Synonyms for Words Commonly Used in Student Writing

**AMAZING**—incredible, unbelievable, improbable, fabulous, wonderful, fantastic, astonishing, astounding, extraordinary

**ANGER**—enrage, infuriate, arouse, nettle, exasperate, inflame, madden

**ANGRY**—mad, furious, enraged, excited, wrathful, indignant, exasperated, aroused, inflamed

**ANSWER**—reply, respond, retort, acknowledge

**ASK**—question, inquire of, seek information from, put a question to, demand, re quest, expect, inquire, query, interrogate, examine, quiz

AWFUL—dreadful, terrible, abominable, bad, poor, unpleasant

**BAD**—evil, immoral, wicked, corrupt, sinful, depraved, rotten, contaminated, spoiled, tainted, harmful, injurious, unfavorable, defective, inferior, imperfect, substandard, faulty, improper, inappropriate, unsuitable, disagreeable, unpleasant, cross, nasty, unfriendly, irascible, horrible, atrocious, outrageous, scandalous, infamous, wrong, noxious, sinister, putrid, snide, deplorable, dismal, gross, heinous, nefarious, base, obnoxious, detestable, despicable, contemptible, foul, rank, ghastly, execrable

**BEAUTIFUL**—pretty, lovely, handsome, attractive, gorgeous, dazzling, splendid, magnificent, comely, fair, ravishing, graceful, elegant, fine, exquisite, aesthetic, pleasing, shapely, delicate, stunning, glorious, heavenly, resplendent, radiant, glowing, blooming, sparkling

**BEGIN**-start, open, launch, initiate, commence, inaugurate, originate

**BIG—**enormous, huge, immense, gigantic, vast, colossal, gargantuan, large, sizable, grand, great, tall, substantial, mammoth, astronomical, ample, broad, expansive, spacious, stout, tremendous, titanic, mountainous

**BRAVE—**courageous, fearless, dauntless, intrepid, plucky, daring, heroic, valorous, audacious, bold, gallant, valiant, doughty, mettlesome

**BREAK—**fracture, rupture, shatter, smash, wreck, crash, demolish, atomize

**BRIGHT—**shining, shiny, gleaming, brilliant, sparkling, shimmering, radiant, vivid, colorful, lustrous, luminous, incandescent, intelligent, brilliant, knowing, quick-witted, smart, intellectual

**CALM—**quiet, peaceful, still, tranquil, mild, serene, smooth, composed, collected, unruffled, level-headed, unexcited, detached, aloof

**COME—**approach, advance, near, arrive, reach

**COOL—**chilly, cold, frosty, wintry, icy, frigid

**CRY—**shout, yell, yowl, scream, roar, bellow, weep, wail, sob

**CUT—**gash, slash, prick, nick, sever, slice, carve, cleave, slit, chop, crop, lop, reduce

**DANGEROUS—**perilous,

**DIFFERENCE—**disagreement, inequality, contrast, dissimilarity, incompatibility

**DO—**execute, enact, carry out, finish, conclude, effect, accomplish, achieve, attain

**DULL—**boring, tiresome, uninteresting, slow, dumb, stupid, unimaginative, lifeless, dead, insensible, tedious, wearisome, listless, expressionless, plain, monotone, humdrum, dreary

**EAGER—**keen, fervent, enthusiastic, involved, interested, alive to

**END—**stop, finish, terminate, conclude, close, halt, cessation, discontinuance

**ENJOY—**appreciate, delight in, be pleased, indulge in, luxuriate in, bask in, relish, devour, savor, like

**EXPLAIN—**elaborate, clarify, define, interpret, justify, account for

**FAIR—**just, impartial, unbiased, objective, unprejudiced, honest

**FALL—**drop, descent, plunge, topple, tumble

**FALSE—**fake, fraudulent, counterfeit, spurious, untrue, unfounded hazardous, risky, uncertain, unsafe

**DARK—**shadowy, unlit, murky, gloomy, dim, dusky, shaded, sunless, black, dismal, sad, gloomy

**DECIDE—**determine, settle, choose, resolve

**DEFINITE—**certain, sure, positive, determined, clear, distinct, obvious

**DELICIOUS—**savory, delectable, appetizing, luscious, scrumptious, palatable, delightful, enjoyable, toothsome, exquisite

