

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Synonym Ambiguity Check Answer Key

1. Precise - Precise focuses on exact measurement, while cautious focuses on avoiding mistakes.
2. Loud - Loud refers to volume, while powerful describes the strength of the argument itself.
3. Strength - Strength refers to physical power, while endurance refers to sustained effort over time.
4. Solid - Solid refers to physical hardness, while strict refers to behavior or rules.
5. Hollow - Hollow refers to something empty inside but still present, while vacant describes being unoccupied.
6. Shallow - Shallow refers to lack of depth, not length, while short describes length.
7. Cruel - Cruel describes intent or behavior, not the intensity of damage.
8. Arrogant - Arrogant implies negative attitude, while assured reflects calm confidence.

### Teacher's Guide

- This worksheet teaches students that **synonyms are not always interchangeable**, even when meanings seem close.
- For differentiation:
  - Provide dictionary definitions for each word pair for students who need additional support.
  - Ask advanced students to identify whether the incorrect word creates a **logical**, **emotional**, or **contextual** error.
- For engagement:
  - Have students debate their answers in pairs before reviewing as a class.
  - Let students write one new sentence where the incorrect synonym would actually fit.
- For extension:
  - Ask students to find two near-synonyms from a thesaurus and design their own ambiguity question.
  - Have students revise a paragraph by replacing weak synonyms with more **precise** alternatives and justify each change.