

WHAT VIDEO GAMES CAN TEACH US / THE VIOLENT SIDE OF VIDEO
GAMES

COPY MASTER

Vocabulary Strategy**CHOOSE THE BEST SYNONYM**

Words that have the same or similar meaning are called **synonyms**. A word can have many synonyms, so a writer has to choose carefully. For example, the vocabulary word *captivating* describes a video game that holds or captures interest better than its synonym *interesting* would. In a thesaurus (a book or electronic tool for finding synonyms), the word *captivating* is also grouped with words such as *fascinating* and *spellbinding*.

Directions: For each sentence, underline the synonym in parentheses that best replaces the boldfaced word in the context provided. Consult a dictionary or thesaurus for help.

1. Kelly put the pie on the top shelf hoping her brothers wouldn't **find** it. (expose, notice)
2. Alex was running late and still had to **rush** home before the game. (hurry, accelerate)
3. José liked the diner because the **portions** were tasty and not too big. (servings, pieces)
4. The defendant **firmly** denied that she had committed the crime. (stiffly, strongly)
5. The camping trip was memorable for the beautiful views and **clean** air. (fresh, tidy)
6. All the food smelled so **delicious**, Dora couldn't make a decision. (tasteful, delectable)
7. Dan spent part of his Saturday helping the **old** man next door (elderly, decrepit)
8. Eva decided it was a fine day to take a **casual** stroll around town. (leisurely, slow)
9. Due to her **busy** schedule, Maddie decided to get up an hour earlier. (restless, hectic)
10. The cake was so delicious, Ed cut himself another **large** piece. (colossal, ample)
11. There was nothing Julian liked better than a **hot** summer day. (sultry, boiling)
12. Aaron woke up that morning to the **smell** of his mother's cookies. (odor, aroma)
13. Dana's team won the game after she **belted** a home run. (smashed, chopped)
14. It seemed as though Steve could **look** at his new bike for hours. (glance, stare)