

Big Words

An oxymoron is a figure in speech in which two apparently contradictory words appear next to or near each other, for example, “alone together” is an oxymoron. A person cannot be “alone” and “together” with someone else at the same time, and yet the phrase “alone together” has a particular meaning that we understand.

Match each oxymoron on the right to the literal description of its meaning on the left.

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| _____ 1. Someone who is physically grown but acts like a baby. | A Jumbo Shrimp |
| _____ 2. Missing someone who is not there. | B Walking dead |
| _____ 3. A silence so noticeable you can almost “hear” it. | C deafening silence |
| _____ 4. Shrimp that are very big. | D noticeable absence |
| _____ 5. The one you like the least, but don’t exactly hate. | E alone in a crowd |
| _____ 6. Feeling lonely even though you are with others. | F least favorite |
| _____ 7. Someone that is extremely exhausted. | G big baby |

8. Now invent an oxymoron of your own! Think of some quality and its opposite. Write your oxymoron on the lines below and explain its meaning in a few words.

