

Finding patterns in verb patterns

There are few rules in verb patterns, but there are patterns which can make them easier to remember, such as verbs which:

- have the same meaning and the same verb pattern(s) (e.g. both verb + someone + verb)
- have opposite meanings and the same verb pattern(s)

Perhaps after brainstorming examples, try to put the verbs on the following page together in these categories. The verbs can all match at least one other verb, and some match more than one.

Verbs with the same meaning and the same verb pattern

Verbs with the same meaning and the same two verb patterns

Verbs with opposite meanings and the same verb pattern

Verbs with opposite meanings and the same two verb patterns (with the same changes in meaning between them)

Mixed verbs with related meanings and the same verb patterns

Note that the verbs are just A to Z, so the columns have no special meaning.

abhor	admit
agree	allow
appear	appreciate
begin	can't stand
carry on	celebrate
consider	delay
deny	detest
discuss	don't mind
dread	fail
fancy	feel like
forget	give up
intend	keep (on)
loathe	long
look forward to	manage
mourn	offer
oppose	order
permit	plan
postpone	put off
quit	recall
recollect	recommend
refuse	remember
resent	restart
resume	seem
start	suggest
support	talk about
teach	tell
think about	train
volunteer	want
would like	yearn

Check with the suggested answers.

Suggested answers

Verbs with the same meaning and the same verb pattern

abhor/ can't stand/ detest/ loathe
allow/ permit
appear/ seem
carry on/ keep (on)
consider/ think about
delay/ postpone/ put off
discuss/ talk about
fancy/ feel like
give up/ quit
intend/ plan
long/ yearn
offer/ volunteer
order/ tell
recall/ recollect
recommend/ suggest
restart/ resume
teach/ train
want/ would like

Verbs with the same meaning and the same two verb patterns

begin/ start

Verbs with opposite meanings and the same verb pattern

admit/ deny
agree/ refuse
appreciate/ resent
can't stand/ don't mind
celebrate/ mourn
dread/ look forward to
fail/ manage
give up/ keep (on)
oppose/ support

Verbs with opposite meanings and the same two verb patterns (with the same changes in meaning between them)

forget/ remember

Brainstorming stage

Without looking above for now, write words which match each section next to each word below. Some have more than one answer. Answers not above may also be possible.

Verbs with the same meaning and the same verb pattern

abhor
allow
appear
carry on
think about
put off
talk about
feel like
give up
intend
long
offer
order
recall
recommend
restart
teach
want

Verbs with the same meaning and the same two verb patterns

begin

Verbs with opposite meanings and the same verb pattern

admit
agree
appreciate
can't stand
celebrate
look forward to
fail
give up
oppose

Verbs with opposite meanings and the same two verb patterns (with the same changes in meaning between them)

forget

Use the list of mixed verbs to help, then check with the suggested answers. Other answers may be possible, so please check if you wrote something different.