Voklex — 11+ Synonyms & Antonyms Worksheet

16 questions from real GL-style verbal reasoning papers, with a full answer key.

Part 1: Closest in meaning (synonyms)

In each question, find two words — one from each group — that are closest in meaning. Mark both letters.

1. (can grease pan) (fry oil slip)
A) can B) grease C) pan X) fry Y) oil Z) slip

2. (calm rest laugh) (tired peaceful happy)
A) calm B) rest C) laugh X) tired Y) peaceful Z) happy

3. (funny, happy, silly) (clown, foolish, sad)
A) funny B) happy C) silly X) clown Y) foolish Z) sad

4. (reception, enquiry, equip) (appoint, apparatus, investigation)
A) reception B) enquiry C) equip X) appoint Y) apparatus Z) investigation

5. (park farm earth) (estate meadow ground)
A) park B) farm C) earth X) estate Y) meadow Z) ground

6. (abandon empty bare) (alone depart desert)
A) abandon B) empty C) bare X) alone Y) depart Z) desert

7. [UNIVERSE, WORLD, EARTH] [SOIL, SAND, MUD]
A) UNIVERSE B) WORLD C) EARTH X) SOIL Y) SAND Z) MUD

8. [CIRCLE, SQUARE, RECTANGLE] [GOLD, JEWEL, RING]
A) CIRCLE B) SQUARE C) RECTANGLE X) GOLD Y) JEWEL Z) RING

Part 2: Opposite in meaning (antonyms)

In each question, find two words — one from each group — that are opposite in meaning. Mark both letters.

9. (break ignore hit) (poke miss aim)
A) break B) ignore C) hit X) poke Y) miss Z) aim

10. (cheap price cost) (amount dear expense)
A) cheap B) price C) cost X) amount Y) dear Z) expense

11. (approach hinder consider) (disregard think recommend)
A) approach B) hinder C) consider X) disregard Y) think Z) recommend

12. (friend relative pet) (family child enemy)
A) friend B) relative C) pet X) family Y) child Z) enemy

13. (break ignore hit) (poke miss aim)
A) break B) ignore C) hit X) poke Y) miss Z) aim

14. (complex superior modern) (old new fresh)
A) complex B) superior C) modern X) old Y) new Z) fresh

15. (lead, heavy, weight) (kilogram, scales, light)
A) lead B) heavy C) weight X) kilogram Y) scales Z) light

16. (match, light, game) (box, contrast, competition)
A) match B) light C) game X) box Y) contrast Z) competition

Answer key

Every answer includes the reasoning, so you can talk it through together.

1. B, Y — Grease means a oily substance used for lubricating, and oil is also a slippery liquid. They both describe something slippery used for cooking. The other words are different: can is a container, pan is a cooking tool, fry is a cooking method, slip means to lose footing. So the answer is B) grease; Y) oil.

2. A, Y — Look at the words in each group. "Calm" means feeling relaxed and not worried, and "peaceful" means the same kind of quiet feeling. So the answer is A) calm; Y) peaceful.

3. C, Y — Compare the words in each group to find two with the same meaning. 'Silly' and 'foolish' both mean not showing good sense, while 'funny' and 'happy' are different. So the answer is C) silly and Y) foolish.

4. B, Z — Look for words in the two groups that mean the same thing. An 'enquiry' is a question or a search for information, and an 'investigation' is also a careful search for facts. So the answer is B) enquiry and Z) investigation.

5. C, Z — Both of these mean ‘the earth we stand on’.

6. A, Z — Both of these mean ‘to leave behind’.

7. C, X — EARTH means the ground or soil we stand on. SOIL is another word for the top layer of earth where plants grow. The other words mean different things, like the whole universe or a world. So the answer is C) EARTH; X) SOIL.

8. A, Z — A RING is a round shape, just like a CIRCLE. Gold is a metal and a jewel is a gem, but neither means a round shape. So the answer is A) CIRCLE; Z) RING.

9. C, Y — Look at the meanings. "Hit" means to strike something, while "miss" means to fail to hit it. These two are opposite actions. So the answer is C) hit and Y) miss.

10. A, Y — Cheap means something that costs little, while dear means something that costs a lot. These two words are opposite in meaning. The other words are nouns, not opposites. So the answer is A) cheap; Y) dear.

11. C, X — Look at the meanings: “consider” means to think about something, while “disregard” means to ignore it. Ignoring is the opposite of thinking about it. The other words don’t form opposite pairs. So the answer is C) consider and X) disregard.

12. A, Z — Friend means someone who likes and helps you, while enemy means someone who dislikes or hurts you, so they are opposite. The other words (relative, pet, family, child) are not opposites of each other. Therefore the most opposite pair is friend and enemy. So the answer is A) friend and Z) enemy.

13. C, Y — Hit means to strike something, while miss means to fail to hit it, so they are opposite actions. The other words don’t have such opposite meanings. So the answer is C) hit and Y) miss.

14. C, X — Modern means something that belongs to the present time, while old means something from a long time ago, so they are opposite ideas. The other words don’t have such opposite meanings. So the answer is C) modern and X) old.

15. B, Z — Heavy means weighing a lot, and light means weighing very little, so they are opposites. The other words are about measuring weight, not opposites. So the answer is B) heavy and Z) light.

16. A, Y — A match can mean things that are similar, and contrast means differences, so they are opposites. The other words are about games or containers, not opposites. So the answer is A) match and Y) contrast.