**DESCRIBE—**portray, characterize, picture, narrate, relate, recount, represent, report, record

**DESTROY—**ruin, demolish, raze, waste, kill, stay, end, extinguish

, erroneous, deceptive, groundless, fallacious

**FAMOUS—**well-known, renowned, celebrated, famed, eminent, illustrious, distinguished, noted, notorious

**FAST—**quick, rapid, swift, speedy, fleet, hasty, snappy, mercurial, swiftly, rapidly, quickly, snappily, speedily, lickety-split, posthaste, hastily, expeditiously, like a flash

**FAT—**stout, corpulent, fleshy, beefy, paunchy, plump, full, rotund, pudgy, burly, bulky

**FEAR—**fright, dread, terror, alarm, dismay, anxiety, scare, awe, horror, panic, apprehension

**FLY—**soar, hover, flit, wing, flee, waft, glide, coast, skim, sail, cruise

**FUNNY—**humorous, amusing, droll, comic, comical, laughable, silly

**GET—**acquire, secure, procure, gain, fetch, find, score, accumulate, win, reap, catch, net, bag, derive, collect, gather, glean, pick up, accept, come by, regain, salvage

**GO—**recede, depart, fade, disappear, move, travel, proceed

**GOOD—**excellent, fine, superior, wonderful, marvelous, qualified, suited, suitable, apt, proper, capable, generous, kindly, friendly, gracious, obliging, pleasant, agreeable, pleasurable, satisfactory, well-behaved, obedient, honorable, reliable, trustworthy, safe, favorable, profitable, advantageous, righteous, expedient, helpful, valid, genuine, ample, salubrious, estimable, beneficial, splendid, great, noble, worthy, first-rate, topnotch, grand, sterling, superb, respectable

**GREAT—**noteworthy, worthy, distinguished, remarkable, grand, considerable, powerful

**GROSS—**improper, rude, indecent, rude, vulgar, outrageous, extreme, grievous, shameful, uncouth, obscene, low

**HAPPY—**pleased, contented, satisfied, delighted, elated, joyful, cheerful, ecstatic, jubilant, gay, tickled, gratified, glad, blissful, overjoyed

**HATE—**despise, loathe, detest, abhor, disfavor, dislike, disapprove, abominate

**HAVE—**hold, possess, own, contain, acquire, gain, maintain, believe, bear, beget, occupy, absorb, fill, enjoy

**HELP—**aid, assist, support, encourage, back, wait on, attend, serve, relieve, benefit, befriend, abet

**HIDE—**conceal, cover, mask, cloak, camouflage, screen, shroud, veil

**HURRY—**rush, run, speed, race, hasten, urge, accelerate, bustle

**HURT—**damage, harm, injure, wound, distress, afflict, pain

**IDEA—**thought, concept, conception, notion, understanding, opinion, plan, view, belief

**IMPORTANT—**necessary, vital, critical, indispensable, valuable, essential, significant, primary, principal, considerate, famous, distinguished, notable, well-known

**INTERESTING—**fascinating, engaging, sharp, keen, bright, intelligent, animated, spirited, attractive, inviting, intriguing, provocative, thought-provoking, challenging, inspiring, involving, moving, titillating, tantalizing, exciting, entertaining, piquant, lively, racy, spicy, engrossing, absorbing, consuming, gripping, arresting, enthralling, spellbinding, curious, captivating, enchanting, bewitching, appealing

**KEEP—**hold, retain, withhold, preserve, maintain, sustain, support

**KILL—**slay, execute, assassinate, murder, destroy, cancel, abolish

**LAZY—**indolent, slothful, idle, inactive, sluggish

**LITTLE—**tiny, small, diminutive, shrimp, runt, miniature, puny, exiguous, dinky, cramped, limited, microscopic, slight, petite, minute

**LOOK—**gaze, see, glance, watch, survey, study, seek, search for, peek, peep, glimpse, stare, contemplate, examine, gape, ogle, scrutinize, inspect, leer, behold, observe, view, witness, perceive, spy, sight, discover, notice, recognize, peer, eye, gawk, peruse, explore

**LOVE—**like, admire, esteem, fancy, care for, cherish, adore, treasure, worship, appreciate, savor

**MAKE—**create, originate, invent, beget, form, construct, design, fabricate, manufacture, produce, build, develop, do, effect, execute, compose, perform, accomplish, earn, gain, obtain, acquire, get

