

GRE Sentence Equivalence - Everything you need to know

This slideshow features screenshots from Greenlight Test Prep's entire [Sentence Equivalence](#) module (consisting of 39 videos).

It covers everything you need to know, and it includes **30 practice questions**.

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Introduction to Sentence Equivalence

([watch](#) the entire video)

- About $\frac{1}{4}$ of all Verbal questions

The conversation between the two men was very _____, because it was too cold for them to linger in lengthy conversation.

- (A) collegial
- (B) terse
- (C) meaningful
- (D) brief
- (E) antagonistic
- (F) animated

Select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning

- Select 2 answer choices that complete the sentence
- The resulting sentences must have similar meanings
- No partial credit – you must select both correct answers

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

([watch](#) the entire video)

1. Read the entire sentence to understand the big picture
 - paraphrase if necessary
2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
 - descriptive words/phrases (adjectives/adverbs)
 - relationship words
3. Predict an appropriate word for the blank (**before** checking the answer choices)
4. Check the answer choices, and use scratch paper to record responses
5. Beware of trap answers
6. Confirm that the two words create sentences with the same meaning

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Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

([watch](#) the entire video)

2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
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Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

([watch](#) the entire video)

2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
 - descriptive words/phrases (**adjectives/adverbs**)

Harriet's dog, Bubbles, is too _____ to complete the structured training required to become a guide dog for the blind.

- (A) large
- (B) delicate
- (C) disobedient
- (D) big
- (E) headstrong
- (F) frail

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

([watch](#) the entire video)

2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
 - descriptive words/phrases (**adjectives/adverbs**)

*Harriet's dog, Bubbles, is too _____ to complete the **structured** training required to become a **guide** dog **for** the **blind**.*

- (A) large
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- (C) disobedient
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Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

([watch](#) the entire video)

2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
- descriptive words/phrases (**adjectives/adverbs**)

*Harriet's dog, Bubbles, is too unstructured to complete the **structured** training required to become a **guide** dog **for** **the blind**.*

- (A) *large*
- (B) *delicate*
- (C) *disobedient*
- (D) *big*
- (E) *headstrong*
- (F) *frail*

#14. *unstructured*

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

([watch](#) the entire video)

2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
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- (A) large
(B) delicate
(C) disobedient ✓
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(E) headstrong ✓
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#14. unstructured

- ~~A.~~
~~B.~~
C. ✓
~~D.~~
E. ✓
~~F.~~

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

([watch](#) the entire video)

2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
 - descriptive words/phrases (**adjectives/adverbs**)

Historical fiction novels _____ two divergent genres so smoothly that it is often difficult for the reader to remember that he is reading an imagined tale, rather than a true life account of events in the past.

(A) adulterate

(B) divulge

(C) amalgamate

(D) stymie

(E) conflate

(F) repudiate

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

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#15. unify

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part I

(watch the entire video)

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Historical fiction novels unify two divergent genres so smoothly that it is often difficult for the reader to remember that he is reading an imagined tale, rather than a true life account of events in the past.

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#15. unify

~~A.~~

~~B.~~

C. ✓

~~D.~~

E. ✓

~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The new law was approved only after several provisions were included that _____ those lawmakers who were opposed to the law as it was originally proposed.

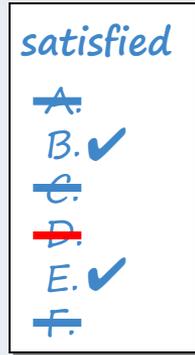
- (A) espoused
- (B) mollified
- (C) belabored
- (D) sedated
- (E) placated
- (F) aggrandized

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The new law was approved only after several provisions were included that satisfied those lawmakers who were opposed to the law as it was originally proposed.

- (A) espoused
- (B) mollified**
- (C) belabored
- (D) sedated
- (E) placated**
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Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The long line in the coffee shop grew even longer after one particularly angry customer's _____ to the cashier about having to wait so long for service.

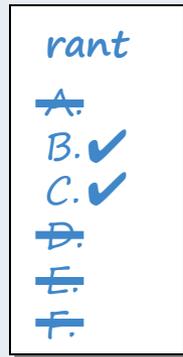
- (A) ovation
- (B) tirade
- (C) diatribe
- (D) quip
- (E) query
- (F) account

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The long line in the coffee shop grew even longer after one particularly angry customer's rant to the cashier about having to wait so long for service.

- (A) ovation
- (B) tirade
- (C) diatribe
- (D) quip
- (E) query
- (F) account



Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

([watch](#) the entire video)

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Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

([watch](#) the entire video)

Relationship words: connect parts that work **together** or **against each other**

The surly staff displayed nothing but ungratefulness, rather than _____ for weekend mountain retreat that the company had paid for.

