

Write Your Own Riddle: Getting Started

1. Choose an answer.

Remember to choose a concrete, general answer.

2. Brainstorm about your answer.

Write down everything that comes to mind about the answer that you've chosen. Try to fill the entire space below with words and phrases that you associate with the answer to your riddle.

3. Use a thesaurus.

Choose three important words from your brainstorming list above, and look them up in a thesaurus. Look for surprising and new synonyms. Note promising words and phrases that you find below.

Original Word	Synonyms

Look up the answer to your riddle as well, and note promising words that you've found that you haven't already included in your brainstorming list.

Original Word	Synonyms

4. **Think like the object.**

Try describing the world from your answer's point of view. What do you see? what do you hear? What do you smell and feel? What do you do? What do you like?

5. **Use figurative language.**

Try filling out some of the following figures of speech for your answer.

<i>Metaphor:</i> A figure of speech stating two things are similar. Example: "I am a passport to adventure." (Answer: A book)

<i>Simile:</i> A comparison using 'like' or 'as.' Example: "I reflect like a mirror." (Answer: water)

<i>Onomatopoeia:</i> Words whose sound suggests its meaning. Example: "We buzz, buzz, buzz." (Answer: bees)