

## Comparing and contrasting synonyms

*Try to find words or expressions in the list that you were given which you can use expressions from below with, crossing the expressions off as you use them.*

- absolutely identical
- almost completely different
- almost exactly the same
- almost identical
- almost the same
- antonyms
- basically the same
- complete opposites
- completely different
- don't have much in common
- exact synonyms
- exactly the same
- have a lot in common
- have little in common
- have much in common
- have nothing in common
- have one similarity
- have quite a lot in common
- have some similarities
- have something in common
- have things in common
- have very little in common
- nearly the same
- only slightly different
- only very slightly different
- practically synonyms
- rather similar
- share one feature
- share some features
- totally different
- very different
- very nearly the same
- very similar
- virtually identical

*All of the expressions above actually have the same meanings as other ones on the list. Match them up. Some only match with one other, but the longest list has six expressions which mean the same thing.*

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*Hint: There are 11 categories, and the biggest one has 6 with the same meaning.*

### **Suggested answers**

- absolutely identical/ exactly the same/ exact synonyms
- very nearly the same/ only very slightly different/ almost exactly the same/ almost identical/ virtually identical/ practically synonyms
- basically the same/ almost the same/ nearly the same/ only slightly different
- very similar/ have much in common/ have a lot in common
- rather similar/ have quite a lot in common
- have things in common/ share some features/ have some similarities
- have something in common/ share one feature/ have one similarity
- very different/ have little in common/ don't have much in common
- almost completely different/ have very little in common
- completely different/ totally different/ have nothing in common
- complete opposites/ antonyms