

• **Antonyms 2** Level 1

**Directions:** Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters.

1. LIVE

- A. become
- B. exist
- C. die

2. ALIKE

- A. different
- B. same
- C. usual

3. PRETTY

- A. mean
- B. lovely
- C. ugly

4. NOTHING

- A. everything
- B. anybody
- C. something

5. OLD

- A. aged
- B. used
- C. young

6. HIGHER

- A. taller
- B. lower
- C. smaller

7. SICK

- A. healthy
- B. ill
- C. poor

8. WEIRD

- A. normal
- B. odd
- C. strange

9. GATHER

- A. combine
- B. separate
- C. group

10. HORRIBLE

- A. excellent
- B. terrible
- C. scary

## Answers and Explanations

1) **C**

The word *live* means to be alive or to continue to exist. Anyone who exists in reality and has not yet died lives. The opposite of live is to cease being alive. Because *die* means to stop living, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *become* means to begin to be. This is not the opposite of *live*, since becoming is not the same as stopping life.

**(B)** is incorrect because *exist* means to be alive. This is the same as *live*, not the opposite of it.

2) **A**

The word *alike* means similar to each other. Two Siberian huskies probably look alike, since they are of the same breed. The opposite of alike is dissimilar. Because *different* means not like each other, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *same* means identical. This is almost the same as *alike*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *usual* means typical or common. This is not the opposite of *alike*, since two things that are alike might not be unusual.

3) **C**

The word *pretty* means good-looking or attractive. Someone who is pleasant to look at is usually pretty. The opposite of pretty is unattractive or bad-looking. Because *ugly* means unpleasant in appearance, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *mean* means unkind. This is not the opposite of *pretty*, since pretty is not the same as nice or kind.

**(B)** is incorrect because *lovely* means very beautiful. This is almost the same as *pretty*, not the opposite of it.

4) **A**

The word *nothing* means no single thing. If someone says there is nothing wrong, then not anything is wrong. The opposite of nothing is all things. Because *everything* is all things, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *anybody* means any single person. This is not the opposite of *nothing*, since nothing is not the same as nobody.

**(C)** is incorrect because *something* is an unspecified object. This is not the opposite of *nothing*, because nothing is not the same as a specific object.

5) **C**

The word *old* means advanced in age or years. Your grandfather is likely old. The opposite of old is new or having lived for a short time. Because *young* means low in age or having lived for only a short time, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *aged* means having lived for a long time. This is the same as *old*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *used* means having already been used or not new. This is almost the same as *old*, not the opposite of it.

6) **B**

The word *higher* means farther above ground. For example, a skyscraper's roof is likely higher than the roof of your house. The opposite of higher is closer to the ground. Because *lower* means less high or closer to the ground, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *taller* means of a greater height. This is almost the same as *higher*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *smaller* means lesser in size. This is not the opposite of *higher*, because higher is not the same as larger. For example, a bird could fly higher in the air than a helicopter, even though the helicopter might be larger than the bird.

7) **A**

The word *sick* means affected by physical or mental illness. When you are sick, you do not feel well. The opposite of sick is in good health. Because *healthy* means well or in good health, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *ill* means in poor health. This is the same as *sick*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *poor* means lacking money or wealth. This is not the opposite of *sick*.

8) **A**

The word *weird* means strange or supernatural. For example, a ghost or vampire would be a weird thing to see. The opposite of weird is usual, common, or typical. Because *normal* means usual or typical, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *odd* means strange or unusual. This is almost the same as *weird*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *strange* means unusual or different. This is almost the same as *weird*, not the opposite of it.

9) **B**

The word *gather* means to come together or assemble. When a king gathers his army, he brings all of his troops together. The opposite of gather is to divide into parts. Because *separate* means to cause to be apart or divided, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *combine* means to unite or merge together to form one thing. This is almost the same as *gather*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *group* means to put together in a group or groups. This is almost the same as *gather*, not the opposite of it.

10) **A**

The word *horrible* means very unpleasant or likely to cause terror or horror. A horrible event is one that no one enjoys. The opposite of horrible is very pleasant or wonderful. Because *excellent* means extremely good or pleasant, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *terrible* means awful or extremely unpleasant. This is almost the same as *horrible*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *scary* means frightening. This is almost the same as *horrible*, not the opposite of it.