- (A) disenchantment
- (B) gratitude
- (C) appreciation
- (D) disillusion
- (E) apathy
- (F) passivity

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gratefulness

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
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Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

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gratefulness

~~A.~~
B. ✓
C. ✓
~~D.~~
~~E.~~
~~F.~~

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

([watch](#) the entire video)

Work Together	Work Against
and	despite
furthermore	yet
therefore	though
in addition	nevertheless
likewise	but
similar to	although
moreover	instead
so	even though
thus	meanwhile

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words of time

At first, the _____ promise of cooperation was enough for the two sides to trust each other, but later, after tensions rose, a written treaty became necessary.

- (A) *tacit*
- (B) *flip*
- (C) *legal*
- (D) *implicit*
- (E) *statutory*
- (F) *virtuous*

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

([watch](#) the entire video)

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Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words of time

informally understood
At first, the _____ promise of cooperation was enough for the two sides to trust each other, but later, after tensions rose, a written treaty became necessary.

- (A) tacit
- (B) flip
- (C) legal
- (D) implicit
- (E) statutory
- (F) virtuous

informally understood

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.

Sentence Equivalence Strategy – Part II

([watch](#) the entire video)

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At first, the _____ promise of cooperation was enough for the two sides to trust each other, but later, after tensions rose, a written treaty became necessary.

- (A) tacit
- (B) flip
- (C) legal
- (D) implicit
- (E) statutory
- (F) virtuous

informally understood

- A. ✓
- ~~B.~~
- ~~C.~~
- D. ✓
- ~~E.~~
- ~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

In addition to the lack of yard space provided by the _____ homes, off-street parking is also a rare commodity in the tightly packed boroughs of New York City.

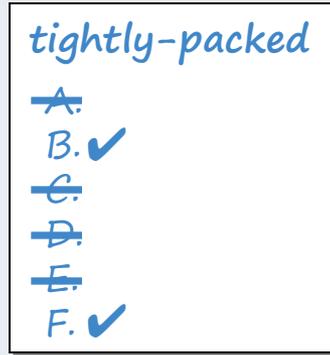
- (A) prefabricated
- (B) contiguous
- (C) atypical
- (D) squalid
- (E) economical
- (F) abutting

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

In addition to the lack of yard space provided by the tightly-packed homes, off-street parking is also a rare commodity in the tightly packed boroughs of New York City.

- (A) prefabricated
- (B) contiguous**
- (C) atypical
- (D) squalid
- (E) economical
- (F) abutting**



Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

While Sofia engaged in _____ pursuits during her weekend leisure time, her husband Paul was interested only in watching sports.

- (A) variegated
- (B) sundry
- (C) arduous
- (D) prosaic
- (E) habitual
- (F) myriad

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

While Sofia engaged in many different pursuits during her weekend leisure time, her husband Paul was interested only in watching sports.

(A) variegated

(B) sundry

(C) arduous

(D) prosaic

(E) habitual

(F) myriad

many different

~~A.~~
B. ✓
~~C.~~
~~D.~~
~~E.~~
F. ✓

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Reality television programming often involves footage of people engaging in the most _____ daily activities that would interest no one to watch, so it must be the extravagant personalities of the cast that attract such a large audience.

- (A) raucous
- (B) uncouth
- (C) egregious
- (D) insipid
- (E) tempestuous
- (F) banal

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Reality television programming often involves footage of people engaging in the most ordinary daily activities that would interest no one to watch, so it must be the extravagant personalities of the cast that attract such a large audience.

- (A) raucous
- (B) uncouth
- (C) egregious
- (D) insipid
- (E) tempestuous
- (F) banal

ordinary

~~A.~~

~~B.~~

~~C.~~

D. ✓

~~E.~~

F. ✓

Building Your Vocabulary

([watch](#) the entire video)

- A high Verbal score requires a strong vocabulary
- About ½ of all Verbal questions test your vocabulary
- About 200,000 words in modern English
- The test-makers consistently test certain words
- We've created two word lists:
 - 500 basic GRE words (*censure, discomfit*)
 - 500 advanced GRE words (*opprobrium, tumid*)
- 2 ways to access the word lists
 - From the Greenlight Test Prep webpage
 - Quizlet.com (www.Quizlet.com/Greenlight-GRE)
 - 500 basic words: www.Quizlet.com/18795939/gre-basic-flash-cards
 - 500 advanced words: www.Quizlet.com/18809160/gre-advanced-flash-cards

Building Your Vocabulary

([watch](#) the entire video)

Engage, Engage, Engage

- Identify at least 1 synonym and 1 antonym
- Indicate whether the word is positive (+), negative (-), or neutral (N)
- Identify prefixes and roots
 - synchronize* - occur at the same time
 - *syn*: together
 - *chron*: time
- Say each word/definition aloud
- Write/say a sentence that uses the word
- Use imagery and mnemonic devices
- Rhyming
 - froward*** - stubbornly contrary

Building Your Vocabulary

([watch](#) the entire video)

truculence – fierce aggression



Building Your Vocabulary

([watch](#) the entire video)

