

Analogy

16 kinds of relationships that analogies may express:

1. Antonyms – up : down
2. Synonyms – great : wonderful
3. Part : whole – trunk : tree
4. whole : part – school : classroom
5. tool : its action – crayon : draw
6. tool user : tool – carpenter : hammer
7. tool: object it's used with – hammer : nails
8. category : example – dog : Golden Retriever
9. effect : cause – flood : rain
10. cause: effect – practice : improve
11. increasing intensity – unhappiness ; misery
12. decreasing intensity – hot : warm
13. action : thing acted upon – read : book
14. action: subject performing action – teach : teacher
15. object or place : its user – chalk : teacher
16. noun: closely related adjective – elephant : enormous

Here are some important things to remember when you think about analogies:

Parts of Speech

If the words in the first pair express a “noun : adjective,” or “verb : noun,” or “adjective : adjective” relationship (for instance), the second pair should show the same relationship between parts of speech.

Word Order

If the first pair expresses a “tool user : tool” relationship (for instance), the second pair must express the same relationship in the **same** order.

Exactness

Sometimes two or more of the given choices would make fairly good sense in the blank. When this happens, you should choose the word or pair of words, which most exactly suits the relationship you are expressing.