

Other Ways to Say It: Common Adjectives #2

When you use strong adjectives, your writing becomes more descriptive and impactful. Strong adjectives are specific and vivid, and they can evoke emotion from your reader. Look at the bolded adjective in this example.

❌ Nadya peered through the door at the **clean** kitchen.

The adjective leaves the reader to interpret what the scene actually looks like. To create a more expressive, specific sentence for your reader, consider replacing the adjective with something else. Look at these alternatives.

- ✓ Nadya peered through the door at the **tidy** kitchen.
- ✓ Nadya peered through the door at the **spotless** kitchen.
- ✓ Nadya peered through the door at the **immaculate** kitchen.
- ✓ Nadya peered through the door at the **sterile** kitchen.

These adjectives better describe the kitchen and help readers picture the scene more vividly.



Directions: Look at the adjectives below. Then, write down at least five more descriptive ways to say them. Use reference materials, such as a dictionary or a thesaurus, to help you.

*Be sure to keep this worksheet to add more words as you encounter them in your reading and everyday life! You can refer to these lists the next time you are writing. **Sample answers**

happy	sad	boring	exciting
thrilled	gloomy	dull	thrilling
pleased	sorrowful	uneventful	exhilarating
elated	blue	uninteresting	sensational
ecstatic	depressed	repetitive	breathtaking
over the moon	joyless	tiring	inspiring
content	melancholy	tedious	astonishing
jubilant	down in the dumps	ho-hum	mind-blowing