**MARK—**label, tag, price, ticket, impress, effect, trace, imprint, stamp, brand, sign, note, need, notice, designate

**MISCHIEVOUS—**prankish, playful, naughty, roguish, waggish, impish, sportive

**MOVE—**plot, go, creep, crawl, inch, poke, drag, toddle, shuffle, trot, dawdle, walk, traipse, mosey, jog, plug, trudge, stump, lumber, trail, lag, run, sprint, trip, bound, hotfoot, high-tail, streak, stride, tear, breeze, whisk, rush, dash, dart, bolt, fling, scamper, scurry, skedaddle, scoot, scuttle, scramble, race, chase, hasten, hurry, hump, gallop, lope, accelerate, stir, budge, travel, wander, roam, journey, trek, ride, spin, slip, glide, slide, slither, coast, flow, sail, saunter, hobble, amble, stagger, paddle, slouch, prance, straggle, meander, perambulate, waddle, wobble, pace, swagger, promenade, lunge

**MOODY—**temperamental, changeable, short-tempered, glum, sullen, irritable, testy, peevish, fretful, spiteful, sulky, touchy

**NEAT—**orderly, tidy, trim, dapper, natty, smart, elegant, well-organized, super, desirable, spruce, shipshape, well-kept, shapely

**NEW—**fresh, unique, original, unusual, novel, modern, current, recent

**OLD—**feeble, frail, ancient, weak, aged, used, worn, dilapidated, ragged, faded, broken-down, former, old-fashioned, outmoded, passé, veteran, mature, venerable, primitive, traditional, archaic, conventional, customary, state, musty, obsolete, extinct

**PART—**portion, share, piece, allotment, section, fraction, fragment

**PLACE—**space, area, spot, plot, region, location, situation, position, residence, dwelling, set, site, station, status, state

**PLAN—**plot, scheme, design, draw, map, diagram, procedure, arrangement, intention, device, contrivance, method, way, blueprint

**POPULAR—**well-liked, approved, accepted, favorite, celebrated, common, current

**PREDICAMENT—**quandary, dilemma, pickle, problem, plight, spot, scrape, jam

**PUT—**place, set, attach, establish, assign, keep, save, set aside, effect, achieve, do

**QUIET—**silent, still, soundless, mute, tranquil, peaceful, calm, restful

**RIGHT—**correct, accurate, factual, true, good, just, honest, upright, lawful, moral, proper, suitable, apt, legal, fair

**RUN—**race, speed, hurry, hasten, sprint, dash, escape, elope, flee

**SAY/TELL—**inform, notify, advise, relate, recount, narrate, explain, reveal, disclose, divulge, declare, command, order, bid, enlighten, instruct, insist, teach, train, direct, issue, remark, converse, speak, affirm, suppose, utter, negate, express, verbalize, voice, articulate, pronounce, deliver, convey, impart, assert, allege, mutter, mumble, whisper, sigh, explain, yell, sing, yelp, snarl, hiss, snort, roar, bellow, thunder, boom, scream, shriek, screech, squawk, philosophize, stammer, stutter, lisp, drawl, jabber, protest, announce, swear, contend, assure, deny, dispute

**SCARED—**afraid, frightened, alarmed, terrified, panicked, fearful, unnerved, timid, shy, skittish, jumpy, disquieted, worried, vexed, troubled, horrified, terrorized, shocked, petrified, haunted, timorous, shrinking, stupefied, paralyzed, stunned, apprehensive

**SLOW—**unhurried, gradual, leisurely, late, behind, tedious, slack

**STOP—**cease, halt, stay, pause, discontinue, conclude, end, finish, quit

**STRANGE—**odd, peculiar, unusual, unfamiliar, uncommon, weird, curious, unique, exclusive, irregular

**TAKE—**hold, catch, seize, grasp, win, capture, acquire, pick, choose, select, remove, steal, lift, rob, engage, bewitch, purchase, buy, retract, recall, assume, occupy, consume

**TELL—**disclose, reveal, show, expose, uncover, relate, narrate, inform, advise, explain, divulge, declare, command, order, bid, recount, repeat

**THINK—**judge, deem, assume, believe, counsel, contemplate, mediate, inform

**TRUE—**accurate, right, proper, precise, exact, valid, genuine, real, actual, steady, loyal, dependable, sincere, staunch

**UGLY—**hideous, frightful, frightening, shocking, horrible, unpleasant, terrifying, gross, grisly, ghastly, horrid, unsightly, plain, homely, evil, repulsive, repugnant, gruesome

**UNHAPPY—**miserable, uncomfortable, wretched, heart-broken, unfortunate, poor, downhearted, sorrowful, depressed, dejected, melancholy, glum, gloomy, discouraged, sad

**USE—**employ, utilize, exhaust, spend, consume, exercise

**WRONG—**incorrect, inaccurate, mistaken, erroneous, improper, unsuitable

Information compiled from: http://www.thesaurus.com