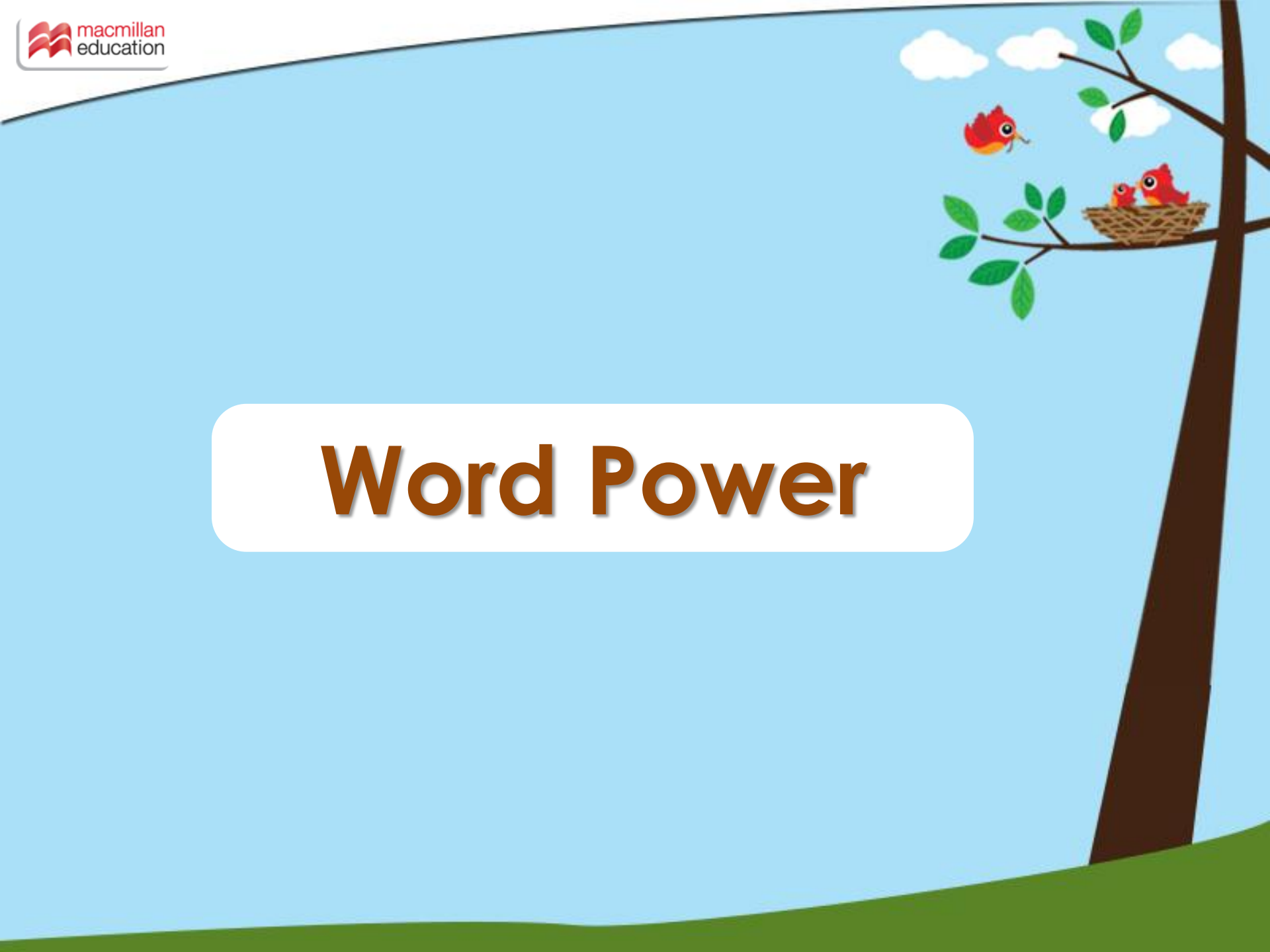

Word Power

Synonyms and Antonyms

A synonym is a word or phrase that means exactly the same as another word or phrase in the same language.

Example:
generous : kind

An antonym is a word opposite in meaning to the other.

Example:
generous : greedy



Synonyms and Antonyms

Some examples:

- competence : efficiency
- repentant : penitent
- commendation : appreciation

- legible : illegible
- harmful : beneficial
- cold : hot



Your Turn to Try

Find the antonyms of the following words and use them in sentences of our own:

1. praise
2. conclusion
3. excellent
4. cheerful
5. mercy



Idioms

Idioms are expressions which are commonly used in everyday conversation. The meaning of an idiom is different from the meanings of its individual words.



Some examples:

- take to one's heels
  As soon as she saw the principal, she took to her heels.
  (She ran away as soon as she saw the principal)
- let the cat out of the bag
  Nitika promised to not let the cat out of the bag.
  (Nitika promised to not reveal the secret)

Your Turn to Try

Use the following idioms in sentences of your own:

1. on cloud nine-
2. laugh up your sleeve-
3. take the bull by the horns-
4. to keep one on their toes-
5. weather the storm-



Proverbs

A **proverb** is a short saying that expresses a general truth or wisdom.
Proverbs are generally passed on from one generation to another and have become a part of everyday conversation.



Some examples:

- Make hay while the sun shines
  (Make good use of an opportunity while it lasts)
- Don't judge a book by its cover
  (One must not judge something or someone by the outward appearance alone)
- A little knowledge is a dangerous thing
  (One can become falsely overconfident about his expertise/opinion in a certain subject if he possesses only a small amount of knowledge of it)

Your Turn to Try

Find the meaning of each of the proverbs given below and think of situations where they may be used:

1. The proof of the pudding is in the eating
2. All that glitters is not gold
3. Birds of a feather flock together
4. Half is better than none
5. Truth is stranger than fiction



Analogy

Analogy is the comparison between different things which are related in some way. This kind of comparison is done to show in what way the two things are related.



Some examples:

- tree : leaf flower : petal
  A leaf is a part of a tree. Similarly, a petal is a part of a flower.
- generous : greedy cold : hot
  Generous is the antonym of greedy. Similarly, cold is the antonym of hot.
- brush : paint pen : write
  We use brushes to paint. Similarly, we use pens to write.

Your Turn to Try

Write appropriate analogies for the following:

1. needle : stitch
2. water : drink
3. lion : den
4. rose : red
5. carpenter : wood

