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Another word for simplify

Contact Arkadium, the provider of these gamesTired of broken pencils, smudged eraser marks, and scribbles all over your word search puzzles? Fret not! In Daily Word Search, your computer becomes the pencil AND the eraser. Solve puzzles daily and see your word search skills improve! By Ken Michaels, Guest Writer In Shakepeare's play "Hamlet," Polonius inquires of the prince, "What do you read, my lord?" Not at all pleased with what he's reading, Hamlet replies, "Words, words, words."1 I have previously described the communication model in which a sender encodes a message and then sends it via some channel (or medium) to a receiver, who decodes the message and, ideally, understands what was sent. Surely the most common way of encoding a message is in choosing the most appropriate words for the listener or reader. In Hamlet's case, he so disliked what he read that he described it elementally, as mere words, rather than a message. So I thought I'd devote a little ink to words themselves. "Nym" Words Have Specific Meaning Words ending in nym describe classes of words. Some of the more frequently used nym words are synonym (means the same as); antonym (means the opposite of); homonym (has the same sound as); and acronym (a word derived from the first letters of a more complex term, such as SCUBA or AIDS). Homo means "same," and hetero means "different." Therefore, if there are homonyms, it stands to reason that there are also heteronyms. While homonyms have the same sound but different spellings (like pair and pear), heteronyms are spelled the same but have different meanings and, often, pronunciation: a person who sews is a sewer, but a repository for waste products is a sewer. Sewer, then, is a heteronym. But the lexicon of nym words by no means ends here. One of the websites I visited recently2 lists no fewer than 26 nym words, many of which are pretty arcane and of interest to relatively few. Some are downright amusing. Do we really need a word to mean another word composed of two identical parts? If so, then tutu, pawpaw, yo-yo, and bye-bye are tautonyms. A couple of weeks back, my son asked me what is meant by a metonym. I didn't know, so we looked it up. In retrospect, I ought to have been able to logic it out, as "meta" means change. A metonym is a word that designates something by a word that is associated with it. For example, Hollywood is a metonym used to mean the U.S. motion picture industry, while the Crown refers to royalty, and the bottle refers to alcohol. My use of the expression "a little ink" a couple of paragraphs back is also a metonym for written communication, even when no actual ink or writing on paper is involved. The point of all of this has to do with precision in the choice of our language. It will do me no good to encode a message using a word like metonym, or heteronym, or tautonym, unless I'm certain that my listeners (or readers) are familiar with its meaning. Either that, or I'm prepared to add the definition for their benefit, in which case I might have just used the definition in the first place. Still, learning the proper use of words, however arcane, can be useful, and if you like words themselves, even fun. What's Your Idiolect? In his book "The Half-Life of Facts: Why Everything We Know Has an Expiration Date," Samuel Arbesman3 discusses the changes in language that occur over time, and the two camps that see this phenomenon differently. He explains prescriptive grammarians as those who focus on the way words ought to be used, and descriptive grammarians as those who are more concerned with the way they actually are used. Arbesman asserts that every individual develops his or her own set of rules about how to use words, and that all of us—you, me, and everybody else—have our own personal idiolect. This delightful term describes our unique language and speech pattern, as determined by what we learned when we were young, as well as by who's around us, and includes our grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation of words, and even our accent. There's an important lesson here. If we're really going to communicate effectively, we need to be mindful that every time we encode a message, someone whose idiolect is significantly different from our own may very possibly decode it in such a way as to get a different message entirely. So it pays to be careful about our choice of words; is it really a message, or simply "words, words, words"? © 2013 Ken Michaels. All rights reserved. References: Shakespeare, William: "Hamlet," act 2 scene 2. Arbesman, Samuel: "The Half-Life of Facts: Why Everything We Know Has an Expiration Date," New York: Penguin Books, 2012, page 190. Ken Michaels, retired manager of Visual Communications, Leidos Biomedical Research, is a special volunteer for NCI at Frederick. As you've probably noticed, words for "term" are listed above. Hopefully the generated list of words for "term" above suit your needs. If not, you might want to check out Related Words - another project of mine which uses a different technique (not though that it works best with single words, not phrases). The way Reverse Dictionary works is pretty simple. It simply looks through tonnes of dictionary definitions and grabs the ones that most closely match your search query. For example, if you type something like "longing for a time in the past", then the engine will return "nostalgia". The engine has indexed several million definitions so far, and at this stage it's starting to give consistently good results (though it may return weird results sometimes). It acts a lot like a thesaurus except that it allows you to search with a definition, rather than a single word. So in a sense, this tool is a "search engine for words", or a sentence to word converter. I made this tool after working on Related Words which is a very similar tool, except it uses a bunch of algorithms and multiple databases to find similar words to a search query. That project is closer to a thesaurus in the sense that it returns synonyms for a word (or short phrase) query, but it also returns many broadly related words that aren't included in thesauri. So this project, Reverse Dictionary, is meant to go hand-in-hand with Related Words to act as a word-finding and brainstorming toolset. For those interested, I also developed Describing Words which helps you find adjectives and interesting descriptors for things (e.g. waves, sunsets, trees, etc.). In case you didn't notice, you can click on words in the search results and you'll be presented with the definition of that word (if available). The definitions are sourced from the famous and open-source WordNet database, so a huge thanks to the many contributors for creating such an awesome free resource. Special thanks to the contributors of the open-source code that was used in this project: Elastic Search, @HubSpot, WordNet, and @mongodb. Please note that Reverse Dictionary uses third party scripts (such as Google Analytics and advertisements) which use cookies. To learn more, see the privacy policy. Other usefull sources with synonyms of this word: [sim-pluh-fahy]/ ˈsɪm plə,faɪ /verb (used with object), sim-pli·fied, sim-pli·fy·ing.to make less complex or complicated; make plainer or easier: to simplify a problem.ARE YOU A TRUE BLUE CHAMPION OF THESE "BLUE" SYNONYMS?We could talk until we're blue in the face about this quiz on words for the color "blue," but we think you should take the quiz and find out if you're a whiz at these colorful terms. Which of the following words describes "sky blue"?TAKE THE QUIZ TO FIND OUT Meet Grammar CoachImprove Your Writing Meet Grammar CoachImprove Your Writing 1645–55;

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