

Positive words that start with Y

62 words with meanings and examples. Updated 10 October 2026. Free to print and share in a classroom.

Adjectives

Yare adj.

Ready, agile, and quick to respond.

The yare crew adjusted the sails before the gust arrived.

Yauld adj.

Vigorous, strong, healthy, and ready for action.

The yauld shepherd crossed the steep hills each morning.

Yea-saying adj.

Affirmative, life-embracing, and confidently positive in attitude.

Her yea-saying outlook welcomed change without ignoring its risks.

Year-round adj.

Available, active, or continuing throughout the whole year.

The new shelter provides year-round support for families.

Yearned-for adj.

Deeply desired and awaited with sincere longing.

The ceasefire brought a yearned-for quiet to the village.

Yeoman adj.

Providing loyal, valuable, and hardworking service.

The volunteers did yeoman work clearing the storm debris.

Yeomanly adj.

Marked by loyal, diligent, and useful service.

The small team did yeomanly work preparing the shelter.

Yern adj.

Eager, brisk, active, and quick to respond.

The yern apprentice volunteered for every difficult repair.

Yesable adj.

Reasonable and appealing enough to invite agreement.

They reshaped the proposal into a fair, yesable compromise.

Yielding adj.

Flexible and willing to accommodate others.

A yielding approach helped both neighbors find a fair boundary.

Yogic adj.

Related to yoga or its practices of movement, breathing, and attention.

The retreat included yogic breathing before each lesson.

Young adj.

At an early stage of life, growth, or development.

The young trees need support through their first winter.

Young-at-heart adj.

Keeping a lively, curious, and playful outlook at any age.

Her young-at-heart grandfather still learns a new dance each year.

Young-hearted adj.

Keeping the curiosity, energy, and openness of youth.

Our young-hearted neighbor still joins every community treasure hunt.

Young-looking adj.

Having a fresh appearance associated with youth.

Her young-looking face retained its familiar warmth and animation.

Youthful adj.

Having the energy, freshness, or qualities associated with youth.

Her youthful curiosity kept the whole group asking better questions.

Youthly adj.

Showing the vitality, freshness, and openness of youth.

The actor brought a youthly eagerness to the comic role.

Youthsome adj.

Vigorous, fresh, and full of youthful spirit.

Her youthsome curiosity enlivened the quiet research group.

Youthy adj.

Youthful in habits, dress, energy, or outlook.

Her youthy jacket brought bright color to the reunion.

Yummo adj.

Tasty, delicious, or delightfully appealing in Australian slang.

The grilled peaches were smoky, sweet, and completely yummo.

Yummy adj.

Especially pleasant and enjoyable to taste.

The roasted peaches were simple and yummy.

Yumptious adj.

Delicious, tempting, and especially pleasing to the taste.

The bakery served yumptious berry tarts warm from the oven.

Nouns**Yarn** n.

An entertaining story, especially one told with lively detail.

Grandpa told a warm yarn about his first day at sea.

Yass n.

An emphatic expression of delight, approval, or encouragement.

A yass greeted the final flourish of her solo.

Yay n.

A cheerful expression of approval, triumph, or delight.

A yay followed the announcement of free library cards.

Yearning n.

A deep and sincere desire for something meaningful.

Her yearning to learn led her back to evening classes.

Yeeshaw n.

An exuberant shout of delight, excitement, or triumph.

A yeeshaw rang out when the rider finished cleanly.

Yen n.

A strong desire to do or experience something.

He developed a yen for travel after studying world history.

Yes n.

An affirmative answer or expression of agreement.

A clear yes gave the project permission to begin.

Yesteryear n.

A past time remembered with affection or interest.

The exhibit revived the handmade toys of yesteryear.

Yippee n.

An exuberant expression of joy, delight, or triumph.

One yippee escaped before the children opened their presents.

Ylang-ylang n.

A tropical flower valued for its rich, sweet fragrance.

A few ylang-ylang blossoms scented the evening garden.

Yock n.

A hearty laugh or a joke that prompts one.

His impression earned a warm yock from the cast.

Yodeling n.

Singing that rapidly alternates between a natural and a high voice.

Cheerful yodeling echoed across the festival grounds.

Yoga n.

A practice using movement, breathing, and attention to support well-being.

Morning yoga helped her begin the day with calm focus.

Yogi n.

A person who practices yoga with sustained commitment.

The experienced yogi guided the class through a gentle sequence.

Yogin n.

A person devoted to sustained yoga practice.

The yogin began each dawn with breathing and meditation.

Yogini n.

A woman committed to the practice or mastery of yoga.

The yogini guided beginners through a calm breathing sequence.

Yokefellow n.

A close companion who shares work, purpose, or responsibility.
She found a loyal yokefellow in her workshop partner.

Yokemate n.

A trusted companion sharing work or purpose.
Each climber checked that their yokemate had enough water.

Yokozuna n.

A sumo wrestler who has earned the sport's highest rank.
The new yokozuna accepted the title with quiet humility.

Young blood n.

Younger members whose fresh energy and ideas renew a group.
The committee welcomed young blood before planning its next decade.

Young gun n.

A talented, ambitious newcomer likely to succeed.
The young gun earned respect with thoughtful questions and steady work.

Youth n.

The early period of life associated with growth and possibility.
The program gives local youth a place to build practical skills.

Youthfulness n.

The quality of having youthful energy, freshness, or spirit.
Her youthfulness showed in her delight at every discovery.

Yugen n.

A deep awareness of mysterious beauty that words cannot fully express.
The moonlit garden gave the quiet scene a sense of yugen.

Yule n.

The festive Christmas or midwinter celebration.
Neighbors gathered for Yule with lanterns, music, and shared bread.

Yuletide n.

The festive season surrounding Christmas and midwinter.
Yuletide filled the square with choirs and glowing windows.

Yum-yum n.

An expression of pleasurable satisfaction with delicious food.
A delighted yum-yum followed the first spoonful of pudding.

Yumminess n.

The quality of tasting or smelling especially pleasing.
Roasted garlic added warmth and yumminess to the soup.

Verbs**Yearn** v.

To feel a strong and sincere desire for something valued.
Many young readers yearn to see their own lives represented in books.

Yield v.

To produce a useful result, harvest, or return.

The careful interviews yielded several practical improvements.

Yodel v.

To sing by rapidly changing between a natural and a high voice.

The folk singer began to yodel, and the audience joined in.

Youthen v.

To make or become more youthful in character.

Daily walks seemed to youthen his outlook and energy.

Adverbs**Yarely** adv.

Readily, skillfully, and with lively speed.

The deckhands worked yarely as the wind strengthened.

Yea adv.

In the affirmative or in support of a proposal.

All twelve members voted yea on the playground repair.

Yeah adv.

An informal affirmative answer expressing agreement or approval.

Her quick yeah confirmed support for the neighborhood plan.

Yearningly adv.

With deep, earnest longing for something sincerely valued.

She looked yearningly toward the music school across town.

Yep adv.

An informal yes expressing agreement or confirmation.

His cheerful yep settled the picnic plan for Saturday.

Youthfully adv.

With the energy, freshness, or openness associated with youth.

He approached the unfamiliar game youthfully and without self-consciousness.

Yummily adv.

In a way that tastes or smells especially pleasing.

The cinnamon rolls smelled yummily warm from the oven.

Yup adv.

An informal yes expressing ready agreement or confirmation.

A smiling yup confirmed the bakery could donate bread.