Quizlet.com

GRE Advanced

Term First Both Sides

no longer fertile; worn out

Click to flip 1 / 500

STUDY: Speller Learn Test

GAMES: Scatter Space Race

TOOLS: Print Export Copy Combine Embed

500 terms Order by

Terms	Definitions
<input type="checkbox"/> abjure	<input type="checkbox"/> formally reject or disavow a formerly held belief, usually under pressure
<input type="checkbox"/> abrogate	<input type="checkbox"/> revoke formally
<input type="checkbox"/> abscission	<input type="checkbox"/> the act of cutting something off

Building Your Vocabulary

([watch](#) the entire video)

Quizlet.com

GRE Advanced

Term First Both Sides

no longer fertile; worn out

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STUDY: Speller Learn Test

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500 terms Order by Alphabetical

Terms	Definitions
abjure	formally reject or disavow a formerly held belief, usually under pressure
abrogate	revoke formally
abscission	the act of cutting something off

Using Prefixes

([watch](#) the entire video)

Common prefixes

ab: away from

abide, abode, abundant, and ability: unrelated to **away from**

abjure, abstemious, abscond and abolish: related to **away from**

Download prefix list from the
Greenlight Test Prep website

Using Prefixes

([watch](#) the entire video)

Common prefixes

co: with

cooperate, collaborate

com: with

committee, compatriot

con: with

concurrent, conjunction

Download prefix list from the
Greenlight Test Prep website

Using Prefixes

([watch](#) the entire video)

Common prefixes

***in*: not**

*in*credible, *in*dependent, *in*secure

***in*: into**

*in*put, *in*sert

Download prefix list from the
Greenlight Test Prep website

Using Prefixes

([watch](#) the entire video)

The doctor declined to squander any more time trying to reason with the _____ patient.

- (A) prodigious
- (B) superfluous
- (C) obstreperous

Download prefix list from the Greenlight Test Prep website

Using Prefixes

([watch](#) the entire video)

The doctor declined to squander any more time trying to reason with the _____ patient.

- (A) **pro**digious
- (B) **super**fluous
- (C) **ob**streperous ✓

ob: **against**

Download prefix list from the
Greenlight Test Prep website

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

euphony

eu: good

phon: sound

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

euphony: a pleasing sound

eu: good

phon: sound

Other examples: ***euphemism, phonetics***

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

pandemic

pan: everywhere

dem: people

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

pandemic: affecting a large number of people

pan: everywhere

dem: people

*The obsession with Apple products among American youth has reached **pandemic** proportions.*

Other examples: **panacea**, **demagogue**

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

tractable

tract: to pull or drag

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

tractable: easily led or managed

tract: to pull or drag

Other examples: **attractive**, **contract**

Download list of roots from the
Greenlight Test Prep website

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

circumlocution

circ: around

loc, log, loq, lix: speech

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

Examples of roots

circumlocution: a roundabout or indirect way of speaking

circ: around

loc, log, loq, lix: speech

Other examples: ***monologue, eloquent, prolix***

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

abjure

- (A) to remove from a jury
- (B) to renounce under oath
- (C) to act as legal counsel

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

abjure

- (A) to remove from a jury
- (B) to renounce under oath ✓
- (C) to act as legal counsel

ab: away from

jur: legal

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

anachronism

- (A) chronologically out of place
- (B) moving backwards in time
- (C) to be out of sync with the days

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

anachronism

- (A) chronologically out of place ✓
- (B) moving backwards in time
- (C) to be out of sync with the days

a: without

chron: time

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

attenuate

- (A) to increase tension over
- (B) to lessen the force of
- (C) to extend beyond the normal

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

attenuate

- (A) to increase tension over
- (B) to lessen the force of ✓
- (C) to extend beyond the normal

a: without

ten: hold

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

proscribe

- (A) to banish or outlaw
- (B) to provide a testimonial
- (C) to guarantee

Using Roots

([watch](#) the entire video)

proscribe

- (A) to banish or outlaw ✓
- (B) to provide a testimonial
- (C) to guarantee

pro: support

scrib: to write

This counterintuitive example shows that the best strategy is to learn the actual definitions rather than rely on other strategies

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

Hermetic

- (A) irate
- (B) depressing
- (C) solitary

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

hermetically sealed

Hermetic

- (A) irate
- (B) depressing
- (C) solitary

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

hermetically sealed: sealed airtight

Hermetic

- (A) irate
- (B) depressing
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Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

hermetically sealed: sealed **airtight**

Hermetic = airtight?

- (A) irate
- (B) depressing
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Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

hermetically sealed: sealed **airtight**

Hermetic = airtight?

