

Name: _____

Date: _____

Using Synonyms to Paraphrase

WHY USE A THESAURUS?

TO MAKE YOUR WRITING MORE INTERESTING

- Another way to think of a Thesaurus is as a book of word choices.
- Understanding how to use word choices, or synonyms, is one of the secrets of good writing.
- Maybe your teacher has told you that you use the word *weird* too often in your writing.
- Instead, you could use *bizarre*, *eerie*, *odd*, *peculiar*, *strange*, or *unnatural* to make your writing more interesting and entertaining.

CHOOSING AN APPROPRIATE SYNONYM

- Match the part of speech – noun, verb, adjective, adverb

Fat *noun* ♦ grease, oil ♦ lard, tallow

French fries contain a lot of (fat) grease.

adjective ♦ heavy, obese, overweight, plump

The fish they caught was extremely (fat) plump.

- Sometimes we need to add or change a preposition.

- In choosing a synonym we have to match the part of speech to the word we are replacing.
- We also have to find a synonym that doesn't change the meaning or intent of the sentence.

Don't just choose **any** synonym...

Choose the **best** synonym for your sentence

Instructions: Replace the words in bold with suitable synonyms. Rewrite the sentence in the space provided.

- 1) The army **abandoned** the area after the war was over.

- 2) I might sound **mean** if I say I don't care for my colleagues.

- 3) She didn't know what **choice** she had to make.

- 4) He **enjoyed** his meal so much that he had to go and compliment the cook.

5) Jared's weekly **chore** is to take out the trash.

6) Do not be **impolite** to others.
