word meaning a **treasure** or **storehouse.**

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**Answers: Rhyming Synonyms**

1. curious, furious,
2. gigantic, frantic,
3. wild, mild,
4. wary, scary,
5. cheeky, sneaky,

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A word game for groups of five or more

The game begins by everyone sitting in a circle. The youngest in the group chooses a word that is widely used e.g. **talk**. The player sitting on their left then has to supply a synonym e.g. **say, speak, utter, chatter**. The player on their left then has to supply another synonym. The round continues until someone is stuck and unable to provide another synonym. They are then eliminated. The player who is eliminated chooses another word for the next round. The rounds continue until only one player is left as the winner. It’s a good idea to have a thesaurus handy to use to settle any disputes!

Not sure if it’s the right word?

To help you find the answers, you could use an **Oxford Children’s Thesaurus** – a reference book in which words are grouped according to their meanings. The entries are arranged alphabetically, as in a dictionary. A thesaurus can help writers when searching for a word which means precisely what they want to say and to avoid words that have lost their effectiveness through over use.