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Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

Zenith

- (A) challenge
- (B) peak
- (C) abyss

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

zenith brand electronics

Zenith = something positive

- (A) challenge
- (B) peak
- (C) abyss

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

Consider the **context** in which you may have heard a word (or part of a word) before

zenith brand electronics

Zenith = something positive

- (A) challenge
- (B) peak ✓
- (C) abyss

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

canonical

- (A) dangerous
- (B) devout
- (C) authoritative

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

canonical *canon law in Catholicism*

- (A) dangerous
- (B) devout
- (C) authoritative ✓

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

peregrination

- (A) hobby
- (B) journey
- (C) idea

Word Association

([watch](#) the entire video)

peregrination *peregrine falcon*

(A) hobby

(B) journey ✓

(C) idea

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Common Trap

- Answers that **kind of fit**, but are not supported by the descriptive words/phrases

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words with multiple meanings

Upon _____ a local mountain, Kevin observed that the townspeople **below** looked small and insignificant.

- (A) climbing
- (B) admiring
- (C) scaling
- (D) sketching
- (E) witnessing
- (F) drawing

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words with multiple meanings

Upon climbing a local mountain, Kevin observed that the townspeople **below** looked small and insignificant.

(A) climbing

(B) admiring

(C) scaling



scaling: removing scales

scaling: climbing

(D) sketching

(E) witnessing

(F) drawing

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words with multiple meanings

Upon climbing a local mountain, Kevin observed that the townspeople **below** looked small and insignificant.

- (A) climbing ✓
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- (C) scaling ✓
- (D) sketching
- (E) witnessing
- (F) drawing

There are many words with more than one meaning!

- plastic
- steep
- strut
- foil
- date
- present

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words with perceived definitions and connotations

The _____ treatment of Bosnian and Croatian civilians by Slobodan Milosevic **led to war crime charges** against him.

- (A) gratuitous
- (B) fatuous
- (C) barbarous
- (D) moribund
- (E) delusional
- (F) truculent

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words with perceived definitions and connotations

The _____ treatment of Bosnian and Croatian civilians by Slobodan Milosevic **led to war crime charges** against him.

(A) gratuitous



gratuitous violence in movies

(B) fatuous

(C) barbarous

(D) moribund

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(F) truculent

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words with perceived definitions and connotations

The _____ treatment of Bosnian and Croatian civilians by Slobodan Milosevic **led to war crime charges** against him.

(A) gratuitous



gratuitous: unwarranted

(B) fatuous

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Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

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Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

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- (A) gratuitous **✗** **gratuitous:** unwarranted
- (B) fatuous
- (C) barbarous **✓**
- (D) moribund
- (E) delusional
- (F) truculent **✓**

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words with perceived definitions and connotations

Neutral words often perceived as negative: *rhetoric*,
capricious, *idolatrous*

Neutral words often perceived as positive: *prolific*, *aesthetic*

Don't attribute tone
that doesn't exist

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words that look right but have a different meaning

Due to the _____ arrival of Mrs. Jenkins, who had confused the time on the invitation, Mrs. Pemberton was not yet dressed when the doorbell rang.

- (A) inopportune*
- (B) comely*
- (C) extemporaneous*
- (D) improbable*
- (E) furtive*
- (F) untimely*

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words that look right but have a different meaning

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Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words that look right but have a different meaning

Due to the early arrival of Mrs. Jenkins, who had confused the time on the invitation, Mrs. Pemberton was not yet dressed when the doorbell rang.

(A) inopportune

(B) comely

(C) extemporaneous



ex: out of
tempor: time

(D) improbable

(E) furtive

(F) untimely

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Words that look right but have a different meaning

Due to the early arrival of Mrs. Jenkins, who had confused the time on the invitation, Mrs. Pemberton was not yet dressed when the doorbell rang.

(A) inopportune ✓

(B) comely

(~~X~~) extemporaneous = improvised

(D) improbable

(E) furtive

(F) untimely ✓

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Synonym pairs that are the opposite of what we need

Marshall was too embarrassed about the subpar job his company had done constructing the new town hall to remain on stage and accept the unsuspecting mayor's

_____.

- (A) accolades
- (B) rebukes
- (C) emollients
- (D) commendations
- (E) admonitions
- (F) apexes

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Synonym pairs that are the opposite of what we need

Marshall was too **embarrassed about the subpar job** his company had done constructing the new town hall to remain on stage and accept the unsuspecting mayor's criticism.

(A) accolades

(B) rebukes 

(C) emollients

(D) commendations

(E) admonitions 

(F) apexes

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Synonym pairs that are the opposite of what we need

Marshall was too **embarrassed about the subpar job** his company had done constructing the new town hall to remain on stage and accept the **unsuspecting** mayor's

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- (A) accolades
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- (D) commendations
- (E) admonitions
- (F) apexes

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Synonym pairs that are the opposite of what we need

Marshall was too **embarrassed about the subpar job** his company had done constructing the new town hall to remain on stage and accept the **unsuspecting** mayor's praise/award.

