

Name \_\_\_\_\_

English words have many connotations and shades of meaning. Read the list of synonyms below. Do the words mean exactly the same thing? Use a dictionary to look up each word, and then explain the difference between them.

old    ancient    antiquated    obsolete    extinct    past    prehistoric    venerable

## **ANSWERS**

Connotations of each word are as follows:

old: of great or advanced age

ancient: old enough to belong to another time

antiquated: old-fashioned or outdated

obsolete: no longer in use

extinct: no longer in existence

past: what has happened before

prehistoric: before recorded human history

venerable: given a lot of respect due to age