

Homographs

prune	desert	grouse	bass	sewer
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A **HOMOGRAPH** IS A WORD THAT IS SPELLED THE SAME AS ANOTHER WORD BUT HAS A DIFFERENT MEANING AND SOMETIMES A DIFFERENT PRONUNCIATION.

A **prune** is a dried plum.
When you **prune** something, you trim it.
If you **desert** someone, you leave that person.
A **desert** is a region with little rainfall.
A **grouse** is a kind of bird.
A **bass** is a kind of fish.
The low singing voice of a man is a **bass**.
Someone who sews is a **sewer**. / A **sewer** is a pipe for carrying away waste.



If you **grouse**,
you complain.

A. Read each sentence. Then circle the correct word.

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|--|-------------|-------------|
| 1. This lake has a lot of bass . | a. bas | b. bās |
| 2. This cactus grows in the desert . | a. de' zert | b. di 'zert |
| 3. A sewer made this dress. | a. sō' er | b. soo' er |
| 4. We hoped the guide wouldn't desert us. | a. dez' ert | b. di 'zurt |
| 5. The sewer in our town runs beneath the ground. | a. sō' er | b. soo' er |
| 6. The bass singer in the chorus was good. | a. bas | b. bās |

B. Write a vocabulary word for each underlined word or words.

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|--|-------|
| 1. The gardener will <u>clip</u> the bushes. | _____ |
| 2. We saw a <u>bird</u> flying overhead. | _____ |
| 3. The boys will <u>grumble</u> if they miss the show. | _____ |
| 4. A <u>dried plum</u> is a good snack. | _____ |

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A. Use what you know. Write the best word to complete each sentence.

1. It's not fair to _____ the team now.
2. If you _____ the tree, you'll have a better view.
3. No one wants to hear you _____ all the time.
4. It's usually very warm in the _____ during the day.
5. Every street has a _____ for waste.
6. Nelson caught a _____ in the river.
7. A musical instrument with low tones is the _____ fiddle.
8. Look at all the _____ on the branches of that tree.
9. Mom is a good _____ and will make my costume.
10. If you want some fruit, there is one _____ left in the box.

B. Read each question. Choose the best answer.

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|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Can a grouse grouse? | ☐ yes | ☐ no |
| 2. Does a bass sing bass? | ☐ yes | ☐ no |
| 3. Can you desert a desert? | ☐ yes | ☐ no |
| 4. Does a sewer need a sewer? | ☐ yes | ☐ no |

	COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3
1.	sewer	a dry region	a dried fruit
2.	grouse	a plump bird	to flee from something
3.	desert	a large underground channel	to grumble and fuss
4.	bass	to cut back plants	a person who uses a needle and thread
5.	prune	a fish that is good to eat	a drum with a low tone