(A) accolades ✓

(B) rebukes

(C) emollients

(D) commendations ✓

(E) admonitions

(F) apexes

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Great word with no matching word

John Dalton's atomic theory may have been _____ in the early 1800s, but nowadays it is rare to find a schoolchild who isn't familiar with it.

- (A) *esoteric*
- (B) *pioneering*
- (C) *recondite*
- (D) *enervating*
- (E) *farcical*
- (F) *perfunctory*

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Great word with no matching word

John Dalton's atomic theory may have been _____
in the early 1800s, but nowadays it is rare to find a
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- (A) esoteric
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Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

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Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

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- (B) pioneering
- (C) recondite ✓
- (D) enervating
- (E) farcical
- (F) perfunctory

Trap Answers

([watch](#) the entire video)

Common Traps

- Answers that **kind of fit**, but are not supported by the descriptive words/phrases
- Words with multiple meanings
- Words with perceived definitions and connotations
- Words that look right but have a different meaning
- Synonym pairs that are the opposite of what we need
- Great word with no matching word

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Tests given under strict time constraints require students to be decisive and leave them little opportunity to _____.

- (A) stem
- (B) hedge
- (C) waffle
- (D) rail
- (E) flush
- (F) fell

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Tests given under **strict time** constraints require students to be **decisive** and leave them little opportunity to be indecisive.

- (A) stem
- (B) hedge
- (C) waffle
- (D) rail
- (E) flush
- (F) fell

be indecisive

- ~~A.~~
- B. ✓
- C. ✓
- ~~D.~~
- ~~E.~~
- ~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

After the economy suffered a precipitous decline, tips on living _____ life became a popular feature in countless magazines, newspapers and blogs as families everywhere sought to trim expenses.

- (A) a frugal
- (B) an esoteric
- (C) a miserly
- (D) a novel
- (E) a provident
- (F) a pristine

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

After the economy suffered a precipitous decline, tips on living a cheap life became a popular feature in countless magazines, newspapers and blogs as families everywhere sought to trim expenses.

- (A) a frugal
- (B) an esoteric
- (C) a miserly
- (D) a novel
- (E) a provident
- (F) a pristine

cheap

A. ✓

~~B.~~

~~C.~~

~~D.~~

E. ✓

~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

For some, the _____ of love in the form of a gift is necessary for their reassurance that the feelings are sincere; for others, a simple verbal expression will suffice.

- (A) archetype
- (B) reproof
- (C) synthesis
- (D) incarnation
- (E) manifestation
- (F) fidelity

Practice Question

(watch the entire video)

For some, the physical demonstration of love in the form of a gift is necessary for their reassurance that the feelings are sincere; for others, a simple verbal expression will suffice.

- (A) archetype
- (B) reproof
- (C) synthesis
- (D) incarnation
- (E) manifestation
- (F) fidelity

physical demonstration

- ~~A.~~
- ~~B.~~
- ~~C.~~
- D. ✓
- E. ✓
- ~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Mechanics warn that the failure to schedule _____ maintenance checks of your vehicle could result in serious mechanical malfunctions at inopportune moments.

- (A) unremitting
- (B) perpetual
- (C) tetchy
- (D) periodic
- (E) recurrent
- (F) precipitous

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Mechanics warn that the failure to schedule _____ maintenance checks of your vehicle could result in serious mechanical malfunctions at inopportune moments.

(A) unremitting

(B) perpetual

(C) tetchy

(D) periodic

(E) recurrent

(F) precipitous



Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The president articulated his position on foreign aid in a very _____ manner so that there would be no speculation among the less than scrupulous members of the media.

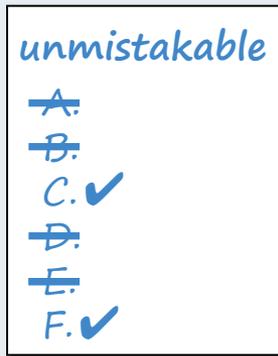
- (A) luminescent
- (B) taciturn
- (C) lucid
- (D) affable
- (E) disparate
- (F) unequivocal

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The president articulated his position on foreign aid in a very unmistakable manner so that there would be no speculation among the less than scrupulous members of the media.

