

• **Antonyms 1** Level 1

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

1. UP

- A. down
- B. above
- C. inside

2. GIVE

- A. share
- B. take
- C. release

3. LARGE

- A. huge
- B. big
- C. small

4. UNHAPPY

- A. glad
- B. sad
- C. calm

5. ANGER

- A. happiness
- B. rage
- C. stupidity

6. MIDNIGHT

- A. evening
- B. noon
- C. yesterday

7. FAT

- A. short
- B. thick
- C. skinny

8. BUY

- A. sell
- B. have
- C. hold

9. QUIT

- A. stop
- B. end
- C. start

10. TIGHT

- A. free
- B. loose
- C. firm

## Answers and Explanations

1) **A**

The word *up* means toward the sky. When you throw a ball up in the air, you toss it above you. The opposite of up is toward the ground. Because *down* means toward the ground, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *above* means at a higher level or layer. This is almost the same as *up*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *inside* means situated within or in the middle of something. This is not the opposite of *up*.

2) **B**

The word *give* means to freely hand over something to someone else. When your friend places a pencil in your hand, he or she is giving you a pencil. The opposite of giving is receiving something from someone else. Because *take* means to gain possession of something, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *share* means to give a portion of something to someone else. This is almost the same as *give*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *release* means to set free or let something go. This is not the opposite of *give*, since releasing and giving both involve losing possession of something.

3) **C**

The word *large* means of great size. For example, a mountain is a very large object. The opposite of large is of a lesser or littler size. Because *small* means little or of a size that is less than normal, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *huge* means very big. This is almost the same as *large*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *big* means of great size. This is the same as *large*, not the opposite of it.

4) **A**

The word *unhappy* means sad or not happy. When one hears bad news, he or she becomes unhappy. The opposite of unhappy is happy. Because *glad* means happy or pleased, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *sad* means unhappy. This is the same as *unhappy*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *calm* means relaxed or free from stress. This is not the opposite of *unhappy*, because being calm is not the same as being happy.

5) **A**

The word *anger* means a strong feeling of annoyance or displeasure. When someone is mad or really upset, he or she is feeling anger. The opposite of anger is a feeling of pleasure or contentment. Because *happiness* is the state of being happy or feeling pleasure, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *rage* is violent, uncontrollable anger. This is almost the same as *anger*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *stupidity* is the state of being unintelligent or dumb. This is not the opposite of *anger*.

6) **B**

The word *midnight* means twelve o'clock at night. Monday turns to Tuesday at midnight, since midnight is the end of one day and the beginning of another. The opposite of midnight is the mid-point of the day. Because *noon* is twelve o'clock in the day and the mid-point of the day, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *evening* is the part of the day that lasts from the end of the workday to the time at which people go to sleep. This is not the opposite of *midnight*, because both evening and midnight are during the night.

**(C)** is incorrect because *yesterday* is the day before today. This is not the opposite of *midnight*, because midnight is not the same as today.

7) **C**

The word *fat* means having a large amount of flesh or being large in size. For example, most pigs are fat. The opposite of fat is thin. Because *skinny* means very thin, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *short* means small in height. This is not the opposite of *fat*, because fat is not the same as tall.

**(B)** is incorrect because *thick* means wide in width or depth. This is not the opposite of *fat*, since someone who is fat is likely also thick.

8) **A**

The word *buy* means to acquire in exchange for money. Once you buy something, you own it. The opposite of buy is to give something away for money. Because *sell* means to give or hand over in exchange for money, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *have* means to possess or hold. This is not the opposite of *buy*, because having something is not the same as giving something away.

**(C)** is incorrect because *hold* means to keep in a specified position. This is not the opposite of *buy*, since one might keep something he or she has bought rather than exchange it again for money.

9) **C**

The word *quit* means to stop doing an activity. When you stop playing a game, you have quit it. The opposite of quit is to continue or begin an activity. Because *start* means to begin to do something, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *stop* means to cease doing something. This is the same as *quit*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *end* means to finish or bring to a final point. This is almost the same as *quit*, not the opposite of it.

10) **B**

The word *tight* means close-fitting. Pants that are tight are likely uncomfortable, as they do not have much extra space. The opposite of tight is roomy or not fitting tightly or closely. Because *loose* means not fitting tightly or closely, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *free* means not physically tied up or restrained. This is not the opposite of *tight*, because free is not the same as roomy.

**(C)** is incorrect because *firm* means solidly in place. This is not the opposite of *tight*, since something that is firm might also be tight.