



analogous

Definition

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Entri

analogous adjective

anal·o·gous ə-ˈna-lə-gəs[Synonyms of *analogous*](#)

: similar or comparable to something else either in general or in some specific detail

Timbre in music is *analogous* to color in painting.

— Aaron Copland

An airplane's joystick is somewhat *analogous* to the reins on a horse.

: similar in a way that invites comparison : showing an [analogy](#) or a likeness that permits one to draw an analogy

a town council and a government body that serves an *analogous* function

analogously adverb

analogousness noun

Synonyms

[akin](#)[cognate](#)[connate](#)[corresponding](#)[like](#)[alike](#)[comparable](#)[correspondent](#)[ditto](#)[matching](#)

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such

suchlike

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Choose the Right Synonym for *analogous*

SIMILAR, **ANALOGOUS**, **PARALLEL** mean closely resembling each other.

SIMILAR implies the possibility of being mistaken for each other.

| all the houses in the development are *similar*

ANALOGOUS applies to things belonging in essentially different categories but nevertheless having many similarities.

| *analogous* political systems

PARALLEL suggests a marked likeness in the development of two things.

| the *parallel* careers of two movie stars

• Examples of *analogous* in a Sentence

... gluons, force particles *analogous* to the photons of electromagnetism.

— Andrew Watson, *Science*, 22 Jan. 1999

... great stretches of algae, *analogous* to terrestrial woodlands, in which kelp fills the role of trees.

— William K. Stevens, *New York Times*, 5 Jan. 1999

... not by means superior to, though *analogous* with, human reason ...

— Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*, 1859

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In these systems, circuit components called neurons—*analogous* to neurons in the human brain—are fed data and cooperate to solve a problem, such as recognizing faces.

— *IEEE Spectrum*, 12 Apr. 2024

Though the situations are not exactly *analogous*, the inability to talk to more than one guild at a time may have been a factor in prolonging the strikes last year.

— Gene Maddaus, *Variety*, 29 Mar. 2024

Learning from Analogies Companies building AI capabilities can also learn from how firms in *analogous* situations operate.

— Stephen Wunker, *Forbes*, 22 Feb. 2024

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These examples are programmatically compiled from various online sources to illustrate current usage of the word 'analogous.' Any opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#) about these examples.

Word History

Etymology

Latin *analogus* "proportionate" (Medieval Latin, "conforming to analogy") + **-OUS**; *analogus* borrowed from Greek *análogos* "proportionate, conformable," parasynthetic derivative from *aná lógon* "proportionately," from *aná* "up, throughout" + *lógon*, accusative of *lógos* "word, speech, relation, correspondence, proportion" — more at [ANA-](#), [LEGEND](#)

First Known Use

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SMA Solar Technology America, LLC, Ex. 1024

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Time Traveler

The first known use of *analogous* was in 1646

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[analogon](#)

analogous

[analogous pole](#)

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anal·o·gous ə-ˈnal-ə-gəs

1 : showing analogy : **SIMILAR**
| the two stories are *analogous*

2 : related by analogy

• **analogously** **adverb**

• **analogousness** **noun**

Medical Definition

analogous adjective

anal·o·gous ə-ˈnal-ə-gəs

: having similar function but a different structure and origin

| *analogous* organs

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Nglish: [Translation of *analogous* for Spanish Speakers](#)

Britannica English: [Translation of *analogous* for Arabic Speakers](#)

Last Updated: 26 Apr 2024 - Updated example sentences



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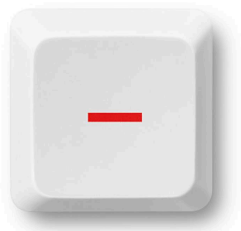
Can you solve 4 words at once?

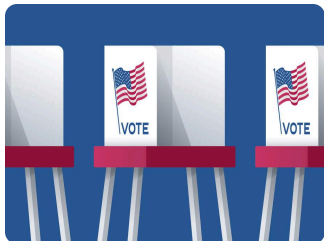
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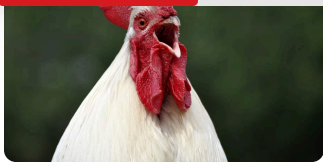


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from the National Spelling Bee

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