- (A) luminescent
- (B) taciturn
- (C) lucid
- (D) affable
- (E) disparate
- (F) unequivocal



Sentence Equivalence Summary

([watch](#) the entire video)

General Strategy

1. Read the entire sentence to understand the big picture
 - paraphrase if necessary
2. Identify words/phrases that provide context for the blank, especially
 - descriptive words/phrases (adjectives/adverbs)
 - relationship words
3. Predict an appropriate word for the blank ([before](#) checking the answer choices)
4. Check the answer choices, and use scratch paper to record responses
5. Beware of trap answers
6. Confirm that the two words create sentences with the same meaning

Sentence Equivalence Summary

([watch](#) the entire video)

Common Traps

- Answers that **kind of fit**, but are not supported by the descriptive words/phrases
- Words with multiple meanings
- Words with perceived definitions and connotations
- Words that look right but have a different meaning
- Synonym pairs that are the opposite of what we need
- Great word with no matching word

Sentence Equivalence Summary

([watch](#) the entire video)

- Sentence Equivalence questions test your vocabulary
- Devote time to studying the word lists
- 2 ways to access the word lists
 - From the Greenlight Test Prep webpage
 - Quizlet.com (www.Quizlet.com/Greenlight-GRE)
 - 500 basic words: www.Quizlet.com/18795939/gre-basic-flash-cards
 - 500 advanced words: www.Quizlet.com/18809160/gre-advanced-flash-cards

Engage, Engage, Engage

- Identify at least 1 synonym and 1 antonym
- Indicate whether the word is positive (+), negative (-), or neutral (N)
- Identify prefixes and roots
- Say each word/definition aloud
- Write/say a sentence that uses the word
- Use imagery and mnemonic devices
- Rhyming

Sentence Equivalence Summary

([watch](#) the entire video)

Dealing with Unfamiliar Words

- Use prefixes, roots and word association

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

High winds blew down the goalpost in the middle of an important match, so a _____ substitute was constructed out of wood until a permanent replacement could be purchased.

- (A) makeshift
- (B) provisional
- (C) practicable
- (D) tangible
- (E) flimsy
- (F) robust

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

High winds blew down the goalpost in the middle of an important match, so a temporary substitute was constructed out of wood until a permanent replacement could be purchased.

- (A) makeshift
- (B) provisional
- (C) practicable
- (D) tangible
- (E) flimsy
- (F) robust

temporary

A. ✓

B. ✓

~~C.~~

~~D.~~

~~E.~~

~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The _____ link between the evidence and the conclusion given in the dissertation was only further weakened by the author's attempt at justification during his oral defense.

- (A) tenuous
- (B) fervent
- (C) sordid
- (D) opaque
- (E) insubstantial
- (F) astute

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The weak link between the evidence and the conclusion given in the dissertation **was only further weakened** by the author's attempt at justification during his oral defense.

- (A) tenuous
- (B) fervent
- (C) sordid
- (D) opaque
- (E) insubstantial
- (F) astute

weak
A. ✓
~~B.~~
~~C.~~
~~D.~~
E. ✓
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Though the Cratchits' worldly possessions were _____, their love for Tiny Tim was overwhelming.

- (A) intricate
- (B) eclectic
- (C) debasing
- (D) antiquated
- (E) sparse
- (F) meager

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Though the Cratchits' worldly possessions were underwhelming, their love for Tiny Tim was **overwhelming**.

- (A) intricate
- (B) eclectic
- (C) debasing
- (D) antiquated
- (E) sparse
- (F) meager

underwhelming

- ~~A.~~
- ~~B.~~
- ~~C.~~
- ~~D.~~
- E. ✓
- F. ✓

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The lioness exerted surprising _____ over her litter, dispensing swift discipline to any cub that defied the established social norms.

- (A) vigilance
- (B) hegemony
- (C) incapacity
- (D) humanity
- (E) ineptitude
- (F) imperium

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The lioness exerted surprising control over her litter, dispensing swift discipline to any cub that defied the established social norms.

- (A) vigilance
- (B) hegemony
- (C) incapacity
- (D) humanity
- (E) ineptitude
- (F) imperium

control
~~A.~~
B. ✓
~~C.~~
~~D.~~
~~E.~~
F. ✓

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Post-surgical interviews reveal that not all patients are susceptible to the normally _____ anesthesia that is administered to render a patient unconscious during an operation, and they may unexpectedly remain awake for some or much of the procedure.

- (A) efficacious
- (B) potent
- (C) dolorous
- (D) intrepid
- (E) salubrious
- (F) sedulous

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Post-surgical interviews reveal that **not all patients are susceptible** to the **normally** effective anesthesia that is administered to render a patient unconscious during an operation, and they may **unexpectedly** remain awake for some or much of the procedure.

- (A) efficacious
- (B) potent
- (C) dolorous
- (D) intrepid
- (E) salubrious
- (F) sedulous

effective
A. ✓
B. ✓
~~C.~~
~~D.~~
~~E.~~
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The apprentice's _____ in correcting the master's technique was so appalling that the master dismissed the apprentice from his service immediately.

- (A) impetuosity
- (B) levity
- (C) effrontery
- (D) complaisance
- (E) usury
- (F) impudence

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The apprentice's nerve in correcting the master's technique was so **appalling** that the master **dismissed** the apprentice from his service **immediately**.

- (A) impetuosity
- (B) levity
- (C) effrontery
- (D) complaisance
- (E) usury
- (F) impudence

nerve
~~A.~~
~~B.~~
C. ✓
~~D.~~
~~E.~~
F. ✓

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Veda was _____ about her self-taught methodology for taking the GRE and found no value in her tutor's recommendations of techniques that could improve her score.

