

Synonym (SYN)

The CASTEMO data model recommends a **strong understanding of synonymy**. For two [lexemes](#) to be related with the Synonym Relation, they need to have the **same Superclass** (if there are more superclasses, they need to share all of them). Also, if they are related to a meaning bank, **the meaning ID in the relevant meaning bank needs to be the same**.

This strong understanding allows to consider synonymy as **transitive**: if A is synonym of B and B is synonym of C, then A is synonym of C. (In semantic network terms, this would be described as *triadic closure*.)

The Synonym Relation is also used for **cross-language equivalence**, e.g. C dog (English) - SYN
- C Hund (German).

The Synonym relation helps to **extend database queries** and also include the Synonyms of Concepts and Actions queried. Through Concepts used in Classification, synonymy can also help build **sets of entities for analysis** (e.g. including all Living Beings classified either as "dog (English)" or as "hound (English)" or as "Hund (German)").

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