

USING A THESAURUS

- Use a thesaurus to help you write better.

A. Use the following thesaurus entry to answer each question below.

Talk (v) – to use words to speak; to utter.

My older brother talks almost all the time.

Converse – to speak to someone else in a casual way. During the long bus ride, we conversed about many topics.

Discuss – to talk about something of concern. I will discuss the problem with my friend.

Mention – to refer to; to speak of. Please mention my name when you see him tomorrow.

Speak – to say words. Speak when you are spoken to.

Rap [slang] – to converse in an informal way. We rapped all morning.

Shoot the breeze [idiom] – to converse idly. After school I often shoot the breeze with my friends.

1. What part of speech is the entry word? _____
2. How many synonyms are listed for the entry word? _____
3. Which synonym is defined as “to talk about something of concern?”

4. Which synonym is a slang word? _____
5. Give the definition of the slang word. _____
6. Write the idiom that is given. _____

B. Complete each sentence with a synonym for talk. Use the thesaurus entry above.

7. You should _____ problems with someone you trust.
8. I heard someone at the party _____ the company I work for.
9. Please do not _____ during the performance.
10. My teachers often _____ with their students after class.
11. I usually _____ with my friends in the schoolyard after lunch.

USING A THESAURUS

- Use a thesaurus to help you write better.

A. Use the following thesaurus entry to answer each question below.

Furor (n) – a general outburst of enthusiasm, excitement, or controversy.

The Governor's announcement caused a tremendous furor.

Brouhaha – excited public interest. The shouting added to the brouhaha.

Commotion – agitation; noisy disturbance; political or social disturbance or upheaval. The arrival of the fierce storm caused a commotion.

Craze – a widespread fad. What is the latest dance craze?

Enthusiasm – lively, absorbing interest; excited involvement. The team played with enthusiasm.

Excitement – a state of being stirred up or agitated. The fans cheered with excitement.

Flap [slang] – a state of nervous excitement. Her resignation created quite a flap.

1. What part of speech is the entry word? _____
2. What are the synonyms for the entry word? _____

3. Which synonym means "a widespread fad?" _____
4. Which synonym is a slang term? _____
5. What is the example sentence for the entry word? _____

B. Complete each sentence with an appropriate synonym for furor.

6. The reporters at the press conference were part of the _____.
7. The TV reporters delivered their stories with tremendous _____.
8. All the activity in the room added to the _____.
9. One thing is for certain, the Governor's new policy will cause a lot of _____.
10. In a few weeks, though, everyone will be wondering what all the _____ was about.