- (A) nonchalant
- (B) dogmatic
- (C) erudite
- (D) adamant
- (E) judicious
- (F) blithe

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Veda was satisfied with about her self-taught methodology for taking the GRE and **found no value in her tutor's recommendations** of techniques that could improve her score.

- (A) nonchalant
- (B) dogmatic
- (C) erudite
- (D) adamant
- (E) judicious
- (F) blithe

satisfied with

~~A.~~
B. ✓
~~C.~~
D. ✓
~~E.~~
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The trainer's _____ comments about the trainee's performance were so offensive that the trainee walked out of the conference room and never returned.

- (A) venal
- (B) malleable
- (C) caustic
- (D) tangential
- (E) acerbic
- (F) delusory

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The trainer's offensive comments about the trainee's performance were so **offensive** that the trainee walked out of the conference room and never returned.

- (A) venal
- (B) malleable
- (C) caustic
- (D) tangential
- (E) acerbic
- (F) delusory

offensive
~~A.~~
~~B.~~
C. ✓
~~D.~~
E. ✓
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Because Bobby had a strange tendency to switch suddenly from his usually pliant and amiable self to a rebellious and _____ monster, his mother decided to take him to a psychologist.

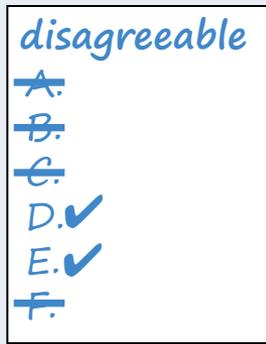
- (A) ebullient
- (B) amenable
- (C) genial
- (D) irascible
- (E) petulant
- (F) intractable

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Because Bobby had a strange tendency to switch suddenly from his usually pliant and amiable self to a rebellious and disagreeable monster, his mother decided to take him to a psychologist.

- (A) ebullient
- (B) amenable
- (C) genial
- (D) irascible
- (E) petulant
- (F) intractable



Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Despite intense criticism of his initial research, Goddard did not _____ his detractors but rather persisted in his work and actually went on to become a highly respected rocket scientist.

- (A) capitulate to
- (B) vilify
- (C) acquiesce to
- (D) seethe at
- (E) forbear
- (F) fawn over

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Despite intense criticism of his initial research, Goddard did not give in to his detractors but rather persisted in his work and actually went on to become a highly respected rocket scientist.

- (A) capitulate to
- (B) vilify
- (C) acquiesce to
- (D) seethe at
- (E) forbear
- (F) fawn over

give in to
A. ✓
~~B.~~
C. ✓
~~D.~~
~~E.~~
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

After the change in pricing tiers, the company's customer service line was so _____ complaints that it had to hire extra staff to accommodate the surge.

- (A) deluged by
- (B) bereft of
- (C) chafed by
- (D) inundated with
- (E) devoid of
- (F) nonplussed by

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

After the change in pricing tiers, the company's customer service line was so overwhelmed by complaints that it had to hire extra staff to accommodate the surge.

- (A) deluged by
- (B) bereft of
- (C) chafed by
- (D) inundated with
- (E) devoid of
- (F) nonplussed by

overwhelmed by
A. ✓
~~B.~~
~~C.~~
D. ✓
~~E.~~
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Society must refrain from the _____ of supermodels whose body types are far outside the norm if young women are ever to stop believing that attaining a certain body type is the only way to earn admiration and respect.

- (A) exposition
- (B) adulation
- (C) proliferation
- (D) derogation
- (E) deification
- (F) belittlement

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Society must **refrain from** the admiration/respect of supermodels whose body types are far outside the norm if young women are ever to stop believing that attaining a certain body type is the **only** way to earn **admiration and respect**.

- (A) exposition
- (B) adulation**
- (C) proliferation
- (D) derogation
- (E) deification**
- (F) belittlement

admiration/respect

~~A.~~
B. ✓
~~C.~~
~~D.~~
E. ✓
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The _____ nature of black holes and death is why people fear them; if more were known, these natural occurrences would invoke far less trepidation.

- (A) veritable
- (B) redolent
- (C) reticent
- (D) enigmatic
- (E) ingenuous
- (F) inscrutable

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The unknown nature of black holes and death is why people fear them; if more were known, these natural occurrences would invoke far less trepidation.

- (A) veritable
- (B) redolent
- (C) reticent
- (D) enigmatic
- (E) ingenuous
- (F) inscrutable

unknown
~~A.~~
~~B.~~
~~C.~~
D. ✓
~~E.~~
F. ✓

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Even Gabe's closest friends had grown weary of his _____ pessimism and wished that he could be contented for just ten minutes.

