

Fast Five

Think of a more interesting synonym for these adjectives:

- 1) Happy
- 2) Sad
- 3) Tired
- 4) Scared
- 5) Horrible

Fast Five

Possible answers

- 1) Happy - **content, joyful, cheerful**
- 2) Sad - **unhappy, upset, sorrowful**
- 3) Tired - **exhausted, worn-out, fatigued**
- 4) Scared - **terrified, petrified, frightened**
- 5) Horrible - **dreadful, terrible, awful**

Can I understand the vocabulary in
Jabberwocky and create nonsensical
words?

Nonsensical words

Jabberwocky is full of nonsensical words. This means words that have been made up by the author and are unfamiliar to the reader.

These nonsensical words do have meaning though, and they are important to understanding the poem.

Sometimes the nonsensical words are a mixture of two normal words together; other times they are just complete nonsense!

You are going to have a look at some of the nonsensical words in the poem and reveal what they actually mean.

'Twas **brillig**, and the **slithy** toves

Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:

All **mimsy** were the borogroves;

And the mome raths **outgrabe**.

“Beware the **Jabberwock**, my son!

The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!

Beware the **Jubjub bird**, and shun

The **frumious Bandersnatch**!

brillig - 'broiling time', dinner or evening.

slithy - mix of slimy and lithe: smooth and active.

mimsy - miserable and unhappy.

outgrabe - squeaked.

Jabberwock - a dangerous animal threatening the forest

Jubjub bird - a dangerous animal

frumious - mix of fuming and furious: violently angry.

Bandersnatch - another dangerous animal.

He took his vorpal sword in hand;

Long time the **manxome** foe he sought -

So rested he by the **Tumtum** tree

And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in **uffish** thought he stood,

The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,

Came **whiffling** through the tulgey
Wood,

And **burbled** as it came!

manxome - something from the Isle of Man.

Tumtum - the sound that a stringed instrument makes.

uffish - gruff and rough.

whiffling - evasive, variable.

burbled - bubbled; also to perplex, confuse or muddle.

One, two! One, two! And through and through

The vorpal blade went **snicker-snack**!

He left it dead, and with its head

He went **galumphing** back.

“And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?

Come to my arms, my **beamish** boy!

O **frabjous** day! Callooh! Callay!

He chortled with joy.

snicker-snack - to fight with a knife.

galumphing - mix of gallop and triumphant: marching proudly with irregular bouncing movements.

beamish - bright.

frabjous - mix of fabulous and joyous: wonderful.

Making your own nonsense words

Now it's your turn to create some of your own nonsensical words!

Remember:

- Your words should relate to the actual thing in some sense (whether that is according to the sound, smell or taste of your thing or how it looks, or if it is a combination of two things together).
- Your words can be a combination of two normal words together (called portmanteau words)

You can listen to Michael Rosen make up some of his own nonsense words here (only watch first 45 seconds):

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/BugL>

Portmanteau Word Examples

A portmanteau or portmanteau word is a linguistic blend of words, in which parts of multiple words or their phonemes are combined into a new word, as in smog, created by blending smoke and fog, or motel, from motor and hotel.

The **catster** was **angriious**

catster - mix of cat and hamster: small fluffy creature.

angriious - mix of angry and furious: really angry.

The **joyppy** horse came **tronning** by

joyppy - mix of joyful and happy: very happy.

tronning - mix of trotting and running: a slow but quick paced movement by a horse.

Red

Create at least 5 of your own nonsensical/portmanteau words. Provide a short definition for each word.

Example:

angrious = mix of angry and furious: really angry.

Yellow

Create at least 5 of your own nonsensical/portmanteau words and write them in a sentence. Provide a short definition for each word.

The cat was **angriious** = mix of angry and furious: really angry.

Green

Write at least 5 sentences that contain 2 or more nonsensical/portmanteau words. Translate your sentence.

Example:

The catster was angrious = The small fluffy creature was really angry.