

Vocabulary Booster 8: Antonyms

Activity 1

1. Match the roots and affixes on the left with their meanings on the right.

pre-

come

post-

before

con-

go

ob-

forward

cede

against

vent

together

pro-

after

Activity 2 - Before and After

1. What is the meaning of "postscript"?
Clue: This word is often abbreviated to "P.S."

2. What is the meaning of "postpone"?

Wordier

wordier.online

Example sentences: Some children are hoping that the Eleven Plus will be postponed because of the pandemic.

3. What is the meaning of “posterity”?

Example sentences: The family diligently recorded events for posterity.

4. What is the meaning of “predecessor”?

Clue: This word derives from the root “cede/cess” and uses the prefix “pre-”.

Example sentence: My predecessor’s handwriting was illegible so I can’t read the notes he left for me.

5. What is the meaning of “preliminary”?

Clue: Our team lost in the preliminary round so didn’t qualify for the final competition.

6. What is the meaning of “prequel”?

Clue: If you change the prefix of this word, you can make its antonym.

7. What is the meaning of “precede”?

Example sentences: A wobbly tooth usually precedes the loss of it.

Activity 3 - Antonyms

1. Use the word "oblivious" in a sentence.

2. Use the word "propel" in a sentence.

3. Use the word "impede" in a sentence.

Match the words in the table below to their antonyms.

attract	permit	heir
grant	aware	circumspect
successor	appeal	

ANTONYM 1

ANTONYM 2

OBLIVIOUS

REPEL

REVOKE

PREDECESSOR

Activity 4 - With and Against

1. What is the meaning of “congregate”?

Clue: This word comes from the Latin “gregare” meaning “flock”.

Example sentences: I thought something exciting must be going on as people had congregated around the door of the theatre.

2. What is the meaning of “construct”?

Clue: “con-” means “together” and “-struct” means “build”.

3. What is the meaning of “collude”?

Clue: This word comes from the root “ludere” meaning “to play”.

Example sentence: The tour guide colluded with the local thieves to bring wealthy tourists into the area.

4. Write a sentence that includes the word “conspire”.

Clue 1: “Conspire” is a synonym of “collude”.

5. Write a sentence that includes the word “obstruct”.

6. Write a sentence that includes the word “obstacle”.

Match the words in the table below to their synonyms and antonyms.

obstruct	destruct	disperse
impede	assemble	facilitate
build	conspire	prequel

	SYNONYM 1	ANTONYM 2
CONGREGATE		
CONSTRUCT		
OBSTRUCT		
COLLUDE		

Activity 5 - Cloze Test

obstacles	congregation	audacity
precipitous	prequel	preliminary
colluded	posterity	postponed

1. The child was young but unafraid of going down the _____ slide.
2. I was amazed that the teenage boy had the _____ to strut into his detention fifteen minutes late, chewing gum and without a tie on.
3. The entire _____ stood to sing an uplifting hymn.
4. The three women _____ in stealing money from the corporation they worked for.
5. Despite facing many _____, the girl managed to leave school at the top of her class.

6. The vocabulary course students were asked to watch a video as _____ work to help them to understand the words they were going to discuss.
7. Sports Day was _____ due to a heavy downpour.
8. Previous generations had kept newspaper clippings and letters for _____.
9. Fans of the Harry Potter series were hugely excited when it was announced that a _____ film, called *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, was in production.

Activity 6 - Word in Sentences

Write a sentence that uses each of the following words.

PRELIMINARY

DISPERSE

CONGREGATE

POSTPONE
