

SHREDDERMAN

THE SUARUS FUN



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Don't Bore Us, Don't Snore Us, Use a THESAURUS!

You probably noticed that when Nolan gets excited, he tends to use several words that have the same (or very similar) meaning to get his point across.

Here are some examples from Shredderman:
Enemy Spy:

At the end of Chapter 1...

I looked IDIOTIC!
HAREBRAINED!
Really, really STUPID!

In Chapter 7...

His hair was messy and his clothes were kind of shabby...He looked really...
UNKEMPT.
SLOVENLY
BEDRAGGLED!

In Chapter 16...

I had to get my digital camera set up ... and I had to do it while I was walking!
This was going to take SUBTLETY
FINESSE
Some real LEGERDEMAIN!
And believe me, I'm not known for my SMOOTH MOVES.

In Chapter 18...

It was too...IRONIC.
PARADOXICAL!
Totally UNEXPECTED!
Completely SURPRISING!

Nolan's father does this, too, in **Chapter 10**. When Nolan asks, "CLANDESTINE?" Mr. Byrd answers, "You know—SNEAKY. CLOAK-AND-DAGGER. UNDERHANDED

And then in Chapter 18 Bubba gets into it, too!

He says: "Everything is WAY COOL...It's NIFTY. GROOVY! AWESOME! You might even say it's COPASETIC."

So what's a thesaurus? Sounds like a book-dinosaur, doesn't it? But all it really is, is a tool to help you spice up your writing. You look up a word and the thesaurus lists other words that mean the same or similar thing. These listed words are not always 100% interchangeable with the original word so it's a good idea to use the dictionary to look up unfamiliar words before using them. But mostly a thesaurus is good for giving you ideas; for helping you find new ways to say things.



Take the Thesaurus Challenge!

In a thesaurus, look up the word listed, then fill in the blanks with the synonyms (similar words) that meet the descriptions given. (Bonus points if you find more than one that meet the description!) Note: the answer words were listed in both Webster's New World and Roget's.

1. He was an impostor!

In the thesaurus, find a synonym for impostor that:

- a) starts with c and is 9 letters long: _____
b) starts with p and is 9 letters long: _____
c) starts with m and is 10 letters long: _____

2. The boys got into a fight.

This is a noun, so find fight, n. in your thesaurus, then see if you can find these synonyms:

- a) starts with b and is 6 letters long: _____
b) starts with r and is 3 letters long: _____
c) starts with t and is 6 letters long: _____
d) starts with sk and is 8 letters long: _____
(Amazing number of words for fight, huh?)

3. Now let's try a modifying word:

He felt sad. Find a synonym for sad (under sad, mod.) that:

- a) starts with d and is 9 letters long: _____
b) starts with g and is 4 letters long: _____
c) starts with u and is 7 letters long: _____
d) starts with m and is 9 letters long: _____
e) starts with f and is 7 letters long: _____

Weren't those better words than boring old "sad"? Not all of the words listed in that section mean just sad. They mean a variety of different kinds of sad, but they all have being unhappy in common.

Now, of all the words and phrases listed in your thesaurus as synonyms for sad, which one do you think is the snazziest? _____

4. Here's the last challenge: Look up COWARD in your thesaurus. There are lots of cool ways to call someone a coward. (You PANICMONGER! You ALARMIST! You shady SHIRKER!) See if you find 2 of my favorites:

- a) starts with m and is 11 letters long: _____
b) starts with p and is 8 letters long: _____
c) starts with s, is 10 letters plus a hyphen long! _____ - _____