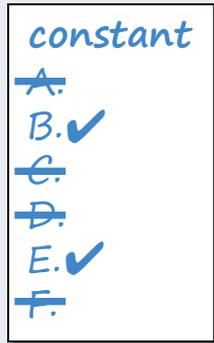
- (A) axiomatic
- (B) perennial
- (C) earnest
- (D) curt
- (E) imperishable
- (F) gregarious

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Even Gabe's closest friends had grown weary of his constant pessimism and wished that he could be contented for just ten minutes.

- (A) axiomatic
- (B) perennial
- (C) earnest
- (D) curt
- (E) imperishable
- (F) gregarious



Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

When viewed in our more mature years, movies once seen in adolescence may register as much more _____ than our younger, more wholesome minds were able to perceive.

- (A) ribald
- (B) jejune
- (C) latent
- (D) bawdy
- (E) staid
- (F) genteel

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

When viewed in our more mature years, movies once seen in adolescence may register as much more *less wholesome* than our younger, more wholesome minds were able to perceive.

- (A) ribald
- (B) jejune
- (C) latent
- (D) bawdy
- (E) staid
- (F) genteel

less wholesome
A. ✓
~~B.~~
~~C.~~
D. ✓
~~E.~~
~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The _____ traces of jam throughout the chocolate torte teased Wolfgang's palate with the most delightful whisper of raspberries.

- (A) splenetic
- (B) incandescent
- (C) gossamer
- (D) rapacious
- (E) verdant
- (F) diaphanous

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The slight traces of jam throughout the chocolate torte teased Wolfgang's palate with the most delightful whisper of raspberries.

- (A) splenetic
- (B) incandescent
- (C) gossamer
- (D) rapacious
- (E) verdant
- (F) diaphanous

slight
~~A.~~
~~B.~~
C. ✓
~~D.~~
~~E.~~
F. ✓

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

It is rather ironic that while some performers have no aversion to prattling away onstage for hours to entertain an audience, offstage they are the least _____ people you could ever meet.

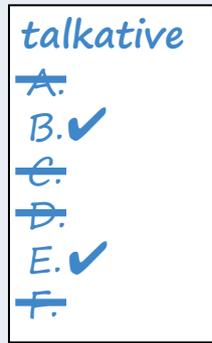
- (A) droll
- (B) garrulous
- (C) sanguine
- (D) jovial
- (E) loquacious
- (F) illustrious

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

It is rather ironic that while some performers have no aversion to prattling away onstage for hours to entertain an audience, offstage they are the least talkative people you could ever meet.

- (A) droll
- (B) garrulous
- (C) sanguine
- (D) jovial
- (E) loquacious
- (F) illustrious



Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The _____ with which the messenger was said to have run from the battlefield of Marathon to Athens inspires all modern runners of the eponymous race to push on to the finish line.

- (A) virulence
- (B) alacrity
- (C) predilection
- (D) celerity
- (E) acumen
- (F) affliction

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

The persistence with which the messenger was said to have run from the battlefield of Marathon to Athens **inspires** all modern runners of the eponymous race to **push on** to the finish line.

- (A) virulence
- (B) alacrity 
- (C) predilection
- (D) celerity 
- (E) acumen
- (F) affliction

persistence

- ~~A.~~
- B. ✓
- ~~C.~~
- D. ✓
- ~~E.~~
- ~~F.~~

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Even people who have demonstrated a considerable lack of _____ in their own lives feel justified in criticizing public figures who are caught in scandals involving adultery, fraud, or corruption.

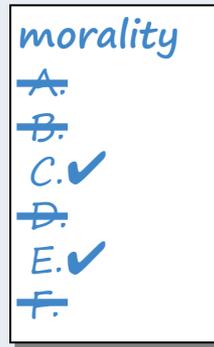
- (A) impunity
- (B) heresy
- (C) rectitude
- (D) equanimity
- (E) probity
- (F) verisimilitude

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Even people who have demonstrated a considerable lack of morality in their own lives feel justified in criticizing public figures who are caught in scandals involving adultery, fraud, or corruption.

- (A) impunity
- (B) heresy
- (C) rectitude
- (D) equanimity
- (E) probity
- (F) verisimilitude



Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Given that Kyle's speeches to his staff are so full of corporate _____, one must doubt his ability to speak sincerely, even among members of his own family.

- (A) filibusters
- (B) platitudes
- (C) witticisms
- (D) palliatives
- (E) bromides
- (F) panegyrics

Practice Question

([watch](#) the entire video)

Given that Kyle's speeches to his staff are so full of corporate insincerities, one must **doubt his ability to speak sincerely**, even among members of his own family.

- (A) filibusters
- (B) platitudes**
- (C) witticisms
- (D) palliatives
- (E) bromides**
- (F) panegyrics

insincerities

- ~~A.~~
- B. ✓
- ~~C.~~
- ~~D.~~
- E. ✓
- ~~F.~~

GRE Sentence Equivalence - Everything you need to know

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