**Inflated Words Hand-Out**

Some words mean almost the same thing but have small differences between the meanings of each. Understanding the small differences between similar words lets you appreciate the shades of meaning between words or phrases.

Two words might have a similar meaning, but one word’s meaning might be stronger or more forceful than the other word’s meaning. For example, *sad* and *miserable* both have similar meanings. But the word *miserable* suggests a much more powerful feeling than the word *sad* does. Below are word lists of synonyms for common words that we tend to overuse.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mad** | **Nice** | **Good** | **Bad** |
| CrossFuriousAngryGrumpyFrustratedFumingEnragedAnnoyedLividOutragedPerturbedRabid | RagingWrathfulBelligerentBitterCausticIndignantInfuriatedIrateSeethingSmolderingRiledTicked | EnjoyablePleasurableThoughtfulCourteousLovelyLikeablePleasingGraciousCongenialCordiallyAdmirableConsiderate | AgreeableAmiableCharmingManneredInvitingKindDelightfulFriendlyConsiderateDecentPoliteAcceptable | ExcellentAmazingWonderfulPleasantMarvelousExceptionalFantasticSuperOutstandingTerrificSplendidStupendous | MoralUprightJustFairPureDecentWorthyEsteemedFavorableSolidHonestHonorable | AwfulRottenNaughtyMeanDreadfulNastyWickedLousyTerribleUnpleasantDisagreeableWretched | AtrociousPoorErringEvilHarshVileVillainousFoulCorruptFalseUnbecomingNefarious |
| **Happy** | **Sad** | **Laughed** | **Like** |
| CheerfulDelightedPleasedGladJoyfulEcstaticContentJovialAmusedMerry ThrilledElated | MirthfulGleefulJollyOverjoyedGratifiedBrightBlissfulCharmedSatisfiedEuphoricRhapsodicTickled | DepressedGloomyMiserableCheerlessUnhappyForlornSorrowfulUpsetDowncastDowntroddenTearfulSomber | GlumPensiveDesolateMoroseMelancholyTroubledBitterGrievingWeepingBlueCrestfallenDespondent | GiggledChuckledRoaredHowledWhoopedSnickeredGuffawedGrinnedCackledBellowedChortledShrieked | Hee-HawedScreamedTitteredTwitteredSniggeredBroken upCracked upSplit one’s sides | AdmireApproveAdoreTreasureFancyMarvelAppreciateRespectCherishFondDesireEnjoy | FavorCotton toDelight inDigRelishRevel inCovetCraveSavorRejoiceLoveRevere |
| **Big** | **Little** | **Ran** | **Walked** |
| HugeGiantGiganticEnormousLargeMassiveColossalImmenseBulkyHeftyTremendousJumbo | ConsequentialEarthshakingEarth-shatteringEventfulHistoricMajorMeaningfulMonumentalMomentousConsiderableVoluminousVast | SmallTinyPetiteMiniatureTeenyItsy-BitsyMinisculeMiniMinuteMicroscopicSkimpyWee | DiminutiveHalf-pintInfinitesimalLittle-bittyPygmyTrivialSlightSmallishDwarfishPunyNegligibleTrifling | BoltedSpedHurriedSprintedJoggedRushedGallopedHustledSkippedRacedDashedFled | ScamperedTrottedBoundLopedBlastedBustledCareenedWhiskedZippedZoomedJettedBelted | StrolledSaunteredTiptoedTrottedMarchedGlidedStruttedShuffledCreptTreatedHikedParaded | AmbledShambledCrawledDalliedDillydalliedDraggedLaggedLingeredTarriedLumberedPloddedTrudged |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Said** | **Pretty** | **Looked** | **Scared** |
| CommentedRepliedRemarkedDeclaredStatedExclaimedShoutedWhisperedAnnouncedRespondedBoastedExplained | MentionedGaspedMurmuredProclaimedArticulatedEnunciatedSpokeStatedToldUtteredBroadcastedSpluttered | BeautifulGorgeousAppealingCuteLovelyExquisiteAttractiveElegantHandsomeStunningFairDazzling | AgreeableDarlingDelectableDreamyAestheticBonnyComelyFetchingKnockoutRavishingAlluringCharming | GazedExaminedGlancedViewedObservedPeekedStaredWatchedInspectedSpiedStudiedNoticed | CaughtBeheldDiscernedDistinguishedEspiedRegardedPerceivedSpottedNotedWitnessedGlimpsedScrutinized | AfraidFrightenedSpookedHorrifiedStartledFearfulPetrifiedAnxiousAghastAlarmedTerrifiedShaken | Horror-struckHystericalShockedTerrorizedFearsomeShrinkingFaintheartedTimidTimorousTremulousApprehensiveCowardly |
| **Went** | **Great** |  |  |
| ScurriedJourneyedSkedaddledSkipped outClamberedSplitParadedProgressedDriftedTore outRacedAmbled | GallivantedRushedVenturedVanishedTrekkedTraveledTraipsedScamperedSaunteredHastenedWithdrewWandered | AmazingArrestingAstonishingAstoundingAwe-InspiringBreathtakingCaptivatingEstimableExceptionalExquisiteFascinatingGlorious | ImpressiveIncomparableTremendousUniqueUnparalleledWondrousSensationalRapturousPraiseworthyPhenomenalNoteworthyMiraculous |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| ScurriedJourneyedSkedaddledSkipped outClamberedSplitParadedProgressedDriftedTore outRacedAmbled |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| ScurriedJourneyedSkedaddledSkipped outClamberedSplitParadedProgressedDriftedTore outRacedAmbled |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |