

Goodnight Mister Tom

Chapter 1 - The meeting

Learning Objectives

In this lesson you will:

- Use your skimming and scanning skills to identify if a statement is true or false.
- Identify if a sentence is in the past or present tense.
- Identify synonyms and antonyms.
- Be able to understand the meaning of ambitious vocabulary in context.

Activity one:

You are going to use your skimming and scanning skills to check if the statements are **True** or **False**.

Section A

Use the information in the text to decide whether these statements are true or false.

	True	False
Tom has a cat called Sammy who we meet in the first paragraph.		
Willie is frightened of the squirrel because he has not seen a real-life one before.		
Tom's wife died twenty years ago.		
The cottage is in the city and Willie and his sister are staying there.		
Tom gives Willie an egg sandwich and a cup of tea.		
Willie thought Tom was going to hit him with the poker.		

Activity two:

You are going to read each sentence and decide if it written in the past or present tense.

The easiest way to do this is look at the verb.

A **verb** is a main part of speech that is often used to describe or indicate an action. Example: walk, talk,said...etc.

A lot of past tense verbs have the suffix -ed on them.

Activity two:

Now use these skills to tick if the sentence is written in the past or present tense.

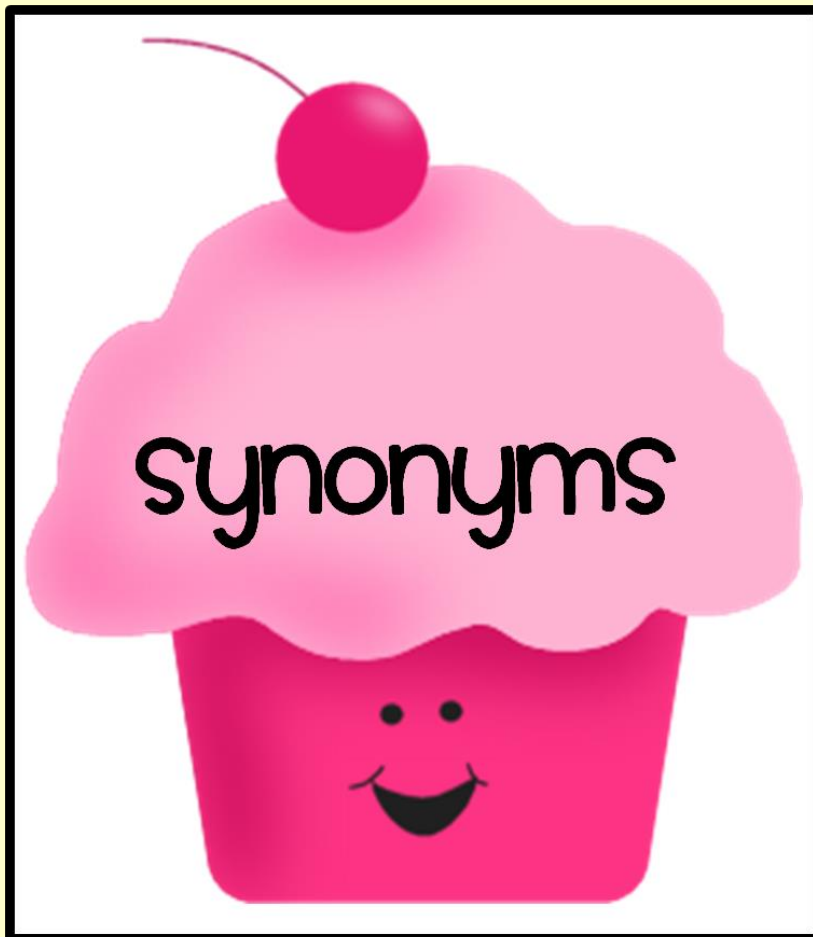
Section B

Tick to show whether each sentence is written in the past or present tense.

	past	present
Tom's wife died a long time ago.		
Willie wrapped himself in the scarf and took a step outside.		
The graveyard is pleasant with flowers and trees dotted between gravestones.		
The cottage is old and creaky.		
Willie was polite to the lady he met in the graveyard.		
The church is mere meters away from the cottage.		

Activity three:

Now we are going to look at some of the vocabulary in more depth. Take a minute to think what the words synonym and antonym mean.



Antonyms & Synonyms

EQ: How do antonyms and synonyms make me a better reader and writer?

Antonyms are words that have opposite meanings.

Example:

sad & happy hot & cold
father & mother exciting & boring



Synonyms are words that have the same or similar meanings.

Example:

warm & hot chilly & cold
shine & twinkle tasty & delicious



Activity three:

Start by using a dictionary to look up each word. You can't identify what is a synonym or antonym without knowing the meaning of the words.

Write and match up the correct synonyms and antonyms from the box with the correct words below.

quieten	well-worn	reassured	optional
rough	pristine	compulsory	worried
echo	hassled	aided	delicate

word	synonym	antonym
reverberated		
harassed		
obligatory		
relieved		
coarse		
threadbare		

Example:
reverberated: of
sound, to be
reflected again and
again; echo;
resound.

*Their voices
reverberated in the
empty banquet
hall.*

*So the synonym
must mean
something similar
and the antonym
must be the
opposite*

Now we have identified them can you use the synonym in these sentences.

Use a synonym to rewrite the sentences below.

1. The woman looked harassed as she tried to keep control of the group of scared children.

2. It was obligatory – Tom had to take in an evacuee from the city.

3. The carpet had been there for years and looked threadbare.

Activity four:

For this task, can you find the one word in the text.

Willie hung up his mackintosh onto the peg and looked around. The cottage was quaint. From where he stood he could see the range burning hotly in the kitchen. It made the whole place feel warm and cosy. Tom presented him with a bacon sandwich, 'ere, eat this', he said while thrusting the plate into Willie's hand. Bacon was so scarce these days that only lodgers and visitors were offered any.

Try not to use a dictionary until you are checking your work.

FIND and COPY one word in the text that means:

- in short supply, not often available
- a waterproof jacket
- pleasantly old-fashioned
- pushy, pushing forward something
- snug or comfortable
- a cooking stove with hot plates and an oven
- a person who rents a room in your home
