

Need another word that means the same as “contradictory”? Find 14 synonyms and 30 related words for “contradictory” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Contradictory” are: conflicting, self-contradictory, confounding, opposed, in opposition, opposite, antithetical, contrary, contrasting, opposing, clashing, divergent, discrepant, different

Contradictory as an Adjective

Definitions of "Contradictory" as an adjective

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “contradictory” as an adjective can have the following definitions:

- *Unable for both to exist or be true at the same time.*
- *In disagreement.*
- *Of words or propositions so related that both cannot be true and both cannot be false.*
- *In disagreement- John Morley.*
- *Unable to be both true at the same time.*
- *Mutually opposed or inconsistent.*
- *(of two propositions) so related that one and only one must be true.*
- *That confounds or contradicts or confuses.*
- *Containing elements which are inconsistent.*



Synonyms of "Contradictory" as an adjective (14 Words)

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| antithetical | Directly opposed or contrasted; mutually incompatible. <i>Practices entirely antithetical to her professed beliefs.</i> |
| clashing | (of colours) appearing discordant or ugly when placed close to each other. <i>Clashing colors.</i> |
| conflicting | In disagreement. <i>There are conflicting accounts of what occurred.</i> |
| confounding | That confounds or contradicts or confuses. |
| <u>contrary</u> | (of two propositions) so related that one or neither but not both must be true. <i>Hot and cold are contrary terms.</i> |
| contrasting | Differing strikingly. <i>Contrasting colours.</i> |
| different | Unlike in nature or quality or form or degree. <i>That s another or different issue altogether.</i> |
| discrepant | Not in agreement. <i>Widely discrepant statements.</i> |
| divergent | (of a series) increasing indefinitely as more of its terms are added. <i>Divergent interpretations.</i> |
| in opposition | Directed or bound inward. |
| opposed | Anxious to prevent or put an end to; disagreeing with. <i>The agency is being asked to do two diametrically opposed things.</i> |
| opposing | In conflict or competition with someone or something. <i>On the opposing page there were two addresses.</i> |
| opposite | Of angles between opposite sides of the intersection of two lines. <i>Opposite leaves.</i> |
| self-contradictory | In disagreement- John Morley. |



Usage Examples of "Contradictory" as an adjective

- *'perfect' and 'imperfect' are contradictory terms.*
- *Politically he exhibited contradictory behaviour.*
- *The two studies came to contradictory conclusions.*
- *Contradictory attributes of unjust justice and loving vindictiveness.*



Associations of "Contradictory" (30 Words)

- ambivalence** The state of having mixed feelings or contradictory ideas about something or someone.
*Government **ambivalence** towards the arts.*
- anachronism** Something located at a time when it could not have existed or occurred.
*It is **anachronism** to suppose that the official morality of the age was mere window dressing.*
- antagonistic** Characterized by antagonism or antipathy.
*Slaves **antagonistic** to their masters.*

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| antinomy | A contradiction between two beliefs or conclusions that are in themselves reasonable; a paradox. <i>There are not many short novels capable of accommodating bewildering antinomies.</i> |
| <u>antithesis</u> | (in Hegelian philosophy) the negation of the thesis as the second stage in the process of dialectical reasoning. <i>Figures of speech such as antithesis.</i> |
| conflicting | On bad terms. <i>There are conflicting accounts of what occurred.</i> |
| <u>contradiction</u> | A combination of statements, ideas, or features which are opposed to one another. <i>He spoke as if he thought his claims were immune to contradiction.</i> |
| <u>contrary</u> | A contrary proposition. <i>She is sulky and contrary where her work is concerned.</i> |
| cynicism | A school of ancient Greek philosophers, the Cynics. <i>Cynicism about the future.</i> |
| <u>discordant</u> | Lacking in harmony. <i>The operative principle of democracy is a balance of discordant qualities.</i> |
| discrepant | Characterized by an illogical or surprising lack of compatibility or similarity. <i>The reasons for these discrepant results are unclear.</i> |
| disjunction | State of being disconnected. <i>There is a disjunction between the skills taught in education and those demanded in the labour market.</i> |
| dissonant | Characterized by musical dissonance; harmonically unresolved. <i>Jackson employs both harmonious and dissonant colour choices.</i> |
| <u>incompatible</u> | Not easy to combine harmoniously. <i>Incompatible personalities.</i> |
| <u>incongruous</u> | Lacking in harmony or compatibility or appropriateness. <i>A plan incongruous with reason.</i> |
| <u>inconsistency</u> | An inconsistent aspect or element. <i>The inconsistency between his expressed attitudes and his actual behaviour.</i> |
| inconsistent | Not capable of being made consistent or harmonious. <i>The quality of the material was often inconsistent.</i> |
| inharmonious | Lacking in harmony of parts. <i>An inharmonious negative state of mind.</i> |

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| inhospitable | Unfavorable to life or growth. <i>The barren inhospitable desert.</i> |
| <u>ironic</u> | Humorously sarcastic or mocking. <i>It was ironical that the well planned scheme failed so completely.</i> |
| <u>irony</u> | A state of affairs or an event that seems deliberately contrary to what one expects and is often wryly amusing as a result. <i>Don t go overboard with the gratitude he rejoined with heavy irony.</i> |
| opposing | Facing; opposite. <i>On the opposing page there were two addresses.</i> |
| <u>oxymoron</u> | Conjoining contradictory terms (as in `deafening silence. |
| <u>paradox</u> | A seemingly absurd or contradictory statement or proposition which when investigated may prove to be well founded or true. <i>Cathedrals face the paradox of having enormous wealth in treasures but huge annual expenses.</i> |
| <u>paradoxical</u> | Seemingly contradictory but nonetheless possibly true. <i>By glorifying the acts of violence they achieve the paradoxical effect of making them trivial.</i> |
| sarcasm | Witty language used to convey insults or scorn. <i>He used sarcasm to upset his opponent.</i> |
| <u>satire</u> | A genre of literature characterized by the use of satire. <i>The crude satire seems to be directed at the fashionable protest singers of the time.</i> |
| tautology | A statement that is true by necessity or by virtue of its logical form. <i>The statement he is brave or he is not brave is a tautology.</i> |
| <u>unfriendly</u> | Not disposed to friendship or friendliness. <i>User unfriendly.</i> |
| unsuited | Not right or appropriate. <i>He was totally unsuited for the job.</i> |

