

Synonyms

Teaching Notes

The aim of this resource is to help learners think about synonyms in a creative, expressive way.

For the Jabberwocky exercise learners are given a copy of the Jabberwocky:

<http://www.jabberwocky.com/carroll/jabber/jabberwocky.html>

Learners take turns to read the verses and are then split into groups. Each group is given a set number of verses that they work on. The aim of the activity is for learners to substitute the nonsense words with real ones.

Learners could be encouraged to change the context of the poem through the words they use. In any case, to highlight the actual context of the poem, there is a good (audio) reading at:

http://www.designvision.org.uk/index_files/Page342.htm

Wikipedia also has a good glossary of the nonsense words at:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jabberwocky>

Name _____

Substituting words

1. Using a thesaurus, change the word 'brilliant' in each of the following sentences.

The brilliant star shot across the sky.

.....

The cheese and onion pie at Chris' Café is brilliant!

.....

The brilliant student won yet another award.

.....

2. The Jabberwocky!

You are going to look at the Jabberwocky. You must substitute each imaginary word that you read with a real one.

Here are some things to remember:

What is the context of the poem?

Some words are imaginary, but sound like real words. Can you substitute the imaginary words with words that sound like them?

Use a thesaurus and dictionary to help you.

Name _____

Substituting words

3. Substitute the underlined words with other words.
Remember not to change the meaning of the sentences!

The hooligans had a detrimental effect on their club's reputation.

The carpenter liked to fabricate tables.

The head teacher subjected the boy to yet another inquisition concerning the broken window.

The man wanted some assurance that his car would be safe.

The plight of the penguin was pathetic.

The inspector made a thorough search of the house.